

Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

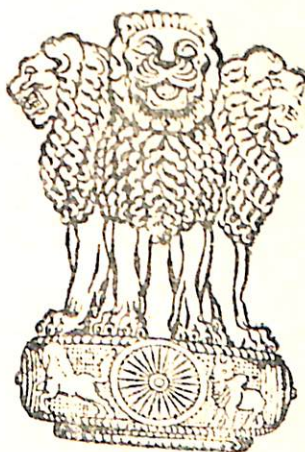
FIRST SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE SECOND
GENERAL ELECTION UNDER THE
SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF
INDIA

BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

No. 15

The 27th June, 1957



सत्यमेव जयते

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DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1957

(Budget Session)

Vol.I, No.15

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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong
at 10 a. m. on Thursday, the 27th June, 1957.

PRESENT

ShriDev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker, in the Chair,
the nine Ministers, the eight Deputy Ministers, and seventy-
eight Members.

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

**Ropeway over the Brahmaputra River in between
Kakilamukh and Kamalabarighat**

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

*30. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport and Com-
munication be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government contemplate to make Rope-
way over the Brahmaputra River in between
Kakilamukh and Kamalabarighat for the con-
venience of the people of Majuli and Jorhat ?
- (b) Whether Government have taken any estimate as
to the total probable expenditure in making a
Ropeway in between the said places ?
- (c) If not, whether Government propose to take a
rough estimate now ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport)
replied :

*30. (a)—No.

(b) and (c)—Do not arise.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY : [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribed)] নিগামাটিক পৰা কৰ্মজাবাবী ষাটটৈ Ropeway কৰাৰ বিষয়ে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে চিন্তা কৰিবনে ?

Mr. SPEAKER: That question has already been replied. The word—"contemplate" means চিন্তা কৰা

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY : Ropeway হোৱাটো সম্ভৱপৰ হ'ব বুলি গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে ভাবেনে ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport): That question has not been examined yet.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY : পৃথিৱীৰ কোনো ঠাইত এনেকৈ নৈৰ ওপৰত Ropeway হোৱাৰ ধৰণ গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ আছেনে ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order. That question does not arise.

Cotton cultivation in Plains Districts of Assam

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*31. Will the Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving be pleased to state—

(a) What are the regions in the Plains districts of Assam where cotton is still continuing to be cultivated and cloths are made in indigenous ways ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the Morans in the eastern part of Dibrugarh Subdivision still cultivate cotton and make cloths for their own use just like our tribal brethren in certain parts of NEFA ?

(c) Whether Government have any scheme to help and encourage these indigenous cotton growers and spinners in Assam ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving) replied :

31, (a)—In some parts of Silchar and Hailakandi subdivisions and in Roha regions cotton Khadi spinners and weavers cultivate cotton also. It is not clear what is meant by making cloths in indigeneous ways. Cloths are woven by the hill tribes generally in the loin looms and in the plains generally in thrown shuttle looms. Government have introduced fly shuttle looms also in a large number of cases.

(b)—Government have no information if the Morans in eastern part of Dibrugarh Subdivision cultivate cotton and make cloths like the tribal brethren in NEFA.

(c)—Government are encouraging cotton spinning and weaving as well as cotton growing and for the purpose have constituted an Autonomous Board called the Khadi and Village Industries Board. The Board have taken up many schemes to assist the cotton spinners and growers and have started 18 Khadi production centres and 8 sale centres. Other areas with potentialities for khadi weaving and spinning will also be taken up for starting production centres and sale centres.

*Sir, I think the question refers to two Departments. Cultivation of cotton refers to the Agriculture Department and Industries refers to my Department.

***Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)** : Sir, it appears the Hon. Minister did not understand my question. To make it clear, I would like to inform the House.....

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member need not inform the House, but should put question in such a way in order that Government may reply the same.

***Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA** : I mean to say that cloths are being made from cotton produced by the people themselves and this system they have followed for the last 100 years. The people manufacture threads from the cotton they grow,

Mr. SPEAKER : What is the question ?

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)**: Sir, in replying to question 31(a)—the Hon. Minister said that Government have introduced a large number of fly shuttle looms. Will the Hon. Minister-in-charge be pleased to state whether he is aware of the fact that there is dearth of instances in the matter of introducing fly shuttle looms in the villages, namely—Saikhowa, Doom-Dooma, Digboi and Tinsukia (excluding the Municipal area) ?

†**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving)**: Sir, I take the information from the hon. Member and the matter will be considered ?

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**: With regard to question No.31 (b) Sir, will the Minister be pleased to state how long it will take for a democratic Government to know about the mode of living and habits of a section of people inhabited in a particular region of the State ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order.

This supplementary question does not arise.

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**: With regard to question No.31(c) Sir, will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to state if he is aware of the fact that the autonomous Khadi and Village Industries Board is foreign to the villages of Dibrugarh Subdivision Sir, here Foreign I mean unknown.

†**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI**: I am not aware of it, Sir.

Compensatory Grants to Rural Panchayats

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked:

*32. Will the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that the Rural Panchayats in several districts do not receive the compensatory grants due to them in lieu of various revenue receipts by Government ?

(b) Whether Government is contemplating some measures to remove these and other anomalies to allow the Panchayats to function properly ?

- (c) Whether Government propose to replace the present procedure of open voting in Panchayat election by secret voting
- (d) Whether Government propose to constitute the Union Panchayats early for want of which there is a dislocation in the system ?
- (e) Whether the employees serving under the Local Boards will be absorbed in the Union Panchayats in their existing pay and scales ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Rural Development) replied :

32. (a)—It is not a fact that Rural Panchayats in several districts do not receive compensatory grants in lieu of various revenue receipts. But due to rapid formation of Rural Panchayats, there has been delay in some cases in issue of the grants.

(b)—Yes. Government are taking necessary action for removal of these and any other anomaly that may arise.

(e)—Government propose to keep open voting system as recommended by the Panchayats Enquiry Committee. But the present procedure of election is proposed to be replaced by introducing the system of old Local Board election. Necessary rules are being amended.

(d)—Yes. Government are actively considering this matter.

(e)—This is under consideration of the Government.

Biswadut Weekly Assamese Paper

MAULAVI JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked:

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Biswadut Weekly is the only Assamese Paper existing at Dhubri at present ?

(b) Whether the Government lately received any representation or petition from the Editor of the paper for help ?

(c) Whether Government propose to help this paper?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

33. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No.

Shri JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) : With regard to question No.33(c). Why not, Sir?

Shri PUR NANANDA CHETIA : Because there is no provision.

Neamati-Salmora-Phulanibari Ferry

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

*34. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state —

(a) Whether one Golok Chandra Katita, Lessee of Neamati-Salmora and Jhanji-Salmora Ferries under the Jorhat Local Board was given direct periodic settlement with the said ferries for a term of 3 years and the lease has been again extended for another term of 3 years?

(b) If so, why the same person has been shown so much favour by Government?

(c) Whether Government propose to put the ferries mentioned above to auction again?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

*34. (a) & (b)—On the unanimous recommendation of the Jorhat Local Board the Deputy Commissioner and the Commissioner of Division, the Neamati-Salmora-Phulanibari ferry was settled for 3 years with effect from the year 1954-55 with Sri Golok Chandra Kalita and the lease has been extended for a further period of 3 years with effect from the year 1957-58. The Jhanjimukh-Salmora ferry has been settled for a period of 5 years with effect from the year 1954-55 with the same person on similar recommendation of the Jorhat Local Board, the Deputy Commissioner and the Commissioner of Division.

(c)—The existing leases of the above two ferries will terminate on 31.3.59 and 31.3.60 and as such the question of their settlement for the next term under the auction system or otherwise has not engaged the attention of Government so far.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): মই মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ৰ পৰা জানিব খোজো কিমান টকাত 'চেটলমেণ্ট' দিয়া হৈছে ?

Mr. SPEAKER : প্রশ্নটো হৈছে কিমান টকাত settlement দিয়া হৈছে ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government): The information will be supplied to the hon. Member later.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): May I know from Government whether there is any provision in the Northern India Ferries Act to settle a ferry without being put to auction ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: It is done according to the provision of law. There is no illegality.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : My question is: Is there any such provision in the Northern India Ferries Act to directly settle a ferry without auction ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : There is nothing illegal in it.

Mr. SPEAKER : Whether there is provision in the Act for direct settlement ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: This is not direct settlement.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question was: Whether there is a provision in the Act for direct settlement ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: I cannot say without referring to the provisions of the Act.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: 'অকসন চেল'ত নিদি 'ডিবেষ্ট' দিবলৈ recommend কৰাৰ কিবা অৰ্থ আছে নেকি ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: মই প্রশ্নটো বুজি পোৱা নাই ।

Mr. SPEAKER: শ্রীযুত দলৈ, আপুনি মাইকৰ ওচৰলৈ আহি কওক ।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: মই জানিব খুজিছো অকসনত নিদি Direct দিয়াৰ কিবা মানে আছে নেকি ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: This is not a direct settlement, this is done according to the position of law. This has been done on the unanimous recommendation of the Jorhat L. B., which was forwarded to this Government through the Commissioner of the Division for approval of the Government.

Mr. SPEAKER : Is there any special reason for recommending this kind of settlement ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government) : How can I say ? The Local Board concerned can give the reasons.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar) : Was the second term of lease also recommended by the Jorhat Local Board ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Yes.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : What was the ground ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : I do not know Local Board considered him to be a fit person.

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGU [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : মই নদী মহোদয়ৰ পৰা জানিব খুজিছো যে, তেখেতে এই কথা জানেনে যে, এতিয়া নিমটিৰ পৰা ফুলনিলৈ কেৰী' চলা নাই আৰু এই বিষয়ে কিবা ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবনে ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : I have no information.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North-Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মোৰ আৰু supplementary কৰিবলৈ আছে—সেইটো হৈছে—যি জনে Direct Settlement ব কাৰণে recommend কৰিছে সেইজনৰ এই ঘটত লাভৰ কিবা অংশ আছে বুলি ধৰি লব পাৰেনে ?

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding) : Is there provision in the Local Self-Government Act which permits the Local Board to recommend the settlement of a ferry directly ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Unless there was provision in the Act, Local Board authorities concerned, could not do so.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question from the hon. Member from Lumding is whether there is any provision in the Local Self-Government Act which permits the Local Board to recommend for direct settlement of a ferry ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Yes, it is done according to the provision of law.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : What is that provision ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : I cannot say off-hand.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Is it a fact that there is no such provision, and no such law ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : This has been done egally and there is no illegality.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :
From which Act ?

Maulavi NURUL ISLAM (Dhing) : Whether the Minister consulted the law before this settlement was given ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, order.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : As far as my information goes there is no provision in the Local Self-Government Act.

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, order. The hon. Member cannot put his question in that form. He may say whether the Minister is aware.....

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : Whether the Minister-in-charge is aware of the fact that there is no provision in the Local Self-Government Manual to give a lease without referring it to auction, and if so under what provision this direct settlement has been given ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government) : I have already replied that this is done according to the provision of law.

Mr. SPEAKER : Which particular Law or Act the Hon'ble Minister was referring when he said it is according to law ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : This a Local Board Ferry. So the settlement has been done according to the Local Self-Government Act.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : Are not all ferries—whether it is under the Local Board, or the Municipality of Government governed by the Northern India Ferries Act ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Yes.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : What is the provision of the Northern India Ferries Act in the matter of lease which allows a lease without referring to auction ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government): I replied the hon. Questioner that the settlement is made according to the provisions of the Act. If he thinks anything has been done illegally he can seek remedy in a court of law.

Mr. SPEAKER: When a question is put in this House it is to get correct information as far as it lies in the capacity of the Hon'ble Minister. There is no question of referring to a court of law.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: I have replied times with out number that this is settled according to the provision of law and legally.

Mr. SPEAKER: Which law? Law is a very generic term, it refers to all laws. When the Minister refers to law, he must mention the Act.

Order, order, we have had enough of this.

Next question.

Desangmukh-Dighalgora Ferry

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

*35. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Desangmukh-Dighalgora Brahmaputra Ferry under the Sibsagar Local Board was given direct settlement with one Sri Kuber Chandra Pegu for a term of 3 years during the year 1956?

(b) If so, why the Government cancelled its own order after making the said person Sri Kuber Chandra Pegu to deposit one fourth of the Kist money and after making him to place his own boats at the said ghat?

(c) Whether Government propose to compensate the loss incurred by Sri Pegu in placing the boats of his own after being purchased?

(d) Who is the present lessee of the said Ghat?

(e) For how many years the present Lessee has been running the said Ghat ?

(f) Whether Government is aware that the present Lessee is a Benamdar of one Shri Rameswar Agarwalla of Desangmukh ?

(g) What are the grounds for settling the said Ghat with the present lessee for a number of years ?

(h) Whether Government propose to inquire into the matter that the present lessee is a Benamdar of Sri Rameswar Agarwalla ?

(i) What is the total number of representations so far submitted by the crossing public against the lessee of the said Ghat for realising tolls at higher rate and for not ferrying across the passengers in time since the settlement was given with the present lessee ?

(j) What action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter ?

(k) Whether Government propose to convert the said Ghat into a Machine Boat Ghat for convenience of public ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

35. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Though Government issued orders on 8.3.56 settling the Desangmukh-Dighalgora Ferry with Sri Kuber Chandra Pegu for a period of three years from 1956-57, the order was subsequently vacated on 28.3.56 ahead of the date of commencement of operating the ferry. When representations were received from interested parties, the matter had to be re-examined and legal opinion was against direct settlement of public ferries by Government in the absence of proposals from the Deputy Commissioners. Hence the ferry was ordered to be sold by public auction. Sri Kuber Chandra Pegu deposited one fourth of the Kist money in respect of this ferry on 19th March 1956 and placed his boat at the Ghat on 1st April 1956 disobeying Government orders vacating settlement of the ferry with him.

(e)—The question of compensation does not arise as the orders was vacated shortly after issue.

(d)—Shri Saruram Das.

(e)—The present Lessee has been running the ferry since 1950-51.

(f)—On enquiry it was found that there is no truth in the allegation.

(g)—The existing lessee with a good record to his credit has been securing settlement of the ferry so long at public auction.

(h)—Same reply as at (f) above!

(i)—Six representations were received by Government.

(j)—The allegations were enquired into but the lessee is reported to be not at fault.

(k)—There is no such proposal with Government at present.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : দিচাং ঘাটত 'মেচিন' নাও চলোৱা হৈছেনে-নাই আগাব Country boat চলোৱা হৈছে?

Mr. SPEAKER: The reply is there in (k) that "there is no such proposal with Government at present."

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: কি নাৱেৰে মানুহ পাৰ কৰে?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government): Evidently by mar-boat.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY : মাৰ নাও কোনে দিছে?
P.W.D. এ নে লকেলবৰ্ডে?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government): I want notice of this question.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: মাৰ নাও যে তাত নাই—এইটো চৰকাৰে মানি লবনে?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : I have no such information.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Is it not a fact that sometimes highest bidders are deprived of Ghats ?

Mr. SPEAKER: This is a very general question, which does not arise out of it.

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : একেজন সৰ্ব্বাধিক দাসকে দিচাং ঘাটটো ২২ বছৰ বৰি একেবাহে দি থকা কথাটো গুচানে?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : The reply is there that the present lessee has been running the ferry since 1950-51. That is my information.

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO : সেই 'ফেৰী' ঘাটটো P.W.D. এ লোৱাটো সুবিধাজনক হ'ব বুলি বিবেচনা কৰেনে?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : The question has not been examined. Ordinarily the Public Works Department runs those ferries, on both sides of which there are Public Works Department roads.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: বাইজৰ সুবিধালৈ চাই অনতি পলমে তাত মেচিন নাও দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা চৰকাৰে হাতত লবনে?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: The matter may be referred to the Local Board concerned as it is a Local Board ferry.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Creation of new Sub-Deputy Collector Circle in Mangaldai Subdivision

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Mangaldai) asked :

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

(a) Whether there is a proposal to create some new Sub-Deputy Collector Circle office in the Mangaldai subdivision ?

(b) If so, what are the proposed Circles ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

82. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The proposal is to create one or two additional Circles by splitting up existing Kalaigaon and Mangaldai Circles. The matter is under correspondence with the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang and no final decision has yet been taken.

R.C.C. Bridge at Goalbil Ghat of Pagladia River

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

83. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state what action has been taken up till now for the construction of a R.C.C. Bridge at Goalbil Ghat of Pagladia river of Barama-Dhamdhama-Tamulpur Road ?

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

83.—A proposal for construction of a Bridge at Goalbilghat across the Pagladia River has been sent up to Government of India for financing under grants-in-aid programme along with other schemes. Their reply is awaited. Work can be taken up only when the scheme is approved by India and funds provided for the purpose by them.

Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS [Rangiya (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : May I know whether Government are hopeful about sanction of the scheme by the Central Government ?

Mr. SPEAKER : This is a highly hypothetical question.

Munsiff for Barpeta Civil Court

Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked :

84. Will the Minister-in-charge of Judicial Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is no Munsiff in Barpeta Civil Court.
- (b) If so, since when and why ?
- (c) How many civil cases are pending at present in Barpeta Civil Court up-to-date ?
- (d) When a full time permanent Munsiff will be placed in Barpeta Civil Court ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Judicial) replied :

84. (a)—If the hon. Member means whole-time Munsiff the answer is in the affirmative and if he means a part-time Munsiff, the answer is in the negative.

(b)—The whole-time Munsiff at Barpeta has been promoted as Subordinate Judge, Silchar and he handed over charge on 12th January, 1957. The Kokrajhar Munsiff has been doing the Munsiffi work at Barpeta two days a week with effect from 17th January, 1957.

(c)—The number of pending civil cases at the end of April, 1957 is given below—

(i) Title Suits	...	...	...	...	278
(ii) Money Suits	...	...	...	...	336
(iii) Rent Suits	...	...	...	...	131
(iv) Miscellaneous cases	...	...	...	...	100
(v) Execution cases	...	...	...	...	239

(d)—Appointment of some Munsiffs is under consideration and examination of Government. The Government have no hand in the posting of a Munsiff. The High Court is the competent authority in the matter of the posting of a Munsiff.

