

Proceedings of the Ninth Session of the Assam Legislative
Assembly assembled after the Third General
Election under the Sovereign Democratic
Republican Constitution of India

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 9 a.m.
on Friday, the 12th March, 1965

PRESENT

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY, B.L., Speaker in the
Chair, six Ministers, three Ministers of State, three Deputy Ministers and
fifty Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Re: Industrial Estate at Jorhat

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Government has finalised a proposal for the establishment of an Industrial Estate of Jorhat ?
- (b) Whether the site for the same has been selected ? If so, where ?
- (c) Whether Government has already started the establishment of the said Industrial Estate ?
- (d) If so, since when ?
- (e) If not, why not ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries)
replied :

65. (a)—Yes.
(b)—Yes. A plot of land measuring 20 bighas at Garamur Mauza, Chinamara Grant has been selected.
(c)—No.
(d)—Does not arise.
(e)—Possession of the land has not yet been taken over.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : May I know from the hon Minister what are the reasons for not taking over the land till today ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : We have instructed the Deputy Commissioner to take over the land by paying money. The money for the purpose has been sanctioned to the Department.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : May I know when the Deputy Commissioner was asked for this purpose ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : I don't know the date. The price for the land fixed is Rs.18,500 and odd and the Government issued sanction for this amount on 12th January, 1965.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : May I know from the Minister whether it is a fact that in respect of this Industrial Estate the land decided to be taken for it is said to be less, so there is a proposal from Revenue Department to submit a fresh proposal which is lying with the Industries Department ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : No, Sir. This land of 20 bighas will serve the purpose and the Department in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner fixed the price of the land at Rs.18,500 and odd. The sanction for the money was given on 12th January, 1965.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Whether this 20 bighas will be sufficient to start the Industrial Estate ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Yes, Sir.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : May I know from the Minister when this was communicated to the Deputy Commissioner ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : The decision was communicated to the Deputy Commissioner on 12th January, 1965 but when actually the Deputy Commissioner received it, I have no information.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : When do the Government expect to start the construction of the Industrial Estate ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Once the land is acquired it will be handed over to the P. W. D. and once the P. W. D. receives it, they will take necessary steps for preparing plans and estimates for the purpose.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : This proposal has taken a long time. May I know from the Minister when can we expect the starting of the work ?

Mr. SPEAKER : You cannot ask for an assurance, you ask for information.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Are the Government aware of the fact that some industrialists of Jorhat have purchased their machineries for their show-rooms already for this Industrial Estate ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : I am not aware of that.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Whether it is a fact that these industrialists are waiting for a long time for allotment of land in the Industrial Estate ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : I am not aware of that.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : May I know from the Minister whether these industrialists submitted a memorandum to the Government ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : I have received a memorandum from some people of Jorhat for early starting of this Industrial Estate.

Re: Assam-Pak Border Belt

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East) asked :

*66. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the proposal of the Government of India for keeping one mile belt open on the Assam-Pak Border has been finally abandoned ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the State Government informed the Centre of the difficulties of the State Government to adequately rehabilitate the people after their evacuation ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

66. (a)—No.
(b)—No.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara) : May I know what is the present position of this proposal ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : We have appointed a Special Officer who is working out a detailed scheme. If we are to clear one mile of the border, it means clearing about 560 sq. miles for the entire border in various districts. It will involve 27,000 families with a population of about 1,35,000. Therefore, detailed planning is necessary and that is being done by the Special Officer who has been appointed.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA : May I know how long it will take to finalise the scheme ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : We should be able to make a beginning early, but for the implementation of the whole scheme, it will take time.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA : May I know whether the Government of India still stands by their commitment to assist this project ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Yes, Sir, I think some confusion has been created in the minds of the hon. Members by certain Press reports. It is true that looking at the magnitude of the problem and the size of the scheme there was some re-thinking on the part of the Government of India about the possibility or otherwise of implementation of the Scheme. But when I met the Home Minister some months back, he stood firm on this question. He said that the scheme has to be implemented although it may have to be phased.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): As it is a Government of India scheme and nothing has been done for the last one year to implement it, will Government take expeditious action on it considering the menace to the State?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: It is not a Government of India scheme as such though the Government of India would finance it. The scheme will have to be implemented by us. Moreover, so far as the problem of infiltration is concerned, this alone is not going to solve the problem. There are various schemes which are in operation now. For example, guarding of the border, checking inside the State, etc. All these schemes are being strengthened. The hon. Members would appreciate that clearing about 560 sq. miles of area where about 1,35,000 people are inhabiting is not an easy job. They will not only have to be shifted but rehabilitated also. This is bound to take time.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): May I know whether Government of India's approval is necessary for implementation of the scheme?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Yes, Sir, ultimately they will have to agree to finance the scheme. So far as the border is concerned, there are two schemes; one is about clearing the border and the other is providing fencing, at least in certain parts of the border. On both these matters we are in correspondence with the Government of India.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA: May I know whether the number of check-posts in the border has been increased or not?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Sanction has been received for increasing the outposts. These are being gradually increased, because it will take some time.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA: Sir, in view of a large number of Chinese entering into East Pakistan, whether this scheme will get priority or not?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: This scheme was not meant for the Chinese. Another arrangement will have to be made for dealing with these personnel.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the entire cost will be borne by the Government of India?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : Yes, otherwise we have no funds.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, on principle the Government of India has agreed to this proposal. May I know from the hon. Chief Minister whether we are to wait for the final approval?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : Yes. As a matter of fact the hon. Member is aware that when the Union Home Minister visited this State, the matter was discussed with him.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : Sir, is it a fact that an office was appointed for this purpose? If so, what are the duties assigned to him?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : There are different duties. First he has to ascertain the magnitude of the problem and then he has to see if one mile is cleared and what is the total area, what will be the population involved and so on and so forth. Secondly he has to see about rehabilitation of people who are affected as a result of their land being taken away by the Government. Sir, it is the duty of the Government to find out alternative land for these people.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE : Sir, may I know whether under special circumstances one mile can be reduced or not?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : This is more or less one mile. It will depend on various other matters.

Re: Administrative Reforms Committee

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) asked:

*67. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government has set up an Administrative Reforms Committee to suggest means for improving its administrative efficiency?
- (b) If so, whether it has started functioning and since when?
- (c) Whether they have finalised their reports? If so, what are the findings?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

67. (a)—Yes.
- (b)—Yes. The first meeting of the Committee was held on the 22nd June, 1964.
- (c)—The report has not yet been finalised.

Re: Appointment of a "Reforms Committee" by the Government

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) asked:

*68. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Government has appointed a "Reforms Committee" for administrative reforms?

- (b) If so, who are the members of the Committee ?
 (c) How many sittings were held by the Committee ?
 (d) When the report is expected to be finalised ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

68. (a)—Yes.

- (b)—(1) Chief Minister—Chairman.
 (2) Shri A. N. Kidwai, I. C. S., Chief Secretary—Member.
 (3) Shri S. C. Kagi, I. A. S., Commissioner of Divisions and
 Chairman, Board of Revenue—Member.
 (4) Shri S. C. Sarma, Director of Statistics—Member.
 (5) Shri Williamson Sangma, M. L. A.—Member.
 (6) Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha, M. L. A.—Member.
 (7) Shri Khagendra Nath Nath, M. L. A.—Member.
 (8) Shri Md. Umaruddin, M. L. A.—Member.
 (9) Shrimati P. P. Trivedi, I. A. S., Director, Organisation
 and Methods Division—Member-Secretary.

(c)—One.

(d)—The present term of the Committee will expire on the 23rd September 1965 by which date the Committee is likely to finalise best part of its report.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): May I know from the Chief Minister what is the relation between this Administrative Reforms Committee and the Economy Committee set up by Government ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Of course, there would be many overlapping of questions of these two Committees. The Director of Organisation and Methods Division is the Secretary of the Economy Committee as well as of the Administrative Reforms Committee. The Administrative Reforms Committee will get a lot of assistance from the report which has been prepared by the Economy Committee.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: Whether the Administrative Reforms Committee has submitted an interim report ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: No, Sir. The Committee prepared a questionnaire which has been widely circulated. Some case-study is going on in respect of various departments by different sections of this Committee.

For the information of the hon. Member, I read out the following—

“The draft Questionnaire of the Committee was circulated to the members. The first and only meeting of the Committee was held on 22nd June, 1964, when the Questionnaire was finalised and it was decided to constitute study teams for detailed study in various aspects of administration. The copies of printed Questionnaire were circulated to Government, Semi-Government offices, institutions and important private persons. The last

date for receipt of replies was extended from the 31st August, 1964 to the 30th September, 1964 as a number of requests was received for extension of time. The replies received and detailed information called for and received from offices are being processed. Replies and suggestions are still pouring in and are being awaited from some offices.

The study teams are studying in detail the different important aspects of administration as desired by the Committee. The materials collected by the study teams will have to be processed and consultation with experts on the subjects will have to be done before placing their reports to the Committee for discussion. The Committee may examine witnesses and visit some offices and may go to some other States to see the working of the administrative machinery there. Thereafter, recommendations and report are likely to be finalised."

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): May I know from the hon. Chief Minister whether there is any difference between the functions of the Organisation and Methods Division and the Administrative Reforms Committee?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: One is a Department of Government and the other is a Committee, but the object of both is the same.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: For that reason, may I ask the Chief Minister whether it will not be better for both these bodies to sit jointly to find out the common features and give common suggestions?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Yes, Sir, there will be full co-operation between them. The hon. Member's suggestion for a joint meeting will be noted.

Re: Water Reservoir of the Umiyam Project

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East) asked:

*69. Will the Minister-in-charge of Electricity be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the present capacity of the water reservoir of the Umiyam Project is not adequate to generate sufficient quantum of energy as originally planned?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that to supplement the same, another source for supply of water to the Project has been selected somewhere in Khasi and Jaintia Hills area at an additional cost?
- (c) If so, why the defect could not be foreseen at the time of making the original plan?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Electricity, etc.) replied :

69. (a)—The capacity of the Umiam reservoir is adequate to generate the quantum of energy planned for. As a matter of fact, the capacity of the reservoir and the project has been enlarged during the implementation of the Project in 1961 in consultation with the Central Water and Power Commission and Planning Commission.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Does not arise.

Re: The Students of Third-Year Class of the Jorhat Engineering College abstaining from their Classes

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the students of a Third-Year Class of the Jorhat Engineering College are abstaining from their classes since 1st February 1965 ?
- (b) If so, the number of such students ?
- (c) What is the cause ?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

70. (a)—Yes. Students abstained from their classes only on 1st February 1965 and on 2nd the students resumed their classes.

(b)—Ninety-four.

(c)—Mark of protest against non-availability of teachers in Humanities.

Actually, Lecturers of Humanities were appointed on 19th January 1965 and the following Lecturers joined their duties as shown against each—

- (1) Sri Sukhamay Das—1st February 1965.
- (2) Sri Nareswar Sarma—12th February 1965.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : Sir, may I know from the hon. Deputy Minister since when these posts are lying vacant ?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA : Exact date is not available with me at the moment. It may be furnished later on.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, whether Government is aware that these posts of Lecturers are lying vacant for a long time for which the students are suffering very much ?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA : That is not the actual position. The post of the Lecturer of Commerce was lying vacant for some time. As the intake capacity of the Jorhat Engineering College is less, it was managed by other Professors of Humanities.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Sir, is it a fact that a large number of posts are lying vacant in the Jorhat College?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: At the moment, out of 10 Civil Engineers 4 are vacant, in Commerce out of 7, 2 are vacant and in Electrical Engineering out of 5, 1 is vacant.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, may I know from the hon. Deputy Minister whether any step has been taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: Sir, we are trying but it is very difficult to get qualified teachers.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Sir, whether Government issued any advertisement for this purpose?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: Yes, these posts were advertised by Assam Public Service Commission and appointment is always made on the recommendation of the Assam Public Service Commission.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: Sir, is it a fact that out of 22, 9 posts are lying vacant for which students are getting ample difficulty as the final University examination is drawing near?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: This is true. But we also find much difficulty in getting qualified teachers.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, may I know whether the Professor of Humanities has already joined?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: I have already mentioned that Sri Sukhamay Das, the Lecturer of Humanities joined on the 1st February, 1965, and Sri Nareswar Sarma joined on 12 February, 1965.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: Sir, is it a fact that due to non-filling of these posts number of successful students is very low?

Mr. SPEAKER: This is a hypothetical question.

Re: Enforcement of Begging Act

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

*71. Will the Minister-in-charge of Municipal Administration be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the prevention of Begging Act has been enforced?
- (b) If so, where and since when?
- (c) The number of certified Institutions and their location?
- (d) The number of beggars and trades in certified Institutions?

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, Social Welfare) replied:

71. (a)—No.
 (b)—Does not arise.
 (c)—Does not arise.
 (d)—Does not arise.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : May I know from the hon. Minister why the Bill has not been implemented so long ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : It requires the assent of the President and we received it only in the last part of 1964. Thereafter rules have to be framed for implementation of this Act.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : Sir, when the work of enforcing these rules is proposed to be taken ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : As soon as rules are ready.

Shri SHRIMAN PRAFULLA GOSWAMI (Nalbari-West) : Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether begging is illegal or not ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : As soon as the Bill is enforced, it will be illegal.

Shri SHRIMAN PRAFULLA GOSWAMI : Sir, may I know why it is not enforced so long ? We find that begging is going on in the Assembly Hostel and even in the State Transport Station.

Shri CHATRASING TERON : I have already said that it has still to be enforced. Certain procedural matters are not yet completed. Hence there is delay.

Re: Number of Peasant Families who are absolutely landless

Shri KHOGENDRANATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

- *72. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—
- The number of peasant families who are absolutely landless ?
 - The number of peasant families who have land less than 3 acres ?
 - What steps Government have taken up to provide these landless peasant families with land at the earliest ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Minister of States, Revenue) replied :

72. (a) & (b)—No census of landless persons has been conducted by Government, hence no figures can be furnished.

(c)—Government have been giving lands to landless persons, as far as available, according to the Land Settlement Policy Resolution of 1958, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Sir, the hon. Minister has said that no census of landless persons has been conducted by the Government; as such are we to understand, Sir, that Government Plan in this respect is wrong as they are not in possession of correct figures?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, only sample survey is made by the Central Government. According to the sample survey 16.38 p.c. of the people are landless.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, whether Government will ascertain the actual figure of landless persons in the State or not?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: It is very difficult to ascertain the actual number of landless persons at the moment.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: Sir, may I know why the land is not distributed among the landless cultivators?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, land is distributed among the landless cultivators when land becomes available, according to the figures obtained from the district authorities.

According to the Government policy preference is given to the landless erosion and flood affected people.

Shri RAMESH CHANDRA BAROOAH (Dibrugarh): Sir, does the landless people include erosion and flood affected people also?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Yes, if their land is lost due to flood or erosion and they become landless.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, as the figure of the landless persons is not available and the Minister is not in a position to give the figures, how the Government is making plans for them?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Plan is made according to the availability of land.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, without knowing the figures of landless persons and available land, may I know how the Government is going to make plan to solve the problems of landless people, by giving them land or employment somewhere?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, the district authorities have been requested to find out land to settle the same according to the Government Policy.

Mr. SPEAKER: His question is: without knowing the figures of landless people, how they can plan and give employment to the landless people?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, employment is a different question. Employment is given to unemployed people whose names are registered by the Employment Exchanges.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: Has the distribution of land to the landless cultivators begun in the Third Five Year Plan? Will the Minister of State be pleased to produce a list of the persons to whom lands were allotted during the First Five Year Plan?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Yes, Sir, I can give the figures how many people were rehabilitated, how much land has been given and in what areas lands were given.

Mr. SPEAKER: Can you give it now?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: No, Sir, I cannot give it just now.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): Sir, what is the difficulty in making a survey of these people?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, it is very difficult to make a thorough survey of the landless people throughout the whole State.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Whether the Government consider it necessary to have a survey of these landless people?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: No, Sir, not at this stage.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, they have made a survey but the figures of landless people and available land are not known. Sir, I do not know how in absence of these figures they are going to give employment to unemployed persons; by employment here I mean employment not only in industries, but also in agriculture.

Mr. SPEAKER: You need not reply to that.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East): Sir, the hon. Minister stated that there are difficulties in making a survey of the landless people. May I know from the Minister of State what are those difficulties at least some of them?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, a survey will have to be made like the Census of 1961. A Census of landless people will have to be made and that will.....

Mr. SPEAKER: What are the difficulties standing in the way?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, it will involve lot of time and money.

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB (Kokrajhar): Sir, is the Minister of State aware that the Gaon Panchayats have already collected some information in this regard?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, the Gaon Panchayats are in a position to have these information, but that will also take a lot of time.

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB : Sir, is it a fact that the Gaon Panchayats have already collected some information ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Sir, I have no information.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, the hon. Minister of State has just now stated that they are following the Government of India Sample Survey. But, Sir, there is a State Statistical Department and what is the harm on the part of Government to make a survey of the landless people through this Department ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Sir, the Statistical Department makes a Sample Survey and not a thorough survey.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA : Because of certain difficulties may I know if there will be no Census of these landless people, Sir ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : Sir, even in the general Census of 1961 an economic survey is there, i.e., some materials are there. I think the hon. Minister of State is mentioning about that. The question that has been raised by hon. Shri Barua is on what basis Government is now making its estimate of landless people and so on. The basis now is the Sample Survey which the Department of Economics and Statistics made so far. Now the point is whether a detailed survey, for example, from village to village to obtain the names of persons who have land and who have no land should be taken up or not. But by having such a survey no useful purpose will be served unless we have certain areas of land for distribution. Then of course we can make out a survey to find out the number of landless people.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, the hon. Chief Minister has just said that it will serve no useful purpose. Now when people cannot be given land, are we to understand that these landless people will be absorbed otherwise ? Moreover, Sir, what is the harm if Government make survey along with the Census Report ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : Sir, as I have said, in the Survey economic grounds are prepared and in the 1961 Survey that report will be available.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA : Sir, I think there are some Sample Survey Reports. May I request the hon. Minister to take action ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Sir, I will look into that.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, it has been just stated that they have some Sample Survey ; may I know from the hon. Minister of State what is the figure of landless people according to that ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : I have already mentioned it as 16.38 per cent.

(Starred Question No.73 was not put and answered to as the hon. Questioner was absent).

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which replies were laid on the table)

*Re: Length and breadth of Dibrugarh Supply Office***Srimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahoal)** asked :

37. Will the Minister in-charge, Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) The length and breadth of the Dibrugarh Supply office ?
- (b) The number of consumers or agents attending the office during office hours on an average daily ?
- (c) The number of Inspectors and staff in the office ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply) replied :

37. (a)—(i) Main building—

Length	...	...	...	...	46 ft.
Breadth	...	..	...	...	42 ft.

(ii) Portico—

Length	...	...	...	...	20 ft.
Breadth	...	...	...	...	20 ft.

(b)—Roughly 150.

(c)—Inspectors	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sub-Inspectors	...	...	...	...	...	5
Office Staff	...	...	...	...	...	19

*Re: Package Programme in North West Anchalik Panchayat, Jorhat***Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat)** asked :

38. Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government has already finalised to take up the Package Programme in North West Anchalik Panchayat, Jorhat ?

(b) If so, when Government proposes to start its functioning ?

(c) Whether final approval from the Government of India for the scheme has been obtained and if so, when ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied :

31. (a) & (b)—There is no proposal to extend Rice Package Programme in North West Anchalik Panchayat, Jorhat during the current financial year. About selection of Blocks for next year the decision has not yet been taken.