Fire in Nongtalang and Satpator Dolloiships

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

85. Will the Minister for Tribal Welfare be pleased to state—

- (a) If Government are aware that a fire unprecedented in the history of the Nongtalang and Satpator Dolloiships, Jowai Sub-division, broke out in the last week of March and the first week of April, causing great damage to the pan, betelnut, orange, etc., gardens ?

- (b) If so, whether Government have made an enquiry?
 (c) If not, whether Government propose to make an enquiry and take adequate step to give relief to the sufferers?

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, Tribal Welfare) replied :

85. (a) —The reports of the forest fire in Nongtalang and Satpator Dolloiships involving damage to some betel-nuts, orange trees, etc., had been received by the local authorities.

(b) —Necessary enquiries have been instituted and the Subdivisional Officer, Jowai, is personally making further enquiry in the matter.

(c) —Does not arise.

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM : With regard to (c), may I know, if after enquiry it is found that the fire has done damage, will Government give relief to the sufferers?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : Government will certainly give relief if they are deserving.

Monthly Pay of the Staff of the Community Development Projects.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

86. Will the Minister-in-charge of Development (Community Projects) be pleased to enquire and state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the staff of the community Projects do not get their monthly payments in time?

(b) Does the Minister-in-charge propose to look into the matter so that no delay may occur on this score in future?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS [Deputy Minister, Development (Community Projects)] replied :

86. (a) —It is not true that the staff of the Community Development Projects do not generally get their monthly pay in time. However, there may arise occasional delay due to the fact that the Department being a temporary one, renewal of posts is necessary every year.

As regards the gazetted staff, a fresh pay slip has to be issued by the Accountant General every financial year. As regards the non-gazetted staff, the Project Executive Officer being the drawing and disbursing Officer, there is usually no delay in payments once the renewal orders have been received for the year.

(b) —Yes. Any specific case of delay brought to the notice of Government will be looked into.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar): With regard to (a), are Government aware that pay slips have not been issued to some of the staff of the Community Project Department from January 1957 up till now?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS [Deputy Minister Development (Community Projects)]: Government have no information.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI: Is it not a fact that Shri Rajani Sarma, one Officer of the N. E. S. training Centre, Jorhat, has not received his payslip from January up till now?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: I have no information, Sir.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI: I may just inform.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order. The hon. Member is not to give information, but to elicit it.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): May I know whether Officers of a temporary department can draw their pay before the Budget for the year is passed?

(A Voice—This is for the Finance Minister to reply.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Ministers will please remember that when a supplementary arises out of the question under discussion, this must be replied to by Government. I do not know which Minister will reply.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: Sir, the Officers of the temporary Departments can get their pay after renewal of sanction every year.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI: Will the Government be pleased to arrange to send the payslips immediately?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: Sir, we will try to do so.

Newly constructed Dikhow Bridge at Nazira.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): asked :

87. Will the Public Works Department Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that both the ends of the newly constructed Dikhow Bridge at Nazira are being gradually sinking?
- (b) What was the actual cost of construction of the Bridge?
- (c) What steps, Government propose to take to restore the bridge to its normal condition?
- (d) What steps, Government propose to take against the contractor or officer responsible for construction of the bridge?
- (e) When the bridge will be made serviceable?

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

87.—(a), (b), (c) and (d). In this connection replies to unstarred Question No.15 asked by Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi, M.L.A. on the same subject on the 14th June, 1957 may be referred to.

(e)—The bridge is expected to be made serviceable during the next winter season.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri): Will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to say whether toll will not be levied on the bridge at Nazira over the Dikhow river?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Sir, that depends upon the rules.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): With regard to answer 87 (e) may I know from the Honourable Minister what additional expenditure will be incurred over the original expenditure?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Sir, this is a new question. I want notice of this.

Behiating Village Grazing Reserve in Jamira Mauza, Dibrugarh.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

88. Will the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Behiating Grazing Reserve in Jamira Mauza, Dibrugarh, has been encroached upon by the owner of the Behiating Tea Estate?

(b) Whether the Government have lately received representation from the people of Jamira for the release of the said reserve for their use?

(c) If so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

88. (a)—Yes, an area of 1B 1K 10L of land in Behiating Village Grazing Reserve was encroached upon by the Behiating Tea Estate through mistake by construction of pucca structure.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The area of 1B 1K 10L has been given to the Tea Estate in exchange of an area of 2B—3K—4L from the Tea Estate lying adjacent to the Village Grazing Reserve.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR : Will the Minister of Revenue kindly state if the plot of land which has been taken over from the Behiating Tea Estate in exchange of Behiating Grazing Reserve would now be made available to the graziers of Jamira Mauza?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Yes, Sir.

Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : Does the Minister know if any waste land near the Behiating Grazing Reserve was given to the proprietor of the Behiating Tea Estate ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : I have no such information.

The Assam Adoption of Standard Weights Act, 1955

Maulavi MUHAMMAD IDRIS (Rupohihat) asked :

89. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) When the "Assam Adoption of Standard Weights and Measure Act" was passed and received assent of the Governor ?
- (b) Whether this Act has been enforced in this State ?
- (c) If not, why it has been delayed in giving effect to ?
- (d) What steps Government have taken so far to enforce this legislation ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied :

89. (a)—The Assam Adoption of Standard Weights Act, 1955 (Assam Act IX of 1955) received the assent of the Governor on the 19th April, 1955.

(b)—No.

(c)—The enforcement of the Act was held up in view of instructions received from the Government of India not to proceed with any legislation on weights and measures pending the enactment of a central law on adoption of Metric System of weights and measures.

(d)—The question of adoption of metric system of weights and measures is under examination of the Government and as such the enforcement of the Assam Adoption of Standard Weights Act, 1955 has been deferred pending a final decision on the subject of adoption of the metric system. However, Government propose to consider shortly if Assam Act IX of 1955 can be enforced at least as an interim measure.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD IDRIS : Sir, May I know from the Government whether it was the intention of the Government in passing the Act to give relief to cultivators ?

Shri M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Yes, Sir, that was the intention of the Government.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD IDRIS (Rupohihat): Sir, may I know why the Government could not enforce the Act as interim measure when that Act was passed in 1955?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture): Sir, in this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to answer given in 89(c).

Cattle Epidemic in Assam

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara) asked :

90. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that due to epidemic a large number of cattle died recently all over Assam?
- (b) If so, what is the number of cattle so died in each Subdivision?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the disease is spreading in Assam due to import of Bihar cattle?
- (d) Whether Government propose to make enquiry as to the cause of the disease and take early steps for the prevention of the same?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

90. (a)—Reports have been received of cattle mortality in some plains district, viz., Kamrup, Goalpara, Darrang, Sibsagar and Lakhimpur due to incidence of cattle epidemic.

(b)—The information is not available. A report has been called for from Local Officers and it will take some time to collect and compile them.

(c) & (d)—This might be one of the reasons. The exact causes are under investigation. On receipt of the report, the Directorate issued circular instructions to all District Animal Husbandry Officers (Veterinary) to take up mass vaccination against Rinderpest. Steps were also taken to restrict Cattle movement and all the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers were requested for taking necessary action. In spite of these measures the disease spread from place to place particularly amongst buffaloes, possibly because of the fact that there is no specific medicine for the cure of this disease in the case of buffaloes. Mass vaccination of cattle, restriction on movement of cattle for sale both from outside and affected areas without prior examination by Veterinary staff have been undertaken now.

Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra): 90(a)
Sir, may I know what are the main diseases ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary): The main diseases are Rinderpest.

Panchayats in Forest villages

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara) asked :

91. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Forest villages are excluded from the Panchayats ?
- (b) If so, how these villages will be improved ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Forest Department is responsible for giving roads, wells, etc., in these forest villages ?
- (d) If so, how many roads and wells were provided in the forest villages of Darrang in 1955-56 ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that large number of Sal forests were damaged by the recent cyclone ?
- (f) If so, what is the extent of damage ?
- (g) How the wind-fallen trees are going to be utilised by the Forest Department ?
- (h) Whether Government propose to allot trees to local institutions out of the wind-fallen trees ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Forests) replied :

91. (a)—Yes.

(b)—There is a scheme in the Second Five-Year Plan for improvement of Forest villages with an allocation of Rs.2 lakhs. Another sum of Rs.2 lakhs has been provided under Article 275 Grants for Plains Tribal Areas for the same period for that purpose.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Six wells including five ring wells and six miles of roads.

(e)—There has been report of some damage to the Sal trees of the Balipara Forest Reserve.

(f)—The number of Sal trees blown down by the wind is about 3,900.

(g)—Coupes will be formed with the wind-fallen trees and sold on competitive basis. Also where necessary the coupe-holders will supply the out-turn to the Forest Department for meeting their (Forest Department's) requirement of timbers against indents which the (Forest) Department may receive from the different Departments of the Government of India and and of State Government.

(h)—If such of those local institutions which require timber submit applications, enquiries will be made and necessary action taken.

Passenger fares in different classes from Tezpur to Silghat

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur) asked :

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

- (a) The rate of passenger fares from Tezpur to Silghat class by class which were in force till 31st May, 1957 ?
- (b) The rate of car and other vehicle fares from Tezpur to Silghat which were in force till 31st May, 1957 ?
- (c) What is the rate of passenger fares class by class and of cars which are in force from 1st June, 1957 ?
- (d) What is the distance from Tezpur to Silghat by river ?
- (e) What is the distance from Bhomoraguri Hills (the present site from where the ferry operates) to Silghat ?
- (f) Whether the Government considers that the enhanced rate is out of proportion to the distance covered by the journey ?
- (g) Whether the Joint Steamer Companies fix the fares in consultation with the Government ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

92. (a)—The rate of passenger fares were as under till the 31st May, 1957 :—

Class					Fare
Upper	...	...	...	...	Rs.4
Second	...	...	...	...	Rs.2.25N.P.
Inter	...	...	...	...	Re.1
Lower	...	...	...	...	50 N.P.

(b)—The rates for cars and vehicles were as under till the 31st May, 1957—

Motor cars including Jeeps, etc.	...	Rs.10
Lorries, Buses and Station Wagons, etc.	...	Rs.16

(c)—Same as (a) and (b) above as there has been no increase in the rates of fares and freights from 1st June, 1957.

(d)—Approximately 12 miles.

(e)—Approximately 7 miles. During the last cold season, the ghat site on the North Bank shifted about half a furlong further upstream.

(f)—There has been no enhancement in rates from 1st June, 1957.

(g)—Steamer Companies have kept the State Government advised of the rates charged by them on the ferry service and any changes contemplated therein.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur): Is the Government aware that the steamer company is contemplating to increase the fare?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport): The Government is not aware of this.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA: Does the Company take prior approval of the Government while increasing the fare?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: I want notice of that question. I cannot say whether approval of the Government is necessary. As far as I know the Company keep Government informed of any change.

Revised scales of pay to the Teachers of Aided High School and Opening of Vocational Classes in High Schools.

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

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

(a) The number of Aided High Schools where the teachers have been sanctioned the revised pay scale according to the last Pay Committee's report?

- (b) The number of High Schools where this revised scale of pay has not yet been given effect to ?
- (c) What are the conditions to have the revised grants?
- (d) Whether there is any exception to have the grant though the school is not fit otherwise ?

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

- (a) Whether the Government is contemplating to start Vocational Classes in each of the High Schools ?
- (b) How many High Schools already started the same?
- (c) The grant received for the purpose since the starting of the classes ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

93. (a)—272.

(b)—81.

(c)—Generally the Aided High Schools with the enrolment of 300 or above have been selected, but in case of Girl's High Schools and the Schools situated in very backward and Tribal Areas this required minimum enrolment has been reduced to 150.

(d)—No.

94. (a)—No.

(b)—48 Aided High Schools already started additional classes for introduction of vocational subjects.

(c)—The amount of grant sanctioned since 1949-50 is Rs.3,05,100.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):

With regard to question No. 93 (c) Sir, is it the idea that 'very backward' means the area inhabited by most backward sections of other backward classes ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: Sir, it means where the surrounding are as are inhabited by other backward communities.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state how many schools in Silchar town have been run with the revised scales of pay ?

Shri PURNANADA CHETIA: So far as Silchar is concerned, the number of schools is 14 in all.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): Sir, I want to know so far as Silchar town is concerned.

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education): I want notice of that, Sir.

Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra): Lower Primary School के शिक्षकों को संशोधित निरिख में बेतन दिया जाता है कि नहीं?

Mr. SPEAKER: I would request the hon. Members of the Treasury Bench to be more attentive when supplementary questions are put. It is not my job to translate them or to explain them in English on their behalf.

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: According to pay scales revised for the Lower Primary schools.

Distribution of non-recurring Grants and C. I. Sheets by the Gauhati School Board

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

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

- (a) What amount of non-recurring grant was distributed by Gauhati School Board during 1956-57, Mauza-wise ?
- (b) What was the basis of such distribution ?
- (c) Whether there was any grant ear-marked for each institution ?
- (d) If so, on whose recommendation the grants were sanctioned ?

96. (a) Whether Corrugated Iron Sheets were distributed by the aforesaid School Board to different Institutions in 1956-57 ?

- (b) If so, what quantity was distributed Mauza-wise ?
- (c) What was the basis of such distribution ?
- (d) Whether Corrugated Iron Sheets were distributed during that year to storm affected buildings ?
- (e) If so, to which of such schools ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps for a thorough audit of all accounts of the said School Board including Corrugated Iron Sheet accounts ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

95. (a)—A non-recurring grant of Rs.88,750 was distributed by the Gauhati School Board during 1956-57 but not in Mauza-wise.

(b)—The grant was distributed by the Gauhati School Board at a meeting to deserving institutions on the basis of recommendations of the field inspecting staff.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

96. (a)—Yes.

(b)—One thousand one hundred bundles were distributed but not Mauza-wise.

(c)—According to the urgency of demands of the schools as determined by the School Board. The schools which received substantial non-recurring grants for the improvement of the buildings and which had wooden frames ready for roofing, got the topmost preference.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—Thorough audit of all accounts, of the School Board including Corrugated Iron Sheet accounts will be taken up by the Examiner of Local Accounts in due course.

Compulsory Primary Education in Tea Garden Areas

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government propose to make primary education compulsory in tea garden areas?

(b) Whether Government have any statistics of school-going children in tea gardens of Assam?

(c) If so, what is the total enrolment of the students according to the last statistics and what is the average attendance?

(d) Whether Government have any special scheme to improve the conditions of the tea garden schools?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

97. (a)—Government policy is to extend the area of compulsion gradually throughout the State and subject to the

provision of the Plantation Labour Act, tea garden areas may also come under compulsion in course of time.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Twenty-seven thousand two hundred pupils were reading in Tea Garden Schools on March, 1956. The average daily attendance is 66 per cent.

(d)—Government have adopted a scheme of more frequent inspection of such schools, to effect their improvement and in pursuance of this scheme, eight Sub-Inspectors have been appointed to do this work of inspection. Besides there is a scheme of giving training to 40 teachers annually and this scheme is under consideration by Government.

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) :

এই বাগিছা বিলাকত যিবিলাক স্কুল আছে তাৰ গড় হিচাবে বছৰি কিমান ছাত্র-ছাত্রীয়ে পাঠ কৰে ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA : সেই খবৰ সংগ্ৰহ কৰা হোৱা নাই ।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery) Will the Hon'ble Deputy Minister be pleased to let the House know whether Government has taken any step under Article 46 of the Constitution of the India for spread of education amongst backward children of the tea garden areas ? If not, why not ?

Shri GAURISANKAR ROY (Kathlicherra) Will the Hon. Deputy Minister be please to say whether Government are prepared to constitute a separate School Board for management of schools in the tea garden areas ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA : No, Sir.

Number of Venture Middle Vernacular Schools in Assam

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok) asked :

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

(a) The number of Venture Middle Vernacular Schools in the State of Assam ?

(b) The number of Venture Lower Primary Schools in the State ?

(c) Whether Government propose to take up all the Venture Schools and whether any provision has been made in the Budget for this purpose ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

	Un-aided but recognised	Un-recognised	
98. (a)—Middle Vernacular	24	28	} Including some Tea Garden Schools num- bering about 400.
(b)—Lower Primary ...	1,176	900	

(c)—Subject to availability of funds and suitable teachers, Government propose to take all deserving Venture Schools.

There is some provision for this purpose in the Second Five-Year Plan.

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok): এই বছৰৰ ভিতৰতে চৰকাৰে কিছুমান ভেণ্‌চাৰ স্কুল নিজৰ হাতলৈ আনিবনে?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education): সেইটো বিচাৰ কৰা হ'ব।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): চাহ বাগিচাৰ যিবোৰ স্কুল ভেণ্‌চাৰ স্কুল হৈ আছে, সেইবোৰ চৰকাৰে ল'বনে—চাহ বাগিচাৰ মালিকে ল'ব?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education): চাহ বাগিচাৰ মালিকে ল'ব।

Mr. SPEAKER: But it is written here, "Including some tea Garden Schools numbering about 400."

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): will the Hon. Deputy Minister be pleased to state the reason as to why aids have been withheld for some schools which have been given recognition?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education): Sir, Government generally sanction grants to schools subject to the availability of funds.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: এই স্কুলবোৰ চাহ বাগিচাৰ মালিকে ল'বৰ নিমিত্তে চৰকাৰে কিবা চেষ্টা কৰিছেনে?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: শিক্ষা বিভাগৰ পৰা কোনো চেষ্টা কৰা নাই; কিন্তু বনুৱা বিভাগৰ পৰা সদায় চেষ্টা কৰা হৈছে।

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Will the hon. Deputy Minister please see that funds are made available to give grant to schools which are already recognised ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education): Yes, Sir, subject to availability of funds the suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): With regard to question No. 98 (c) the reply is: "Subject to availability of funds and suitable teachers, Government propose to take all deserving Venture Schools." Will the Government be pleased to ascertain from the waiting lists of candidates for school teachership maintained by the School Boards whether such suitable teachers are available ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: That may be looked into, Sir.

Number of Tea Garden Labourers' boys reading in Lower Primary and Middle English Schools situated in the villages near Tea Garden Areas in Assam

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal) asked:

99. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—
- (a) The number of boys of the tea garden labourers reading in the Lower Primary and Middle English Schools situated in the villages near the tea garden areas in Assam according to the last enumeration ?
 - (b) Whether Government have taken any action to give special help to those schools ?
 - (c) If not, will Government be pleased to take action immediately ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA replied :

99. (a)—The figures are not available.
 (b)—No special help is given but deserving Lower Primary Schools are generally taken over by the respective School Boards. Recurring and Non-recurring grants are sanctioned to the deserving Middle English Schools on the recommendations of the Inspector of Schools concerned.
 (c)—Does not arise.

Wages of Harijans and the Labourers working under the Dibrugarh Municipal Board

Shrimati LILY SENGUPTA (Lahowal) asked :

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

(a) What was the cash balance of the Dibrugarh Municipal Board on 30th April, 1957?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the Harijans and the Labourers working under the said Municipal Board are getting their wages regularly?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

100. (a)—Rupees Eleven thousand eighty five and Naye paise ninety.

(b)—Yes, they are getting their wages regularly.

Construction of Retaining Walls of the main Drain of Dibrugarh Town

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

101. Will the Minister for Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) When the construction of retaining walls of the main drain of Dibrugarh Town are expected to be completed?

(b) Whether Government propose to take steps to have the said drain fenced on both the sides for the safety of the people and to prevent the cattle from falling into the drain?

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

101. (a)—Eighty six per cent of the work has already been completed and the remaining portion is expected to be completed by December at the latest.

(b)—The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): May I know, Sir, when are the Government expected to come to a decision?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P.W.D.): As early as possible, Sir, it is already under the active consideration of the Government.

Number of Public Works Department Divisions in Assam

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

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

- (a) How many Public Works Department Divisions are there in Assam?
- (b) How many of these Divisions are permanent?
- (c) Why the remaining Divisions are not made permanent?
- (d) Whether Government have made permanent employees at the Divisions which were made permanent?
- (e) Whether the fitters, Lorry drivers, tractor drivers, handymen and jogalis have been made permanent?
- (f) If not, why?
- (g) Whether Government propose to make them permanent soon?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA replied:

102. (a)—Fourty two Divisions.

Roads and Buildings	...	29
Flood Control and Irrigation		13

(b)—Fourteen Divisions are permanent.

(c)—The proposal for making some Divisions permanent is under consideration of the Government.

(d)—Yes, except additional temporary posts created to cope with increased work due to Development programme.

(e)—No.

(f)—They are borne in the Work-charged establishment.

(g)—The matter is under consideration of Government.

Shri SABESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): With regard to reply (c), may I know, Sir, when will the consideration be completed?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: The proposal has already been submitted to Finance.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): How many Divisions will be made permanent, Sir ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister P. W. D.): I do not exactly remember. I want notice of that question, Sir.

Shri GOURISHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra): With regard to (e), May I know if it is a fact that many of these workers have been working for more than 20 years ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: The reply is there at (f), Sir, they are borne in the Work-charged establishment.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order.

The question is whether some of the people have been working for more than 20 years.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: That might be so, Sir, I cannot say off-hand definitely.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: With regard to (d), is it a fact that except clerks and civil engineers, artisans and other employees are temporary ?

Mr. SPEAKER: The answer is there.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated that they are made permanent. But my question is, whether the artisans are temporary and the clerks and civil engineers are permanent ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: Some of them are permanent.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): May I know Sir, what is the difference between temporary hands and permanent hands both with regard to emoluments and tenure of service.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: Sir, temporary hands can be easily dispensed with very short notice or without notice but in respect of permanent hands it is not so.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is with regard to tenure of service but what about emoluments.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: Emoluments are also different.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: Is it a fact that some work charged staff of Public Works Department have been working for 15 to 20 years on temporary basis ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: They are shifted from one work to another. There may be some employees with 10 or 15 years of service as work-charged, which I cannot say off-hand without consulting records.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Sir, I want to know what is the general rule and what is the time limit according to the rules of the Department to convert work-charged employees to a permanent cadre.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Rules may be placed on the table of this House.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : Regarding the Answer (f), what is the difference between work-charged and other employees ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.) : Say, a building is taken up for construction and some Muhorrihs and engineers are appointed for supervision of the work. Those Muhorrihs and engineers are charged to the work of the construction of the building.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : Will a employee continue for twenty years in this way charged to different works as temporary ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : If experienced men are available, they are kept.

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member's question is that whether people can be kept as work-charged employee for 20 years.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : Is it a fact that some works are continuing since 20 years and workers are being kept as temporary for twenty years ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Sir, I want notice of that question ?

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : Sir, will the Government make them permanent ?

Captain WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Whether the Government want to keep the same persons as work-charged continuously for 20 years ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : I want notice of that.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Whether the employees mentioned in (e) are employed against casual vacancies, or are employed in temporary vacancies but for twenty years ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.) : Sir, I cannot say off-hand. I want notice of that.

Result of Election to the State Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board

Mr. SPEAKER : Now, I hereby inform the House that both the Government and Opposition Parties by mutual settlement have set up two candidates for election to the State Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board. The number of candidates being equal to the number of vacancies, the following hon. Members are therefore declared elected as unopposed:—

1. Shri A. Thanglura, and
2. Pu Lalmawia.

Announcement by the Speaker that as a measure of austerity he has voluntarily foregone 10 per cent of his pay

Mr. SPEAKER: Now I would like to make a statement. The hon. Members have known that to meet the financial crisis through which our country is passing, as a measure of austerity Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyanger, Speaker, Lok Sabha, has decided to forego 10 per cent of his salary. It behoves that such measures should always start from the top. I also in my own humble way decided to emulate the great example set by the dozen of the Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India by foregoing 10 per cent of my salary so that the amount may be utilised for the greater good of the country.

(Voices from the Opposition—Let that be followed by the Ministers.)

Complaint of non-receipt of replies to Questions in time

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a fact that though we give notice of our questions before a month, not a single question is placed on the table, and we have bitter experience that on the last day all the questions are placed in the form of a booklet, as a result of which we cannot get any scope to put any supplementary. I, therefore, would like to request the Hon'ble Speaker to see that the questions are placed on the table much earlier.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will discuss this matter with Secretary and see what can be done in that regard.

Request for half and hour discussion on Question No.102 standing in the name of Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi, M. L. A.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as this question is of vital importance, half an hour of the Assembly may kindly be granted to discuss the matter arising out of Unstarred Question No.102.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member will please consult the Secretary on the rules which have been framed on this behalf and if it is found that the request of the hon. Member is in accordance with the rules of procedure and the Speaker is satisfied that there should be half an hour of discussion that will be done.

GRANT No.12 (continued)**(27—Administration of Justice)**

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): As time is short at my disposal, I would speak about one point which I was going to say day-before yesterday. I should like to mention here about the reconstruction of the Dhubri Court buildings. We were given some assurance by the Hon'ble Minister when he visited Dhubri last that Government would take steps for reconstruction of these buildings spending about Rs.70,000. I do not know whether there is a departure from it as I do not find any provision for reconstruction of Dhubri Court buildings in the Budget. Therefore, I would request the Hon'ble Minister to see that immediate steps be taken by the Government to improve the condition of the Court buildings which are now in a dilapidated condition.

With these few words, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.17,07,900 under Grant No.12, Major head 27—Administration of Justice, at page 98 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.17,07,900 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Judicial): Sir, the other day my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, while moving his Cut Motion drew the pointed attention of the Government particularly to two points, one was in regard to separation of the Judiciary from the Executive and the second was regarding delay in disposal of cases.

Sir, Mr. Bhattacharyya in his speech rather gave an impression to the House that the Government has done nothing with regard to the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive. That is not a fact. We are quite aware of the directive principle of the Constitution that there should be separation of the Judiciary from the Executive and I can tell the hon. Members that we have made a considerable headway in this behalf. As hon. Members know that in the year 1952 we established a Superior Judicial Service Cadre and as a second step in the year 1955 we also created a Junior Judicial Civil Service and now we have also taken a decision to have a separate establishment for Civil Courts and we are going to accommodate the Civil Officers in separate buildings. In this way, it will be seen that we have attained a real landmark towards having complete separation of Judiciary from the Executive. Of course, where there is not sufficient volume of work to be done by the Munsiff he is entrusted with some other works, such as Criminal cases to be tried by him without

disturbing Civil works with High Court's concurrence. This shows that we have taken definite steps towards separation of Judiciary from the Executive.

Sir, so far as delay in disposal of cases are concerned, we have taken all possible steps to avoid such delay and in the meantime there is a distinct improvement in this regard with the posting of more additional hands in different Subdivisions. We have also issued definite instructions to the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers to distribute the works in such a way so that there is no interference on their work with miscellaneous works. It is known to the House that Government have appointed two Commissioners and we have instructed the Commissioners to see that the standard of disposal of cases which has been maintained now is kept. We have also asked them to see that the arrear list is maintained correctly and adverse entries are made in character rolls of the magistrates, who do not keep the standard of disposal of case. From these steps it will appear that drastic steps are being taken. I can inform the hon. Members that the situation has improved and we are going to increase the Cadre of Assam Civil Service I.

Now, with regard to the point raised by Maulavi Jahanuddin Ahmed from Bilasipara, I can tell him that I had personally seen the Dhubri Court buildings and I admit that the present buildings are really in a dilapidated condition and need reconstruction with some additional rooms. But this is a matter to be taken up by the Revenue Department. However, I shall take up this matter with the proper authority.

With these few words, I hope my Friends, Mr. Bhattacharyya and Mr. Jahanuddin Ahmed, will see their way to withdraw their Cut Motions.

I want to add another thing regarding the appointment of the third High Court Judge. I should like to inform Shri Bhattacharyya that this is a matter to be done by the Central Government, particularly, the Home Ministry of the Government of India.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): In consultation with the Chief Minister.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Judicial): Yes.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Members wanted that Government should see that the appointment by the Home Ministry is expedited.

(The Cut Motions, were by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.17,07,900 (Rupees Seventeen lakhs, seven thousand and nine hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year

ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "27.—Administration of Justice".

(The Motion was adopted)

Grant No.22

(41.—Veterinary)

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I, beg to move that a sum of Rs.38,51,100 (Rupees thirty-eight lakhs, fifty-one thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.38,51,100 (Rupees thirty-eight lakhs, fifty-one thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary".

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.38,51,100, under Grant No.22, Major head—41.—Veterinary, at page 311 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1 i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.38,51,100 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, my motion is simply to ask Government to provide more money for the sake of giving grants to the people who want to rear cattle, pigs, sheep, cows, etc. There is a provision in the Budget for only Rs.15,000 for all the Autonomous Districts and only Rs.2,500 is provided for Khasi and Jaintia Hills. Sir, we want more provision for this because the people in the hills are particularly anxious to get help from the Government for rearing of cattle, pigs and so on.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Das ; You may speak on the motion.

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say a few words regarding the Veterinary. In the present stage our State is facing epidemic in the cattle. In this is a very bad omen for our State. Every year, we have seen this epidemic but unfortunately no proper help is forthcoming. In our Subdivision, 90 per cent of the cultivators are to depend mainly on cattle. They are poor and they cannot take help of modern scientific methods. Every year, however, they managed to purchase cattle but every year they had to face the same difficulties. In some cases, the cattle have been left in their poor condition without any chance of being improved.

There are places where there are veterinary dispensaries, but there is want of stock of medicines and want of doctors. The Field Assistants who were there were inexperienced in the line, could not run properly thereby causing great difficulty to the villagers. If I may mention, in our Barpeta Subdivision, the dispensary in the town is inadequately furnished and equipped. We do not find the doctors for months together. This dispensary is run by the Field Assistants who are new in the line. Sometimes, when we want to discuss about the state of affairs of the dispensary, we do not find any properly qualified man there. As regards medicines also, we do not find properly adequate stocks and sometimes it so happened that even the ordinary medicine was not found in the stock though it was a very cheap medicine. In other parts, for example, the southern part of our Subdivision, for want of a dispensary, the cattle disease could not be checked.....

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary): May I intervene, Sir? The southern part is a very big one. May I know from the hon. Member what are the villages there?

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta): Those villages are in Bagribari, Baghbar, Mondia and Titapani Mauzas respectively. In these areas there is no dispensary at all. The people are to come from too long distances to the town dispensaries which is also not properly adequate. So, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister-in-charge to these matters so that these anomalies should be quickly done away with thereby extending help to the people. Another point is in regard to Rupusi Mauza in Kalgachia village where the building has already been started but nothing further has been done to complete it. I hope Government will consider the question of converting it into a kind of veterinary dispensary.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery): Mr. Speaker, Sir, মই ভেটাবিনাৰী ডিপাৰ্টমেণ্টৰ বাবে বাজেটত মাত্ৰ ৩৮ লাখ টকা ধৰা দেখি আচৰিত নহৈ নোৱাৰিলো। কাৰণ আপোনালোক সকলোৱে জানে আমাৰ ৰাজ্য খন কৃষি প্ৰধান আৰু গৰুয়েই আমাৰ কৃষিৰ প্ৰধান আহিলা। আমাৰ খেতিয়কৰ সমস্যা বোৰৰ বিষয়েও আপোনালোক সকলোৱে জানে।

এই ভেটাবিনাৰী ডিপাৰ্টমেণ্টত যি টকা ধৰিছে সেই টকাৰ ভিতৰত অনুমান—

Pay of Officers:—Out of 38 Lakhs.

Pay of Officers—3,16,748,

Establishment—8,58,546

Allowances—6,37,050

Contingency—1,48,096

গতিকে ইয়াত আমি দেখিছো যে ৩২ লাখ টকা এই ধৰণে গৈছে। ইয়াৰ পিচত V. G. R. আৰু P. G. R. ৰ কাৰণে এক লাখ ৪৮ হাজাৰ টকা থাকে। এই টকা একেবাৰে নগণ্য V. G. R. and P. G. R.

বিলাক কি ধৰণে উন্নত কৰিব তাৰ কোনো দিহা নাই। যিবিলাক Milk producing firm or Diary firm আছে তাৰো অৱস্থা ভাল নহয় বহু মহকুমাত নাইয়েই। যিওক Diary firm কেখন মান দেখিবলৈ পাইছে—কিন্তু তাৰ সংখ্যা নিচেই কম। গতিকে বুজা যায় এই ডিপাৰ্টমেন্টটোৰ ওপৰত কোনো Importance এই চৰকাৰে দিয়া নাই।

গাখীৰৰ অভাৱত আমাৰ জাতীয় স্বাস্থ্য বিশেষকৈ লৰাছোৱালীৰ স্বাস্থ্য deteriorate কৰি আহিছে।

গো জাতিৰ উন্নতি কৰিবৰ বাবে সুব্যৱস্থা কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে আমাৰ এই অতি আৱশ্যকীয় জাতীয় স্বাস্থ্য ৰক্ষা লৰা-ছোৱালীৰ প্ৰেইন, অৰ্থনৈতিক সমস্যা সমাধান কৰিব নোৱাৰিম। এই সম্পৰ্কে মোৰ বহুতো কথা কবলগীয়া আছিল, কিন্তু সময়ৰ অভাৱত বেচি কব নোৱাৰিম। কিন্তু ইমানকৈ কও যে এই বিষয়ে মই মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক বহুতো figure আদি দিম, সেইবিলাকৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি যাতে চৰকাৰে Cattle improvement ৰ যত্ন কৰে।

(শ্ৰীপাটোৱাবীয়ে এখন গোপাল কৃষ্ণৰ ছবি দেখুৱাই কয়)

এই ধন চৰিৰ পৰা আমি অতি সহজে বুজিব পাৰো যে আগৰ মানুহে গৰুক কিমান মৰম কৰিছিল আৰু গৰুৰ কিমান যত্ন লৈছিল। মই আশা কৰো গৰুক কৰিব লগা যত্নৰ প্ৰতি এই চৰিয়ে আমাৰ সকলোকে সজাগ কৰি তুলিব। (Laughter.)

আজি মাত্ৰ কুৰি বছৰ আগৰ গাখীৰ আৰু খাদ্য বস্তুৰ মূল্য আৰু আজিৰ মূল্যৰ বিৰাট প্ৰাৰ্থক্য। ইমান প্ৰাৰ্থক্য কিয়? মণিপুৰত এতিয়াও ৮।৯ টকা মোনে চাউল পোৱা যায়। আমাৰ ওচৰৰে এখন ঠাইত চাউল ৰ ইমান কম দাম অথচ আমাৰ ইয়াত ইমান বেচি কিয়?

Mr. SPEAKER: মাননীয় সদস্যই চাউলৰ কথা নকৈ গাখীৰৰ কথা কলেহে ভাল।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery): Cattle ৰ লগত খাদ্য বস্তু উৎপাদনৰ যনিষ্ট সম্বন্ধ আছে, সেই কাৰণেহে চাউলৰ কথা কলো।—

যিহওক গাখীৰৰ অভাৱ আৰু বৰ্ত্তমান গাখীৰৰ অতিপাত মূল্যৰ বিষয়ে আপোনালোক সকলোৱে জানে। মোতিতে মোৰ প্ৰধান কথা হৈছে Cattle ৰ ওপৰত importance দিয়া উচিত। এই প্ৰসংগতে মই সদনক জনাব খোজো যে মঙ্গলদৈ মহকুমাত ১৪ হাজাৰ গৰু মৰিছে এই দৰে গৰু মৰিবলৈ হলে আমাৰ cattle populationৰ অবস্থা কি হব সহজেই অনুমান কৰিব পাৰি। গতিকে cattle population ৰক্ষাৰ বাবে চৰকাৰ তথা এই সদনৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিছো। মই আৰু বেচি কৈ সদনৰ সময় খৰচ নকৰো—শেষত মই আকৌ জোৰ দি কও যে আমাৰ cattle wealth ৰ উন্নতিৰ প্ৰতি চৰকাৰে যাতে বিশেষ মনোযোগ দিয়ে।

Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS [Rangiya (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: May I speak a few words, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no time. Fifteen minutes only have been allotted for this item. However, the hon. Member speak for two or three minutes only.

Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the motion of the Hon'ble Minister, I would like to speak a few words in connection with the cattle population in our State. Sir, the cattle population of our State playt a great part in our economic life. Due to inadequate stock of medicines in most of the Veterinary Dispensaries and Hospitals thousands of cattle have been swept away by epidemics and due to this large scale death in the cattle the economic condition of our cultivators have also become very bad. Sir,

we have got only few dispensaries and hospitals for the cattle population. More than that our State has 13 Key Village Centres. And not only that even, we have not got sufficient number of doctors. Sir, in almost all the Veterinary Dispensaries there is not sufficient stock of medicines ; so even if the doctors are there, they are helpless, they cannot render any preventive measures for want of medicines and the result was that thousands of cattle have been swept away by epidemics. Sir, I know in the Nalbari Veterinary Dispensary there is no medicine at all and although the District Veterinary Officer sent his staff to take up some preventive measures for the cattle population, nothing could be done for want of medicines, and therefore no treatment could be given to the cattle and subsequently the cattle population has been swept away by epidemics. Sir, without medicines no preventive measures can be taken. I, therefore, request the Minister-in-charge to see that adequate stock of medicines is supplied to the Veterinary Dispensaries and Hospitals. I hope the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge will do the needful in the matter. Secondly, Sir, the Doctors of the Village Key Centres are equally qualified as the Veterinary Dispensaries are. But as there is no Medicine Section, even the Doctors could not give any help to the villagers.

In this respect I request the Minister-in-charge to give the Medicine Section in the Village Key Centres at an early date. The number of Dispensaries is already few ; so the Key Centres will be acting as Dispensaries. With these few words I again support the motion moved by the Hon'ble Minister.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members for the lively interests they are taking in this Department. As the time is short, I would like to take up the criticisms and reply to them directly without indulging a detailed talk about the working of the Department.

Sir, Rev. Roy has complained about inadequacy of provision for helping private individuals in the hills. I would like to inform him that with a view to encourage private enterprisers for opening poultry, pig, etc., farms in small scale to the persons in the Hill Districts a sum of Rs. 15,000 has been provided in the current year's Budget. A further sum of Rs. 1,00,000 has been provided in the Budget for 1957-58 for issue of loans to private enterprisers for encouraging Livestock Industry in the State. With the funds provided in the current year's Budget, we feel that the hills people along with the plains people can take best advantage of the loan for taking up Livestock industry in the State. Sir, apart from these direct provisions there is provision in the budget of C. D. and N. E. S. Blocks for grant of loans for this

purpose. I think this will meet the needs of the people, but in any case, if these are found to be inadequate, I can assure the hon. Member that the matter will be looked into.

Now Sir, regarding the criticism made by Shri Das. My Friend has complained about inadequacy of medicine in the Barpeta Dispensary. This dispensary is a Local Board Dispensary, and therefore, it is the primary duty of the Local Board to supply medicines, the Government having given them all necessary help for the purpose. If the existing supply is inadequate, certainly Government will look into it. Sir, Government is considering the question to take up all the Local Board Dispensaries and to provincialise them. I also feel that unless and until that is done to avoid dual control possibly there will be room for such complaint in this matter. Sir, I for one, propose to examine this question thoroughly and immediately. In any case, I shall look into it so that there may be no complaint in future.

Sir, my Friends Shri Das and Maulavi Tajuddin, have complained that there is no dispensary in the southern part of Barpeta Subdivision. I do not know what is the line of boundary to demarcate South from the North. If my Friend takes up the railway line or the Trunk Road as the boundary, then he will find that there are dispensaries at Nowgaon, Chenga, Barpeta, Bhowanipur and Sarthebari.

If the river Saulkhwa is taken as the boundary by decreasing the area towards south then there are dispensaries at Barpeta, Nowgaon, Chenga and Sarthebri (interruption). Sir, I do not know the geography of Barpeta much but what my Friend says, if that is taken as correct, then there is nothing left for forming the southern side of Barpeta.

Sir, we contemplate to establish some more Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Barpeta Subdivision during the remaining 2nd Plan period. In fixing the venue of such hospitals and dispensaries generally we will go by the decision of the Subdivisional and District Development Boards, unless there is any special reason to differ with the opinion of the Subdivisional Development Board and the District Development Board. The Local Subdivisional Development Board has suggested the following location—

Barpeta for Veterinary Hospital ;
Sundartari for Veterinary Hospital ;
Khudrakuchi for Veterinary Dispensary ; and
Golibandha for Veterinary Dispensary.

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): There is no dispensary or hospital according to the above suggestion in the southern part.

Mr. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary): I have not much idea of the geography of

Barpeta but I will certainly see that a dispensary or hospital is located in the southern side also. Sir, if my Friend has not received any consideration hitherto—he will get it henceforth.

Sir, the next complaint is regarding the cattle disease which is going on in some parts of the State. Sir, while replying to this question I would like to enlighten the House that in the beginning of this year certain cattle were imported from other parts of India. Some of these cattle were diseased cattle and these diseased cattle were distributed throughout the State of Assam. Sir, as soon as the Department came to know about the condition of these imported cattle, all the District Officers were alerted to take necessary steps for Vaccination and Inoculation but inspite of this step the disease could not be controlled. Sir, as far as the Rinderpest amongst buffalo is concerned, I may inform the House that there is no specific medicine for treating this disease which is creating more difficulties. Regarding the complaint about shortage of Doctor in Barpeta Dispensary I may inform the House that there we are experiencing the same difficulties in other areas also as we have not sufficient doctors. But in this connection I may assure the hon. Member from Barpeta that Government will surely take necessary preventive steps to stop the spread of the disease among the cattle population within their limited resources. Government will also give sufficient loan in case of the poorer people who are not in a position to replace their cattle.

Sir, I am obliged to Shri Patwari who has taken a very lively interest in this department. He has complained that the major portion of the grant in this department has gone to the pay, etc., of the officers and therefore, he has suggested that more money should be given to this department for all round improvement of the department. I am obliged to him for his suggestion. My Friend has made enquiries about the V. G. R. and P. G. R. Schemes and he has suggested that more money should be allotted for the improvement of the P. G. Rs. and V. G. Rs. Sir, the real problem for the cattle population in Assam is fodder. Government is quite alive to this fact and in order to obviate these difficulties they took a Scheme to grow fodder in some of the selected V. G. Rs. and P. G. Rs.

Unfortunately, due to certain administrative difficulties, the scheme could not be taken up in the first year of the Second Five Year Plan and the money had to lapse. This year we are taking a more lively interest in the matter so that the money does not lapse and I hope we will be able to obviate the difficulty in this respect. My Friend was complaining about the

inadequacy of milk production. With a view to solve this problem, Government had purchased 300 Mura buffaloes in 1955-56 for Khanapara, Barpeta and Dibrugarh Cattle Farms. Government have also provided necessary funds for opening two more cattle farms, one at Ghungur in the Cachar District and the other at Nowgong. Besides, Government are taking up schemes for key villages and artificial insemination with a view to improving the existing cattle stock in the State, so that the milk problem can be solved within a short period. Sir, in the Second Five Year Plan Government provided funds for establishment of more dairy farms in the State but the Planning Commission dropped the schemes and instead they have suggested a scheme for rural creamery. In a country like Assam, I believe it is too great a luxury for us to indulge in and, therefore, we had to protest. The matter is under correspondence with the Government of India and I hope the Planning Commission will appreciate our viewpoint in this respect and come to our rescue to help us to solve our milk problem. Besides this, we have got necessary fund to grant loans to private enterprises for encouraging livestock in the State. We have also some provision for giving grants for encouraging milk supply from the *gosalas*.

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): কাশ্মীৰৰ পৰা দুগ্ধজনী গ'হ আৰু পোৱালী অনা হৈছিল অসমত গান্ধীৰ যোগান কৰিবৰ বাবে, তাৰ কিছুমান পোৱালী বিহাৰতে মৰিল আৰু কিমান বাচি আছে জানিব পাবোনে ?

Mr. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary): If my Friend gives notice I will enquire into it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister was referring to certain Mura buffaloes brought to Assam. The hon. Member wants to know whether all of them are alive and giving a good account of themselves.

Mr. MOINUL HAQUE CHODUHURY: Some of them are giving a very good account of themselves.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Some may mean one also !

Mr. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: No, I can assure the hon. Member that the number is big ; an overwhelming majority,

*A voice :—*Then say most.

Mr. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Sir, the Member of the Treasury Bench cannot indulge in loose talk. Their words have to be measured ; that is the difficulty.

Then, Sir, my Friend was complaining about the *gosalas*. But I can assure him that two thousand rupees referred to is given to the "Assam Prantiya *Gosalas* Sangha" which is the central organisation of about 12 *gosalas* in the State. There is provision for helping the other *gasals* too. Government contemplate giving grant-in-aid one by one from year to year to all these *gosalas* and certain provision has been made in this respect. The scheme is awaiting finalisation.

Sir, I am grateful to Mr. Patwary for exhibiting a fine picture of a cow in the House and I assure him that I have taken note of the fine bulk of the cow displayed there. I shall try to bring the Departmental cows upto that standard (*laughter*). I am also grateful to my Friend, Shri Baikuntha Nath Das, for pointing out certain difficulties. I have already replied, in connection with a question in this very House on the other day that Government want to open medicinal centres in some of the key village centres without undermining the effectiveness of the main service that a key village centre is expected to give. He also complained of lack of medicine in certain areas. I assure him that I will look into the matter and see that such difficulties are removed.

Sir, I think I have replied to most of the points raised by my hon. Friends. I hope this will satisfy them and they will be kind enough to withdraw the Cut Motions.

Mr. SPEAKER : What does the hon. Member from the Cherrapunji propose to do ?

Rev J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji, (Reserved for Schedule Tribes)] : In view of the assurance given by the Hon'ble Minister, I beg to leave of the House to withdraw my Cut Motion .

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

Mr. SPEAKER : I put the main demand now.

The question is that a sum of Rs.38,51,100 (Rupees thirty-eight lakhs, fifty-one thousand and one hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT NO. 24

42.—Co-operative—II—Rural Development

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Rural Development) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.60,20,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "42—Co-operation—II—Rural Development".

Mr. SPEAKER : Motion moved, is that a sum of Rs.60,20,200 (Rupees sixty lakhs, twenty thousand and two hundred, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "42.—Co-operation—II—Rural Development".

There are some Cut Motions.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : We won't move the Cut Motions, Sir, but we would like to say a few words with regard to the general demand.

Mr. SPEAKER : The difficulty is that only 30 minutes have been allotted for this grant. The Minister will need at least 15 minutes to reply. So, you will have to share the remaining 15 minutes.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I will take only five minutes, Sir.

Sir, this Department is becoming more and more important and if we compare the progress made from 1950 to 1955-56, we find that there has been a great deal of expansion. For example, in 1950, the number of rural Panchayats was only 15, but now by 1955-56 it has gone up to 429. The amount of self-help grant in 1950 was Rs.3,26,000, it has now come upto Rs.7,26,000 ; the number of Development Officers has increased from 15 to 32 ; the number of Rural Inspectors has increased from 9 to 22. Similarly, there has been an increase in the headquarters staff and also in the number of Superintendents, Head Assistants, etc. Keeping this in view, we find that for the general supervision and control of this Department, the Directorate appears to be weak, because we find that the same officer is not only the Secretary and Director of this Rural Development Department

but he also holds the post of Secretary and Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Secretary of the Sericulture and Weaving Department and Cottage Industries. There was at one time one Deputy Director and an *ex-officio* Under Secretary in 1950 when the number of Panchayats was only 15. But at present there is none though there is a proposal for making one or two Deputy Directors in the near future. So, Sir, I beg to submit, in order to make this Department efficient Government should pay greater attention about supervision and control so that the Directorate is strengthened.

***Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari—West) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to submit a few suggestions with regard to this matter.

My first suggestion is regarding the election of the Rural Panchayats. At present there are so many anomalies in the election system. In some places I have seen personally that corrupt practices have crept in in the present election system which is not scientific and truly speaking not democratic. So I would like to suggest that elections should be held by secret ballot system.

My second suggestion is with regard to the office-bearers of the Rural Panchayats. In many of the Rural Panchayats office-bearers are involved in corrupt practices—sometimes even in the election matters and spending of money on roads and water. They spend money for personal convenience also. So, Sir, I would like to submit that there should be an enquiry Committee to enquire into the affairs of the Rural Panchayats and then to take the needful action.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rural Developmentৰ বিষয়ে Houseৰ অলপ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিবলগীয়া হৈছে। এই কাৰণে যে Rural Development সঁচাকৈয়ে অতি দৰ্কাৰী। কিন্তু আমি দেখিবলৈ পাইছো যে Rural Development Community Project, National Extension Services আদি নানা department কৰা হৈছে। এই বিলাক বেলেগ বেলেগ বিভাগ কৰাৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ বাইজ বিপদত পৰিছে, কাৰণ তেওঁ-বিলাকে কাম কৰিবৰ নিমিত্তে কোনো অসুবিধা বিচাৰি নাপায়। Rural Development এ প্ৰাইমাৰী পঞ্চায়ত গঠন কৰিছে হয় কিন্তু তাত কোনো duties assign কৰা নাই। অন্যান্য প্ৰদেশত প্ৰাইমাৰী পঞ্চায়তৰ duty assign কৰা হৈছে—কিন্তু আমাৰ প্ৰদেশত ইমান টকা খৰচ কৰি প্ৰাইমাৰী পঞ্চায়ত গঠন কৰিও আজিলৈকে কোনো duty assign কৰা নাই। সেই কাৰণে বহুতখিনি অসুবিধাত পৰিব লগা হৈছে।

Rural Development, Community Project আদিৰ কাম পঞ্চায়েতৰ জৰিয়তে কৰা হলে বহুতখিনি কাম হ'লহেঁতেন। সেই কাৰণে এটা common department কৰি পঞ্চায়েতৰ জৰিয়তে যাতে কাম কৰা হয় তাৰ কাৰণে মই এটা suggestion দিছোঁ।

পশ্চিম বঙ্গ চৰকাৰে খেতিয়ক সকলক Rural Development Department ৰ জৰিয়তে ভাৰত ভ্ৰমণ কৰিবলৈ এটা সুবিধা কৰি দিছে; কিন্তু আমি দুখ পাইছো যে আমাৰ প্ৰদেশৰ Rural Development Department এ এনেকুৱা কোনো plan কৰা নাই যাতে আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলেও ভাৰত ভ্ৰমণ কৰি practical knowlege অৰ্জন কৰিব পাৰে। ইণ্ডিয়া গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে যেনেকৈ Railway Department ৰ মানুহক free pass দিয়ে সেইদৰে টকা দি হলেও তেনেকুৱা এটা ব্যৱস্থা কৰিলে আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলৰ বহুতো benefit হ'ব। আৰু তেওঁবিলাকে ভাৰতৰ নানা ঠাইৰ খেতিৰ সমস্যা গৰম্ব সমস্যা আদি দেখিবলৈ পাব। গতিকে Rural Development ত তেনেকুৱা ভাৰত ভ্ৰমণৰ ব্যৱস্থা থকা অতি দৰ্কাৰ।

বৰ্ত্তমানে যি ধৰণৰে Rural Development চলি আছে, যদি Community Project বেলেগ হৈ থাকে, National Extension Services বেলেগ হৈ থাকে আৰু Rural Development বেলেগ হৈ থাকে তেন্তে ৪২০ Model Vehicle ৰ নিচিনাহে হ'ব। সেই কাৰণে এই বিষয়ে সজাগ হ'বলৈ মই গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টক অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ।

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Rural Development) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members sitting on the opposite who have made certain observations on this Grant.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya suggested that the Directorate should be strengthened. The matter is under active consideration of the Government, and steps are being taken to strengthen the Directorate. Sir, the activities of this Department has expanded within the last two years to a great extent.

Then, Sir, as regards the elections to the Rural Panchayats. I like to point out that it was proposed to complete all the elections of the Rural Panchayats during the last two years. Till 1955-56 there were only 98 Rural Panchayats in the State. In 1955-56, 165 Rural Panchayats were organised, in 1956-57 there was proposal for organising 165 Rural Panchayats. But on account of the general elections, elections in 40 Rural Panchayats could not be held, and the elections of these Panchayats are in progress now. As soon as the elections of these Panchayats are completed, the entire areas in Plain Districts will be covered by 429 Panchayats. So, Sir, the question of supervision and control of all of these Panchayats will fall on the Directorate of this Department. So, Sir, this Directorate will have to be strengthened and the matter is under the active consideration of the Government and steps are being taken to strengthen it.

Then Shri Tarun Sen Deka made some observation regarding the system of election. He suggested that there should be secret ballot system of voting in the elections of Rural Panchayats. At present the procedure laid down for the elections under the Rural Panchayats Act is by open voting. There is a proposal which is under examination of the Government to substitute the present system of voting by a system of voting that was in vogue in the Local Boards. At present our fund is very limited. In the first year each Panchayat was allotted Rs.5,000, in the second year also Rs.25,000 was given to each Panchayat, and in the third year there is a proposal for allotment of Rs.5,000 to each of the Panchayats, i.e., during the first three years each Panchayat will altogether get Rs.35,000 each. As the hon. Members are aware, ballot voting is a very expensive affair. It has not yet been able to provide sufficient funds to the Panchayats on a permanent basis. In case if ballot voting is introduced, I am afraid, Sir, the entire sum of Rs.5,000 allotted to each of the Panchayats during the first year would have been expended only on election. In view of this difficulty of fund, it has not yet been able to introduce ballot voting in the Panchayats.

Then as regards corruption in Panchayats referred to by Shri Tarun Sen Deka, I do not deny that some corruption may be there as in the other Departments. But in case my Friend would only be pleased to point out to me or bring to the notice of the Department or Government any such specific cases of corruption, certainly necessary action will be taken after due enquiry to the allegations.

Then my Friend has stated that sufficient work is not being done by this Panchayat on self-help basis. But, for the information of my Friend I would like to refer him to the report of the Panchayat Enquiry Committee appointed in the year 1953-54 which says that the Panchayats executed work worth more than Rs.66 lakhs having received only Rs.38 lakhs from Government. So, I hope the hon. Members will not minimise the work done by these Panchayats.