(c)—Approval of Government of India is not necessary for selection of particular Blocks for extension of Rice Package Programme, once districts are selected.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: May I know from the hon. Minister when we can expect the final decision of the Government on this matter ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: As regards extension of the programme to other blocks during the next year, it all depends on the progress made in the existing blocks and also the availability of Gram Sevaks who will be in considerable shortage till the present batch undergoing training in the Gram Sevak Training Institute come out in December, 1965.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Are we to understand that till the completion of the training of Gram Sevaks Government is not going to implement the scheme there ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: That is normally so.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): What are the considerations for allotting Package Programmes to different places ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Potential of increased agricultural production.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (Bihpuria): What is the criterion for selecting places for Package Programme ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: As I have already said, potential of increased agricultural production.

Re: Non-availability of Doctors and Nurses in Tezpur Civil Hospital

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked :

39. Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the Tezpur Civil Hospital is running short of Doctors and Nurses ?

(b) Whether Government is also aware that after the transfer of Dr. Chakravarty, Assistant Surgeon, none has been appointed in his place ?

(c) If so, whether Government will be pleased to appoint necessary Doctors and Nurses without further delay ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Health) replied :

39. (a)—Yes, there is temporarily a shortage of two Doctors and three Staff Nurses.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes, steps have been taken and the vacancies will be filled up soon.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): With regard to (c), may I know from the hon. Minister whether urgent steps will be taken to fill up the vacancies due to shortage of Doctors ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Yes, Sir.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Since when are these posts vacant ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: December 1964, so far as Assistant Surgeon I is concerned.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: The Minister has stated in his reply that steps have been taken and the vacancies will be filled up soon. May I know what steps the Government have taken ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: So far as Assistant Surgeon II is concerned, the Director of Health Services has been asked to post an Assistant Surgeon II there. Orders have also been communicated for posting three Nurses. Regarding Assistant Surgeon I, Government is trying to post one as early as possible.

Calling Attention to the Fire Havoc at Barpeta Town Bazar on the Night of 8th March, 1965

Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): Sir, under Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly, I want to call the attention of the Chief Minister to a matter of urgent public importance and of recent occurrence, that is the devastating fire at Barpeta Town on 8th March, 1965 which gutted almost all the shops of the main business area including residential quarters, Apex Bank, Government Emporium, Khadi Bhandar and

one Press. Fire was continuing from 11. 10. P. M. to 2. 25 A. M. without control. The Fire Brigade at Barpeta proved worthless and useless. The Fire Brigade from Nalbari worked successfully and effectively and the Fire Brigade from Gauhati also helped much. Total loss will be crores. Affected people are at a helpless condition and deserve help from all. The news was published in many newspapers on the 9th March, 1965. In this connection I draw the attention of Government to a few points. Firstly, the cause of the fire should be enquired into thoroughly as there is some suspicion and some story which need a thorough enquiry. Secondly, after three hours the Apex Bank and the Emporium caught fire. Then, why documents of the Bank and the articles of the Emporium could not be removed? There is also suspicion which needs a thorough enquiry. After the fire also there was looting and removal of the properties from the shops and there was no help from the local officers. This should be enquired into. Fourthly, the affected people should be provided with C. I. sheets as these houses are in the town area and houses cannot be rebuilt with 'Kher'. This area is a business centre. All the shops have been gutted by fire and the persons affected will not be able to construct their houses. So, Government should give sufficient loan to start shops and also to construct houses. Sir, the people are in a very distressed condition and they need immediate help as gratuitous relief.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Minister of State, Revenue) : Mr. Speaker Sir, a devastating fire broke out at 11 P. M. on 8th March, 1963 in Barpeta Town Bazar area along the road leading from the Court to the main bazar area and completely gutted one hundred fifty shops and houses including the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank Government Emporium and Khadi Bhandar. The area gutted in the centre of trade and commerce and contains many wholesalers' shops and cloth shops.

The fire continued for about four hours defying all human efforts to bring it under control.

The Barpeta Fire Service which consists of one jeep fire engine and water tank of 500 gallons, made all-out efforts to cope with the fire to the best of its ability. But the conflagration of fire spread rapidly being helped by a gale and the Barpeta Fire Service found it impossible to cope with the situation alone. The S. D. O., Barpeta had already informed by phone the Fire Brigades of Nalbari and Gauhati and these rushed to Barpeta at the earliest possible moment. But by this time many shops and houses were gutted. Nevertheless with the combined efforts of Barpeta, Nalbari and Gauhati Fire Services the fire was brought under control and as such these Fire Services rendered useful services.

The loss of the properties is understood to be very heavy. From information received so far from the S. D. O., Barpeta, the loss is estimated to be about Rupees twenty-six lacs, excluding those of the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank, Government Emporium and Khadi Bhandar. The assessments of loss of these latter concerns are at the moment in the process of assessment. No loss of human life is reported.

Immediately on receipt of information from the S. D. O., Government have already sanctioned a sum of Rs. 5,000 on 9th March 1965. The S. D. O. has been directed to use it for gratuitous relief. Further steps for issue of C. I. sheets are being taken. S. D. O. has been further instructed to submit detailed proposal for further relief in the form of rehabilitation loan and further gratuitous relief, if necessary. Further relief measures in the form of loan, etc., will be taken on receiving full details from the S. D. O., Barpeta.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): May we know from the Minister, Sir, whether an enquiry will be conducted to find out the case of this fire ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Yes, Sir, an enquiry will be made.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): May we know whether Government has already instituted an enquiry ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Whenever a fire breaks out normally an enquiry is made.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : My point is this, Sir. That since this is an emergency case, I would suggest that instead of strictly following the formalities relating to granting relief and rehabilitation loans, etc., will Government consider to give the matter special attention ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: I have already said, Sir, that as soon as we received information from the S. D. O. we immediately sanctioned gratuitous relief as well as loan to the affected victims.

Shri AKSHOY KUMAR DAS (Sarbhog): Sir, as the houses gutted are mostly commercial buildings, will Government give special attention to the fact that these buildings may not be constructed conveniently without full requisite quantity of C. I. sheets ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: We have already approached other Departments also to help us with C. I. sheets as early as possible.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Another point, Sir. Since it is observed that relief and rehabilitation loans are generally meagre but the loss by this fire is huge as big houses were gutted and they may not be able to construct these houses with the meagre loan that might be given to them, do Government consider it proper to give these people higher amount of relief and rehabilitation loans to enable them to reconstruct their houses ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Unless we get a report from the S. D. O., it is difficult for me to say anything at this stage.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : After getting that report, will Government kindly make special arrangements so that the affected people can get some sort of loan in higher amounts ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: A survey will have to be made and an assessment also made ; that might take time, but after we get the detailed report from the S. D. O., sanction of the loans will be made as early as possible.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Relief and Rehabilitation): Sir, I may inform the House that a reference has been made by the Relief and Rehabilitation Department to the Supply Department regarding C. I. sheets and action is being taken.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then we come to the next item. Shri Siba Prasad Sarma.

General Discussion of the Budget

***Shri SIBA PRASAD SARMA (Mangaldai):** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় বিভাগমন্ত্রী মহোদয়ক তেখেতৰ বাজেটৰ বাবে ধন্যবাদ জনাই কবলৈ উঠিলো। আমাৰ যিবিলাক খেতিয়ক ৰাইজ আছে সেই সকলৰ যাৰ মাটি নাই তেওঁলোকক মাটি দিবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে নিৰ্দেশ দিছে বা আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ V.G.R. আৰু P.G.R. আদি খুলি দিয়া হৈছে। কিন্তু মাটিহীনে যে মাটি পোৱা নাই এই কথা শুনা যায়। মাটিহীন মানুহ সকলে মাটি নোপোৱাৰ কাৰণ হ'ল যি সকলৰ মাটি আছে তেওঁলোকেই বিভিন্ন মৌজাত, বিভিন্ন এলাকাত, ভাই ককায়েকৰ নামত মাটি লৈ থাকে। তেওঁলোকে মণ্ডলৰ পৰা ৰিপট আনি মাটি পাইছে আৰু যিসকলৰ মাটি একেবাৰে নাই তেওঁলোকে মাটি পোৱা নাই। সেই কাৰণে মাটিহীন লোক কোনবিলাক সেই কথা গাঁও পঞ্চায়তৰ পৰা নাম আনি লিষ্ট কৰিব লাগে। লাট মণ্ডলৰ পৰা ক'ত ক'ত মাটি আছে সেই কথা জনা সম্ভব নহয়। মাটি ক'ত আছে ইয়াৰ খবৰ গাঁও-পঞ্চায়তৰ যোগেদি আনিলেহে ভাল হব। এতিয়া মাটি দিবলৈ হলে Cooperative basis ত দিয়া ভাল। কাৰণ অভাৱী মানুহে মাটি থাকিলে বৰকী কৰি দিয়ে। সেই কাৰণে মই পৰামৰ্শ আগবঢ়াইছো যে আজি বহুতো V. G. R., P. G. R. খুলি দিয়া হ'ল যদিও মাটিৰ অভাৱ পূৰণ হোৱা নাই। সেই কাৰণে যিবিলাক প্ৰকৃততে মাটিহীন তেওঁলোককেহে মাটি দিব লাগে। তদুপৰি আমাৰ যি বিলাক মাটি un-reclaimed হৈ আছে, সেই মাটি আচল মাটিহীনক দিব লাগে।

মথাউৰিবোৰ হোৱাৰ পিছত বহুত ঠাইত মাছ নোহোৱা হৈ গ'ল। আমাৰ যি বিলাক পুৰণি পুখুৰী আছে—সেইবিলাক গাওঁ পঞ্চায়তে ফিচাৰী হিচাবে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰিব পাৰিলে মাছ বৃদ্ধি হোৱাৰ আশা কৰিব পাৰি। তেওঁলোকক টকা পইছা দি মাছ পোহাৰ কামত সহায় কৰিব লাগে।

আজি দেশত ভাল খাদ্যৰ অভাৱ হৈছে। পানীৰ পাবলৈ নাইকিয়া হৈছে। কাৰণ গৰুৰ খাদ্য অভাৱ হোৱা বাবেই বিজাতীয় হৈছে আৰু ভাল জাতৰ গৰু পাবলৈকো নোহোৱা হৈছে। সেই বাবে যাড় পুহি গৰুৰ উন্নাত কাৰণ লাগে আৰু লগতে ঘাঁহ আদি যোগান ধৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। এই দৰেই ফল-মূলৰ অভাৱ দিনে দিনে বাঢ়ি গৈছে। ইয়াৰ এটা কাৰণ অৱশ্যে মানুহৰ হেমাৰ্ছি আৰু মাটিৰ অভাৱ। গতিকে চৰকাৰে যথোচিত ব্যৱস্থা লব লাগে

বাতে মানুহে ফল-মূল খেতিৰ পিনে মন কৰে । তাৰ পৰা উপাৰ্জন কৰি মানুহ পোহ-পাল যাবও পাৰে ।

আমাৰ বহুত ডেকা মেট্ৰিক পাচ কৰি বহি আছে । সেইবোৰক যদি কাৰিকৰী শিক্ষা দিব পাৰে তেনেহলে চাকৰি পোৱাত সুবিধা হ'ব । চাহ বাগিচাত চাকৰিৰ বাবেও সুবিধা পাব । মদনদৈত I. T. I. এখন খুলিবৰ বাবে বহুত দিনৰ আগতে মাটি লৈ থৈছে কিন্তু আজিলৈকে হৈ উঠা নাই । ইয়াৰ কাৰণে তাৰ বাইজৰো বৰ দুঃখ । আশাকৰো চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে এটা সুব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰিব । ইয়াৰোপৰি বহুত I. A. আৰু B. A. পাচ ডেকা বহি আছে । একোজন ছাত্ৰৰ কাৰণে অভিভাৱকে যথেষ্ট ধন খৰচ কৰিব লাগে । যদি চাকৰিৰ সংস্থান কৰিব নোৱাৰে তেন্তে সেই টকা অথলে যায় ।

আমাৰ মহকুমাবোৰ জিলা পৰ্যায়লৈ নিব লাগে । জিলাৰ সদৰ ঠাইত জিলাধিপতি থাকে আৰু অতিৰিক্ত জিলাধিপতিও থাকে । তাকে নকৰি মহকুমাক যদি জিলা কৰি অতিৰিক্ত জিলাধিপতিক বখা হয় তেন্তে কাম কৰাত বহুত সুবিধা হ'ব । সেইদৰেই এজন চিভিল চাৰ্জনে গোটেই জিলাখন চম্বালিবলৈ টান হয় । এজন ডেপুটি ইনস্পেক্টৰে গোটেই মহকুমাৰ স্কুলবোৰ পৰিদৰ্শন কৰিব নোৱাৰে । সেই কাৰণে একোজন ইনস্পেক্টৰ দিব লাগে । বৰ্তমান শিক্ষাৰ ওপৰত গুৰুত্ব বেছি দিয়াৰ বাবে পৰিদৰ্শন কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থাও উন্নত কৰিব লাগে ।

শিক্ষা বিস্তাৰত সহায় কৰিবৰ বাবে পুথি ভঁৰাল বৰ আৱশ্যকীয় । এতিয়া জিলাৰ সদৰত একোখন পুথি ভঁৰাল কৰা হৈছে । তাৰ পৰা গোটেই জিলাখনৰ কাম হোৱাত বহুত অসুবিধা । সেই কাৰণে প্ৰত্যেক মহকুমাত একোটা পুথি ভঁৰাল হ'ব লাগে । পুথি ভঁৰালৰ লগতে থকা হলটো বাইজৰ কামত আহে শাভা-সমিতি আদি কৰিবৰ বাবে । তাৰোপৰি যাত্ৰা-থিয়েটাৰ আদি কৰিবলৈকো সুবিধা হয় । এই হলটো নোহোৱা বাবে বাইজক এইবোৰৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত কৰা হৈছে ।

বৰ্তমান আৱশ্যকীয় খাদ্য বস্তুৰ অভাৱ হৈছে । যদি সমবায় বিভাগৰ জৰিয়তে একোটা সমবায় ভঁৰাল কৰা হয় ৭-৮ খন গাঁও পঞ্চায়তৰ মাজত একোজন সমবায় বিষয়া ৰাখি, তেনেহলে বাইজে চেনি, আটা আদি দৰকাৰী বস্তুবোৰ সহজে পাব পাৰে । যিজন বিষয়াই ভালকৈ সংগঠন কৰিব পাৰে তেওঁক প্ৰমোচন দিব লাগে । এইদৰে সমবায় অনুস্থানটো ভালকৈ পুনৰ গঠন কৰিলে বাইজৰ অভাৱ দূৰ হ'ব ।

বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে তেখেতৰ ভাষণত নগা ৰাজ্যৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ যি পৰিস্থিতি এটা হৈছে আৰু আমাৰ মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে শান্তিৰ যি প্ৰচেষ্টা চলাইছে তাৰ এটা আভাষ দিছে । তাৰ বাবে আমি সুখী হৈছো আৰু আশা কৰো তেখেতৰ এই প্ৰচেষ্টা সফল হ'ব ।

আনফালে চীনে আমাৰ প্ৰতি যি প্ৰতিক্ৰিয়াশীল মনোভাৱ লৈছে, তাৰ প্ৰতি ৱাটৰ কাৰণে আমি প্ৰস্তুত হ'ব লাগে ।

আমি চীনা আক্ৰমণৰ সময়ত যিটো মনোভাৱ সকলোৰে ভিতৰত লক্ষ্য কৰিছিলো, সেই মনোভাৱৰ পৰিবৰ্তন হৈছে যেন লাগিছে । কি ব্যৱসায়ী, কি কৰ্ম-

চাৰী সকলোৱে আজি নিজৰ দেশ বুলি ভাবিলে এনে পৰিস্থিতিয়ে দেখা নিদিলে হেঁতেন।

আমি সকলোৱে যদি নিজৰ কাম কাজ কৰিবলৈ আগবাঢ়ি নাযাওঁ, তেন্তে দেশ বন্ধা কৰা অসম্ভৱ হ'ব। তাৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ হাইস্কুল, কলেজ আদি সকলোৰে ল'ৰাবিলাকক N. C. C. Training দিব লাগে, যাতে আমাৰ উঠি অহা ডেকা সকল দেশ বন্ধাৰ কাৰণে সমথ হয়।

Shri MAHADEB DAS (Bhabanipur, Reserved for Scheduled Castes): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ মাননীয় বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে ১৯৬৫-৬৬ চনৰ কাৰণে কোনো আঁচনিত ক্ৰটি নকৰাকৈ যি এখন বাজেট কৰ-কাটল নো গোৱাকৈ সাহসেৰে ডাঙি ধৰিছে তাৰ কাৰণে তেখেত আমাৰ ধন্যবাদৰ পাত্ৰ।

মহোদয়, আজি এই সদনত বৰ্ত্তমান বাজেটৰ কথা বহুত আলোচনাই হৈছে। কেইজনমান সদস্যই নানা বকমৰ যুক্তিও ডাঙি ধৰিছে। মই মোৰ তৰফৰ পৰা দুই এটা কথা ডাঙি ধৰো।

অনুমূলে প্ৰাণ বাচি থাকিবলৈ হলে অনুসংস্কট দূৰ কৰিবই লাগিব। আমাৰ কৃষিৰ উৎপাদন বঢ়োৱাৰ কথা আমি নিজেই চিন্তা কৰিব লাগিব। সকলো কাম দেশ-কাল পাত্ৰ চাই কৰিব লাগিব। কেৱল এজনে আনজনৰ দোষাৰোপ কৰিলেই নহয়। আমাৰ হিন্দু সকলে জানে যে, সত্ৰাজিতে শ্ৰীকৃষ্ণক শ্যামসুত্ৰমণি চুৰ কৰা বদনাম দিছিল; শ্ৰীকৃষ্ণই মণি বিচাৰি জাম্বৱন্তৰ ওছৰ পায়গৈ; তেওঁক পৰাস্ত কৰি মণি আনি দেখুৱালে যে, শ্ৰীকৃষ্ণ চোৰ নহয়; মণিও আনিলে লগতে জাম্বৱন্তীক উপহাৰ হিচাবে পালে। তেখেত সকলেও যদি কৃষ্ণৰ নিচিনাকৈ দুঃখ নকৰি কাৰ্য্যক্ষেত্ৰত ফল দেখুৱায় আমাৰ সমস্যা নিশ্চয় সমাধান হ'ব।

আজি দেখিছো, আমাৰ কৃষিত দেশত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে সৰিয়হৰ খেতিত জোৰ নিদি সৰিয়হৰ উৎপাদন নবঢ়োৱাৰ কাৰণে সৰিয়হৰ তেলৰ দাম উঠাত ৰাইজে দুখত পৰিছে। সেই কাৰণে বহুতে কৈছে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ সৰিয়হৰ খেতিত জোৰ নিদিয়াতোৱেই দোষ। গতিকে ধানতকৈও সৰিয়হৰ খেতিত জোৰ দিব লাগে যাতে প্ৰত্যেক খেতিয়কে কিছু নহয় কিছু সৰিয়হ উৎপাদন কৰিব পাৰে। মই কওঁ সৰিয়হৰ খেতি ঠাই বুজি কৰক। কিন্তু ধান বাদ দি সৰিয়হৰ খেতি কৰাৰ সিমান যুক্তি নাই। দেশ-কাল পাত্ৰ চাই ক'ত কি উৎপাদন হয়, সেই হিচাবে কৰিলেহে আমাৰ উন্নতি হ'ব। আজি আমেৰিকাৰ নিচিনা কৃষি প্ৰধান দেশত চাহৰ খেতি হোৱা নাই কিয়? যদি হ'লহেঁতেন অসমৰ পৰা চাহপাত নি আমেৰিকাই নাখালেহেঁতেন। য'ত যি খেতি হয়, তাত সেই খেতি কৰিব লাগে। আমাৰ ইয়াত মাহৰ খেতি কৰিলে প্ৰচুৰ হয়। আমাৰ বৰপেটাত মাহৰ দাম ১৭ টকাৰ পৰা ২০ টকা হৈছে। তাতকৈও বেছি হৈছিল। এসময়ত খাদ্যৰ অভাৱ হোৱাত বৰপেটাৰ পৰা লাখ লাখ মোগ মাহ নি আনফালে বাহিবলৈ পঠিয়াইছিল। কিন্তু নিজৰ জোখাৰে বাখি অন্যফালেও দিব লাগে। আমাৰ ঠাইৰ জিনিচৰ আদান-প্ৰদান কৰিব লাগিব। এতিয়া কুহিয়াৰ খেতিৰ উন্নতি কৰিবলৈ লৈছে; আমি ভাল পাইছো। আমাৰ কিছুমান বৰি মাটি আছে; তাত নদীৰ পানী সোমালে পলশ পেলাই সেই মাটি সাৰুৱা কৰে। নদীৰ পানী একেবাৰে খেতি-পথাৰত সোমাব নোৱাৰিলে সেই পলশ নপৰে। নদী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণৰ আঁচনি লওঁতে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই কথা বিলাকলৈ লক্ষ্য কৰিব।

আজি বান পানী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰাৰ চেষ্টা চলিছে। বৈজ্ঞানিক ভাবে কৰিব পাৰিলে, নদী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণে আমাৰ উপকাৰ অশেষ সাধন কৰিব। আমেৰিকাৰ মিচিচিপি বেণেটকৈ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিব পাৰিছে, আমাৰ ইয়াতো নোৱাৰাৰ কোনো কাৰণ নাই। এই মন্ত্ৰে ভালকৈ চাৰ্ত্তে কৰি, কাৰ্য্য কাৰণ উলিয়াই কাম আৰম্ভ কৰিব লাগিব। বেকী নদী ভাৰতৰ ভিতৰতে এখন খবতৰ গতিৰ নদী। এই নদীখনৰ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কাৰণে আজিৰ পৰা ৫০ বছৰৰ আগতে Survey কৰিছিল যদিও আজিও নিয়ন্ত্ৰিত কৰিব পৰা নহল। আৰু অন্যান্য বহু নদী আছে, যিবিলাকৰ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ দৰকাৰ। যিবিলাক কাম হাতত লোৱা যায় সেইবিলাক সকলো ঠিক কৰি লব লাগে। নহলে অনৰ্থক ব্যয় হয়। আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত এনে অৱস্থা কিন্তু বেঙ্গল আদিত সম্পূৰ্ণ কাৰ্য্যকৰী হৈছে। কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিব পাৰিলে, নদী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণে আমাৰ ৰাইজৰ অৱৰ্ণনীয় উপকাৰ সাধন কৰি, অধিক শস্য উৎপাদনত সহায় কৰিব আৰু তাৰ লগে লগে খাদ্য সমস্যাৰ সমাধান হব। আমাৰ বৰপেটা এটা দ অঞ্চল; ইয়াৰ অধিকাংশ মাটি দ হোৱাৰ কাৰণে খেতিৰ উপযোগী নহয়। নদী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ আৰু মথাউৰি বান্ধি দিলে ইয়াৰ বহু পৰিমাণৰ মাটি খেতিৰ উপযোগী হৈ উঠিব। মানাস নদী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিবলৈ চৰকাৰে ব্যৱস্থা লব বুলি আশা কৰিলে।

তাৰ পিচত মীন উৎপাদন সম্পৰ্কত কওঁ। আমাৰ শতকৰা ৯৫ জন মানুহৰ মাছ প্ৰধান খাদ্য। মাছ নহলে ভাত খাবলৈ টান হয়। প্ৰথমতে বৈষ্ণৱ ধৰ্ম্মৰ গুৰু মহাপুৰুষ সকলে নিৰামিষ কৰিছিল, পিচত প্ৰয়োজন বুলি মাছৰ বিধান দিয়ে।

(সময়ৰ সঙ্কেত)

আশা কৰোঁ চৰকাৰে মাছ উৎপাদন ক্ষেত্ৰত মনযোগ দিব। এই ক্ষেত্ৰত যি বাধা আৰোপ কৰা হৈছে—সেইটো দূৰ কৰি বেছি কৰিব লাগে—যাতে মাছৰ বংশ বৃদ্ধিত সহায়ক হয়। মীন মহলবিলাকে ৰাজ্যৰ ৰাজহ বাঢ়ায়। অকল বৰপেটাৰ মীন মহলবিলাকে প্ৰায় ৭ লাখ টকা ৰাজহ আনে। এই বিভাগটোৰ উন্নয়ন কৰি, বৰপেটাত এজন “ফিচাৰি অফিচাৰ” নিয়োগ কৰিব লাগে।

Mr. SPEAKER: আপোনাৰ সময় শেষ।

Shri MAHADEB DAS: আৰু পাঁচ মিনিট সময় দিলে ভাল হয়। ভূমি সম্পৰ্কত কওঁ যে—দুখীয়া মান হে কম মাটি পট্টন নিজৰ নামত দি দুখীয়া খেতিয়কৰ উপকাৰ সাধন কৰা টান, কাৰণ নানা অভাৱত খকাৰ কাৰণে দৰকাৰ হলে দুখৰ বোজা বহন কৰিব নোৱাৰে, চহকী মহাজন বিলাকৰ হাতলৈ অনেক সময়ত এই মাটি গুচি যায়। সেই কাৰণে ৰাইজৰ আৰু দেশৰ মঙ্গলৰ কাৰণে Co-operative Farming কৰিব লাগে। মই ভাবো, State Co-operative Farming হলে বেছি কাৰ্য্যকৰী হব। বৰ্ত্তমান গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ পৰা যি ধান সংগ্ৰহ খেতিয়কৰ পৰা সমবায়ৰ জৰিয়তে কৰা হৈছে সেই নীতি পালন কৰাতো এই Co-operative Farming এ সহায় কৰিব।

সর্বশেষত মই ইয়াকে কব খুজিছো যে আজি আমাৰ দেশৰ চাৰিও ফালে শত্ৰুৰ সমাবেশ । ইয়াৰ পৰা যাতে আমি বিপদাপনা নহ'ও--তালৈ লক্ষ্য ৰাখি আমাৰ সকলোৱে নিজৰ নিজৰ দায়িত্ব তাৰ বহন কৰি সুখ-শান্তি আৰু সমৃদ্ধিৰ কালৈ যাতে আগবাঢ়িব পাৰো তাৰ চিন্তা কৰিব লাগে ।

(At this Stage the Speaker vacated the Chair and the Deputy Speaker occupied it)

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বিভিন্ন মহাশয় দেশেৰে অবস্থান যি চিত্ৰ দিয়েছেন তাতে আমাৰ প্ৰকৃত অবস্থাটোৰ আসল ৰূপটি পাচিছ না । তিনি দেশেৰে ৰাজনৈতিক ও অৰ্থনৈতিক পৰিস্থিতিৰ উল্লেখ কৰেন নাই । তিনি মাত্ৰ উত্তৰ সীমাৰ বিষয়ে উল্লেখ কৰেছেন । কিন্তু আসামেৰে চাৰি দিকে যে ৰাজনৈতিক সঙ্কট দেখা দিয়েছে সেই বিষয়ে কোন উল্লেখ নাই । কাছাড়া জিলা এবং K. & J. District এ খবৰ কাগজে সীমান্তে নানা ধৰণেৰে অশান্তিৰ খবৰ আমাৰ দেখতে পাচিছ । চীনা গুপ্তচৰ যে আমাদেৰ দেশে আছে তাতে কোনো সন্দেহ নাই । শিলচৰেৰে নগৰে নাকি একজন চীনা লোক ধৰা পৰেছে এই সংবাদ আমাৰ কাগজে দেখেছি । এক দিকে চীনেৰে আক্ৰমণ প্ৰস্তুতি আৰ অন্য দিকে পাকিস্তানেৰে ষড়যন্ত্ৰ । পাকিস্তানী এবং নাগা ৰাজ্যেৰে মध्ये যাতায়াত চলছে এই কথাও আমাৰ জানতে পেরেছি কিন্তু এসব বিষয়ে মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয় কিছু উল্লেখ কৰেন নাই । আমাদেৰ সীমা এলাকাৰ এক মাইল পৰ্য্যন্ত লোক সৰিয়ে দিবাৰ কথা ছিল । গত বাৰ চীন আক্ৰমণেৰে সময়ে আমাদেৰ চাৰি সীমা দূত কৰাৰ সংকল্প হৈছিল—এখন কিন্তু সেই বিষয়ে আৰ কোনে চেষ্টা দেখা যাচেছ না । মিজো জিলায় আজ ঝাড়েৰ সংকট দেখতে পাচিছ । সেই দিন আমাদেৰ মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী বললেন যে সেখানে শান্তি বিৰাজ কৰছে । কিন্তু আমি জানি মিজো জিলা থেকে ইংল্যেণ্ডেৰ Prime Minister কে একটি Memorendum দিয়েছে । সেই স্মাৰক পত্ৰেৰে একটি অংশ আমি তুলে ধৰছি—

Mizo National Council has submitted a Memorandum not only to the Prime Minister of India and the Government of India but also to the Prime Minister, United Kingdom, Leader of the Opposition of United Kingdom and the Secretary General to the United Nations Organisation.

আৰ একটি জায়গায় বলা হয়েছে :

“It is quite significant from this point that the Mizo Hills district never formed a part of India ; the only connection it had with India seems to have been due rather to the geographical contiguity as in the case of Sikkim and Bhutan which were controlled by the British from India to some extent, though they were separate dominions.”

আৰ একটি জায়গায় লেখা আছে :

“Further, when the Independence Bill of India sub-continent was passed by the British Parliament, power was handed over neither to the Indian Union nor to Pakistan but leaves it as such that whoever is capable of taking the chance might avail of the opportunities ; and we the Mizos who were in the Excluded Areas of British India and who had never formed part of India but were regarded as within India merely because of British administrative conveniences, were originally given option for our destiny.”

এইটি হলো ১৯৪৭ ইং ৰেজীতে যা Memorandum দিয়েছিল তাৰ একটি অংশঃ ।

"All the above items shall be subjected to revision according to the future trend of events even to the extent of seceding after ten years."

আর একটি ground হলো:—

"We, the undersigned on behalf of the Mizo National Council and on behalf of the Mizos in general, are hereby demanding once more the freedom of option on the grounds stated below:—

That we, the Mizos are totally different from other peoples of India culturally, racially, ethnologically, linguistically and in our daily walks of life. Moreover, we are also quite distinct in our origin, in fact we have nothing whatever in common with the Indian people."

এই সমস্ত ব্যাপার দেখে আমার সন্দেহ হয় যে Indian Union টিতে আজ শতাব্দী বিভক্ত করার চেষ্টা চলেছে এবং ফলে নিজেরা আসামে থাকতে চাইছে না। দেশে যে অবস্থা বিরাজ করছে সেই বিষয়ে অর্থ মন্ত্রী একটি কথাও উল্লেখ করেন নাই।

আসামের আর সবচেয়ে কম এবং Tax বেশী। Per capita taxation আসামে সবচেয়ে বেশী। গতিকে নতুন Tax বসানো হয়নি বলে আমি বাজেটটাকে কোন রকম ভাল বলতে পারি না। কারণ ঋণের পরিমাণ বৎসরের পর বৎসর বেশী বেড়েই চলেছে। ১৯৬৪-৬৫ তে ঋণের পরিমাণ ১৩০.২২ লক্ষ টাকা। গত বৎসর ছিল ১০৯.৬৪ লক্ষ টাকা। এ ভাবে ঋণ করে বিভক্ত মন্ত্রী আসামকে দেউলিয়া রাজ্যে পরিণত করেছেন।

Third Finance Commission আসামকে অনেক কম টাকা দিলেন। এ বৎসর 4th Finance Commission এ আসামের অবস্থা কি হবে জানা যায় না। সরকার খরচ কমানোর জন্য Economic কমিটি করেছেন। কিন্তু আমরা দেখেছি দিন দিন বড় বড় post বাড়ান হচ্ছে। এখন Director of Sports বলে একটা post করেছেন এবং একজন লোককে নিয়োগ করা হয়েছে। তাছাড়াও প্রত্যেক বিভাগে Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretary ইত্যাদি post বাড়ান হয়েছে। সব কাজ নিচে থেকে করা হয়। কিন্তু Economic Committee ছোট কেরণীর পদ কমিয়ে বড় বড় পদের সৃষ্টি অনুমোদন করছেন। আগে I. A. S. cadre ছিল ৭৬ এবং এখন করেছেন ১১৭। মিনিষ্টারের জন্য Air-conditioned গাড়ী কিনা হয়েছে। এটা কি Economy বোঝা যায় না।

মহোদয়, ভারত সরকার ১৫ লক্ষ টাকা দিয়েছিলেন Rehabilitation of Goldsmith এর জন্য। আজ পর্যন্ত Cabinet এর সুদ ধার্য করতে না পারায় এই টাকা হয়তঃ সাকুল্য ফেরত দিতে হবে। কেবিনেট এখনও কোন ব্যবস্থা করেন নাই। বৎসর শেষ হইলে টাকা surrender করতে হবে। এর আগেও অনেক টাকা surrender করা হয়েছে। আমাদের আর্থিক অবস্থা অত্যন্ত শোচনীয়। জিনিস পত্রের দাম বেড়ে গেছে। Pay কমিটির Recommendation নিয়ে এক বিড়ম্বনার সৃষ্টি হয়েছে। সচিবালয়ের কর্মচারীরা বিক্ষুব্ধ। সকলেই দাবী তুলেছেন anomaly পূর করার জন্য। এখানে বিভক্ত মন্ত্রী বলেছেন সচিবালয়ের demand পূরা করতে গেলে ১৫ লক্ষ টাকা লাগবে।

এই ১৫ লক্ষ টাকা এখানে ধরা হয় নাই। বর্ত্ত মন্ত্রী আমাদের সামনে এই হিসাব উপস্থিত করেছেন কিন্তু এই হিসাবের ভিত্তি সম্পর্কে তিনি নীরব। আসাম রাজ্যে বিরাট সমস্যা চলেছে। আমাদের বর্ত্ত মন্ত্রীর ভাষণে একটি

কথা আছে—পাকিস্তানী অনুপ্রবেশকারী সম্পর্কে একটি কথা বলেছেন—“Infiltration by Pakistani Nationals continued in 1964 and 72,543 infiltrants were detected. Of these, 1,658 were prosecuted and 1,289 out of them were convicted, a few were acquitted and 1,236 were sent back to Pakistan.” দেখা যায় ৫ হাজারের হিসাব মিলেছে—বাকী হিসাব কি হল ?

এর সঙ্গে আমি একটা কথা বলব—আমাদের বিধানসভায় এ সম্পর্কে বহু আলোচনা হয়েছে। আজ যে সকল পাকিস্তানী অনুপ্রবেশকারী এসে ঢুকেছে তারা আসামে ভয়াবহ পরিস্থিতির সৃষ্টি করেছে। ১৯৬১ চনে যখন লাটিটিলা ডামাবারী পাকিস্তান অধিকার করল—তখন ভারতীয় নাগরিক সত্যেন দেবকে পাকিস্তানী ফৌজ আটক করে ৩ বৎসর পরে তাহাকে মুক্তি দিল। সত্যেন্দ্র দেব ফিরে এসে দেখল তার বাড়ী পাকিস্তানীরা দখল করে Bunker করেছে। গভর্নমেন্ট কোন খবরই করেন নাই। তার কোন আশ্রয় নাই—তার অপরাধ কি? আনাদের রাজ্য সরকার তাহাকে রক্ষা করতে বার্থ হলেন। তার জন্য যার অপরাধ সেই সামান্ত রক্ষী বাহিনীর অধিকর্তার বিচার হল না; তিনি নিষিদ্ধে সেখান থেকে Retire করে চলে গেলেন। দেশের বিরুদ্ধে অভিসন্ধি করাতে অপরাধ নাই।

আমি বলি আসাম আজকে রাজনৈতিক ও অর্থনৈতিক ক্ষেত্রে দেউলীয়া হতে চলছে। এর রাজ্যের ভিতরে আজকে কোন নীতি নাই। এই ভাবে আসামের উন্নতি হতে পারে না এবং আসাম রাজ্যে এক চরম সঙ্কটের দিকে এগিয়ে চলছে—এর প্রতিকার করতে আমাদের রাজ্যসরকার সম্পর্ক বার্থ হয়েছেন এবং দেশের ভবিষ্যৎ আজ দুর্মেয়োগপূর্ণ। আমাদের মাননীয় অর্থমন্ত্রী আসামের এই রূপকে তার বাজেট বক্তৃতায় সম্পূর্ণ উপেক্ষা করে গেছেন।

আসাম রাজ্যের মধ্যে কাছাড় একটা বৃহৎ জিলা। কিন্তু এই কাছাড় জেলা আজ তাহার ন্যায্য পাওনা হইতে বঞ্চিত। কাছাড়ে যে কাগজের কল, চিনির কল, Fruit Preservation Factory গড়ে তুলার আশ্বাস দেওয়া হয়েছিল, তা পালন করা হয়নি। কাছাড়ের যোগাযোগ ব্যবস্থার আজও উন্নতি হলোনা। রাজধানীর সহিত যোগাযোগের জন্য যে অতি প্রয়োজনীয় রাস্তাটি তাও আজ কর্তৃপক্ষের অবহেলায় অসম্পূর্ণ। বর্ষার দিনে কাছাড় বাহিরের পৃথিবী হইতে প্রায়ই বিচিছনু থাকে। কাছাড়ের মেডিকেল কলেজ সাইন বোর্ডেই সীমাবদ্ধ মইল। রিজিওনেল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং কলেজের এখন পর্যন্ত ভিত্তিপ্রস্তরই স্থাপিত হয়নি। এই ভাবে কাছাড় আর কতদিন অবহেলিত থাকবে?

কাটিগড়ার সীমান্ত পাকিস্তানের সহিত কিন্তু আজ পর্যন্ত সেই পাক সীমান্তের রাস্তা তৈরী হওয়ার কোন লক্ষণই নাই। বন্যা হইতে কাটিগড়াকে রক্ষা করার জন্য যে পরিকল্পনা রচিত হইয়াছে তাহা এখনও কাগজে পত্রেরই আছে। সুতরাং বন্যা হইতে কাটিগড়া এলাকাকে রক্ষা করার জন্য অবিলম্বে কার্যকরী ব্যবস্থা অবলম্বন করা প্রয়োজন।

সুতরাং বিত্তমন্ত্রী মহোদয় আমাদের কাছাড় জেলার প্রতি একটু দৃষ্টি দিয়ে জনগণের নিকট হইতে আশীর্বাণী লাভ করিবেন। আশা করি আসামের এই চরম দুর্দিনে আমাদের রাজ্য সরকার সময়োচিত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করিতে কুণ্ঠিত হইবেন না।

Shri MOJINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister Agriculture):
 Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have heard the debate in all these days and noted in particular the criticisms relating to the Agriculture, Veterinary, Fishery and the E. and D. Departments. In course of their speeches, the hon. Members had expressed their great anxiety about agriculture and the slow progress in the matter of agricultural production in this country. Sir, while discussing the progress of agriculture in Assam, the bigger question relating to agriculture, *viz.*, the somewhat static position with regard to agricultural production in the country had come up, not only in course of this debate, but also in the debate on Governor's Address. Therefore, before I come to the specific problems of Assam, I would like to deal with agriculture in all its aspects, in the country as a whole.