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) : May I know, Sir, if there is any measurement of the work done by the Panchayats ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Rural Development) : Yes, Sir. I think I have replied to all the points raised by my Friends and I hope in view of what I have stated in reply, they will be pleased not to press their objections.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs.60,20,200 (Rupees sixty lakhs, twenty thousand and two hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "42.—Co-operation—II.—Rural Development".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.28

[“50—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plants and Establishment)]

Mr. SPEAKER : Next Grant is Civil Works—P. W. D.

There are a number of Cut Motions. In the foregoing Grant the time fixed for the Minister was one hour and 15 minutes, and I find the Hon'ble Minister took only 35 minutes to reply. On this calculation for this Grant also, Movers of the Cut Motions will get only 40 minutes each.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : The time in that case will be hardly sufficient.

Mr. SPEAKER : It depends upon the Movers of the Cut Motions.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj—North) : We are moving only one Cut Motion, *i. e.*, Cut Motion No.10, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Minister will then move his demand.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, that a sum of Rs.6,46,38,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plants and Establishment)".

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.6,46,38,800 (Rupees six crores, forty-six lakhs, thirty-eight thousand and eight hundred) be granted to the

Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for administration of the head "50.—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plants and Establishment)".

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj—North):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.6,46,38,800 under Grant No. 28, Major head—50—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plants and Establishment) at page 425 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 6,46,38,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

As you have seen, Sir, this is perhaps the biggest amount which we are going to vote for to Public Works Department Minister. So far as this House is concerned, we are always liberal in sanctioning grants to Public Works Department in view of the fact that ours is a very backward State which very much lacks in communication facilities. But unfortunately we have seen that during the last year, a huge sum of money was left unspent, and Government had to surrender on almost all the items and the progress of work is also very slow. We know Government will say in reply that we are running short of staff experienced in the line, experts, overseers and so on and so forth. We have heard these arguments since a long time past. Sir, when we allot funds, we should also provide sufficient staff for the particular work so that the work may be completed within the scheduled time. So far as Cachar is concerned, the only big project under the First Five-Year Plan was the Barak Project. A sum of Rs.24 lakhs was sanctioned for this project. But what we have seen during the First Five-Year Plan? Only a few thousand of rupees have been spent during this period. In this year's Budget also one or two lakhs of rupees have been provided. We do not know whether Government proposes to complete the work even during the next Five-Year Plan. If the Government moves in this speed, it is impossible to complete the work even during the next Plan. This is a particular instance that I am giving to the House as an illustration. So you will see that in Cachar they had given only one big scheme worth the name which also could not be completed in the First Five-Year Plan. The scheme has not even been started. Only recently we have seen that a Division for the Barak bridge has been opened and till now very little progress has been made. So, Sir, I want to impress upon the Government that they should take proper steps in time so that the funds allotted in the Budget may be spent at any cost within the financial year.

Secondly, we have seen that there are many Divisions, but it is surprising that the number of employees are not distributed equitably among all the Divisions. In some particular Divisions, which have been favoured by the Government, you will see a number of officers, engineers, computers, and so on and so forth. In some other Divisions, where the Budgetary allotment is also very high and the area of operation is also very big, there is a single Overseer or Computer. These things will be found particularly in some hill districts and in some Divisions of the Cachar District. I would like to say that according to nature and volume of work, the existing employees should be divided equitably among all the Divisions; they should not be centralised in one or two places at the whims of the Government.

Sir, another thing which I like to say is that it has become the system of our Government in the Public Works Department to select contractors from among the lowest tenderers, or even to select a contractor who has given a tender below the estimated rate. Sir, if the Government estimate for a work is Rs.5 lakhs, how can a contractor complete the work with Rs.4 lakhs, or Rs.4½ lakhs? The contractor must bring the money from his home or he must adopt some unfair means. In this connection I would like to give an illustration. The specification for soling the Cachar Trunk Road provided 6" soling, but, what I saw? As the tender of the lowest tenderer was accepted, only a 4" soling was done. The quality of work cannot improve if these competitions and Government policy to accept the tender of the lowest tenderers remain. The Government should see that the work is done properly according to the estimate and the Public Works Department standard maintained. Every year we have been granting big amount of money to this Department, but what we have seen there is unspent balance every year. The Government should spend the sanctioned amount fully and get the works done properly instead of hankering after lowest tenderers.

Thirdly, Sir, I would like to refer to a question asked in this House a few minutes ago that there are some employees under the categories of work-charged and temporary continuously for long ten to twenty years. We could not get a helpful reply from the Minister-in-charge of the Department to this question. According to rule, we know that work-charged employees are in service when there is work, and when there is no work, their services are terminated. But as a matter of fact, if a man is kept in the service for long twenty years because the work is continuing, it cannot be said that he

should be kept as a work-charged employee there. If their service conditions are not improved, Government cannot expect sincerity and efficiency from the employees ; the efficiency shall deteriorate. If a Minister is work-charged or a high ranking officer is work-charged, will he devote his full time to work ? So far as I know there is a rule that if anybody puts in three to four years of service, he should be absorbed in the permanent cadre. Government should take immediate steps so that these work-charged and temporary employees of the Public Works Department are brought under the cadre of full-fledged employees getting emoluments regularly, and with same service conditions. Only when these things are done, we can expect some efficiency. With these few words I move my Cut Motion for the consideration of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.6,46,38,800 under Grant No.28, Major head—50.—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plants and Establishment) at page 425 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.6,46,38,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy to move Cut Motion No. 1.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.6,46,38,800 under Grant No.28, Major head—50.—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plants and Establishment) at page 425 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 6,46,38,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, this Cut Motion is moved simply to know from the Government the steps taken by them to construct certain roads which have been promised by the Public Works Department. Perhaps the Minister, Public Works Department, or the Secretary, Public Works Department, went to Jakrem and promised the people that the branch road from Jakrem to Mawkyrwat would be constructed by the Public Works Department. These three miles of the branch road are very important and steps should be taken to construct this road.

Another branch road is from Mawsynram to Lawbah thence to Hat Mawdon. There is already a plan of the Public Works Department to construct this road, and I want to know from the Minister the stage at which this matter stands.

Another road is Smit-Mawkynrew-Lynshing-Mawlat Road. This road was constructed by the local authorities under the self-help scheme or on test relief basis, but this road is not yet completed and it needs more cuttings here and there. So

Sir, in order to complete this road, some more money should be given so that what was given before does not go in vain.

Then, Sir, my second Cut Motion is in regard to the swelling of the Autonomous District budget. By putting first of all the Shillong-Silchar-Tripura Border Road, at page 426 of the detailed estimate of the Budget, under Sixth Schedule (Part A) Areas the amount shown is Rs.4,18,000 and in the previous year, 1956-57, the amount was Rs.15,84,000. These are put under the Sixth Schedule (Part A) Areas. I do not think, this road starting from Shillong to Jowai, Jowai to Badarpur and then from Badarpur to Tripura, should have been shown under the Sixth Schedule (Part A) Areas, as this is a national highway, besides, the Government of Assam is running a State Transport service on this road, from Shillong to Jowai and then to Khliehriat. This road is not meant for the Sixth Scheduled Areas only but it is for connecting Tripura. As we do not put the Shillong-Gauhati Road under the Sixth Schedule Areas this road also should not be put under the Sixth Schedule Areas. This is a national highway as the Shillong-Gauhati Road is; so it should not be shown under this column. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to change this.

I made a mistake in stating the figures. The amount for the restoration of flood damages of the Shillong-Silchar-Tripura Border Road last year was Rs.20,000 and for 1957-58 it is Rs.35,000.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: (Minister Public Works Department): There is no provision at all. This is a blank thing.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: I am sorry, Sir, I made a mistake. The figures I quoted are for the Naga Hills operation but not for the Shillong-Silchar road.

Then, Sir, regarding Naga Hills operation at the bottom of page 425, the amount shown is Rs.61,10,000 and at page 426, the amount shown for the same purpose is Rs.4,18,000 and last year an amount of Rs.15,84,000 is shown under Sixth Schedule Areas. This makes the expenditure under Sixth Schedule quite big, but the fact remains that the operations in the Naga Hills is also meant for protecting the people living in the Plains. So these amounts should have been divided between Hills and Plains, so that the expenditure for the Sixth Schedule Areas does not appear to be so big, as this

whole amount is not only for the sake of the Hills people but in reality it is also meant for protection of the Plains people. If these amounts were not put under Sixth Schedule Areas, the amount meant for Sixth Schedule Areas would not have been so big. These are the things which seem to be objectionable. I expect Government will revise the same in the light of the reasons given by me.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.6,46,38,800 under Grant No. 28, Major head—50—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plants and Establishment) at page 425 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.6,46,38,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Captain WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not going to move my Cut Motion, but I would like to speak a few words on this grant.

It appears at page 429 of the detailed estimates and demands for grants, under D.—Grants-in-aid for Communications, there is no other grants except Rs.19,850 for the District Councils of Autonomous Areas. This grant is in existence from the time of British and this amount is meant for the Garo Hills District and I do not find any other similar grant for other Autonomous Districts. I find that the Rural Panchayats were allotted Rs.38,00,000 for communication in the plain areas and they actually constructed road communications worth Rs.66,00,000. Like Panchayats we, in Autonomous Districts, have taken up road construction and it is found that the roads made by District Councils are cheaper than the roads made by the Public Works Department. For example, we constructed a jeepable road from 9th mile in Tura-Dalu road to Pura-khama, total distance of which is 35 miles and we completed the road with an amount of Rs.35,000 only, whereas, if it were done by the Public Works Department they would have spent ten times more. I think, it will be considered by the Government in future to provide some fund for Autonomous Districts for taking up roads, other than the roads, such as national highway and roads of commercial importance, as has been mentioned by my hon. Friend, Rev. Nichols-Roy. These national highways and roads of commercial importance should be in the hands of the Public Works Department and the district roads of lesser importance other than these should be handed over to the District Councils for maintenance and improvement. At present the Garo Hills District Council has more than 400 miles

of road but for their maintenance and improvement, sufficient fund is necessary. I would, therefore, request the Government to see kindly that in future adequate fund is provided and grants also made for the development of the roads which are being maintained by us. There are some other village roads which can be maintained by the Development Department and also by the Community Development Projects. Sir, another point which I would like to know from the Minister is with regard to the particular work or works which the Hon'ble Minister mentioned in the course of his reply to a point raised by me during general discussion. I am told that the Minister said in his reply that the officers of the Embankment and Drainage Department did some works in Garo Hills under '50.—Civil Works'. I do not know what works have been done during the Year 1953-54. I would like to get a reply from the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge as to which particular work or works were done so that I would be satisfied that though the said officers were not there, they actually did some work in Garo Hills and that in view of the fact that they drew their pay and allowance from Garo Hills District Budget.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) : Sir, may I know the year ?

Captain WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : I mean the works said to have been done in 1953-54. I am just pointing out this to the House because in that particular year an amount of Rs.1,31,800 has been spent in respect of officers and staff of Embankment and Drainage Department and that amount was spent from the Garo Hills District Budget. I would like to know which particular work has been taken up by the Department under '50.—Civil Works' and I would be satisfied only if actual work has been done. So far as my knowledge goes, no work has been done in that particular year. Sir, another thing I would like to request to the Government is that construction of roads in the border areas should receive the prior attention of the Government. It is very essential to build a road as early as possible in the border areas so that we can create a market alternatively for our produce. Whenever construction of a road is concerned, specially in the Autonomous Areas, Government should do well to take up border roads first so that the border people can be given alternative markets for their produce. I will tell you, Sir, there is a place known as Maheshkhola which is to the east of Baghmara and on the other side of Samabawary river which is exclusively cut off from the rest of the Garo Hills. We cannot go to these places as we

are to go *via* Pakistan which is very unsafe. Up-till now not a single officer has visited these places because nobody has the courage to go through Pakistan. So, the Garo Hills District Council had a proposal to construct one road from Baghmara to Maheshkhola and a sum of Rs.50,000 was set apart for this but we were told that the work would be taken up by the Public Works Department. The Public Works Department further said "why do you waste the money, we will do the work". In view of the assurance given by the Public Works Department that the work will be taken up and completed soon, we gave up the idea of starting the work ourselves. But unfortunately up-till now nothing has been done. My last request to the Government is that such roads must receive prior consideration of the Government. Immediate construction of border roads should be started not only in the Garo Hills but all over the Autonomous Districts. Thank you, Sir.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the demand moved by the Hon'ble Minister and to oppose the Cut Motions. Sir, in this connection, I beg to bring to the notice of the House that the road system of Dibrugarh Subdivision is designed to facilitate the industries and the tea gardens and the villages are always in out-of-the-way places. Sir, the roads there are hardly able to serve the interest of the villagers, and you will find, Sir, very good roads which serve the industries and the tea gardens which may create an impression that the roads in Dibrugarh Subdivision are sufficient for the people. But, Sir, that is not the real picture because, as I said, the roads were generally constructed during the British time to serve the interest of the industries and the tea gardens. The villages were always left out of consideration. During the last few years, no doubt, the Public Works Department has spent large sums in the district but stress has not been adequately laid according to the need of the backward regions. There are certain roads constructed in out-of-the-way places and a considerable length of roads is under construction. Sir, the people from the villages moved the Government in the past to take up certain roads but we find generally that roads connecting the tea gardens have been given preference, as for example, a road from Panitola to Rongagora Road *via* Dinjan Tea Estate has been taken over by Government during the last few years. But the road from Panitola to the south *via* Boruahula village to Deuhal has not been taken up although there were representations from the people. I do not know, Sir, why these representations escaped the attention of the Government.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): May I know the name of the road that has not been taken up?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): The road from Panitola to Deuhal through Baruahula village, Sir. The roads to the south of Panitola which would serve the villages has not been taken up but the roads to the north of Panitola which serve the tea estates and which is already Pucca road has been taken up by the Government.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: That road has not been taken up.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: Sir, I found that somebody on behalf of the Public Works Department was working and stones and pebbles were also stocked there. I do not know whether this has been stopped. On the other hand, Sir, if a road from Panitola *via* Baruahula village to Deuhal to the south is constructed, the condition of the villagers would be improved. Sir, you will find that students from these villages cannot go to schools for want of communication. Although there is a Local Board road, it generally remains out of order. The road can hardly be repaired as it runs through two small rivers. I do not know whether this matter has come to the notice of the Government. Sir, there are other places also; for example, in Saikhowa Constituency the same difficulty in communication exists. Of course one road has been taken up during the last year from Kakapathar to Maithong but the road is not yet complete and the people there are experiencing difficulties. It is necessary that some more roads should be taken up in that region in order to connect those places with the villages there and the North-East Frontier Agency. Sir, if the communications in these regions are improved, I believe the relation between the people inhabited in the North-East Frontier Agency area and the people in my district will be intensified. You know, Sir, the people in the North-East Frontier Agency, *i.e.*, the Mishmis or the Khamtis, have got close relations with the people of the administered area, therefore, if the communication is improved, I believe we will be able to go over to them and they will also be able to come over to us. If the roads are not improved, I fear that a time may come when they will tend to avoid the people of the administered area. Sir, I do not like to make a long speech and take the time of the House. With these few words, I support the Demand and oppose the Cut Motions.

Adjournment

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

(After lunch)

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Hazarika.

The hon. Member will have to be very brief.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in connection with the Cut Motion moved by my learned Friend, Rev. Roy, I beg to make a few observations. Sir, I am sure, the hon. Members of this House are aware of the difficulties regarding the works that have been taken up by the Public Works Department due to shortage of iron materials, C. I. sheets, cement, etc., and the most important thing is want of technical staff. I think my Friends are aware that this Government have brought many technical staff from outside on contract basis, in spite of that we are quite inadequate in comparison to the volume of works that has been taken up by the Public Works Department. Let us hope, Sir, with the gradual availability of materials as also the technical staff, that the difficulties that we are now facing will go and the progress of works will also be improved.

Next, Sir, I would like to make an observation regarding the point raised by my Friend, Rev. Roy. My Friend has said that a sum of Rs.61,10,000 has been allotted for the Naga Hills operation. He urged that this amount should be equally borne between the hills and the plains. But I would respectfully submit that the amount which is spent in a particular district and for the benefit of that district should be included in the budget of that particular district.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):
Is the hon. Member replying on behalf of the Minister?

Mr. SPEAKER: He is making his own observation.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: Now we find, Sir, that due to the Naga troubles, this huge amount has been allotted by Government for construction of buildings,

roads, bridges, shelters, etc. which have been damaged or destroyed by the Naga gangsters, and therefore, that expenditure should be allotted in the budget of that particular district only.

Now, Sir, I would like to point out to the Government that the roads in the border areas, mainly Sibsagar and Mikir Hills, are in very deplorable conditions and due to the Naga operation, the Military as well as the civil police have been put to great hardships. Both the Military and the civil police personnel have to go and get their rations, they have to take their trucks for patrol duties and their camps are also situated just on the border of the Naga Hills. These people are deprived of any good communication, therefore, I would respectfully urge upon the Government to realise the necessity of these roads and request to make every effort to reconstruct the same, specially the border roads in Amguri Mouza, Titabar Mouza, Barpathar Mouza and Sarupathar Mouza. I hope Government will take necessary steps as early as possible.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : What about the other border roads, I mean Pakistan border ?

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) : Sir, my Friend, Captian Sangma, has urged that more money should be allotted to the District Councils by the Public Works Department, and that Public Works Department should hand over the roads within the Autonomous Districts to the District Councils. So far my information goes, almost all the village roads and some other important roads, are now in the hands of the District Councils, but I would point out that it would be difficult on the part of the Government to hand over the National Highway or other important roads which obviously go through many other districts.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : I don't think that the National Highway goes to any District Council.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : There are Shillong, Silchar and Tripura roads.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : They have not yet been declared National Highways. Therefore, just now we have only one National Highway.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) : Sir, regarding the point raised by my Friend, Shri Hazarika that more grants should be given for roads, I think it is the policy of the Government to either take over or improve the roads, as we have seen that most of the village roads are being taken over by the Public Works Department, especially the Local Boards' roads are going to be handed over to the Public Works Department during the operation of the First and the Second Five-Year Plans.

Now, Sir, I will come to the Subdivision of Golaghat. In Golaghat subdivision there is one road, Murphulani, which has already been taken over by the Public Works Department but I would like to say that the length of the road is about 10 miles and out of which only the first six miles have been taken over and the rest four miles have been left out. There is a river also but as there is no bridge, it is not possible to use the remaining portion of the road. Sir, this road connects Mikir Hills with Golaghat and the tribal people generally come to the railway station or bazar and go to Diphu, the headquarters of Mikir Hills, *via* that road. So I draw the attention of Government that the remaining portion of the road should also be taken over by the Public Works Department as early as possible, so that we may have a link between the Mikir Hills and the Sibsagar District.

Sir, there is another road constructed by the National Cadet Corps about three years back in Barpathar Mouza. That road has been neglected now and almost all the bridges are worn out. That is the only road which connects directly Golaghat with the two Mouzas of Barpathar and Sarupathar. At present there is no direct road communication from Golaghat to those two Mouzas except *via* Mikir Hills. So I urge upon the Government to consider taking over of this particular road by the Public Works Department as early as possible. Then, Sir, there is another question, that is, the Dhansiri Bridge. That was constructed by the Military during the 1942 Movement. This big bridge cost Rs.8,00,000 to Rs.10,00,000. In order to save that bridge from erosion, the Public Works Department should take immediate steps.

Regarding Golaghat town itself, the Dhansiri river has eroded quite a good part of it. Almost half of the Marwari Patti has been eroded. I was told, there was a plan and estimate for protection of the town. Unfortunately however no work has been taken up as yet in that direction. I hope Government will look into this urgent matter and see that steps

are taken as early as possible to save the town from further erosion. With these few observations, Sir, I oppose the Cut Motion moved by Rev. Nichols-Roy and support the original Motion moved by the Minister.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is accused of slow progress of work in the Public Works Department but I would just place certain figures before the Hon'ble House to consider whether the progress of work during the First Five Year Plan was slow or otherwise.

The total mileage of road in our State upto 1947 was 2,610 miles, of which 570 miles existed in the hills and 2,040 miles in the plains areas. At the end of the First Five Year Plan period the road position in the State came to this : Total mileage was 6,900, out of which 1,771 miles were in the hills and 5,129 miles in the plains areas. That means 4,290 miles of road were constructed during the period ending the First Five Year Plan. Sir, this is not a mean achievement on the part of the Government. Now our proposal for the next Five Year Plan is to construct 800 miles, of road in the hills and 1,000 miles in the plains. That means our programme is to construct a total mileage of 1,800 miles of road during the Second Five Year Plan period. According to the Nagpur formula the State is in need of 13,200 miles of road. At the end of the Second Five Year Plan period our position will be thus : In the entire State there will be 8,700 miles of road. Out of this 2,571 miles will be in the hills and 6,129 miles will be in the plains areas. So there will be a shortfall of 4,500 miles by the end of the Second Five Year Plan.

My Friend, Shri Ranendra Mohan Das also criticised the Department for accepting tenders at the lowest rate. But, at all times the Department does not accept the lowest tender. The Public Works Department generally accepts the reasonably low tender. Unless that is done, the public, the Accounts Department as also my hon. Friends in this House will criticise the Department for not accepting the lowest tender and for wasting more public money by accepting the highest or the reasonably higher tender. Generally 10 per cent profit is provided in an estimate by the Public Works Department. If the tenders are within the limit of 10 per cent less than the estimate rate, such tenders when considered reasonable, are accepted but tenders are not generally accepted which are less than 10 per cent than the estimated rates. If a tenderer fails to execute the work in due time, there is provision for cancellation of the tender and to appoint a new contractor in his place.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): This is not the question, the question is the standard of work. The Public Works Department always maintain its standard.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.): How can the Department help in not accepting a tender which is not unreasonably low but within 10 per cent less of the estimated rate? The Public Works Department cannot help it, but it only accepts the reasonably low tender keeping in view the profit to contractors provided in the estimate. If some tenderers are satisfied with less profit than 10 per cent the Department cannot do anything.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: On a point of further clarification, [it is said that the tenderer foregoes the share of profit. The question is if the tenderer foregoes the profit, does he come here for social service?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: I do not think that a tenderer comes for social service. They expect certain profit no doubt. The profit provided in the estimate is 10 per cent but somebody may think that 5 per cent or 6 cent or more or less is enough for him. So he may submit his tender at 5 per cent less than the estimated rate.

Mr. SPEAKER: Patriotism *plus* 5 per cent.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: New tenderers cannot generally get in, unless their tenders are reasonably low than rate of the old constructors. Sometimes to get the work they agree to work at less profit.

My Friend, Shri Ranendra Mohan Das, said that there are a large number of temporary posts in the Public Works Department. It is true, Sir. There were a number of supplementary questions put to me in this respect, this morning as if I am not sympathetic to such workers. Sir, I have done my best to make permanent 75 per cent of such temporary posts and Divisions. For that I approached the Pay Committee also but the Pay Committee observed that it was not their duty to say what number of posts or Divisions should be made permanent. The Pay Committee therefore advised to refer the matter to the Finance Department and to the Government. I moved the Finance Department also to make 75 per cent of the posts and Divisions permanent but on account of financial and other difficulties, the Finance regretted and could not agree to the proposal. B Finance agree to make those Divisions permanent which existed and worked for 5 years or more. I am again taking up the matter with the Finance Department and I hope to achieve something.

There is also a complaint that lot of momey is surrendered by the Public Works Department. Sir, I have stated before this House times without number the difficulties the Department has to face. Sir, the reasons for surrender are mainly as follows: dearth of construction materials, cement, steel roofing sheets, etc., for buildings and bridges, transport bottleneck, shortage of technical personnel, shortage of labour, detailing of technical and other personnel of all the Departments of the Government, including the Public Works Department for election duty from February to the middle of March, an anticipatory provision of amount in the State Budget in excess of those actually allotted by India for works under Article 275 and petrol tax, special reserves of which are financed by India. Sir, this requires a little explanation. At the time of submitting the Budget, proposal by the Department, it cannot be anticipated what amount will be contributed under Article 275 by the Government of India to the State Government. Our Department has to anticipate and provide certain funds. Generally it is found to be in excess of the amount which is actually received afterwards from the Government of India under Article 275 and under petrol tax head. Last year, the Department provided Rs.99 lakhs in the Budget but it received only Rs.76 lakhs from the Government of India; so the excess of Rs.23 lakhs had to be surrendered.

Then, Sir, there are difficulties regarding getting land for construction of building, roads, embankments, etc. As you know, land acquisition is a long process and this factor causes delay in finalisation of building schemes and other schemes. Generally, for building schemes, it is difficult to get Government land. Even if Government land is available, necessary arrangements for taking its possession have to be made with the Revenue Department. Generally land has to be acquired and acquisition is a lengthy process. If the hon. Members refer to the Public Works Department budget, they will find that a lot of works from other Department is included in the Public Works Department budget. Unless the Public Works Department is shown the site by the Department concerned, it is very difficult for the Public Works Department to prepare plan and estimates for the work proposed.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Does the Hon'ble Minister suggest that there is lack of co-ordination between the different Departments?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): No, Sir, there is no lack of co-ordination but Sir, it is difficult to get land and to locate the site.

Then, Sir, my Friend, Rev. Nichols-Roy, wants to get information from the Government about the branch road from Jakrem to Mawkyrwat. The Assam Road Communications Board, at its fifth meeting, held in July 1955, recommended construction of the road from Jakrem to Ranikar at a cost of Rs.66,000 out of the additional programme of Rs.40, lakhs for the entire State to be taken up from the Central Road Fund. A section of this road will pass through Mawkyrwat also. The construction of a branch road will depend on the Government of India's approval to the 40 lakhs programme. So, it is pending with the Government of India.

As regards the other two roads mentioned by him, they are being taken up as test relief measures on a self-help basis from the self-help grant. The branch road from Mawsynram to Lawbah and to Hat Mawdon. For this road, two self-help grants, one for Rs.10,000 and the other for Rs.2,000, in all a sum of Rs.12,000 was sanctioned in 1955-56 and the expenditure was incurred at the instance of the Deputy Commissioner, Khasi and Jaintia Hills. This work is taken up as a test relief work. About the other road, two such grants one of Rs.10,000 and another of Rs.14,000 were sanctioned as test relief work and the expenditure was incurred by the Deputy Commissioner of Khasi and Jaintia Hills as test relief measures.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved Scheduled Tribes)] : May I know whether the last named road is going to be taken up ?

Mr. SPEAKER : May I suggest one thing ? If the hon. Member discusses with the Minister about these roads, a lot of time of the House will be saved. There are other important points to which the Hon'ble Minister is to reply.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.): These roads are not included in any of the development schemes but self-help grants are allotted for these roads on test relief measures or otherwise.

My Friend, Shri Ranendra Mohan Das, referred to the construction of the Barak bridge. This is a suspension bridge and the cost will be about Rs.27,42,000 under the plan; the approximate length of the bridge will be 1,532 feet. This being a major bridge elaborate collection of hydraulic data and other details and subsequent preparation of designs, plans and estimates and also settlement of contract took much time. The work has already been started and upto May, 1957, works on

13 shore spans foundation out of 16 completed, and works on 4 wells out of 8 wells are in progress. A sum of about Rs.5.5 lakhs has already been spent up to end of April, 1957. Now, Sir, some materials will have to be imported from foreign countries. The Government of India has been moved in the matter with a view to import the materials. If the materials are not received in time, there will be some delay in the progress of the work.

Then both Rev. Roy and Captain Williamson Sangma raised the question and made out a case before the House that the grants received for development of roads in the Sixth Schedule Areas are partly diverted for improvement of other roads in the State.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Sir, that is not my point. What I mean to say is what specific work has been done by the Embankment and Drainage Department in the year 1954 out of the grant meant for the Sixth Schedule Areas, in the Garo Hills.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) : Sir, Rev. Roy also referred to the construction of certain roads in the Naga Hills and the trunk roads in the plains areas out of the funds sanctioned for Sixth Schedule Areas.

Mr. SPEAKER : What Rev. Roy stated, if I remember aright, is that the cost of building roads should be shared not only by the hills but also by the plains.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Sir, specific funds are allotted for construction of hill roads by Government of India. But money is also allotted from the State fund, and such fund is generally distributed by the Assam Roads Communication Board on the basis of 1 : 2 or a little more or less, and sometimes when necessary the special grant is given to the hills also for construction of roads.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : Sir, the grant under Article 275 should not be utilised for operational work in the Naga Hills.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : The grants sanctioned under Article 275 are not utilised for operational work. There are some roads in existence in the Naga Hills. Some roads are taken up for improvement and few others are taken up to open up new areas or for development of Naga Hills.

Grants under Article 275 are utilised for improvement and development of these roads in the Hills. Such roads can be utilised by anyone and if necessary for operational purpose also. So, it cannot be said that grants under Article 275 are utilised for operational purposes. For example, there is one such road from Amguri to Mokokchung. About 8 miles out of 55 miles of this road fall in Sibsagar District. Expenditure is charged under Major head of account—"50-Civil Works—A.-Original Works—B.-Communication—Sixth Schedule, etc."

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, if that portion of the road is deducted, money granted under Article 275 should not be spent in the road meant for operational purposes in the Naga Hills.

Unless this part is constructed and linked, communication to Mokokchung will be useless.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): Sir, there are two road development programmes, one for the Hills and another for the Plains Districts.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, we do not question the right of the Government to spend money in the Naga Hills from any other source, but not from grants under Article 275 which are granted for the development of hill roads. If such roads are to be constructed for the purpose of operational work in the Naga Hills then money should not have been spent on roads which was given under Article 275.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: Sir, I have already stated that there are two road development programmes the one for the Hills and another for the Plains areas. The road programme has been drawn in consultation with the Assam Road Communication Board and in consultation and approval of the hon. Members from both the Hills and the Plains. Sir, not only the people of the Naga Hills will use the roads but also everybody will use them, including the Military. No money allotted or directed from funds received under Article 275 for construction of roads exclusively necessary for the purpose of Military operation in the Naga Hills. The roads and buildings projects taken up in the Naga Hills have been classed under Sixth Schedule Areas, Naga Hills being a Sixth Schedule Areas.

Mr. SPEAKER : Do you think that the Hon. Minister has done himself fairly in replying to the points raised by the hon. Members ?

What he stated is this that no money has been spent in the operational work in the Naga Hills from grants under Article 275. So far as the Naga Hills operational work is concerned, no money is spent from the grant under Development Plans.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : Sir, eight persons working in the Amguri-Mokokchung Road had been kidnapped from the road. May I know from the Government whether they have been taken any steps to help families of those eight persons ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.) : Sir, how does this question arise here ? I know steps have been taken by the Government to help the families of those who suffered due to the death of the earning members while they were in active service of the Government.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati) : May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether money had been spent from the Public Works Department fund or other fund to help those families ?

Mr. SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister is responsible for Public Works Department. Evidently money has been spent from the Public Works Department fund. The hon. Members should be satisfied with that.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Sir, my hon. Friend, Captain Sangma, referred to delay for construction of Moheshkhola-Mahadeo-Rongram Road and Baghmara-Mahadeo Road.

A road from Baghmara to Mahadeo is included under the expanded programme of First Five-Year Plan (Article 275) at the cost of Rs.12 lakhs. This road is now under the survey for preparation of plan and estimate for obtaining financial sanction and technical approval.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Sir, we have already a road from Dalu to Baghmara. Now the question is regarding connecting Moheshkhola from Dalu, survey for which was completed years back.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): The extension of the road from Mahadeo to Moheshkhola is not in any scheme but every estimate for such road has to be submitted to the Government of India for their approval. Unless Government of India give its approval, the work cannot be taken up.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at page 413 of the Budget Estimates, amount transferred from the Six Scheduled Areas to the General Budget is Rs.69,800.

Mr. SPEAKER: Hon. Member can get this point cleared outside this House.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI: But before that how can we pass it, Sir ?

(Laughter)

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: I do not like to take the time of the House much longer. But yet one small point remains which was raised by my Friend, Capt. Sangma. He puts a question: what specific work has been done by the Embankment and Drainage Department in the year 1954 out of the grant which according to him was allotted to Sixth Scheduled Areas in Garo Hills. Sir, that point was replied to by the Finance Minister during the Budget discussions. But I understand at that time he was not in the House. I do not like to go over it once again and take the time of the House but would like to refer him to Finance Minister's reply at the time of discussion of the Budget.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: I referred to the Finance Minister's reply, but it is not there. What I want to know is the specific work done by the Embankment and Drainage Department in 1953-54 under the head—50—Civil Works, in the Garo Hills.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: I do not have the information handy now, but the information can be supplied to him afterwards. But as regards the particular allegation he made, Finance Minister has already replied to it in detail. He may please refer to it.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: The particular work I refer to now was not mentioned there.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister Public Works Department) : Now my Friends from Saikhowa and Marangi referred to certain roads to be constructed by the Public Works Department. Sir, these roads have been taken note of and will be placed before the Assam Road Communication Board when it meets next, for its consideration.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Sir, what about the grants-in-aid roads under the District Council ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Sir, District Councils also receive grants-in-aid from Government, *i. e.*, from the Rural Development Department, just like the Panchayats in the Plains areas for execution of work on self-help basis. Besides, the Tribal Areas Department also gives grants-in-aid to the District Councils for construction of village roads or and other roads in the Sixth Scheduled areas.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : Sir, here there is a reference to a sum of Rs.19,850. I referred to that. I want to know whether similar grants are not made available to the District Councils.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : That Grant is provided under Art. 275 for the Sixth Schedule Areas. The Tribal Areas Department makes available such self-help grants to the District Councils and to the D. Cs. also. So, no separate provision has been made here. But contributions are made to the Hills areas also on self-help works from the money allocated for rural development.

I think, I have replied to all the points raised by the hon. Members and now they will be pleased to withdraw their Cut Motions.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Schedule Tribes)] : Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Cut Motions tabled from this side of the House. (The Cut Motions were, by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Mr. SPEAKER : Now both the Cut Motions having been withdrawn. I put the original demand to note.

The question is that a sum of Rs.6,46,38,800 (Rupees six crores, forty-six lakhs, thirty-eight thousand and eight hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which

will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "50—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plants and Establishment)".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.29

[50—Civil Works, etc. (Tools and Plants and Establishment)]

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.86,51,400, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works etc., (Tools and Plants and Establishment)."

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.86,51,400, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works, etc. (Tools and Plants and Establishment)."

There is no Cut Motion. So I put the question.

The question is that a sum of Rs.86,51,400, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works, etc., (Tools and Plants and Establishment)."

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.55

81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.5,41,38,000

be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.5,41,38,000 (Rupees five crores, forty-one lakhs and thirty-eight thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account".

There is no Cut Motion. So I put the question.

The question is that sum of Rs.5,41,38,000 (Rupees five crores, forty-one lakhs and thirty-eight thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending—31st March 1958 for the administration of the head, "81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No. 58

(82.-B—Capital Outlay on Road and Water Transport Schemes outside the Revenue Account.)

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.39,29,200 (Rupees thirty-nine lakhs, twenty-nine thousand and two hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head—"82.-B—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes outside the Revenue Account."

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.39,29,200 (Rupees thirty-nine lakhs, twenty-nine thousand and two hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head—"82.-B.—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes outside the Revenue Account".

(After a pause)

As there is no Cut Motion, I put the Motion. question.

The question is that a sum of Rs.39,29,200 (Rupees thirty-nine lakhs, twenty-nine thousand and two hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "82-B.—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes outside the Revenue Account."

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.57

(82.—Capital Account of other State Works outside the Revenue Account).

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.20,65,000 (Rupees twenty lakhs and sixty-five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"82.—Capital Account of other State Works outside the Revenue Account."

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.20,65,000 (Rupees twenty lakhs and sixty-five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"82.—Capital Account of other State Works outside the Revenue Account".

(After a pause)

As there is no Cut Motion, I put the original Motion.

The question is that a sum of Rs.20,65,000 (Rupees twenty lakhs and sixty-five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "82.—Capital Account of other State Works outside the Revenue Account."