The main problem before the country today is to achieve a high and sustained rate of economic growth so as to improve the standard of living of the people. In this connection the role of agriculture cannot be over-emphasised. For, agriculture still continues to be the main base of the national income particularly in view of the fact that the largest natural resource of the country even today is land; 71 per cent of the 450 million people of India are still dependant on agriculture. In fact, this is too big a number which will be evident from the fact that the corresponding figures are 12 per cent and 13 per cent for advanced countries like U. S. A. and Australia respectively and 40 per cent for Japan, a country having somewhat similar conditions in some respects as those of ours. There is no doubt about the fact that our achievements for the country as a whole in the field of agriculture had not been equal to our targets. Although the national income rose by 42 per cent between the period 1950-51 and 1960-61, the income from agriculture and allied sectors increased only by about 33 per cent in the same period.

In fact, the gap between our requirement and the actual availability of food was so great that in the first plan period India had to import foodgrains of the value of Rs. 538 crores. In the second plan period this rose to Rs. 711 crores. Unfortunately, there had been no arrest of this upward trend as would be evident from the fact that India had to import nearly 200 crores worth of foodgrains in the first eighteen months of the third plan. For our failure to achieve the target of cotton production in the country we had to spend Rs. 384 crores in the first Plan period, Rs. 244 crores in the second plan period and Rs. 100 crores in the first eighteen months of the third plan to import the same. The low productivity and the high cost of production is rather a disquieting phenomenon not only in the field of our agricultural production but also in the field of industrial production. It is anticipated that over the next 15 years, the population is likely to increase at more than 2 per cent per annum. In view of this alarming growth of population and allowing for some improvement in the consumption standard, the demand for foodgrains at the end of the fourth plan is estimated around 120 million tonnes as against our likely availability of foodgrain in the year 1965-66 around 90 or 91 million tonnes. Realisation of this target to feed our hungry millions and to ensure them adequate diet by raising the present low *per capita* calories content per day of 2000 to say 2240 as in the case of Japan or 3,264 as in the case of Australia which is said to be the highest in the world are really difficult jobs. In fact, substantial progress is necessary before we can assure a minimum

standard of living to our people. Thus, to summarise, we want self-sufficiency in agriculture for the following reasons:—

- (a) Better living standard through increased *per capita* availability of foodgrains and other eatables for our people,
- (b) Increased agricultural income,
- (c) By ensuring adequate supplies of agricultural raw-materials at internationally competitive prices, promotion of industrial development,
- (d) Saving of foreign exchange by reducing import,
- (e) Augmenting foreign exchange earnings through increased exports of agricultural commodities, for industrialisation and also for our defence,
- (f) Maintenance of price level and cost living, and
- (g) To undertake the burden of a larger share in the financing of public exchequer.

While in the first plan the increase in agricultural production was mainly due to increase in the acreage, the increase in the second plan was mainly due to increase in the productivity per acre. Taking the year 1949-50 as base equal to 100 the index numbers of yield per acre increased from 92.4 in 1950-51 to 103.0 in 1955-56 and 118.4 in 1960-61 in case of foodgrains. In case of non-foodgrains with the same year as base the index numbers of production in 1950-51 per acre was 95.6 which decreased to 91.7 in 1955-56 and again rose to 106.9 in 1960-61. But the *per capita* acre yield of crop in India compares rather unfavourably with other countries. The yield of rice per acre is almost twice in France, more than twice in U. S. A. and more than three times in Japan or U. A. R. The per acre production of wheat is $2\frac{1}{2}$ times more in U. S. A. and $3\frac{1}{2}$ times more in Japan or U. A. R. Even the per acre yield of various crops differs from State to State in India while the per acre yield of rice in Madras was 1351 pounds in 1961-62, it was only 718 pounds in Uttar Pradesh as against an all India average of 909 pounds in the same year. In case of wheat, as against 905 pounds in Punjab per acre the production in Mysore was 207 pounds per acre. In this connection it may be mentioned that Assam's average in 1960-61 per acre was 863 pounds of rice which had registered an increase to 909 pounds in 1963-64.

The known means by which production can be increased are:

- (i) Optimum utilisation of the available land resources through systematic planning, extension of multiple cropping and introduction of improved cropping patterns;
- (ii) Provision of irrigation and water facilities, proper system of drainage and reclamation of land;
- (iii) Bringing about technological changes, specially the use of scientific agricultural practices, improved implements and other equipments and better seeds;
- (iv) Prevention of wastage and destruction of agricultural products.

As against a total potential of 170 million acres which can be brought under irrigation in the country only 68 million acres are under irrigation. The hope that India will have about 100 million acres under irrigation by the end of the third plan period is not likely to be achieved. Due largely to paucity of fund many of the schemes proposed to be completed in third plan will be spilled over the fourth plan. Only about 14 to 15 per cent of the land in India is under irrigation. Until and unless we put more land under irrigation the idea of having multiple crops from the same land or the optimum utilisation of the land by extension of improved cropping pattern will remain a dream. The production and use of fertiliser in the country is also equally in a very bad situation. Sir, I found a newspaper commenting on my last speech about the production of fertilisers as ignorant and I will like to make everybody knowledgeable about it. Sir, while India is using 375.6,50.1 and 26.5 of nitrogenous, phosphatic and potashic fertilisers (in term of 100 metric tonnes) in the year 1960-61 in her agricultural area of 173850000 hectares of which 23,431000 hectares were irrigated, Japan in the same year with her agricultural area of 7020000 hectares of which 3368000 hectares were irrigated used 753.3,491.8 and 600.9 (in term of 100 metric tonnes) of nitrogenous, phosphatic and potashic fertilisers respectively. It would show that the consumption of fertilisers in Japan was something like 100 times more than that of India; in case of U. S. A. it was something like 50 to 60 times more than that of India. The Agriculture Department have no doubt created an urge in the country for using fertilisers but the country has failed to make fertilisers available by advance planning and actually setting up the fertiliser factories in time. The total irrigated area in India is 68 million acres. Area under assured rainfall is about 82 million acres. But the present production of fertiliser is adequate for only 11 million acres only. During 1961-62 and 62-63 only 53 per cent and 70 per cent respectively of the demand for nitrogenous fertilisers was met both by import and indigenous production. While the target for the third plan was 1,00,0.40, and 0.20 million tonnes of nitrogenous, phosphatic and potashic fertilisers, it is anticipated that only 0.65, 0.25 and 0.15 million tonnes of nitrogenous, phosphatic and potashic fertilisers respectively will be produced at the end of the plan. The price of fertiliser is one of the highest in the world. While the world price of fertiliser is from Rs.1,100.00 to Rs.1,450.00 the same produced in India costs Rs.1837.00 per ton of nitrogenous fertiliser. This high price has been one of the biggest hurdles which is preventing wider use of fertiliser. The failure to produce cheap fuel by ensuring electricity to our villages has resulted in burning away a large quantity of farm-yard manure to our great detriment. The two major points, namely, the failure of the country to ensure irrigation and supply of chemical fertilisers would largely account for the failure in the realisation of the targets for agricultural production in the country. There are other contributory causes also for our failure. There are two ways to increase the production in a country. One is to conserve what we have and the other is to intensify the production and increase the same. The Committee of Ministers of Flood Control (of which I had the privilege to be a member), appointed by the Government of India had recently looked into the question as to how much loss the people had been suffering in this country due to flood. It was found that 16 million acres of land, if the average of 10 years from 1953 to 1963 was taken, was affected annually by flood thus causing a loss of crop of the average annual value of about 4,424 lakh of

rupees. But nothing substantial had been done to stop this great loss from the flood. In the First and Second Plans only 13.77 and 49.15 crores respectively were spent for flood control for the whole country. It is anticipated that the country's total expenditure of flood control up to the end of the Third Plan will be only 91.29 crores—this is much less than the cost of one steel plant, Sir. Even today, sufficient importance has not been given to this aspect of the matter. The proposal for Fourth Plan allocation on this head is only 126 crores—which is about the cost of say 10 bridges over a river like the Brahmaputra. Sir, in fact one of the chief causes of failure of agriculture in India was the inadequacy of investment. This was due to the failure to appreciate the urgency of the situation. Even today in many quarters this urgency has not been felt.

There has been shortfall in other programmes also. The problem of credit has not been solved. A subsistent level agriculturist cannot pay for the cost of improved agriculture. He cannot afford to make experiments because failure of any of the experiments will be too costly a proposition for him. Despite whatever we have done in the co-operative sector, we have assured credit and that too partly for agriculturists who are better off and who can mortgage their properties to get loans or at least find out sureties for them. Despite all talks of 'credit worthy purposes' and not 'credit worthiness of the man' we have failed to ensure sufficient flow of credit to the subsistent level agriculturists and particularly to those who are engaged in production of foodgrains. Recent analysis by the Reserve Bank had shown that our credit had hitherto gone largely to cash crop producers. In fact, the States where cash crop productions were comparatively limited as in the cases of Eastern States, the Co-operative movement had not progressed very much.

Sir, unless a man has the feeling that the land he cultivates belongs to him, he will never invest in that land for proper and improved agriculture. Experiences had shown that wherever petty farmers had been made owners of their holdings, agriculture had progressed. Since the other alternative, *viz.*, bigger farms as in U. S. A., is not possible or feasible under the circumstances prevailing in this country, we must follow the former. As soon as the Japanese agriculturists were ensured ownership of the lands, the agricultural production in that country went up. Unfortunately, in this country, the non-completion of the land reforms and the large scale evasion of the land reform measures, instead of things being improved, had resulted in deterioration considerably. The uncertainty created by the non-completion of the land reform measures is posing a disaster on agriculture. After examining the cases of 10 States the Planning Commission came to the conclusion that, Sir, I am quoting it here: Firstly, the administrative arrangements for supervising action on land reform enactments have been inadequate and public opinion and specially rural opinion has not been prepared for forcing the pace at which effect is given to the legislation. Secondly, records of right of tenants do not exist in several States and where they exist, they are often incomplete and out of date. Thirdly, as a necessary consequence, there are considerable numbers of 'informal' tenants. Such tenants are not recorded in the revenue papers and are not recognised as such and invariably they pay high produce rents and enjoy no security of tenure. Finally, both in respect of tenants to whom permanent rights have accrued and others sufficient attention is not being given to the provision of financial and other assistance to enable them to improve their lands and

increase agricultural production. The economic condition of these cultivators, therefore continue to be weak. The Commission also found that there were still large number of gaps in the legislation which have been enacted in relation to the programme of land reform. Sir, the country has only utilised about 200 million gallons of Sewage and Sullage as against an available quantity of about 700 million gallons. While the potential capacity of composting of urban waste is about 78 lakh tonnes, the actual production is only about 29 lakh tonnes. There is much greater scope and necessity for using more green manures. The loss caused by insects, pests and weeds in this country is enormous. It is therefore, absolutely necessary that in the Fourth Plan adequate provision for plant protection industry including manufacture of chemicals as well as equipment's should be made. The mechanisation of agriculture including production of small tractors and improved implements in adequate numbers, not hitherto done, should be done without any loss of time. The high duty of diesel oil used for agricultural tractors and power pumps is seriously hampering agricultural production, more particularly irrigation. This needs early revision. High priority should be given to refrigeration industry so as to conserve in cold storage potatoes, fruits, fish, meat and poultry for proper distribution. The country must be relieved from over-burden of cattle. India has as many as about 204 million cattle of which about 45 million are buffaloes of the world's total population of 963 million cattle including 93 million buffaloes. Sir, man competes with cattle almost for the same food with the only difference that these animals do not eat their own meat as the case with some men. (Laughter)...

Sir, agriculture being a private enterprise, Government cannot enforce targets either on the community or on individuals as has been suggested, particularly in a democracy unless the same is undertaken by individuals and the community voluntarily on a sense of urgency and on an urge for the good of the Nation. The Agriculture Department in the country disseminate knowledge and give some facilities and thus try to induce the agriculturists to take to improved methods. It is felt that the Department has up till now not been able to bring about the technological changes especially the use of science and technology in agriculture to the desired measure. This is largely due to the fact that the Department is administratively very weak. Despite the large numbers of recommendations by various committees including suggestions like taking over of this portfolio of Agriculture by Chief Ministers, nothing substantial had been done to strengthen the administrative machinery adequately.

Apart from dissipating energy by artificial divisions between the allied departments, the idea of a multipurpose village level worker with the concept of having a single agency at the village level in regard to health, sanitation, social service, education and agriculture has largely failed. The change recently made to give one set of task to a Gram Sevak although it has not come up to the expectation of many, has not yet made its impact in view of large area under his jurisdiction and a very large number of families he is expected to approach and educate. This is more so because of the fact that the resources of the community have been spread thinly over a number of subjects, thus without creating any appreciable impact. It is high time for us to consider whether we should or not utilise the entire resources for one or two subjects only as the case may be in each Block. The biggest hurdle in extending scientific agriculture to the agriculturists

is their illiteracy. Large amounts of publicity materials do not reach them, and even if they reach them, most of them cannot read them. It is also not possible to speak to each one of them individually or collectively. It is, therefore, necessary that apart from making a greater effort for mass education and mass communication through radios, cinema and the like short courses in all the Agricultural and Veterinary Colleges should be organised apart from Gram Sahayak Camps for educating the agriculturists and for this heavier investments are necessary.

No country can improve its agriculture unless price incentive is given to its farmers. The biggest problem of agriculture today is the low productivity as against high cost of production. No doubt a part of this problem can be wiped out by increasing the per acre production by using science and technology but the problem has got to be tackled more deeply from another angle. More enthusiasm cannot raise production. It is only by guaranteeing an adequate margin of profit to an agriculturist that he can be induced to invest on fertilisers, pesticides, good seeds, pumping machines and the rest. Unless this is done, an agriculturist will always produce to the extent which will help him and his family to subsist. If we compare the amount of subsidy we are giving to induce productions in other fields with that of agriculture, one would realise the neglect we have been doing to the cause of this vital subject. Despite the urgency of the situation this problem did not receive the attention of the country till recently when a Committee had been appointed to examine this. It has been seen even in Assam that whenever the prices of jute had a slump there had been less of production in the next year; whenever there had been high prices there had been an increase in the production in the next year. But unfortunately with the increased production in that year, same price did not continue to rule the market resulting in decreased production thereafter. If a part of the money we are spending for importing foodgrains from outside would have been spent in ensuring a scheme of this nature that would have, I have not doubt in my mind, changed the position considerably.

These are some of the problems of agriculture for the county as a whole. It appears that the top and middle class intelligentsia in this country have thought that the production would increase merely by their continued criticism of the Department of Agriculture or inflicting volumes of advices either on the agriculturists or on the Agriculture Departments without taking care of these problems. Sir, when a section of Members of Assemblies indulge in this, one feels amused as if they have no duty in the matter of increasing the production. For, they are the Members of the Mohkuma Parishads of which the Agricultural Production Committees are in charge of the development of agriculture in the Subdivisions.

Sir, this point was discussed in the Assembly; I recommended in the report of the Study Team that the Members of the Assembly should not be in the Panchayat. But the House in its own wisdom decided it otherwise. Apart from they being the public representatives they of their own volition had become associated with Panchayats. They now can't discharge their duties by merely criticising or advising others—can alone Agriculture Department induce the millions of families of agriculturists and impart to them the necessary knowledge of modern science and technology and the technical know-how for increasing the agricultural production? The answer is

obviously no. There should be all out effort for this; but it seems to be lacking. One of the chief causes for it is that neither the Agriculture Department nor the leadership have become agriculture oriented. In fact bulk of the leadership had been drawn mostly from non-agriculturists or absentee landlords. The hon. Members of the Assembly would do well in keeping in mind that it is equally their duty to enthuse the agriculturists to take to modern methods and produce more. Sir, I hope the hon. Members will kindly think over these problems which have been posed before them by me.

Sir, what have been described till now by me as the problems of agriculture, on the solution of which the question of self-sufficiency of this country in its food requirement hinges very much, are also the problems of agriculture in general in the State of Assam. In fact the problems are more difficult for the State of Assam. Of the total area of 47,091 square miles, 73 per cent of land is under hills and forest and 27 per cent of the land is under plains. 24,414 square miles of area are under the six hill districts alone. Even the 23 per cent of the land not covered by hills or forests is covered in many places by large water areas including our rivers. The non hill districts with an area of 24,414 square miles with a population of 432 per square mile is to look after a population of 1,05,57,693. The hill districts with an area of 22,677 square miles are to look after a population of 13,15,169. The bulk of the lands in the plains are disturbed by the river Brahmaputra with its 35 tributaries and the river Barak with its 9 tributaries. It is significant to note here that the total width of the Brahmaputra valley between foothills is only 50 to 55 miles of which the river itself has width of about 4 to 6 miles in most places; forests cover a few miles mostly along the foot hills, tea gardens in certain districts occupy much of the higher areas and the remaining width of the valley, occupied by populous villages and cultivated fields, is indeed very narrow. This accounts for the heavy loss people suffer whenever there is a flood. Similarly, the width of the Barak valley between the foot-hills is only 23 to 30 miles which is dotted by low water pockets called the Haors, the rest being covered by tea gardens in comparatively higher lands, populous villages and cultivated fields.

If we take the statistics of only one year it would be seen what a devastation flood can do in Assam. In 1954, as much as 12,150 square miles of land were submerged by flood causing a damage of 1,589 lakhs. The total loss suffered by the people of Assam in the last 10 years from 1954 to 1964 was of the order of Rs.,674,000000, the average of which comes to 67.4 million of rupees a year. The area submerged in average in the same period was 4,105 square miles annually. The Embankment and Drainage Department of Assam has already constructed more than 2,079 miles of embankment and 400 miles of drainage channels apart from giving protection to 29 towns and important business centres. The department spent Rs.288.47 lakhs and Rs. 120.54 lakhs in the First Plan and Second Plan respectively.

Despite the urgency of the situation only a sum of 5 crores was allotted to this department for the Third Plan period. This was so small an amount compared to our need that the department spent in the first three years of the Third Plan more than 536.93 lakhs as against the total allocation of 500 crores for 5 years. Since then the Department has to depend largely on the surrendered money and reappropriation from other Departments apart from meagre plan allocations made from year to year. This is one of the causes for starting some schemes very late in some year. Apart from this, since

every scheme has to go to Government of India, the Planning Commission and the C. W. P. C. before loan assistance is given (all schemes are financed out of loan given by the Government of India), therefore, often delay is caused. One of the reasons for which we have set up the Assam Flood Control Board is to cut down this delay by adopting a summary procedure as far as feasible. There is no doubt about the fact that this has considerably improved the situation but it will take time to fully overcome all the difficulties. It is anticipated that by the end of the Third Plan the total investment in the Flood Control Sector will be of the order of about or little more than 18 crores of rupees, thus benefiting an area of 829 lakh acres. This would mean that only one third of the cultivable areas of Assam would get protection against flood. If the matter is looked into from this point of view it would be understood as to why very often criticism is levelled against the department for its failure to immune the State as a whole from the ravages of flood. I may point out that whatever has been done hitherto are all short-term projects and comparatively easier part of the work. We have got now to embark upon a period in which comparatively more difficult and costlier schemes of long-term nature will have to be undertaken. For this, apart from having sufficient fund at the disposal of the department, the department also needs to be geared up. With this idea Government have been trying to secure the services of more personnel particularly experts both from inside and outside the country. The Government has been trying its very best to make interested major countries like U. S. A. and U.S.S.R. into problems of the State. I strongly feel that it is high time that Assam should send a study team consisting of non-officials and Engineers to see as to how other countries have solved this problem.

Sir, I now come to the Agriculture Department again. Shri Tajuddin Ahmed had stated on the other day that this Department was not at all important; otherwise why should not people speak about or make demand on this Department? Whenever he went to any place he found people talking of everything like road, hospitals and what not but not of agriculture or its improvement. Why this is so, we all and our society are responsible for it. Once I went to an agricultural locality along with the Chief Minister. They spoke of everything including setting up of a Dak Bungalow but did not utter a word about agriculture. The Chief Minister was visibly annoyed and he asked them as to why they did not ask for irrigation, good seed or things connected with agriculture and instead asked for a Dak Bungalow with which they had nothing to do as agriculturist. Sir, an hon. Member said: কৃষি বিভাগৰ দ্বাৰা আমাৰ বাজ্যত কোনো প্ৰকাৰে খেতিৰ বৃদ্ধি হোৱা নাই।

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Sir, what is the contention of the hon. Member Shri Tajuddin Ahmed in saying so? It may be the fact that the agriculture machinery of the Government is not functioning properly and that is why people are not well conversant about agriculture.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: It may be the views of the hon. Member but I am giving my views. Sir.

Sir, it is never my claim nor the claim of the Agriculture Department, that it has done miracle in Assam. Despite all the difficulties which have been enumerated by me there have been considerable progress in the

agriculture production and the same has been reflected both in the procurement figures and also in the general food situation in Assam. As has been pointed out by many hon. Members in this House that despite the rise of prices and scarcity to some extent as a result of the same condition prevailing in other parts of the country the situation in Assam has been much better. In fact, the figures I am giving now would support this position. I am giving the figures in metric tonnes.

Commodity	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65 (estimated)
	(in 003M/tons)		
Rice ..	1501	1802	1909
Pulses	30	35	39
Total foodgrains ...	1546	1870	1964
Oil Seeds ...	48	55	Not available as yet.
Potato	134	105	152

It came down and then increased. Jute 69,630 bales, 10,20,000 bales and 8,82,000 bales. These figures, Sir, prove unmistakably that the progress made in the few years by Agriculture Department is significant. I will most respectfully submit that the officers of the department need more encouragement and some of them congratulations. Mere condemnation would not increase the availability of food. I may point out that the position of Assam in regard to linear rate of growth though bad is not certainly worst in India. I don't know how some hon. Members claimed that Orissa had done better than Assam. In fact eastern States have shown a very slow rate of linear growth as against an All India average of 3.32 for the period 1952-53 to 1961-62 as would be evident from the following statement. Sir, I don't think that Orissa had done better than Assam as has been mentioned by Shri Mohananda Bora the other day. Sir, I am quoting Government of India's figure for the period 1952-53 to 1961-62. Assam—1.34, Orissa—1.18, West Bengal—0.89, Andhra Pradesh—1.91.

This linear rate of growth for the same period for some other countries is as follows:—

Pakistan—1.59, Burma—2.01, Indonesia—1.37.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How long will it require to finish your speech?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, I require another 45 minutes time.

Adjournment

The House then adjourned for lunch till 2 P.M.

(After Lunch)

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, before lunch I was discussing about the increase in agricultural production in the State and in that connection I referred to the annual production by quoting figures. I also gave the figures relating to the linear rate of growth of agriculture in the various States in the country and also some of the countries outside India. Now I will take up the question of per acre yield in Assam. Sir, the average yield per acre in Assam in 1964-65 has been 999 lbs per acre. It is certainly better than Orissa where it is 892 lbs or Uttar Pradesh 673 lbs, Gujarat 832 lbs and Bihar 761 lbs and certainly compares favourably with West Bengal with 1050 lbs and Andhra Pradesh 1130 lbs. I do not say, Sir, that Assam should not aspire for more.

I have enumerated the difficulties of the Agriculture Department in the country as a whole. Now, I will try to cover as to what we have done in Assam within our limited sphere to remove these difficulties. I referred to earlier about the administrative difficulties—the workings of the Departments in the country. This State, as you know, Sir, had reorganised the Agriculture and allied Departments. It revised the pay structure of the personnel of these Departments as an interim measure earlier and now again the Pay Committee has revised the pay scales and in doing so has shown much greater considerations so far as the pay of the personnel of the Agriculture and the allied Departments is concerned, so as to attract suitable personnel for these Departments. I hope, Sir, with the increased pay and better emoluments given to the Officers of these Departments it will be possible for us to attract better talents for our Agriculture and Veterinary Colleges. This House also knows that in order to meet the problems of co-ordination between Agriculture and the allied Departments this State Government has appointed a Study Team in which I myself was a Member. The report of the Study Team had been implemented to a large extent as a result of which apart from setting up of a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet with the Ministers dealing with the concerned Departments, a Commissioner of Agricultural Production had also been appointed in the State. I am glad to tell the House that after the appointment of the Agricultural Commissioner the problems of co-ordination have been considerably simplified, and I have no manner of doubt that we will be able to reap better dividend on this account. I am happy that Shri Durgeswar Saikia appreciated this step of the Government and he wanted the same to be extended to the non-developmental Departments also.

I will now come to the criticisms with regard to the seed farms in the State. Sir, it is true that some of our seed farms were not in very good state. Works have already been undertaken to re-organise the seed farms by closing down the un-economic ones. I can tell the House that in 1963-64 nine seed farms made profit even after paying the over-head costs, 20 had a surplus over the direct expenditure, 22 were marginal and the remaining 49 were in the process of gradual improvement. The production of foundation seeds from the seed farms was 11,500 maunds in 1961-62 which had increased in 1964-65 to 30,000 maunds, thus registering an increase of 165 per cent. Sir, I have already dealt with the problem of fertiliser. I have already said as to what extent this commodity is in great shortage in the country. Apart from the shortage, Sir, transport bottleneck is another cause for mal-distribution of fertilisers. Very often we do not get fertilisers in time partly because Sindri cannot cope with the demand of the country, and, therefore, there is a time-lag between planning or placing the order and the actual arrival. Furthermore,

repeated operational restrictions by the Railways have been one of the cause of the bottleneck. However, Sir, as I have stated while replying to the debate on the Governor's Address, Government have taken some steps in this direction, and I am still hoping that the problem of transport as well as distribution will further ease. In the meantime I am glad to tell the House that the consumption of fertilisers has considerably gone up in the State and it is expected that about 10,000 tonnes of fertilisers will be consumed during the current year. Sir, in our target for the next year we have made 100 per cent increase.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, what was the consumption of fertilisers last year?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: It was 4,000 tonnes. It is expected to increase to 10,000 tonnes this year and for the year 1965-66 our target is 20,000 tonnes. Amongst the measures taken for promotion of the use of fertilisers adequate training of Supervisory and Field personnel has been emphasised; demonstration has been arranged for selected villages where there is better potential; and award of prizes and commissions to Gram Sevaks has been made. I agree with some of the hon. Members' suggestions and I thank them for giving some great thought to this matter, that analysis of soil is a 'must' for use of fertilisers in a scientific manner. Therefore, the State Government have taken steps to equip the Jorhat Laboratory for soil testing in a better manner. The foreign exchange difficulty had stood on our way to get the equipments earlier but I hope, Sir, it will be solved soon. We are going to have a soil testing laboratory in the Package District of Cachar also about which the Finance Minister had already made a statement in his speech. Sir, Shri Barua while he was speaking on the subject was possibly under the impression that this had been done for the first time. Sir, it is not so. The soil testing laboratory is a part of the Package Programmes which has got to be set up. We could not set it up earlier and in time because the Government of India refused to give foreign exchange not only to us but to some other States as well for the same purpose. We had to take up this question with them more than once and after some persuasion they ultimately agreed in view of the special need of Assam, to allow us to set up the soil testing laboratory and for this to give necessary foreign exchange to us.

Sir, I now take up the question of double-cropping. Sir, the area under double-cropping of late has increased considerably. We have given emphasis on this programme so as to get production increased as quickly as possible. As against the Third Plan target of 1.75 lakh acres for double-cropping the achievement of the Department at the end of the current year will be 4 lakh acres. It would be seen by the hon. Members that the target has been surpassed, but my own feeling is that the target itself was small. Therefore, I do not feel too much elated on this behalf. There is yet considerable scope on this score for increasing production in the State. Sir, the greatest difficulty in this respect is a very pernicious habit of our people of letting their cattle loose. Neither these people would look after themselves better by going in for double-cropping, nor they would allow other to do it. This is a serious problem and I don't know how it is to be tackled. One hon. Member had suggested enactment

of some legislation for this. I do not know whether public opinion is ripe for it or whether it would be feasible to enforce such a legislation effectively. After all, we cannot go in for legislation knowing that it would not be possible to enforce it 100 percent. A legislation of this type can and should be enacted only at a time when the country is ripe or considerably prepared for having it enforced.

Sir, I will now take up the question of pulses and pulse cultivation. Sir, in this connection I will like to tell the hon. Members that the scope for development of pulses in our State in a sense is quite limited. I am obliged to the hon. Member Shri Mahadev Das for pointing this out to the House. Sir, agriculture is something, the pattern of which is not same everywhere. As has been rightly pointed out, America or England with all advancements cannot grow tea; in the same manner, with all over advancement we cannot produce all our pulse requirement here, however we may cry for it. Agriculture is even today largely a gamble of Nature. Some of the hon. Members said "Well, whatever improvement has been made in Assam in agriculture, it is not due to the Agriculture Department. You had a good crop this year because Nature was favourable". Sir, this is true not only about Assam, but also about all the countries of the world. Despite all achievements in science and technology agriculture still largely depends on favourable climate. Even in America if there is a continuous drought production will be affected despite all advancement made by the Americans in science and technology. Agriculture is, therefore, largely dependent on favourable climate conditions. As such, when we try to minimise the performance of the Department, we should not also over-emphasise that point as well. We must know where to strike a balance. Among the agricultural commodities which are deficit in this State and are imported from outside in substantial quantity are pulses, mustard oil, sugar and wheat. I recently asked for a note from the Statistics Department bringing out as to how much of these articles we import from outside. It is difficult to get a real picture about it because quite a large part of whatever is imported through Assam goes to NEFA, to our border, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur and sometimes even to Bhutan. Therefore, from the import figures of the Railways or steamer, it is not possible for one to ascertain how much is the real shortage. On the other hand, Sir, large quantities of mustard seed and even pulses grown here go out of the State; particularly, in case of mustard seeds, a large quantity goes outside the State for being crushed in mills in West Bengal. One hon. Member rightly pointed out that although the State Government recently put an embargo on the export of mustard seeds from the State, large quantities went to the neighbouring areas and some quantities had been exported through and from Dimapur in Nagaland. This may be true. By and large, our impression is that we can meet our internal requirement of mustard seed and pulses to the extent of about 40 percent from our internal production. I do not deny that there is scope for increasing cultivation of these crops despite difficulties. But, Sir, these crops can be cultivated only in high lands or in char lands; loomy soil is necessary to grow these crops. The topography and climate of our State is such that it is more favourable for wet-paddy and jute cultivations. Therefore, our scope of growing pulses and mustard seed is limited. In Lower Assam almost all the areas near the riverside are now utilised for growing pulses and mustard seeds. This condition extends more or less right up to Majuli. I wish this is true about Upper Assam where there is considerable scope for extending cultivation of mustard

seeds and pulses in the river areas. Sir, unfortunately or fortunately most of the high lands being under cultivation of tea, the same are not available for cultivation of mustard seeds, pulses or sugar cans. However, the State Government have been taking steps to extend cultivation of these and such items for which we depend largely on import from outside the State. The Department is trying to propagate improved varieties of pulses and mustard seeds. I very much welcome the suggestion of Shri Mahadev Das that the Government should examine whether we can take up Package Programmes for increasing the production of pulses and mustard seeds. I thank him very much for it. I assure the hon. Member that we will examine it and, if feasible, we will try to do it.

Sir, with regard to the Package Programme, I have not got really very much to say, more than what has already been conveyed to the House by the hon. Minister about it. I requested the Agriculture Commissioner to make an independent survey of the programme and its achievement in the district of Cachar. He did so and submitted a report to the State Level Committee for consideration. I can tell the House, Sir, that his report had struck a very favourable note. In fact, I myself was at one stage very diffident about the success of the Package Programme in Cachar and the Rice Package Programmes in the other districts. His note had been a source of great encouragement to me even. We have found that in a number of matters we have been able to break the barriers. I can say, Sir, we have been able to make a good beginning. I hope, with the help of the hon. Members of this House who are associated with the Mohkuma Parishads and Panchayats and non-official leaders we will be able to achieve more in this direction. Sir, in this connection I will like to remind the hon. Members of this House that as a result of the recommendations of the Study Team and the changes effected in the Panchayat Act the pattern of the Agriculture Department and its programmes have undergone considerable changes. Now, the hon. Members of this House as well as the non-officials in the Panchayats have been brought in for active participation for the fulfilment of the Programmes and the targets. It is known to the hon. Members that the Production Sub-Committees of the Mohkuma Parishads are, more or less, in charge of agricultural productions in each of the Mohkumas, and in the body the hon. Members of this august House are also members. It is no use now putting like the shuttle-cock, the blames, for failures, if any, back to the Department, and go on criticising us. It is, after all, their duty also, not only to review the programmes at the Subdivisional level but also to take greater interests and provide active leadership for realising these objectives. I had shown before this House in that part of my speech which I had delivered before lunch the terrific condition that is likely to happen if we fail to achieve the targets of production by the end of the Fourth Plan or thereafter. Shri Gouri Shankar Roy, the Member from Katlicherra was saying that in the working of the Package Programmes the Mohkuma Parishads have not been associated. Sir, the Agriculture Commissioner tells me that during his visit to Cachar District he met the members of the three Mohkuma Parishads on different dates and tried to explain to them the various programmes. Apart from this, Sir, there seems to be some misconception in the mind of the hon. Member who is also the President of the Hailakandi Mohkuma Parishad. In fact, the Mohkuma Parishad is answerable for the success or failure of a large part of the programmes under Agriculture under the law itself.

The hon. Member would do well in taking greater interest in the Agriculture programme and also in knowing more about the Act, in the passing of which he himself was a party and under which he holds office as the President of the Mohkuma Parishad. Sir, Shri Prabin Choudhury was saying that the Veterinary Department had decided to recruit some Doctors from outside the State and he thought: if we would do so what would be the future of the boys of the State? Sir, I understand reservation for the borns but I do not understand any reservation to unborns. The House came to learn from me this morning that there are vacancies of nearly 170 Veterinary Doctors and that a large number of dispensaries in the State have got to be provided with Veterinary Doctors. Sir, while I was going through one Assembly question I found that in a particular Subdivision out of 13 dispensaries 11 were without Veterinary Doctors. Does the hon. Member want so say that we should continue with this condition hoping against hope that some day we will be able to produce children who will become Veterinary Doctors and we will put them in charge of these dispensaries? We may be in need of about 400 to 500 Veterinary Doctors in the Fourth Plan. How shall we meet these demands unless we agree to recruit Veterinary Doctors from outside to man these dispensaries and posts? Shri Akshoy Kumar Das was rightly urging upon the Government to have bigger programme in the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Department. How can we have bigger programme if we do not recruit Veterinary Doctors from outside to meet the shortage? The maximum number of doctors that we are likely to get from the Veterinary College is about 30 to 40 in course of the next one year but still there will be a big gap. Therefore, Government have been compelled to take steps, and I think it has been rightly decided to recruit Veterinary Doctors from outside in the interest of the State.

Sir, the hon. Member Shri Dulal Barua was very critical that we had exported some rice from the State. I do not understand the reason for such an attitude. When we were in difficulties we imported rice from others. We did so till the year before last. Large quantity of food-grains was imported from other States when we were in difficulty. So, when we had something which we could send to others, it was our duty to do so.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): On a point of clarification, Sir, I said that from the production figure given it will not be possible on the part of the Government to send this quantity of rice to outside. I did not say that rice should not be sent to outside. That was my contention.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: I am glad, my point is also not that. Sir, even after the export of last year we found that our godowns were considerably full with paddy. Even today, I can tell the hon. Members that so far as the godowns are concerned, there is no lack of paddy. It was not so last year and it is not so this year also. Our procurement last year had been one of the highest.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Then why there is shortage and scarcity?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Why it is so, I have already given two reasons for it. If there is rise of prices in the rest of the country there will be sympathetic rise here also, and if there is real scarcity elsewhere there will be a psychological scarcity here also although there may not be real scarcity. These are some of the reasons. Then there are transport difficulties and therefore, temporary scarcity of some articles and problems of distribution, like those as has been mentioned by the Finance Minister including dishonesty on the part of a large number of traders, etc. These are some of the causes responsible for occasional scarcities. These difficulties will have to be overcome.

Sir, I was rather staggered to hear a speech delivered by Shri Ramdeb Malah. On the one hand, he said that the people of his constituency had not even heard of the name of the Agriculture Department or known about the activities of the same Department and on the other hand he said that we should extend the Package Programme to his constituency. I say, Sir, precisely for this reason the Package Programme should not go to his constituency. Where the people do not know of the Agriculture Department and its programmes, and where the people have no urge for improving their lot, that is not a suitable place where the Package Programme should be extended. Sir, this morning I was asked what was the criterion for extending the Package Programme and I said that the criterion was the potential for increased production. That is the main thing on which we decide. But if the mental condition of the people was not conducive to scientific agriculture then this is not a proper place to extend the Package Programme. Any way on his statement this matter will not be decided; it will be decided on merit on the report of local officers.

Sir, I am really surprised to find that the same hon. Member was telling that the food produced by using fertiliser is not sweet, "Mitha kom hota hai". It is known, the countries which use fertiliser, their production is very high and our country is importing food from some of those countries. It is surprising that the hon. Member does not favour propagation for use of more and more fertiliser in our land. Sir, there cannot be a greater disservice to this country than to tell that fertilisers should not be used.

Sir, there are other criticisms, particularly, one relating to Mr. Stanley Nichols-Roy. He referred to arecanut and orange diseases in the State. In fact, he made a reference to arecanut disease in his speech on the Governor's Address but I could not reply to it on a misunderstanding and he made a grievance to me about this later on. I will therefore, like to give full information as to what steps we have taken so far in these two matters.

Orange disease.—A team of experts from Government of India visited Assam sometime in the later part of October, 1964. They did extensive touring within the State and went back with materials for further laboratory tests. We have not yet received their report and will now send a reminder. Meanwhile, we have started experiments at Burnihat in the lines of what have been done at Coorg where some good result is said to have been achieved. Further, on the basis of our existing knowledge and the discussion that we have had with the expert team from the Government of India we are laying out demonstrations in some of the selected gardens of the orange growers at Mawlong, Umwai, Wahlong, Buribazar, Sohbarpunji and Mahadev. We are also taking steps to lay down demonstration in other places like Pynursla, Pamshutia, Lumshnong, Nongtingor, Nongshken, Umsyiem, Umling and Burnihat.

Shri HOOVER HYNNEWTA (Shillong): On a point of information—may I know from the hon. Minister when these demonstration centres were set up ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: I cannot just now give this information.