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.9

(18.-B. and 68-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works.)

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of

Rs.3,83,81,400 (Rupees three crores, eighty-three lakhs, eighty-one thousand and four hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head—"18.-B and 68.—B."—Navigation Embankment and Drainage".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.3,83,81,400 (Rupees three crores eighty-three lakhs eighty-one thousand and four hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head—"18-B and 68-B—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage".

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.4,90,000 under Grant No.9, Major head—18-B and 68-B.—Navigation Embankment and Drainage Works, Sub-head—Restoration of Flood Damage, at page 46 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of whole grant of Rs.3,83,81,400 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, the object of my Cut Motion is to draw the attention of the Government to the damage caused by the flood of the Digaru river at village Morodola in Sonapore Mouza, Kamrup District, cutting the banks and damaging cultivation. During this summer unless the bank of the Digaru river on the Morodola is repaired and protected, there is danger of the flood damaging the newly built motor road through this village Morodola.

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, ग्रांट नम्बर ९ के संबंध में सदन के सामने जो कर्तन प्रस्ताव है उसका समर्थन करते हुए मैं दो चार शब्द बोलना चाहता हूँ।

बांध बनाने का मतलब है जनता की भलाई करना। रियाया की जमीन और जायदाद कण उन्नत बनाना किंतु हमारे यहाँ इसका मतलब और ही होता है।, यहाँ बांध बनता है, तो जनता की तबाही होती है। गरीब जनता की जमीन उन्नत होने के बजाय नष्ट होती है। मुझे बड़ा दुख है कि मेरी Constituency में जो बांध बनने जा रहे हैं उससे जनता की भलाई नहीं होगी बल्कि उनकी जमीन नष्ट हो जायेगी। उनमें तबाही आ जायेगी।

मुझे अपने यहाँ से दरखास्त मिली है। वह यह है—

“अधीनेर विनीत निवेदन এই উপরোক্ত মৌজায় বাঁধ দেওয়ার জন্য জমি দখলের হুকুমজারী করা হইয়াছে। জনকল্যাণে কল্যান-রাষ্ট্রের যাবতীয় ব্যবস্থায় আমাদের অকুণ্ঠ সমর্থন প্রদানীয়। কিন্তু এক্ষেত্রে অবস্থাদীনে বিশেষ বিবেচনা এবং আমাদের মত সম্প্রদায়ের বিশেষ সমস্যার প্রতি সহৃদয় সহানুভূতি প্রদর্শনের জন্য অধীন নিম্নোক্ত বিবরণের প্রতি মহোদয়ের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করিতেছি।

গৃহস্থী আমাদের একমাত্র জীবিকা। জমি ছাড়া অন্য জীবিকায় অনভ্যস্ত। প্রচুর নগদ টাকাও আমাদের কাছে মূল্যহীন; কারণ অর্থের যথাযথ প্রয়োগে অর্থলাভে আমরা নিতান্ত অক্ষম। আমাদের প্রাণ কেন্দ্র জমির উপর সরকারী হস্তক্ষেপ আমাদের জাতীয়-ধারায় চরম আঘাত হানিতেছে। ফলে অচিরেই আমাদের এক শ্রেণী আরও গভীর পাহাতে আশ্রয় নিতে বাধ্য হইতেছে। উপরোক্ত বাঁধ আমাদের সেই পথেই টানিয়া নিতেছে।”

यह बांध बनने से इस स्थान के रहनेवालों को बड़ी तकलीफ होगी। इस बांध से वहाँ की जमीन नष्ट हो जायेगी। इससे वहाँ के रहनेवालों के मन में बहुत बड़ा असंतोष फैला हुआ है। इस लिये इस और सरकार उचित कारवाई करें।

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.3,83,81,400 under Grant No.9, Major head—18.-B.-and 68-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works, at page 46 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.3,83,81,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.

This is to criticise the Government for not taking steps to save the crop of a vast area in Bagribari and Chenga Mauzas by constructing and extending the embankments of both the banks of the Kukarjan which is the only outlet for water on the Adabari Bahari-Bagbar Embankment. The object of the Cut Motion itself explains the whole matter, so I need not say much more. But I would like to say that the hon. Minister visited that area and he is aware of the fact that Kukarjan is the only outlet of the Adabari Bahari-Bagbar Embankment and the crop of that area is always damaged by water due to the construction of this embankment. So immediate steps should be taken for having embankment on both the sides of the Kukarjan.

Also I would like to suggest that there should be some sluice gates in this embankment because it is the longest embankment in the district and there is no sluice gate. Due to this, there is drought in some places and flood in some other places. I would suggest that at least sluice gates should be constructed at Bahari, Garala and Alirpam in my Subdivision and three more sluice gates should be constructed in the Gauhati Sub-division.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minister should reply now. (Shri Ranendra Mohan Das, Maulavi Jahan Uddin Ahmed and some other Members rose in their seats).

এই ‘প্রাস্ত’টোর কারণে আগের ৩০ মিনিট সময় আছিল আর তাতে ১৭ মিনিট সময় পার হই গেল। কিবা কব লগা থাকিলে, সদস্য সকলে মন্ত্রী ডাঙরীয়ার আগত, পাঁচত দাড়ি ধরির পারিব।

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as regards the point raised by my Friend, Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy, in course of his moving the Cut Motion that the river Digaru caused damages by flood at village Morodola in Sonapore Mauza, I want to inform the House that up-till now the Government have neither received any such information nor of any erosion in the village and flood by river Digaru in Sonapore Mauza. This matter will be examined by our Department and, if possible the proposal will be put up before the Embankment and Drainage Advisory Committee for consideration. If the cost is not prohibitive and commensurate with the benefit to be derived, this will be considered by the Government.

As regards the points raised by hon. Friend, Shri Biswanath Upadhyaya, I could not follow him properly.

Mr. SPEAKER : He said that there is an embankment which should be on the southern side of the village but it is now proposed to have the embankment on the western side of the village. He objects to that.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : But, Sir, in conclusion of his speech he says that he does not agree with the expert opinion in this regard. I may ask the Department to re-examine the alignment afresh but in this Government cannot but agree with the expert opinion.

As regards the point raised by Maulavi Tajuddin Ahmed for construction of embankments on both sides of the Kukurajan channel, I inspected that myself with the Public Works Department's experts. The problem will not be solved if suggestions made by my hon. Friend is accepted. Now there is a Beel where the channel falls. This Beel acts as a reservoir. If embankments are constructed on both sides of the channels, all the spills will fall on the Beel and it will be filled up with water and in case of any excess, water will spill and inundate some areas, as will be done by the side spills of the channel. Expert opinion does not advise that there should be embankments on both sides of this river as this will not solve the problem. They are trying to find out other means, if possible, to drain out some water and retain the area and stop inundation. I have already asked the Department to examine this problem and to do if inundation can be stopped. This embankment has benefited a vast area but only a small area by the side of this Beel has been affected.

As regards sluice gates, provision is already there but where to put these gates require investigations and collection of data. After due investigation sluice gates will be provided wherever necessary

Sir, I have replied to all the points raised and I hope, my hon. Friends will see their way to withdraw the Cut Motions.

Mr. SPEAKER : There are Cut Motions by Rev. Nichols-Roy and the hon. Member from Tarabari. Rev. Nichols-Roy is not in his seat. Therefore, the Cut Motion falls through.

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) : I beg to withdraw my Cut Motion, Sir.

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

(After a pause)

Now I will put the main Grant before the House. The question is that a sum of Rs.3,83,81,400, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head—"18-B and 68-B—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage."

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.10

(19 Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works.)

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.5,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head—"19—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works."

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 5,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head—"19—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works".

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya has got a Cut Motion, but I understand, he will not move it. When the Mover of the Cut Motion himself has said that he would not move it and moreover he is not in his seat, there is no Cut Motion. At the same time, there is hardly time for it.

I will now put the question before the House.

The question is that a sum of Rs. 5,00,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head—"19.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works.

(The Motion was adopted.)

Grant No.44.

XLVIA.—Road Transport Schemes Working Expenses)

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs. 85,32,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head—"XLVIA.—Road Transport Schemes—Working Expenses."

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 85,32,500, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"XLVIA.—Road Transport Schemes—Working Expenses".

I was given to understand by the Leader of the Communist Group that they were not going to move any Cut Motions.

***Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the most important head which fetches a good amount of income to the State but unfortunately the staff of the Department are not well paid. The employees get less than their cost of living and there is a glamour from the employees that they should also get more to enable them to meet both ends meet. So, Sir, I submit that the pay of the employees of this Department should be increased.

Mr. SPEAKER : I am afraid, the hon. Member has put in his wrong boots.

***Shri TARUN SEN DEKA :** Of course, Sir, I have mistaken the subject. But I beg to submit that the lot of the employees of the Transport Department is very precarious. The pay scales which have been revised by the Pay Committee have also not been given effect to and some of the employees are suffering on that account. I may submit, Sir, that this Department brings a good deal of income to the State. I would urge that the Pay Committee's recommendations should be given effect to as early as possible to ameliorate the hardships of the employees. I would also request Government to remove the anomaly in the report of the Pay Committee that their salaries and allowances of those who were employed before October, 1956, will not be considered. This anomaly should be removed and I submit that a general consideration should be given to the poor fries of this Department.

Mr. SPEAKER : There being no Cut Motion, the Hon'ble Minister may reply if he feels inclined to do so. As a matter of fact, the hon. Member who spoke did not make any head or tail in his speech.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) : The question of pay of the employees of the State Transport Organisation has been considered and revised by Government. The revised pay scales increased the pay of all the employees of the State Transport Organisation including the low paid staff. It is known to the employees themselves that revised scale of pay will be given effect to from 1st October, 1956.

Mr. SPEAKER : Now, I will put the question before the House.

The question is that a sum of Rs.85,32,500, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head—"XLVIA.—Road Transport Schemes—Working Expenses",
(The Motion was adopted.)

*Speech not corrected.

Grant No.1**(4.—Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax)**

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.1,13,900, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"4.—Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,13,900, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "4.-Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax".

(After a pause)

The question is that a sum of Rs.1,13,900, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"4.-Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax".

(The Motion was adopted.)

Grant No.4**(9.—Stamps)**

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, Excise): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.1,34,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head --"9.-Stamps".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,34,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"9.-Stamps".

(After a pause)

The question is that a sum of Rs.1,34,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"9-Stamps".

(The Motion was adopted.)

Grant No.6
(11.—Registration)

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, Registration) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.2,94,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"11.—Registration".

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.2,94,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"11.—Registration".

Shri RANENDRA MOHANDAS (Karimganj—North) : Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.2,94,000 under Grant No. 6, Major head—11.—Registration, at page 37 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.2,94,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, the condition of the Sub-Registrars in our State is very hopeless and deplorable. They are not given the status of a gazetted officers like the officers of other Departments. Sir, we have seen in West Bengal, Sub-Registrars are made full-fledged gazetted officers and in Uttar Pradesh also they have given them the status of Magistrates, but here in our State though the Sub-Registrars have to keep the documentary records in their possessions, yet they have not been given the gazetted status. I would request the Government to see their way to give gazetted status to these officers also. Another thing, Sir, we find that although responsibility of the services of these officers are not recognised by the Government but during their leave vacancy, the Extra Assistant Commissioners are deputed to officiate in the vacancy. So we can easily understand, Sir, the importance of these neglected officers. Unfortunately the Sub-Registrars are not only given the gazetted status but their case also was not fully considered by the Pay Committee. They can rightly demand their pay scale from Rs.150 to Rs.450 for the Inspecting Officers and the scale pay of the Sub-Registrars whose present scale of pay is Rs.225 to Rs.500 should be raised from Rs.250 to Rs.600 like the other officers of the Appellate Courts. With these few words, Sir, I request the Government to see their way so that the service condition of these officers may be improved.

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, Registration): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I quite appreciate the suggestion that has been put forward by my Friend, Shri Das. I would like to inform him that Government has already taken steps in this regard inasmuch as we have enquired from the various State Governments in India regarding the service condition of these officers. I hope, when we shall receive the information from the other State Governments, we shall be able to take into consideration the case of the Sub-Registrars.

Regarding the other point raised by my Friend that when a Sub-Registrar goes on leave his leave vacancy is officiated by the Extra Assistant Commissioner. I hope this question will also be given consideration in due time when certain service conditions will be created.

With these few words, I hope my Friend is satisfied and I would request him to withdraw his Cut Motion.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.2,94,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"11.—Registration."

The Motion was adopted.

GRANT No.13

(28—Jails and Convict Settlements.)

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, Jails): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.20,86,800, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"28.—Jails and Convict Settlements."

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 20,86,800, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment

during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "28.—Jails and Convict Settlements".

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 20,86,800 under Grant No.13, Major head—28.—Jails and Convict Settlements, at page 107 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.20,86,800, do stand reduced by Re.1.

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এটা বৰ দৰকাৰী কথাটো মই চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰো। আমাৰ বছৰেকীয়া বাজেটত জেলৰ কাৰণে বহুতো খৰচ দেখুৱাই, কিন্তু আমাৰ কিমাননো জেল আছে তাৰ কোনো অভাৱ নিদিয়ে। অগচ Superintendent কিমান আছে সেইটো হলে ঠিকভাৱে উল্লেখ কৰা আছে। জেলৰ Income side টো দেখুওৱা আছে কিন্তু Expenditure side টো পৰিস্কাৰকৈ দেখুওৱা হোৱা নাই। এই ফালৰ পৰা বাজেটখন একেবাৰে গোলমলিয়া।

জেলৰ Income হিচাবে চৰকাৰে ৩৭ হাজাৰ টকা পায় বুলি কৈছে। আমি দেখিছো, জেলৰ কয়েদীবিলাকে কোৱা মাৰি ফুৰে শিলঙাটি ভাঙে আৰু চকি মেজ আদিও তৈয়াৰ কৰে। এনে কাম কৰি থকাৰ ফলতো গোটেই অসমৰ জেলবিলাকত মুঠতে ৩৭ হাজাৰ টকাহে উপাৰ্জন হয়? আচৰিত। তাৰোপৰি সেই টকা কোন জেলৰ পৰা কিমান আহিছে তাৰ কোনো পৰিস্কাৰ উল্লেখ নাই।

দ্বিতীয়তে কথা হ'ল, বহুক্ষেত্ৰত আমাৰ সমাজৰ আৰ্থিক বা নৈতিক পতনৰ বাবে বহু মানুহে জেললৈ আহে বা আহিব লগা হয়। আধুনিক জেলৰ উদ্দেশ্য হল সেই লোকসকলক শুধৰোৱা।

কিন্তু তেনেকুৱা শুধৰণীৰ প্ৰচেষ্টা জেলৰ তৰফৰ পৰা দেখা নাই। জেল ডাঙৰ কৰিলে এইটো ঠিক—শিৱসাগৰ জেলতে আৰু ৯ খন ইটা দি ওখহে কৰিলে কিন্তু মানুহ কেনে নৈতিকতাৰ পতন বা আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ হেচাত পৰি জেলত পৰে সেই বিলাক বিচাৰ কৰি তাক দূৰ কৰাৰ কোনো চেষ্টা চলা নাই। জেলৰ ভিতৰত যিসকল মানুহ কয়েদী হিচাবে থাকে তেওলোকৰপৰা কাম লোৱা হয় যেতিয়া তেওলোকক দিন-মজুৰী-হাজিৰা বা দৰমহা দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা আৱশ্যক। ঘৰৰ পৰিয়াল চলিবৰ কাৰণে কয়েদীক এই টকা পঠাবলৈ সুবিধা দিব লাগে। নতুবা খালাছ হোৱাৰ পাঁচত সেই টকাৰে কোনো কাৰবাৰ কৰি খাবলৈ সুবিধা দিব লাগে। মই জানো, শিৱসাগৰ জিলাৰ ফাচু নামৰ এজন মানুহক জেলত দিয়া হৈছিল। তাৰ তিনিটা চাৰিটা লৰা-ছোৱালী আছিল। সেই পৰিয়ালটোৰ কি হল বা কি অৱস্থাত আছে সেইটো অকল কয়েদী জনেহে জানে। সেই প্ৰাণীকেইটাৰ বিচাৰ কোনেও লোৱা নাই। স্বাধীন ৰাজ্য এখনত এনে ধৰণৰ নীতিয়ে শোভা নাপায়। সেই কাৰণে মই কও যে, খুব কম পক্ষেও কয়েদীবিলাকক দিনে দুই এটকা দৰমহা দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। এইটো বৰ দৰকাৰী কথা।

সকলোৱে জানে জেলৰ ভিতৰত কেনেকুৱা দুৰ্নীতি চলি আছে। জেলৰ ভিতৰত বিড়ি আৰু চুখা চলিতো থাকেই এনেকি কাণিও বাদ নপৰে। গতিকে কয়েদী বিলাকক বিড়ি আৰু চুখা খাবলৈ অনুমতি দিয়াটো বেয়া নহব বুলি ভাবো।

তাৰ পিচত, বহু সময়ত সব সব লৰা বা স্কুলীয়া লৰায়ে আইন ভঙ কৰাৰ কাৰণে জেলত পৰে। তেওঁবিলাকৰ পঢ়া-শুনাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি দিয়া দৰ্কাৰ।

তাৰ পিচত কওঁ কয়েদীবোৰৰ কথা। বিয়িলাক কয়েদী আছে তেওঁলোকক অতি বেয়া আহাৰ খাবলৈ দিয়ে। আন্ধা জীৱনত নিমিলে। এইটো এটা একো ডাঙৰ বস্তু নহয়। ই এটা অতি সাধাৰণ খাদ্য; কিন্তু তাকো নেপায়। তেওঁলোকে খাবলৈ পায় অলপ দাইল আৰু অলপ ভাজী।

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok): আমি হলে খাবলৈ পাইছিলো।

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) :

আপুনি 'বি' ডিভিজনত আছিল। সেইকাৰণে হয়তো পাইছিল। মই কোৱা নাই নজৰ বন্দীৰ (security prisoners) কথা। মই কৈছো সাধাৰণ কয়দীৰ কথা। তেওঁলোকক অতি বেয়া খাদ্য খাবলৈ দিয়া হয়। এই খাদ্যৰ কিছু উন্নতি কৰিব লাগে।

বিবিলাক বহুদিনীয়া কয়দী (long terms prisoner) তেওঁলোকক দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে, আৰু বিবিলাক ঠাণ্ড কয়দী (hardened criminal) আছে সেইবোৰক নতুন কয়দীৰ লগত নবখাব ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, Jails) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really thankful to my Friend, Mr. Barbaruah for offering his valuable suggestions. In fact, Government have already made some progress with the idea of treating our Prisons as reformatory centres and not as mere centres of punishment, as they were treated during the British regime. Sir, we all know that we have inherited this institution of Jail in our State from the British rulers 10 years ago, along with all its paraphernalia. During the time of foreign rule, the Jails were treated as centres of punishment and, as such, the guiding principle in the administration of Jails was the concept of inflicting punishment. After the attainment of Independence, under the changed circumstances, this concept is also bound to change. Government have full appreciation of the changed circumstances and have accepted the concept of treating our Jails as centres of reformation in stead of mere centres of punishment and are trying to introduce certain reformatory measures. In pursuance of that, a Jail Reform Committee was appointed in 1955 and the Committee made certain recommendations. But because of certain difficulties, those recommendations could not be given effect to till now, but I hope Government will leave no stone unturned to implement the suggestions.