This disease has been a problem almost all over the world where orange is cultivated and is caused by a variety of reasons. I am told even in America where organised research is being done over decades, no perfect solution has yet been found out. The disease can at best be kept under check and consequently the damage minimised. Here in Assam, the problem is suspected to be due to one or more of the following causes:—

- (a) Attack by virus.
- (b) Attack by Fungus and Bacteria.
- (c) Attack by insects.
- (d) Attack by Nematodes.
- (e) Lack of nutrients and micro-nutrients.
- (f) Natural decline due to over-age and lack of proper cultural practices.

I now come to discuss about the arecanut disease. The problem of arecanut diseases reported by Shri Nichols-Roy was investigated by the Research Officer, Regional Arecanut Research Station, Kahikuchi. He visited some of the important arecanut growing tracts of the southern slopes of Khasi and Jaintia Hills and submitted his report in December, 1963. According to him, the main problem was due to mal-nutrition and in some cases exposure of the roots, both of which were primarily the results of the neglect of the plantations. He also found some cases of attack of insects and diseases.

After obtaining his report and recommendations, they were circulated to all the District Agricultural Officers and the Block agencies, so as to help them to advise the growers properly. A number of demonstrations are also being conducted in the plantations of selected growers so as to bring home to them the benefit of manuring, spraying and other practices. So far demonstrations have been carried out at Sobarpunji, Umwai, Wahlong, Buribazar, Mahadev and Mawlong. Demonstrations are also being laid out in other places such as Tyrwa, Umsyiem, Pamshutia, Nongtingor and Lyngkhat.

Sir, I will also personally look into this matter and I can assure Mr. Nichols-Roy and also other hon. Members that if any further steps are to be taken in this matter, we will surely do so.

Sir, the other day a reference had been made of a private talk between me and Mr. Hoover Hynniewta by him about agriculture in hills. Sir, the problem of agriculture in hills is really a very difficult one. In fact, I have no shame in admitting before the House that we have not been able to find out a substitute for the Jhum cultivation. Jhum cultivation, we all know, is a pernicious system; it is doing no good to anybody; it is laborious; it causes soil erosion with trails of other consequences. But what is the substitute for this is the question. In fact we have been urging upon the Government of India to organise regional research on this matter and to localise some research stations in some parts of the State so

that the problem of hill agriculture can receive greater attention. As hon. Members are aware we are in a terrific shortage of requisite personnel for doing such kind of investigations and research. Unfortunately the Indian Council of Agricultural Research had not accepted our proposal to start such Research Station. I have written to Shri Subramaniam, Union Minister of Agriculture urging upon him that this subject should be placed again in the agenda of the Council and I should be given a chance to present the case myself. I can inform the hon. Members that on the insistence of this Government, the Government of India set up committee to go into the question of hill agriculture in the country. I am also a member of that committee. This committee had one meeting but since then unfortunately there had been no progress in the matter. I have reminded the Government of India that the work of this committee should be taken up expeditiously because unless and until we can find a solution for this problem so far as Assam is concerned agriculture in two third of its areas, *i. e.*, 73 per cent of our land being under hills, will remain backward. We cannot make any progress in 73 per cent of our areas, our agriculture is bound to remain backward. I am conscious of this but as I have said, Sir, that the technical know-how is very limited in our State. In fact, when I asked for foreign assistance, I made specific mention about hill agriculture. I asked for assistance for hill agriculture in particular. Therefore, I can assure the representatives of the hill areas as well as other hon. Members that Government is no less anxious for a solution of this problem.

Sir, reference had been made about Fisheries Department, but as the time is short at my disposal I would try to say as to what we propose to do in this matter instead of going into details.

Sir, the Revenue Fishery Department has recently been amalgamated with the Fishery Department.

Sir, I confess to the hon. Members that after its amalgamation, I could not get time to go into the detailed working of both the Departments. It has come to me recently. Therefore, what I suggest is—subject to further study and scrutiny, we have tentatively planned as to what could possibly be done for this department. Therefore, we are thinking of setting up a Fishery Development Corporation. Sir, from the days of British rule, this department had been under constant negligence. What happened ever since the time of British rule in the country, Revenue Fisheries were a source of income for Government without any investments. The Deputy Commissioners used to sell the fisheries with a large number of conditions—“You must not catch fish of this size”, “You must not catch fish in this way”, “You must not dewater a fishery”—all these things. But no machinery was provided for supervision or improvement or enforcement of these conditions by the Deputy Commissioners. So, there had been considerable neglect. Again, Sir, with the construction of embankments there appeared further problems. Sir, if we want to stop floods and to have fish at the same time we have got to take remedial measures and further investments are necessary. If we are to construct embankments, naturally it will not be possible to keep the entry of fishes from rivers to fisheries in its original condition. Sir, we propose to take the following measures:—

1. A detailed survey regarding boundaries, conditions, etc., of the natural fisheries will be conducted and schemes for their improvement drawn up.

2. The improvement of natural fisheries will be taken up according to a phased programme depending upon the availability of finance, technical personnel, etc.

3. The question of setting up of a Fisheries Development Corporation on the lines of a similar corporation functioning in some other State is being examined.

4. It is proposed to revise the legislation relating to fisheries and to modify suitably the terms and conditions of leases, etc., so as to enable preservation of fish and counter-act whole-sale exploitation of fishes without regard to their preservation.

5. It is proposed to make suitable arrangement for enforcement of the measures regarding preservation of fishes, terms and conditions of fishery leases and of legislations.

6. It is proposed to appoint a full time Director of Fisheries and efforts are being made to recruit a suitable qualified person.

Sir, while I speak about the Director of Fisheries, I hope, so far as the Fishery Department is concerned, hon. Members will not say that it is not necessary. Sir, the Department of Fisheries has suffered due to absence of a wholetime Director of Fisheries as well as insufficient financial allocations. At first the Fisheries (Pisciculture) Department had been in part time charge of the Additional Director of Agriculture; the natural fisheries were under the control of Revenue Department. Then the Pisciculture Department was put under the Director of Agriculture in addition to his work and duties in the Agriculture Department, now both the Pisciculture and Revenue Fishery Departments are under the Director of Veterinary. With a view to improve the working of the department and to execute the accelerated programme, we should have a full-time Director of Fisheries.

Sir, I now come to deal with the queries put by the hon. Member Shri Das from Barpeta. The hon. Member suggested that we should have some money for giving loans to people seeking improvement of agriculture or setting up fisheries, I agree we should have. But unfortunately our fund position being very tight we could not provide for the same. In fact, as I had said, one of the problems of agriculture is lack of investments. We should see what can be done in the Fourth Plan.

Now I come to the criticisms relating to the Embankment and Drainage Department. Hon. Member Shri Mohananda Bora referred to the erosion at Bihpuria town by river Dikrong. Sir, it was found that a temporary protection work would roughly cost Rs.2.5 lakhs and that if a more permanent work was to be done, it would cost more than Rs.10 lakhs. But the value of the property to be saved, it was found, would not be commensurate with the cost of such a protection work. Sir, further it was learnt that the erosion had since become less active.

The hon. Member also referred to the closure of the breaches in miles 36th and 42nd of the Brahmaputra dyke. Steps have been taken to close these breaches expeditiously and I understand, the works are in good progress. This area became unsuitable after the earthquake of 1950. So, dyke

could not be effective and there had been breaches repeatedly. This was a cause of worry for the Government. In fact, Sir, this subject was discussed in the last Flood Control Board's meeting and ultimately it was decided that the Director in-charge of the River Research Station would look into the problem. The Superintending Engineer (Eastern) Embankment and Drainage Circle had been directed to personally organise the works by camping near the site of works. I have been given to understand that the Executive Engineer and his staff are now camping at the site of works to see that the work is completed in time under all circumstances.

Sir, Shri Bora also referred about embankments being constructed only on one side of the river in North Lakhimpur Subdivision. Sir, I would like to say in this connection that there are embankments along both banks, at least in some reaches, like Ranganadi, Baginadi, Singra, etc., in North Lakhimpur Subdivision. It is true we have not got sufficient funds to complete many of the schemes including embankments in the States. Therefore, many schemes could not be completed. Some such embankments have now been taken up for construction, notable among them, the embankment on the left bank of Subansiri from Gogramukh to Selamukh, the estimated cost of which is about Rs.21.61 lakhs. Sir, as I had stated yesterday, some of the schemes suggested by him could only be considered in the Fourth Plan.

Hon. Member from Goalpara Shri Khogendra Nath Nath referred to about the protection of Goalpara Town. Sir, this matter was discussed during the first meeting of the Study Group on Erosion held at Gauhati on 8th December, 1964. The members of the Committee suggested that 5 numbers of stone spurs should be provided to prevent further erosion. Thereafter, a scheme amounting to Rs.56 lakhs was put up before the members of the Technical Committee for consideration. The Technical Committee examined the scheme in the Fifth Meeting of the Committee held on 8th and 9th February, 1965 and suggested that necessary survey for a model test should be carried out and details of the property to be protected should be assessed first. As no survey data were available for this reach, it was decided that this might be taken up immediately and carried out to the maximum extent possible during the current year, so that model studies could be made early. It was also decided to carry out some of the experiments by October, 1965, after which the extent of work to be done could be decided.

As per suggestion of the Committee, the Director, Central Water and Power Research Station had been requested to visit the site and suggest minimum data required. From all these it will be seen that we are not sitting idle.

Sir, hon. Member Shri Ram Prasad Das complained that due to bad planning, a scheme called Pakhajani Irrigation Scheme was unsuccessful. Sir, Pakhajani Irrigation Scheme, Phase II, could not yet be taken up during this year due to non-availability of land. I have been given to understand that unless the whole scheme is completed, benefits cannot be derived fully.

Sir, Shri Abu Nasar Md. Ohid alleged certain malpractices in the excavation of a channel connecting the Sonai river *via* Putakolong with Kolong Suti. Sir, there is no information with us about such alleged fictitious measurements in favour of contractors in this work. However, if any specific case is given to us by the hon. Member with details, the case

will be investigated on the basis of such materials made available. He also referred to about the Brahmaputra dyke from Silghat to Dhing. The Brahmaputra dykes are generally aligned about a mile away from the river edge, to avoid erratic bank erosion of the Brahmaputra river. If in certain reaches the embankment had been constructed nearer to the bank, that was due to public pressure. These facts will have to be kept in mind while deciding the objections of the hon. Member in the case.

Maulavi Abdul Munim Choudhury referred to about the Kakrakha embankment. Sir, the necessary detailed estimate for the work has been called for from the Executive Engineer concerned and on receipt of the same, it will be considered by the Government.

Sir, these are some of the specific major points which were referred to and I have tried to cover them. Some of the hon. Members, particularly Shri Pabin Sarma advocated for making increased allocation for Flood Control Department for which I thank him very much. I have given all necessary facts to the House and tried to reply to all the points.

I am glad that the House is now discussing the Draft Fourth Year Plan. My statement has preceded the major part of the discussion which is still awaited before the House. I hope that the points I have brought out in my speech will receive constructive considerations of the hon. Members who I hope will try to educate me and the staff of my Department on those matters. We do not claim that we are the votary of all intellect and this is more so for a person like me who has been allowed to assume the duties and responsibilities of those Departments having had very little experience of agriculture before I took over. Sir, I am amenable to reason and I would love to know more and more from the hon. Members and be profited from their experiences. I will be obliged, therefore, to the hon. Members of this House if they will please take up the points I had brought out in a constructive manner and give suggestions to us, so that we can improve the working of those Departments. Before I resume, Sir, I will like to say that many of the officers of my Departments have done some good works; they have considerably improved the working of the Departments. They deserve congratulation from us. There is a lot more to do, I hope, they will continue to extend more and more encouragement and co-operation and of course, a little more sympathy.

Thank you, Sir.

Shri BRINGTON BUHAI LYNGDOH, (Nongpoh, Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would submit that the announcement of no new taxation would have given much sense of relief to the people if not for the fact that the existing burden of taxation and the high cost of living are always very very heavy. In spite of that I would say that if the Government funds are used in an appropriate and effective manner the people will bear the burden cheerfully.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as my experience goes I regret to say that the public funds raised from taxation have been used in a very very unrealistic manner without going into needs of the local conditions of the areas. This is the real cause of discontent among the

people for the heavy tax they have to pay to the Government. Sir, I will give an illustration by confining to one example, namely, the work in the Community Blocks in the Hills. I am afraid that at this stage after long long years of the new form of Government of a Welfare State, a democratic State in which we expect that Government would have the full confidence, full share and consultation with the people, what we really see is that Government and the officers are sitting on the high tower castle and making allocations therefrom without going down to the people, without going to the areas and without knowing the genuine needs of the people. I am giving this illustration from the work of the Community Projects. Sir, a Community Project, in my humble opinion, is a basic factor for the development of backward areas, the hills of the State and of our country. Before we go for high industries and factories, I should say, first of all, we have to develop the minds of the people and here the Community Projects could play a very important role as they go right into the people and work with the people. This is the very best means to bring about this sense of development. This will give a progressive outlook to the people and they will be able to go ahead and look forward to big industries, factories and other big ventures. Sir, the whole idea is to get the cooperation of the people in which the whole basis of the work and the Project depends. Even here, Sir, the policy of Government is very wrong, for example, look at the allocation of funds. There is an allotment of Rs. 12 lakhs for five years for the Community Project and this Rs. 12 lakhs is quite a good sum and we can do many good things in bringing about development of the people in these areas if the allocations of the fund are directed in a realistic manner. Two days ago I happened to see the allocations of funds in the Mawphlang Block. There I saw that out of that Rs. 12 lakhs they received, the least amount of allocations was made for Education and Communication when these are the most important factors and most important channels by which the people can be developed. Sir, Education and Communication are the prime needs of the people. When a road is built, it brings immediate benefit to the people.

For Communication and Education the whole allotment for 5 years out of Rs. 12 lakhs is only Rs. 85 thousand and Rs. 60 thousand. So the rest, that is about Rs. 9½ lakhs out of Rs. 12 lakhs has been allotted to some almost useless channels, useless projects. As for example, Sir, take Health. Under this head the allotment is Rs. 1 lakh 25 thousand in the healthy Mawphlang Block area which is near Shillong. Compare this with only Rs. 60 thousand for Education and Rs. 85 thousand for Communications. Sir, I asked the Block Development Officer as to what he will do with this amount of Rs. 1 lakh 25 thousand, why so much money was allotted to Health? He said that most of this money will be used for building Dispensaries. I was staggered at this unrealistic approach of this Government. Sir, if you go about 25 miles around Shillong, you will find many Dispensaries where there is no Nurse and no Midwife. That is the way how Dispensaries are running. Recently I went to Pynthorkmah and I saw the Dispensary there without a Doctor. I saw the Dispensary building being used as a godown for paddy and other things. Why is it so? Because there is no Doctor, no Compounder, no medicines and yet the Government allotted Rs 1 lakh 25 thousand to be spent for building new Dispensaries and near Shillong. This is the way, Sir, this Government is misusing funds.

The policy is chalked out without consulting the representatives of the people and without really knowing the actual needs of the people.

I can cite another example, Sir. We have another allotment for Social Education of Rs. 70 thousand. I wanted to find out what is social education? I find that they will build one house where they will have some music or some games and such things. I see one such house at Umsning (Naya Bungalow) but I never see a single man going there. That is the way how the Government propose to spend this amount for social education whereas in the case of general education where the people have been trying by all means how to get funds, how much they pestered us for getting funds for them and how much we had to go to the Director of Public Instruction, we have to go to the Deputy Inspector and to the District Council for funds for the various schools. Another thing is that in the rural areas in this District of ours we have lots of schools where there are about 60 to 100 students with 4 or 5 classes in each school but with only one teacher. What does that mean? It means that that teacher has to look only to Discipline and no Teaching. Yet the Government is not alive to all these facts. They only want to build some beautiful houses, Dispensaries or beautiful halls for the youths but where no youth ever enters. I regret to see this unrealistic approach on the part of the Government to the real needs of the people. In this connection I would like to repeat that in allotting funds the Department concerned do not consult the representatives of the people. For example, in Mylliem Development Block we had seen the unrealistic allotment of funds so we approached the Government to change. We said that we did not feel much the need of a Dispensary or a Veterinary Dispensary being so close to Shillong and we requested that the amount be diverted to some other more important subjects like communications. For that purpose we had a meeting and passed a resolution in which we asked the Government to divert this 55 thousand to some other heads. When we approached the Department they refused. They say that the rules stand in the way. Yes, the rules are made to stand in the way of giving benefit to the people. This is indeed a very sad experience. I do not dispute the good intention of the Government but the way of doing things is very wrong—that old mentality of thinking that they are the only ones who know all things and that the people or their representatives know nothing still persists. It is really a sad thing, Sir, to see that funds are misused in this way not only in this District but in the whole hill areas.

Sir, another example about this kind of unrealistic policy on the part of the Government in the matter of Community Development, is that in Umsning (Naya Bungalow) Block the requirement is for 10 Gram Sevaks but in actual fact only 3 Gram Sevaks were given with the result that many areas which are planned to be covered by the Block could not be touched for want of staff. Attempts were made to draw the attention of the Department to this need but there was no response. They have no Overseer and other staff, yet many Block offices are allowed to go on causing wastage of public money. Another instance in this connection is the Mawryngkneng Block. This was started two years ago but on orders from the Central Government this Block could not function for not having the required staff, the Block Development Officer there is sitting idle and whatever existing staff is there, they also are sitting idle for two long

years. I do not know why the Government is sitting tight in these matters. I do not know why some sort of make-shift training system of Gram Sevaks could not be introduced just to make the Block function till the properly trained Gram Sevaks are available. In spite of all these defects the Government are still now bringing more new programmes and new projects in the Blocks. For example, they want to introduce rice package programme and nutrition programme. (A voice from the Treasury Benches—What are the names of the Blocks you refer to?)—Umsning Block, but this applies to many other Blocks also. My point, Sir, is that funds are being wasted and this applies to all other Departments also and this is so simply because the officials have still got that haughty attitude of 'knowing all' without trying to find out the really effective way of using these public funds.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : (Ringing time-signal bell) : Your time is up.

Shri BRINGTON BUHAI LYNGDOH : Sir, last time during the Governor's Debate I spoke for a short time and the Speaker was kind enough to assure me that I would be given more time during the discussion of the Budget. So, I request you, Sir, to give me some more time.

Now, Sir, I will draw the attention of the House to two urgent needs of this District. For the Hills the two greatest factors for development are the roads and the schools. Sir, we have been always trying to impress upon the Government to put away all other projects such as Sericulture and Weaving, Cottage Industries, Animal Husbandry, etc., and utilise all these funds for these two things. Sir, open a road you will find that all other things are coming up automatically. But the present practice of road making in this District is very disappointing. For example, Sir, the Umsning-Jagiroad¹ was taken up for construction by the Government thirteen years ago. This Umsning-Jagiroad is a life-line for the people of a large area because it connects Jagiroad of Nowgong District with Shillong-Gauhati line. Sir, construction of this road was undertaken thirteen years before and it is being worked only up to the fifteen miles and the work so far done also has not been properly executed. With this progress how can we expect that there will be any real development of road communications in this District? Similarly, Kamrup-Mairang Road was also taken over many years back but up till now only 15 to 20 miles have been completed and it seems the Government is not trying to complete this road because a bridge shall have to be constructed on this road. We want that this road should be included in the 4th Five Year Plan. So, Sir, this is the state of affairs in the hills so far as the road development is concerned which is very very important for the hills.

Coming to the schools, I may simply say as I stated earlier that there is a great need for schools in the hills. Sir, I remember to have seen in the newspaper that the Government is going for compulsory education and thus force people to go to school. But here the people want to go to schools, people are crying after schools but the Government have refused to give them schools. The attitude of the Government is not at all realistic till now. Sir, as I have told there are Primary Schools where there are about 100 students in one school with only one teacher for all five or six classes.

Sir, in this connection, I would like to frankly admit and appreciate what the Chief Minister did recently on the 5th of December when he visited the Bhoi area. When the Chief Minister found the need for the

road and the bridge over Umiam was great he immediately ordered for the construction of the bridge. Now within two months the construction work has already been started. Sir, if the Chief Minister visits the Umsning-Jagi Road he will see and realise the necessity of completing the road immediately and he would have passed necessary orders as he has done for the Barapani-Bhoi Road.

Now I would like to refer to another important matter. Sir, a very unhappy state of affairs is going on between the Government officials and the District Council. Just 10 days ago the Divisional Forest Officer of Kamrup issued a circular that the timbers coming from Jirang and Nongspung Syiemships should not be allowed to enter Kamrup District. Sir, this is a strange behaviour. As a result of this attitude the timber trade between these two Districts has been paralysed. This is because of a dispute with an officer of the District Council, the Divisional Forest Officer should not have issued this circular. Instead of settling the dispute the officer behaved very strangely as if we are dealing with Pakistan or with a foreign country on our border. Sir, is it right to strain the relationship between the District Council and the Government only because of the fault of certain District Officer? The Government should have examined this order. However, the Chief Conservator of Forests intervened in the matter and he had withdrawn the order. This is really a very unhappy state of affairs. Cannot the State Government treat the District Council as a younger brother? Among these officers there had been a sense of rivalry and a keen sense of competition. This is really a very unhappy thing that happened in this district.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please try to conclude.

Mr. BRINGTON BUHAI LYNGDOH: I am coming to the end. Sir, I would like to draw attention of the Government to one important matter. A very strong feeling amongst people of this district is going on for the manner in which the Military people are given preference in the matter of acquiring lands for their purpose. The Military people have taken thousands of acres of land without any consultation and without any knowledge or opinion of the public. They have now taken again 1,700 acres of land at Barapani and other 6,000 acres in Bhoi area will be taken. They have occupied almost all the fertile areas where there can be cultivation. If they are shown lands which are not fit for cultivation but fit for Military occupation, they do not occupy those lands. They occupy lands at their own whims. The State Government is not taking any step for the welfare of the Civil population. So, Sir, I cannot but mention all these things which are agitating the minds of the people of this District and I hope the Government would take necessary steps to ease the situation.

Lastly, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the sugar position. It seems sugar has been made available to the people of Shillong only, though the people of Shillong are not getting the required quantity. There is a great scarcity prevailing in the rural areas. In Jowai yesterday sugar was sold at Rs.4 to Rs.5 per kilo. At Smit which is only 10 miles from here, sugar was sold at Rs.3 or Rs.4 per kilo. Owing to the recent happenings in Shillong, sugar position is slightly improved here but in rural areas there has been a great dearth of this sugar. We know that the sugar has arrived in the Government godowns but I do not understand why the sugar is not available in the market which can ease the whole

situation of the District and step the panic that is prevailing in the minds of the people. So, Sir, I would draw the attention of the Supply Minister, who is however absent in the House, and I hope he would be informed that sugar should be released immediately whatever amount that has arrived here.

Thank you, Sir.

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) :

মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বিত্তমন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে অহা বছৰৰ কাৰণে যিখন বাজেট ডাঙি ধৰিছে তাৰ বাবে ধন্যবাদ জনাইছো। তেখেতৰ বাজেটৰ পৰা আমাৰ দেশৰ আৰ্থিক পৰিস্থিতিৰ এটা নিখুঁত ছবি দেখা পাইছো আৰু সেই ছবিৰ পৰা এইটো পৰিলক্ষিত হয় যে, আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা টনকিয়াল নহয় বৰং অস্থিৰ বুলিহে ক'ব লাগিব। বহুতো সদস্যই ঋণ সম্পৰ্কে আলোচনা কৰিছে। আমাৰ নিচিনা এখন ৰাজ্যৰ কাৰণে এই ঋণৰ ভাৰ বৰ বেছি। এনে অৱস্থাত যদি আমাৰ খৰচ কমাৰ নোৱাৰি আৰু সম্পদ বঢ়াব পৰা নাযায় তেনেহলে আমাৰ কাৰণে ই ভয়াবহ।

উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ই অকল ভয়াবহেই নহয়.....

Adjournment

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Order, Order. The House stands adjourned for 10 minutes for want of quorum.

(After ten minutes the hon. Speaker entered the Chamber)

Mr. SPEAKER : I am sorry that the House had to be adjourned for want of quorum. Yes, Shri Deb Sarma.

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই আৰ্থিক দুৰাৱস্থা অকল আমাৰ উন্নয়নৰ কাৰণেই ভাবিব লগীয়া এনে নহয়। ইয়াৰ লগতে যে আমিসমাজতান্ত্ৰিক সমাজ বচনা কৰিবলৈ ওলাইছো— তাৰ পূৰ্ণতাৰ কাৰণেও ভাবিব লগীয়া কথা। দেশৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক ভেটি সুস্থ আৰু সবল নহলে সমাজ ব্যৱস্থা দৃঢ় হ'ব নোৱাৰে। আৰ্থিক বিষয়ত মানুহ স্বাৰ-লক্ষী হ'ব নোৱাৰিলে আৰু সদায় আনৰ মুখাপেক্ষী হ'বলগীয়া হলে গণতান্ত্ৰিক সমাজবাদ প্ৰতিষ্ঠা হ'ব নোৱাৰে। সেই দেখি আমাৰ এই আৰ্থিক দুৰাৱস্থালৈ চাই আমাৰ প্ৰশাসনীয় খৰচ কমাৰ লাগে। প্ৰশাসনীয় ব্যৱস্থাৰ সংস্কাৰৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে যিটো কমিটি গঠন কৰিছে গুই আশা কৰো সেই কমিটিয়ে এই বিষয়ে চিন্তা কৰিব আৰু কমিটিৰ সিদ্ধান্তই আমাৰ প্ৰশাসনীয় খৰচ কমোৱাত সহায়ক হ'ব। বৰ্তমান অৱস্থাত গুই কও যে আমাৰ শাসন ব্যৱস্থাত দুতৰপীয়া শাসন চলিছে। একেটা বিষয়ৰ কাৰণেই Heads of the Department আৰু Secretariat এই দুটা স্তৰ ৰখা হৈছে। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাই অকল ব্যয় সঙ্কলেই নহয়— কাম কাজত লেহেম আৰু inefficiency বঢ়াইছে। আমাৰ Heads of the Department বিলাক আছেই। কাষেই, Home Department, Appointment Department, Finance Department আৰু Revenue Department ৰ বাহিৰে— অন্যান্য বাকী Department বিলাকৰ কাৰণে Secretariatৰ দৰকাৰ নাই।

কেইটামান বিভাগৰ বাহিৰে Heads of the Departmentৰ পৰা file বোৰ Secretariat লৈ যোৱাৰ কোনো দৰকাৰ নাই। কাৰণ Heads of the Department জন সেই বিভাগৰ expert তথা Technical expert বুলি ধৰা হয়। তেওঁলোকেই বিভাগীয় কামৰ সকলো আঁচনি কৰে; আৰু সেই আঁচনিৰ ওপৰত তেওঁলোকে কাম কৰে। এনে অৱস্থাত সেই আঁচনিখন অনুমোদনৰ কাৰণে আকৌ চেক্ৰেটৰীয়েটলৈ পঠাবৰ কোনো আৱশ্যক নাই। আৱশ্যক হলে Heads of the Department তেই দুই-এজন অভিজ্ঞ Assistant দিলেই সুকলমে কাম চলিব পাৰে। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে ধৰক Education Departmentৰ Director বা Additional Director শিক্ষা বিষয়ত পাৰদৰ্শী আৰু অভিজ্ঞ লোক। তেওঁলোকে শিক্ষা বিষয়ক এখন আঁচনি কৰি সেই আঁচনি বা কামৰ File যেতিয়া Secretariat লৈ পঠাই দিয়ে তেতিয়া সেই File Secretariat ৰ L. D. ৰ পৰা আকৌ নতুনকৈ আৰম্ভ হয়। L. D. ৰ মন্তব্যৰ ওপৰতেই File ঘূৰি ফুৰে। এনেদৰে Secretary ৰ পৰা অনুমোদন আহোঁতে কেতিয়াবা ছয় মাহৰো অধিক সময় লাগে। কামৰ আঁচনি Heads of the Departmentএ কৰে, আঁচনি কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰাৰ ভাৰ Heads of the Departmentৰ ওপৰতেই। এনে অৱস্থাত বৰ্ত্তমানে খকা Secretariat ৰ ব্যৱস্থাই মাথো কাগজত কাম বাঢ়াইছে আৰু অযথা সময় নষ্ট হৈছে আৰু লগতে প্ৰশাসনীয় efficiency কমিছে। গতিকে মই ভাবো Heads of the Department ৰ ওপৰত বেলেগে Secretariat নাৰাখি Heads of the Department কেই কামৰ ক্ষমতা দিলে আমাৰ খৰচ কমাৰ উপৰিও আজি কামৰ যিটো লেহেম হয় সেইটো কমি যাব। বিভাগীয় বাজেট পাছ কৰি দিয়াৰ পাছত আৰু বেলেগে প্ৰতি কখাটোৰ কাৰণে Finance ৰ Concurrence কিয় লাগে বুজি নাপাও। Financial Rules আছে। এই Rules ৰ ভিতৰত পাছ কৰা বাজেটৰ ভিত্তিত Department এ খৰচ কৰিব। Rules ৰ ভিতৰত কাম কৰা হৈছে নে নাই চকু ৰাখিবৰ কাৰণে প্ৰতি বিভাগতে Finance ৰ পৰা এজনকৈ মানুহ দিলেই কামটো সহজ হয়। Finance Concurrence ৰ নামত অহেঁত কভাবে কাম পলম হয়। আন এটা কথা, File বেলেগ নকৰি একেটা File কেই Finance লৈ পঠিয়ালে কাগজৰ কামো কমি যাব আৰু কামটো সোনকালেও হব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই এই কথা কৈছো এই কাৰণে যে অনৰ্থক ভাবে আমাৰ কাম লেহেম হৈছে আৰু প্ৰশাসনত বেছি খৰচ হৈছে। অফিচাৰৰ সংখ্যা বাঢ়িছে। কাগজ পত্ৰৰ কাম বেছি হৈছে, Filed ৰ কাম কমি গৈছে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি আমাৰ দেশত শিক্ষাৰ প্ৰসাৰ হৈছে যদিও শিক্ষাৰ মান বাঢ়িব পৰা নাই। প্ৰাইমাৰী স্কুল বাঢ়িল কিন্তু লৰা অনুপাতে শিক্ষক দিব পৰা নাই। ৰাজ্যত একেটা স্তৰতে দুই তিনি প্ৰকাৰৰ শিক্ষা ব্যৱস্থা চলি থকাৰ কোনো যুক্তি নাই। Higher Secondary স্কুলত আমি আৱশ্যকী সৰঞ্জাম দিব পৰা নাই। আকৌ M. V. আৰু M. E. দুই প্ৰকাৰৰ শিক্ষা চলি আছে। M. V. শিক্ষাৰ বৰ্ত্তমানে চাহিদাও নাই। M. V. শিক্ষা পোৱা সকলে চাকৰি পোৱাৰো সুবিধা নাপায়। সেই কাৰণে M. E. আৰু M. V. দুটা বেলেগ শিক্ষাৰ ব্যৱস্থাৰ প্ৰয়োজন নাই বুলি ভাবো। M. V. স্কুলবোৰ M. E. লৈ ৰূপান্তৰ কৰিব লাগে। সেইদৰে Matric আৰু Higher Secondary আৰু Pre-University এই তিনিটা ব্যৱস্থা চলাই থকাৰ পৰা কি লাভ হৈছে কব নোৱাৰো। নানা প্ৰকাৰ শিক্ষা ব্যৱস্থাৰ ঠাইত এটা ব্যৱস্থা হব লাগে। শিক্ষা বিভাগে এই বিষয়ে যত্ন কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, স্বাস্থ্য বিভাগৰ তৎপৰতাৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ চাওঁতে চাওঁতে দুখন মেডিকেল কলেজ হল। আৰু এখন হোৱাৰ আশা আছে। মেডিকেল কলেজৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত আমি আগ বাঢ়িব পাৰিছো যদিও গাওঁবিলাকত চিকিৎসাৰ সুব্যৱস্থা হোৱা নাই। অৱশ্যে আজিয়েই চিকিৎসাৰ সকলো ব্যৱস্থা কৰা সম্ভৱ নহয়। ই সময় সাপেক্ষ। কিন্তু এটা কথাৰ প্ৰতি মই চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিছো যিটো কথা চৰকাৰে চিন্তা কৰিলে সহজে সমাধান কৰিব পাৰে। কথাটো হ'ল যে আমাৰ গাওঁবোৰত বিশেষকৈ পিচ পৰা অঞ্চলবোৰত প্ৰসূতি বোগত বহু তিৰোতাৰ অকালতে মৃত্যু হয়। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে এতিয়াই চৰকাৰে এটা কাম কৰিলেই—যিটো কাম মোৰ বিশ্বাস সহজে কৰিব পাৰে, গাৱঁৰ প্ৰসূতি সকলক সহায় কৰিব পাৰে। চৰকাৰে সোনকালে সবছ সংখ্যক ধাইৰ প্ৰশিক্ষণৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে আৰু প্ৰথমতে অন্ততঃ প্ৰতি Dispensary ৰ লগত ২ গৰাকী কৈ ধাই দিব লাগে আৰু পাছত লাহে লাহে প্ৰতি গাওঁ পঞ্চায়তত দিব লাগে। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা বাইজৰ বৰ উপকাৰ হব। মই এই কথাষাৰ মোৰ অভিজ্ঞতাৰ পৰা কৈছো। মাননীয় স্বাস্থ্য মণী ডাঙৰীয়াই জানে যে মাৰগেৰিটা অঞ্চলৰ কেটেটং Dispensary ত সেই অঞ্চলৰ গাৱঁৰ কাৰণে দুই গৰাকী ধাই দিয়া হৈছে। তেওঁলোকৰ দ্বাৰা তাৰ বাইজ ইমান উপকৃত হৈছে যে প্ৰতি বাইজে তেওঁলোকক দেৱীৰ নিচিনাকৈ শ্ৰদ্ধা কৰিছে।

মাটিহীন মানুহৰ কথা বহুত আলোচনা কৰা হৈছে। বানপানীৰ কাৰণে মাটিহীন হৈছে, গড়া খহনীয়াৰ কাৰণে মাটিহীন হৈছে, ভূমিকম্পৰ কাৰণে মাটিহীন হৈছে। শিল্পৰ কাৰণে মাটিহীন হৈছে আৰু Military ৰ কাৰণেও মাটিহীন হৈছে। দেশ বন্ধাৰ কাৰণে আজি মাটি দিব লগা হৈছে কিন্তু এই মাটিহীন সকলক মাটি দিবৰ বাবে চৰকাৰ বিশেষকৈ ৰাজহ বিভাগে sincerely কাম কৰা নাই বাবেই মাটিহীনৰ সমস্যা সমাধান হোৱা নাই। মিলিটাৰীৰ কাৰণে মাটি লোৱাৰ পাছত চৰকাৰে আৰু মাটিহীন সকলৰ ব্যৱস্থালৈ চোৱা নাই। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে কওঁ লিডু air field ৰ কাৰণে ১৯৪৪ চনতে (subject to correction) মাটি ললে কিন্তু তাৰ ক্ষতি পূৰণ আজিলৈকে নাপালে। মই নিজে এই বিষয়ে Under Secretary, Secretary, Minister, Military Estate Officer, D. C., S. D. C. আনকি Office Assistant ৰ ওচৰলৈ গৈ বাবে বাবে খবৰ কৰাৰ ফলত ক্ষতিৰ মাত্ৰা শতকৰা ৩৯ টকাহে আদায় দিছে, বাকী টকা আজিলৈকে পোৱা নাই। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও বছৰেকীয়া ক্ষতিপূৰণ বা মাটিৰ দামো পোৱা নাই। ১৯৫০ চনৰ ভূমিকম্পত বিহ্বল শদিয়াৰ লোকক টিৰাপত বহুৱালে হয় কিন্তু আজিলৈকে পঢ়া পোৱা নাই। টোজিৰাহী হিচাপে চলি আছে। এতিয়া Settlement চলি আছে আৰু ৰাইজে ভয়ও কৰিছে কিজানি তেওঁলোকে মাটি নেপায়। কৃষকৰ কোনো Organisation নাই, Labour Union আদিৰ দৰে। সেই বাবে চৰকাৰে তেওঁলোকৰ দাবী আওকাণ কৰি আছে। তেওঁলোকৰ আজি সংগঠিত Organisation থকা হ'লে চৰকাৰে এনেদৰে আওকাণ কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে হেতেন।

আমাৰ ইয়াত শিল্প হব ধৰিছে আৰু তাৰ বাবে শিল্পমন্ত্ৰীক ধন্যবাদ জনাইছো। এইটো কথা ঠিক। মানুহ গঢ়ি শিল্প কৰিব নোৱাৰে, শিল্প কৰিছে মানুহ গঢ়িব লাগিব। স্থানীয় প্ৰশিক্ষণ প্ৰাপ্ত মানুহ নাথাকিলে বাহিৰৰ পৰা মানুহ আহি শিল্পত কাম কৰিব কিন্তু স্থানীয় বেকাৰ সমস্যা বাঢ়ি যাব। শিক্ষিত ডেকা যেতিয়া বেকাৰ হৈ পৰিব তেতিয়া বিদ্রোহী হৈ পৰিব আৰু সেয়ে হলে উদ্যোগিক প্ৰচেষ্টা আৰু দেশৰ শান্তি ব্যাহত হব। সেই দেখি শিল্প প্ৰসাৰণৰ

গতিৰ লগত মিলি যোৱাকৈ অতি দ্রুত গতিত স্থানীয় লোকক কাৰিকৰী প্ৰশিক্ষণ দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। যদিও কাৰিকৰী শিক্ষাৰ ব্যৱস্থা হৈছে তথাপি আৱশ্যকৰ তুলনাত কম হৈছে। সেই কাৰণে মই শিক্ষা বিভাগ, শিল্প বিভাগ আৰু বিত্ত বিভাগক অনুৰোধ কৰো যে আৱশ্যক অনুযায়ী কাৰিকৰ গঢ়ি তোলাত গুৰুত্ব আৰোপ কৰিব লাগে। ইয়াত প্ৰথমতে Investment বৰ্দ্ধকাৰ হলেও পিছত ৰাজ্যৰ কাৰণে অতি লাভদায়ক হব।

আমাৰ চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰী সকল যতে নেথাকক তেওঁলোকৰ ঘৰৰ সমস্যাটো এটা ডাঙৰ সমস্যা। তেওঁলোকক বদলি কৰিলে বহুত সময়ত অকল ঘৰৰ কাৰণেই যাবলৈ ইচ্ছা নকৰে। ঘৰৰ অভাৱ হোৱা বাবে দিনে দিনে ভাৰাও বাঢ়ি যাব লাগিছে। সেই কাৰণে চৰকাৰে যদি ঘৰ নিৰ্মাণ আঁচনি লয়, ই প্ৰথমতে ব্যয় বহুল হলেও চৰকাৰৰে লাভজনক হবগৈ আৰু ঘৰৰ সমস্যাও সমাধান হব। Phased programme হিচাপে হলেও এই আঁচনি লোৱা নিতান্ত প্ৰয়োজনীয় বুলি ভাবো।

Transport সম্বন্ধে এষাৰ কওঁ। এই State Transportত Maintenance নাই—নানা কাৰণত Transport ৰ লোকচান হৈছে আৰু যাত্ৰীবো অসুবিধা হৈছে।

বৰ্ত্তমানে দুটা Terminus ৰ মাজত থকা যাত্ৰীসকলৰ কষ্ট হৈছে। তেওঁলোকে Private Bus ও নাপায় আৰু Transport ৰ Bus ও নাপায়। সেই ফালৰ পৰা চাই মাজৰ যাত্ৰীসকলক সুবিধা দিব লাগে। আজি তিনচুকীয়া আৰু ডিব্ৰুগড়, পৰা গুৱাহাটীলৈ অহা আৰু যোৱাৰ কাৰণে গাড়ী আছে। কিন্তু ডিগবই বা মাৰগেৰীটাৰ পৰা যিবিলাক যাত্ৰী আছে, সেইবিলাক এৰাতি ডিব্ৰুগড়ত থাকিব লগীয়া হয়। গতিকে এখন গাড়ী যদি তিনচুকীয়াৰ পৰা Start নকৰি মাৰগেৰীটাৰ পৰা Start কৰে তেন্তে সেই যাত্ৰীসকলৰ সুবিধা হয়। এইফালে চৰকাৰে বিবেচনা কৰে যেন।

কানি নিৰাবণী আইন পাচ কৰা হল ; কিন্তু কানি আজিও চলি আছে। বিশেষকৈ ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাৰ গাওঁবোৰৰ অৱস্থা কানিৰ কাৰণেই শোচনীয় হৈছে। চৰকাৰে ইয়াৰ নিৰাবণীৰ্থে লেখাপানী আদি ঠাই চিকিৎসা কেন্দ্ৰ স্থাপন কৰিছে কিন্তু এই কেন্দ্ৰবোৰৰ বিশেষকৈ লেখাপানী কেন্দ্ৰৰ আৱশ্যকীয় অভাৱবোৰ মাৰিব পৰা নাই। মই আশা কৰোঁ চৰকাৰে এই কেন্দ্ৰটোক এটা উন্নত কেন্দ্ৰ কৰি গঢ়ি তুলি বাইজৰ উপকাৰ সাধন কৰিব।

Mr. SPEAKER : Shri Pulakeshi Singh. Your time is 15 minutes.