Then, Sir, certain other matters were also mentioned by my Friend, *e. g.*, introduction of wage system in the Jails. This is under experiment in the industrial section of the Jorhat Jail, where wages are given from 19 Naiye Paise to 50 Naiye Paise on the basis of the output from the industrial section, and we expect that this will gradually be extended to other Jails also.

Then as regards supply of Bidi, Sukha, etc., I would like to inform my Friend that this has been allowed after Independence even to adult C-Division Prisoners, of course, within the gratuity earned by them. Government are examining this matter with a view to supply these requirements under a proper system.

As regards parole to long-term prisoners, this matter will receive consideration of the Government.

As regards segregation of hardened criminals from others, the Government are already contemplating how to establish a model jail. One Central Jail is going to be constructed. Our intention is to separate the juvenile from the adult and the hardened criminals from the new ones, so that proper reformatory measures may be taken.

With these few words, I request my friend to withdraw his Cut Motion.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): I beg leave of the House, to withdraw my Cut Motion.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I put the main demand.

The question is that a sum of Rs.20,86,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the—head “28.—Jails and Convict Settlements.”

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.15

(30.—Port and Pilotage)

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister Public Works Department): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.2,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the—head “30.—Ports and Pilotage”.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no Cut Motion I will now put the question.

The question is that a sum of Rs.2,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head “30.—Ports and Pilotage”.

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.16

(36.—Scientific Department)

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Education): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.26,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "36.—Scientific Department".

Mr SPEAKER: There is no Cut Motion. I will now put the question.

The question is that a sum of Rs.26,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "36.—Scientific Department".

(The Motion was adopted).

GRANT No.32

(54.—Famine Relief)

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.17,16,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief".

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.17,16,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief."

Mr. HENRY COTTON [Nongstoin (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.6.67,000 under Grant No.32, Major head--54. --Famine Relief, Minor head--A--Famine Relief (Sixth Schedule--Part "A" areas (total), Sub-head--A--Famine Relief, at page 464 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.17,16,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

The object of my Motion is to bring to the notice of the Government of the serious famine condition in the villages of Khalu, Riangedem, Jangkhrai, Abarge, Riangshi, Dorangre, Niangju and other villages about 30 of them in the border of the Garo Hills in the Nongstoin Syiemship as reported by the Syiem of Nongstoin on 15th June 1957 to the Secretary, Executive Committee, District Council, United Khasi-Jaintia Hills for taking immediate necessary action.

Sir, the Syiem of Nongstoin sent a report to the District Council appealing for help for the people of those areas who are under famine condition. For the information of the House, I would like to read a letter from the Syiem which according to my translation runs as follows:—

“Memo.No.1134-5/1FN.

Dated Nongstoin,
15th June, 1957.

SUBJECT:—Famine in the western area of the Nongstoin State, Bordering Garo Hills.

To

The Secretary, Executive Committee, District Council, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills, Shillong.

Sir,

As a reminder to my letter No.844—6/1 FN(12), dated 23rd April, 1957, I beg to inform you that the subjects of Nongstoin State who live at Khalu, Riangedem, Jangkhrai, Abargo, Riangshi, Dorangre, Niangju and other villages bordering the Garo Hills are facing severe famine, they have nothing to eat, they have no money to buy food as there is no work or employment of any kind and rice is very dear. It is estimated that the villages which are suffering heavily numbered about 30 consisting of about 500 houses. This report dated 10th June 1957 of U Mutsingh Lyngskor, who is the administrator (Officer-in-charge) of this area, is appended herewith for your information. Yesterday the 14th June 1957, U Mutsingh Lyngskor together with 43 people from these villages came to me for help; I understood from them that if no immediate relief is received then there is no doubt that many people will die of hunger.

To

The Syiem of Nongstoin Syiemship.

I, the undersigned, on behalf of Riangdem-Jangkhräi, the area which I am administering beg your kind honour and consideration, as the father of your people to say as follows:

The people of this area are in extreme difficulty because of the destructions caused by rain and cyclone to their crops last year in 1956, there is not a single family that can stand on its own feet, in addition to that the cost of rice has risen so high in this area that the people cannot buy rice until their own crops are available.

Because of the above reasons, the people of this area are trying to survive on wild potatoes and vegetables, they are living like "wild animals" and are mere skin and bones and some of them are dying.

In the circumstances, I beg that you will kindly help this area by giving funds for buying rice until such time as this year's crop is ready. This area comprises of 30 villages with about 500 houses; if your honour does not help your subjects residing in this area they will perish."

That was the letter. Then according to the latest information.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member will be a little brief, in his speech, rather than giving the history of the grievances.

Mr. HENRY COTTON [Nongstoin (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: I also contacted the Secretary, Executive Committee, of the District Council that in order to save these people from starvation, Government should be asked to give more than Rs.10,000 and they informed me that they would do so. But up till now there is no help from the Government.

Mr. SPEAKER: I was already suggesting to the hon. Member that he should be very brief in his speech in stead of giving the history of the grievances.

Mr. HENRY COTTON: Then, Sir, appeal was made to Government for help, and as yet there is no response from the Government and the people are in great distress. I do not know if within these few days I shall be getting report of

death due to starvation from the area, as, Sir, the condition of the people in the area is very serious indeed. So I would like to suggest that help should be sent immediately to the area. There is no communication but only foot-paths. One has to go only up to Mairang by car and thence perhaps after five or six days' walk one will reach those villages in the area. So, Sir, food should be at once rushed to the area. Food could be sent from Kamrup to Boko. From Boko, food could be sent to the area by sillimanite trucks which used to return empty to Sonapahar and from there the Syiem will be in a position to rush food by porters from that area to the people who are facing famine. Even today people might have died of starvation. Up till now I have not received any report. I am waiting for the people from those areas to get further report. So, Sir, if it is possible why not, as I have suggested, the first Food Committee where the Deputy Commissioner presided, find out ways and means for rushing food to the area by air-dropping? It was very heartening when I recall the utterances made by our Hon'ble Finance Minister where he said that he would not allow famine to set in any district of the State. I hope our Hon'ble Finance Minister will rise up to the occasion now and rush help at once to the area.

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

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The position is like this. On the 22nd of June 1957, a letter from the Chief Executive Member of the District Council of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills was received by the Deputy Commissioner where it was stated that there was some distress—almost famine condition—in certain areas in Nongstoin. It did not mention any village. The Deputy Commissioner deputed a man with direction to go to the area along with Shri N. Syiem, the writer of the letter, who was at Shillong, to ascertain as to where famine conditions were prevailing. Some Agricultural Officers have already gone there just to ascertain if any help can be given by improving agriculture. The Deputy Commissioner has already drawn up a scheme for taking up two roads, to be done on test relief basis. Amount proposed to be spent is Rs.40,000. This may help the people to a great extent. I can assure my Friend from Nongstoin that Government will render all possible help to give relief the people of the area who are in distress and Government will do it without any delay.

Mr. SPEAKER : If the hon. Member for Nongstoin is satisfied with the reply given by the Hon'ble Minister, does he propose to withdraw his Cut Motion ?

Mr. HENRY COTTON [Nongstoin (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Cut Motion.

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

Mr. SPEAKER : I will now put the question.

The question is that a sum of Rs.17,16,300 (Rupees seventeen lakhs, sixteen thousand and three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.33

(55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, etc.)

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.42,47,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "54.-A.—Territorial and Political Pension", 55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, 83.—Payment of Commuted Value of Pension.

Mr. SPEAKER : There is no Cut Motion. So I put the question.

The question is that a sum of Rs.42,47,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "54.-A.—Territorial and Political Pension", 55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, 83.—Payment of Commuted Value of Pension.

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.34

(56.—Stationery and Printing)

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Printing) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.17,03,100, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.17,03,100 (Rupees seventeen lakhs, three thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : On a point of order, Sir, it seems there are several Cut Motions.....

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, order.

A point of order is raised only when a Cut Motion is moved, but now no Cut Motion will be moved.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery) : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমার Stationery and Printing ত যি বিলাক 'ফর্ম' 'প্ৰিণ্ট' হয় তাৰ বহুতো কি জানি District লৈ নাযায়েই। আজি দৰছৰ হল আমাৰ তাত 'চালান' 'ফর্ম' নাই। এই বিলাক হাতে লিখি বা 'টাইপ' কৰি দিওঁতে, প্ৰত্যেক খন 'ফর্ম'তে ৩৪ টকা লয়। সেই কাৰণে মই বিভাগীয় মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াক নিয়মিত ভাবে 'চালান' আদি 'ফর্ম' বিলাক পঠোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰো।

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : What is the position of the Cut Motion, Sir ?

Mr. SPEAKER : I thought you were not going to move it, because some Members from your side gave me to understand that they would not move any Cut Motion.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : On a point of order, Sir, the Cut Motion sought to be moved by my Friend,

Rev. Nichols-Roy, relates to pay and service conditions of the Press employees which have been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati): We will not move our Cut Motions, Sir.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: But I would like to move, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order.

Will the hon. Member, Rev. Nichols-Roy, resume his seat? The question sought to be raised by the hon. Member is yet sub-judice and as such I am not in a position to allow him to move this Cut Motion.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): It has been referred to a Tribunal only.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: My Cut Motion is regarding pay of the establishment.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order.

I understand, this question has been referred to a Tribunal and as such the matter is under adjudication, and, therefore, I cannot allow to move the Cut Motion.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Then, Sir, in that case we cannot move it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Thank you.

The question is that a sum of Rs.17,03,100 (Rupees seventeen lakhs, three thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.35

[57.—Miscellaneous (I.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Detenus, etc.)]

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.13,40,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—I—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Detenus"

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no Cut Motion. So I put the question before the House.

The question is that a sum of Rs.13,40,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—I—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Detenus".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.36

[57—Miscellaneous—(II—Donations for charitable purpose, etc.)]

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.20,27,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—II—Donations for charitable purpose."

Mr. SPEAKER: There being no Cut Motion, I put the question to the House.

The question is that a sum of Rs.20,27,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—II.—Donations for charitable purpose".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.37**[57.—Miscellaneous—III—Contributions]**

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.11,55,800 (Rupees eleven lakhs, fifty-five thousand and eight hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—III.—Contributions".

Mr. SPEAKER: There being no Cut Motion, I put the question before the House.

The question is that sum of Rs.11,55,800 (Rupees eleven lakhs, fifty-five thousand and eight-hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—III.—Contributions".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.38**(57.—Miscellaneous—IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc.)**

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Supply): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.5,36,000 (Rupees five lakhs and thirty-six thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—IV.—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER: There being no Cut Motion, I put the question before the House.

The question is that a sum of Rs.5,36,000 (Rupees five lakhs and thirty-six thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—IV.—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc."

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.49

[57.—Miscellaneous—(V.—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc.)]

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.2,45,000 (Rupees two lakhs and forty-five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—V.—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER: There being no Cut Motion, I put the question before the House.

The question is that a sum of Rs.2,45,000 (Rupees two lakhs and forty-five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—V.—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc."

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.40

[57—Miscellaneous—(VI.—Expenditure on Displaced Persons)]

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Relief and Rehabilitation): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.49,99,100 (Rupees

forty-nine lakhs, ninety-nine thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—VI.—Expenditure on Displaced Persons".

Mr. SPEAKER: As the time of the House is already over, under Assembly Rule No.120 (4), I put the Motions hereafter in the form of questions without allowing any Cut Motions to be moved.

The question is that a sum of Rs.49,99,100 (Rupees forty-nine lakhs, ninety-nine thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—VI.—Expenditure on Displaced Persons.

(The Motions was adopted.)

GRANT No.41

[75.—Miscellaneous—(VII.—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc.)]

***Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.7,500 (Rupees seven thousand and five hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—VII.—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.7,500 (Rupees seven thousand and five hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—VII.—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc."

(The Motions was adopted.)

*The Motion was moved by Shri Rupnath Brahma (Minister, Medical) on account of the absence of Shri Motiram Bora (Minister, Education),

GRANT No.42

[57.—Miscellaneous—(VIII.—Scheme of Control of Cloth and Yarn)]

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Supply and Textile) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.1,18,300 (Rupees one lakh, eighteen thousand and three hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—VIII.—Scheme of Control of Cloth and Yarn."

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs.1,18,300 (Rupees one lakh, eighteen thousand and three hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—VIII.—Scheme of Control of Cloth and Yarn".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.48

(64—C.—Pre-partition payments)

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.9,400 (Rupees nine thousand and four hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "64—C.—Pre-partition payments."

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs.9,400 (Rupees nine thousand and four hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "64—C.—Pre-partition payments."

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.59

[85—A.—Capital Outlay on State Schemes of Government Trading]

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Supply): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.59,93,700 (Rupees fifty-nine lakhs, ninety-three thousand and seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "85—A.—Capital Outlay on State Schemes of Government Trading."

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.59,93,700 (Rupees fifty-nine lakhs, ninety-three thousand and seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "85—A.—Capital Outlay on State Schemes of Government Trading."

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.60

(Loans and Advances, etc.)

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam I beg to move that a sum of Rs.4,89,80,500 (Rupees four crores, eighty-nine lakhs, eighty thousand and five hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head—"Loans and Advances".

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs. 4,89,80,500 (Rupees four crores, eighty-nine lakhs, eighty thousand and five hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances".

(The Motion was adopted.)

Demand by Shri Hareswar Goswami, Leader of the Opposition, that more days to be allotted in future for Voting on Demands for Grants

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make certain observations that as the number

of days allotted for discussions of the Budget Grants are very short, we have not been able to do justice to the various Demands on Grants. The Assembly Rule provides time up to 15 days for discussions of the Grants, and in future we may kindly be given time up to 15 days, or at least 12 or 13 days for the discussion of the Demands on Grants thoroughly.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I quite agree with the observation made by the hon. Member, Shri Hareswar Goswami, that sufficient time should be given to discuss the various Demands on Grants thoroughly. This time the number of days allotted for this purpose is more than on the last occasion, but as this time there are more Members in the Opposition than last time, if it be necessary, and as the Assembly Rules provides up to 15 days time, sufficient time may be given to discuss the Demands on Grants to enable the hon. Members to express their views and ventilate their feelings on matters of public importance and on matters in connection with the Budget. This Government always appreciate this sort of views and constructive suggestions from the Members of the Opposition so that advantage of those can be taken. We always seek co-operation from the hon. Members in the Opposition. So I feel that sufficient time will be given in future for discussion of various Demands on Grants.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the hon. Member from Rampur speaking on behalf of the Opposition and the Leader of the House for the observations that unless the number of days allotted for general discussions on the Budget and for discussions of various Demands on Grants is increased, it is not possible for the hon. Members to express their views and place difficulties of their constituencies before this House. I am happy that the Leader of the House as well as the hon. Member from Rampur, speaking on behalf of the Opposition generally, have come to the same conclusion that we should have more time than we had. Therefore, I feel that henceforward we will be able to allot more time to hon. Members to place their points of view as well as bring the grievances of their constituencies before the House.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 1-30 p.m. on Friday, the 28th June, 1957.

Shillong :
The 8th February, 1958.

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

A.G. (L.A.) No.307/57-126+90-12-2-1958.



AGENTS IN INDIA

1. Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co., Calcutta.
2. Messrs. W. Newman & Co., Calcutta.
3. Messrs. S. K. Lahiri & Co., Calcutta.
4. Messrs. R. Cambray & Co., 6 and 8/2, Hastings Street, Calcutta.
5. Messrs. D. B. Taraporevala Sons and Co., 103, Meadow Street, Fort, Post Box No.187, Bombay.
6. The Indian School Supply Depot, 309, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta.
7. The City Book Company, Post Box No.283, Madras.
8. The Director, The Book Company, Limited, Book Sellers and Stationers, 4/4A, College Square, Calcutta.
9. The Manager, The Imperial Publishing Co., 99, Ry. Road, Lahore.
10. Messrs. Chapala Book Stall, Shillong.
11. Messrs. Sirbhum Publishing Co., Calcutta.
12. The Proprietor, 'Graduates Union,' Gauhati.
13. Mr. Banwarilal Jain (Book Seller), 1719/2002, Mati Katra, Agra (India).
14. Messrs. Law Book Society, 65/3, Harrison Road, Calcutta.
15. The Director, Benares Corporation, University Road, P.O. Lanka.
16. Messrs. Law Book Society, 4A, Wellington Square, Calcutta.
17. Messrs. Bodh Raj Marwah, Booksellers, Shop No.63, Pusa Colony Market, Delhi-Karol Bagh, New Delhi.
18. The Oxford Book and Stationery Co., Scindia House, New Delhi/17, Park Street, Calcutta.
19. Messrs Mokshaga Pustakalaya, Publishers and Book Sellers, Gauhati.
20. Messrs Popular Book Depot (Regd.), Book-sellers, Publishers, etc., Lamington Road, Bombay-7.
21. Messrs B.H.U. Press Book Depot, Book-sellers. Publishers, etc., Banaras-5 (India).