Shri PULAKESHI SINGH (Sonai) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I congratulate the Finance Minister for taking much pain to prepare the budget. Along with him I extend my congratulation to Shri Golap Gohain, Shri Sikandar Ali and Shri Mukheswar Rajkhowa. In the first case he produced 104 maunds of paddy per acre. In the second case, he produced 90 maunds per acre and in the third case, he produced 88 maunds per acre. I feel proud to extend congratulations to these expert cultivators as they are the actual makers and suppliers of materials for this budget. Because the cultivators helped our people by showing that so high an yield of paddy can be produced in an acre of land. They have shown

example how to increase national resources by exploring the untapped resources. It is they who should actually get the credit for their high yield of paddy in the State and not the Assam Government or Agricultural Department. In the budget speech of the Finance Minister he has stated that 25 thousand tons of rice has been exported by Assam Government to neighbouring States and for the Defence personnel in our State—so my opinion is that this credit for surplus rice to help others in need goes to the cultivators and not to the department alone.

Sir, in preparing the budget our Finance Minister has given great emphasis on agriculture and this morning and afternoon we heard a long statement on agriculture from the Minister of Agriculture, so I need not take much time of the House in discussing agriculture, but still, I would like to give a few suggestions. Sir, in our recent visit to the South the Chief Minister of Orissa was kind enough to show the agricultural activities in that State, especially by the efforts of the Regional Training *cum* Research Institute organised in collaboration with the Government of India (Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury—No collaboration.) In this Research Station very interesting work has been done. In seed multiplication, they have showed that half a pound of paddy can produce seven maunds of paddy seed. In Assam we have some model farms but practically we have not been able to produce more seeds. So it will be timely for our State if we take the method of Orissa.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) :

The Central Rice Research Station at Cuttack is supposed to examine and release seeds which we are supposed to reproduce in our State.

Shri PULAKESHI SINGH : It is reported that they had sent samples to our State. Another thing is that to this Rice Research *cum* Training Station in Cuttack only one officer had been deputed so far for training, until and unless we send more officers for training there, how can we expect better result in rice production? Our officers should have opportunity to avail of this scope for training.

Coming to industries, we must admit the fact that from nothing now we have a lot of industries in our State and a lot of projects are going to be set up. But in taking up industrialisation programme which aims to utilise surplus labour forces from Agricultural sector, efforts should be made to set up industrial projects by removing regional disparity.

Sir, I am pointing out with great sorrow that Mr. Speaker was kind enough to send a team of M. L. As. in the last year for visiting different industrial areas of the State. But, we are sorry that this tour was confined to only some districts and not to my district. Sir, in my district no industry has yet come into being in spite of having great resources. We are hearing of a number of industrial concerns for the last 5 years like Manjushri, Balmerhawrie, Rohtak, Meghena, and Kalimpong, etc., which are not coming forward for want of proper power supply and for bad communication. Sir, we are expecting that the power line from the Umiun Hydel Project will reach our region. The State Electricity Board is ambitious to extend the line upto Tripura which covers a distance of 250 or 275 miles. Sir, I hope that this line will also feed the tea belts. Sir, many of tea estates are dying out for want of power. Because, they are utilising coal dust at a higher cost and they require a large quantity of

cheaper power. Our State has also some commitment to supply power to Tripura State. But, I am sorry, rather I am afraid, how the State Electricity Board will be able to supply power to such an extensive area from such a distance. Moreover, this line goes through the region where the tension from the Rani Gaidalu's gangs, Naga hostiles and East Pakistan border troubles are active. Sir, without proper supply of power, no industrialists will come forward. So, I have also suggested in the debate on the Governor's Address that there should be some thermal project in Badarpur.

Sir, the Minister of Industries pointed out that there is dearth of coal in this region. Sir, I would like to say in this connection that in 1962, I gave a sample of coal to Shri Sarao, the then Secretary for Industries. He was pleased to accept the sample and assured me that he would send the sample to the respective department for survey and investigation. But I do not know what has happened about that. Sir, I may say in this connection that there is a vast coal field in Dholai, which is in my constituency. The coal obtained from this place is of first class quality.

Then, Sir, coming to the question of communication, I would like to say that for want of good communication, industries in our region are not developed. This is the main reason why there is no development in the Central Sector also. Sir, I cannot understand why the Road Department under the Chief Minister has not taken proper steps for the border and connecting roads in this region. Sir, in every session of this House, many hon. Members of our region pointed out this aspect on the floor of this House. Sir, regarding communication, it has been noticed that from 31 to 40 i.e., only 10 National Highways were taken up in our State. Sir, the road from Shillong to Silchar which connects Mizo Hills, North Cachar, Manipur and Tripura is a very important road, specially in consideration of defence and other purposes. Sir, I find no reason why this link road is not taken up under the National Highway Scheme. Sir, it is a known fact that our Chief Minister is the member of the National Development Council. There may be paucity of funds in our State, but the Chief Minister could have placed and convinced the National Development Council for this road. Sir, I have also pointed out this matter in my speech made on the Governor's Address. Sir, in consideration of enforcing our activities in the Mizo Hills and for other defence purposes, this road should be taken up in the National Highways Scheme. Sir, the hon. Members will be astonished to know that there is only one rail line to our region and that line is also not properly maintained. While passing the bridge on Barak near Badarpur, the drivers have to report to the officer concerned that they are not responsible for any risk. This was done by the railway authority. Sir, the bridge over the Barak at Badarpur is very old—it is about 80 years old. So, I request the Industry Minister and the Chief Minister to make provision, at least, in the Fourth Plan, for another bridge over the Barak.

Mr. SPEAKER : Your time is up. You may get only two minutes more.

Shri PULAKESHI SINGH : Sir, it has been customary for me to make my speech in the last hour of the discussion. How can I finish my speech in two minutes ?

Another point I like to mention in this connection is that in the Governor's Address it is stated that allocation of 35 lakhs has been ear-marked for Mizo District for subsidy of rice transport. Moreover, every year Government of India and State Government have to sanction a large sum of money after Mautam Operation for this district. Sir, even in this tightened up programme where the Finance Minister is finding so much difficulty, Rs. 1,80 lakhs as a special programme have been provided for this district. So, I suggest that our Industry Minister (who is also Planning Minister) and the Chief Minister should press the Planning Commission, National Development Council and the Railway Authorities to extend the railway line up to the foot-hills of Mizo district and the road up to Aijal be taken under the National Highway Scheme, which will minimise a huge expenditure.

Sir, there is a bridge at Katakhal. This bridge is also in a bad condition. Sir, it is reported that some thirty-five lakhs have been ear-marked in the Fourth Plan for the construction of a bridge over Katakhal. I request the Government to give priority to the bridge as this is the only bridge which links Silchar-Aijal with Hailakandi-Karimganj and Tripura. Regarding the other bridge over Katakhal at Matijuri, I do not know what will be its fate. Sir, most of the hon. Members of this House know how difficult it is to cross this bridge under Railway control. When the train from Silchar side comes, every vehicle has to stand 30 to 40 minutes before crossing this bridge because the gates are closed. In between 14 miles there is no telephone or telegraphic communication. So, Sir, considering this aspect, the Katakhal Railway-cum-P. W. D. bridge should also get more priority.

Sir, regarding Panchayat, the success is remarkable. Our Panchayat Minister has mentioned that 69 per cent of our elections have been over without contest. If we have spent only Rs. 5 lakhs on election then this means that we have saved Rs. 12 lakhs. The success of the Panchayats is so encouraging that our villagers are taking up Panchayats in a fit way.

(Bell rang)

Sir, regarding Supply. In most of the shops and sweetmeat shops, generally sugar is given on permits. But it is strange that whenever there is scarcity of sugar the stall-keepers charge exorbitant price of sweets at their whims. I do not know if there is any control over the sweetmeat shops but I think Government should exercise some control over them.

Mr. SPEAKER: Your time is up.

Shri PULAKESHI SINGH : Regarding Education, Sir, our Finance Minister also stated that girl's education has been given some emphasis. Sir, I would like to suggest that special provision be made to N. C. C. In addition, moral education should be imparted to the students like the Missionary schools. Now-a-days there are large number of incidents due to indiscipline among the students. Because we are morally not developed. Unless moral education is given to the students we cannot expect them to be better citizens.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Your time is up. Yes, Mr. Sarm a.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Bokahat): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বিত্ত মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে আধিক সংকটৰ সময়ত কোনো কৰ কাটল নোহোৱাকৈ যি বাজেট ডাঙি ধৰিলে তাৰ কাৰণে তেখেতক ধন্যবাদ জনালো। বাজেটত প্ৰতি বছৰে কিছুমান পিচ পৰা অঞ্চলত উন্নতিৰ আঁচনি দেখুৱা হয় কিন্তু কিছুমান পিচপৰা অঞ্চলৰ নাম দেখা নাযায়। উদাহৰণস্বৰূপে গোলাঘাটত ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ পাৰত ২৯ মাইল dyke হ'ব লাগিছিল। তাৰ কাৰণে ৰাইজে চৰকাৰলৈ বহুতে আবেদন কৰিলে—তাৰ ১৬ মাইলহে মাত্ৰ হল, ১৩ মাইল dyke বাকী থাকিল। তাৰ কাৰণে ৪০ খন মান গাওঁ এতিয়াও পানীৰ তলত থাকিব লগা হৈছে। শ্ৰীৰাও আৰু Central Minister এ আহি চাই যোৱাৰ পিছতো কোনো কাম হোৱা নাই। কাজিৰঙাত বছৰে বছৰে বান পানী হোৱা কাৰণে গড় আৰু অন্য পশু-বিলাক গুচি যাব লগা হৈছে। ধনশিবিৰ বান্ধটো বাগৰীলৈকে দিবলৈ দাবী জনোৱা হৈছিল কিন্তু তাৰ কোনো কাম হোৱা নাই। তাৰ বাহিৰেও শাসন ব্যৱস্থাৰ কোনো কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত শিথিলতা দেখিবলৈ পাইছো। মেডিকেল বিভাগত দোখবলৈ পাইছো গোলাঘাটৰ হাস্পিতাল বিলাকত আজি ১৪১৫ বছৰ ধৰি ডাক্তৰ নাই। চৰকাৰে এটা নিয়ম কৰা উচিত যে যিবিলাক অঞ্চললৈ ডাক্তৰ নাযায় তাত বিশেষ ধৰণৰ দৰমহা দি ডাক্তৰ পঠাবৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। গতিকে বাজেটত দয়া ইঙ্গিত মতে কাম হোৱা নাই। বুঢ়াগোহাঁঞিঘাট, আহ'তগুৰি আদি বহুত ঠাইত হাস্পিতালত ডাক্তৰ নোহোৱাকৈ চলি আছে।

শিক্ষা বিষয়ত কিছুমান ঠাইত কেবাখনো স্কুল আছে আকৌ কোনো কোনো ঠাইত এখনো স্কুল নাই। তাৰ ফলত কিছুমান ঠাই আগবাঢ়ি গৈছে আৰু কিছুমান ঠাই পিছ পৰি গৈছে। গোলাঘাট মিকিৰবাং প্ৰজেক্টৰ কাম টেকনিকেল অসুবিধাৰ কাৰণে হোৱা নাই।

আমাৰ দেশত খাদ্যৰ যি অনাটন হৈছে আৰু খাদ্য সৰবৰাহৰ কাৰণে যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে তাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰক ধন্যবাদ জনাওঁ। কিন্তু cash crop ৰ কাৰণে যি ব্যৱস্থা ল'ব লাগে সেইটো লোৱা হোৱা নাই। কুহিঁয়াৰ, মৰাপাটৰ, ক্ষেত্ৰত কিছু আগবাঢ়ি গৈছে কিন্তু এই cash crop ৰ কাৰণে যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে সেইটো কৰা হোৱা নাই। যদিও কোনো কোনো ব্যৱস্থা লোৱাৰ আঁচনি আছেও তথাপি সেই মতে কাম হোৱা নাই। কুহিঁয়াৰ বোঁছ বকমে কৰিবৰ কাৰণে যিটো ব্যৱস্থা হ'ব লাগিছিল সেইমতে হোৱা নাই। কিন্তু এইটো কথা ঠিক যে, এই বছৰ গোলাঘাটত ১০ দহ লাখ মোণ কুহিঁয়াৰ পেৰা হৈছে।

আজি আমাৰ দেশত নিৰনুৱা সমস্যা এটা ডাঙৰ সমস্যা হৈ পৰিছে। এই সমস্যা গাঁৱত বিশেষকৈ নৱম দশম মানলৈ পঢ়া লোকৰ ভিতৰত বৰ বেছি। তৃতীয় পৰিকল্পনাত যিমান নিৰনুৱা আছিল তাৰ আধাও শেষ হোৱা নাই। চতুৰ্থ পৰিকল্পনাত আৰু হ'ব। Economic utility নোহোৱা বাবে চাহ বাগিচাত retrench কৰিব ধৰিছে। নেষেৰিটিং আৰু বালিজান বাগিচাত নটিচ দিছে, গটঙাত ৩০০ বনুৱা খেদিছে আৰু ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰ চাহ কোম্পানীয়েও নটিচ দিছে। আটাই বোৰক যদি খেদি দিয়ে তেনেহলে এটা chaos হ'ব। সেই বাবে তদন্ত কৰিব লাগে এই বোৰ বাগিচাৰ অৱস্থা সঁচাকৈয়ে বেয়া হয় নে নহয়।

শিল্পৰ বিষয়ে এটা স্পষ্ট নীতি চৰকাৰে গ্ৰহণ কৰিব লাগে। ভাৰত চৰকাৰে যি নীতি গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে সেই মতে Monopolist সকলক নেমাতি বাজহুৱা খণ্ডত বা সমবায় ভিত্তিত কৰিব লাগে। দ্বিতীয় চেণি কলৰ বাবে এটা All India টিম আহিছিল আৰু আমাৰ সমবায় বিভাগৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰিছেনে নাই নেজানো।

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Private sector ত

হব।

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA: যদি Private খণ্ডত হয় তেনেহলে ভাল কথা নহব। চৰকাৰে ভালকৈ পৰীক্ষা কৰা উচিত যে যিবিলাক শিল্পৰ দ্বাৰা মানুহৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা উন্নত হব আৰু একগোট কৰি ৰাখিবৰ সুবিধা হয় তেনেবোৰ শিল্প চৰকাৰী নীতি হিচাবেও সমৰ্থন খণ্ডত কৰা নিতান্ত দৰকাৰ। অসমত চেনিৰ বাহিৰে অন্য শিল্প সমৰ্থন খণ্ডত নাই। নৰাপাট কল এতিয়াও হোৱা নাই। সমৰ্থন খণ্ডত কেইটামান ধান কল হোৱাৰ কথা আছিল সিও হোৱা নাই। অন্যহাতে শিল্পপতি সকল বাহিৰা মানুহ আৰু তেওঁলোক অসমৰে বাহিৰা মানুহ। আমাৰ স্থানীয় মানুহক বিশেষ স্থান দিব খোজা নাই। এনেকৈ হলে নিৰনুৱা সমস্যা কেনেকৈ সমাধান হব?

সমৰ্থন বিভাগৰ ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ যি ধাৰণা হব লাগে সেইটো হোৱা নাই যেন লাগে। যোৱা দৰমহা কমিটিয়ে এই বিভাগৰ প্ৰতি যি আচৰণ দেখুৱালে সেইটো ভাল হোৱা নাই। মেহতা কমিটিৰ পৰামৰ্শ সমূহ কাৰ্য্যকৰী নকৰাত অসন্তোষৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। সমৰ্থন বিভাগে যিদৰে আগবাঢ়িব লাগিছিল সেইদৰে পৰা নাই। যি সময়ত বস্ত্ৰৰ অভাৱ হৈছিল সেই সময়ত ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ নগৰ আৰু চাহ বাগিচাত Consumers Co-operative গঠন কৰিব লাগিছিল। তেতিয়া সমৰ্থন খণ্ডত আগবঢ়াব লগতে শিল্পবোৰো সুবিধা হ'লহেঁতেন। অৱশ্যে কিছুমান Bogus কমিটি গঠন কৰি চৰকাৰৰ পৰা টকা নিছে। গোলাবাটত কুহিয়াৰ উৎপাদন কৰিব বুলি এখন কমিটিয়ে ১৬ লাখ টকা নিলে কিন্তু আজিলৈকে একো কাম হ'ব নাই। চৰকাৰে এই বোৰৰ প্ৰতি চোকা দৃষ্টি ৰাখিব লাগে। আজি আমি মাজবানী সমাজ গঠন কৰিবলৈ বিছাৰিছো যেতিয়া সমৰ্থন ক্ষেত্ৰত আৰু শিল্পৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত বিশেষ মনোযোগ দিব লাগিব।

Mr. SPEAKER: Any hon. Member wants to take part? (*A Voice:* It is almost 4-30 p.m. Sir.)

Adjournment

The Assembly then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Tuesday, the 16th March, 1965.

Shillong:

The 19th November, 1965. }

R. C. CHAUDHURI
Secretary,
Assam Legislative Assembly.

