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# Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

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

BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

No. 20

The 30th March, 1963



सत्यमेव जयते

1964

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PRINTED AT THE ASSAM GOVERNMENT PRESS  
SHILLONG

**Proceedings of the Fourth 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 10 a.m.  
on Saturday, the 30th March, 1963

PRESENT

**Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY, B.L.**, Speaker in the  
Chair, ten Ministers, three Ministers of State, three Deputy Ministers and  
seventy-four Members.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**STARRED QUESTIONS**

(To which oral answers were given)

*Re: Panchayat Head Office*

**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)** asked :

\*92. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Development and Panchayats be pleased to state—

- (a) The need of keeping the Panchayat Head Office at Shillong ?
- (b) Whether Government will consider to shift it to any of the Plains districts ?
- (c) If not, why not ?

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Community Development and Panchayats)** replied:

92. (a)—To effect proper co-ordination amongst the various Development Departments for Panchayat works it is necessary that the Head Office of Panchayat should be at Shillong.

Besides, there is also financial implication. At present, both the Secretariat and Directorate are under the same set of Officers and as a result there is a saving of public money.

(b) & (c)—Do not arise.

†**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat)**: Did the Government consider that the people's participation is highly essential for implementation of this scheme ?

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Panchayat)**: Yes, people's participation is essential but if the Directorate and Secretariat are located at Shillong the same set of officers can function. There is no difficulty in the plains because there are Anchalik Panchayats and Mohkuma Parishads in Anchal and Subdivisional levels.

\*Speech not corrected.

†**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA**: Did the Government not think that the very object of this scheme has not been fulfilled because the office is located in Shillong far way from the plains ?

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Panchayat, etc.)**: No, we have got three Zonal officers one at Gauhati, one at Jorhat and the other at Silchar.

†**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA**: Sir, as the head office is located in Shillong there has been delay in sanctioning schemes and sending sanctioning letters. So does not the Minister think that maximum delay has been made for locating the office in Shillong ?

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**: Sir, we have de-centralised the power. The Deputy Commissioner can give sanction to the Scheme.

†**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA**: Will Government think to shift the head office to other places of Plains for better functioning and economy ?

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**: Sir, I have already said that if the Head Office is located in Shillong the management of the office can be left to the same set of officers and as a result there is saving of public money.

†**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)**: Whether Government has received any complaint to the effect that the Head Office should be shifted to elsewhere in the Plains district ?

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**: Sir, actually there is no complaint, some people express their opinion only.

†**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora)**: Whether the Government has received any representation ?

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**: No.

*Re: Parking Ground for Gauhati*

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati)** asked:

- \*93. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether the Government consider the necessity of providing a proper parking ground at Gauhati where trucks, buses and taxis coming from different places to Gauhati could be parked ?
  - (b) If so, what arrangement has been done so far in this direction ?
  - (c) If not, the reason therefor ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Town and Country Planning)** replied :

93. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The matter is under consideration.

(c)—Does not arise.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SHARMA (Gauhati)**: When this consideration will be finalised ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Town and Country Planning)**: Sir, this is very difficult to say at this point of time.

*Re: Rules of the Board of Revenue Act*

**Shri KHUGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)** asked:

\*94. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the rules of the Board of Revenue Act are already framed ? If not, why not ?
- (b) Whether the rule is being enforced ?
- (c) If not, why not ?
- (d) When it will be enforced ?

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

94. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, it will be enforced soon.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—The Rules will be notified as early as possible.

*Re: Production of Fish*

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati)** asked :

- \*95. (a) The total estimated yearly production of fish in the Government fisheries in the whole of the State ?
- (b) The total amount spent yearly for pisciculture and fisheries ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Fisheries)** replied :

95. (a)—The estimated production of fish from the Government fisheries and reclaimed fisheries and other schemes under Fishery Department was 9,070 maunds in 1961-62 and 10,080 maunds in 1962-63. The estimated production of fish under the schemes in the next year is 18,100 maunds.

(b)—The total expenditure of the Department on various schemes including staff during 1961-62 was Rs. 10.85 lakhs and the provision for 1962-63 was Rs. 14.32 lakhs. The recurring expenditure for maintenance of the Government Fisheries, including staff during 1961-62 was a little more than Rs. 85,000.

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SHARMA (Gauhati)**: Sir, the total estimated production of fish is shown as 9,080 maunds in 1961-62 at a cost off Rs.10.85 lakhs. So, it appears that the cost of production is very high. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it will be possible to revise the present practice or the existing system and introduce a new system so that maximum production can be made with minimum cost?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Fisheries)**: Sir, it is not an industrial unit that one should calculate like this that by spending this much one should have this amount of production; one amount should be divided by the other and then come to the conclusion that there was no economy or high cost of production. The work of the Department is of extension service in nature; lot of work is of the nature of propaganda. So, there can't be much direct bearing between the expenditure and the production. Production is a side business. The pay of the officer is also included in this amount. I have no manner of doubt that some of the schemes of fisheries need re-orientation and I am awaiting for the report of the Estimate Committee which is going into this matter. Myself also appointed a Committee earlier with the Secretary of the Fishery Department to examine the possibility of effecting economy in the expenditure in the Department. As soon as the reports are received a decision will be taken.

*Re : Food position of Assam*

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati)** asked:

- \*96. Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state—
- Whether Assam is self-sufficient in respect of food and more particularly of paddy?
  - If not, measures adopted so far to become self-sufficient in paddy? and
  - The total production of paddy in the years 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1961?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture)** replied:

96. (a)—Assam is marginally self-sufficient in respect of paddy. As regards other food crops, the State is somewhat deficit in pulses, oil-seeds and sugar.

(b)—A number of schemes such as research on rice, distribution of improved seeds, subsidised sale of improved implements, popularisation of compost, green manure and fertilisers, control of pests and diseases, subsidised sale of power pumps, minor irrigation, etc., are in operation all of which aims at increase in production of crops, particularly paddy. Over and above these schemes, some specialised schemes such as Package Programme and Intensive Rice Cultivation Schemes are being undertaken.

(c)—The total production of rice in the years 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1961 is indicated below (figures are provisional)—

1958-59	...	...	...	...	16,19,538	tons.
1959-60	...	...	...	...	16,17,907	"
1960-61	...	...	...	...	16,40,399	"
1961-62	...	...	..	...	16,49,720	"

†Speech not corrected.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SHARMA (Gauhati)** : Sir, the hon. Minister said that production from 1958 to 1962 is not increased inspite of spending huge money. May I know from the Minister what are the reason for which production could not be increased ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture)** : The hon. Member is referred to my reply to debate on 18th March, 1963.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora)** : What is the total production required to feed the people of the State ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** : It depends on how much we eat. Calculating that one man will consume 3 maunds of rice per year the annual requirement is 13 lakhs 50 thousand tons of rice.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SHARMA** : Whether proper inquiry has been made to ascertain how far the schemes are successful and how far these schemes have been implemented.

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** : Sir, the Estimates Committee of this House examined the working of the Department and submitted its report. In the meantime, another All India Committee *i.e.*, the Nalagar Committee also submitted another report. We have not been able to implement fully the recommendations in these reports. Therefore, I do not think there is any necessity for another inquiry commission.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding)** : Does the hon. Minister mean that the paddy production was more in 1958 ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** : I did not say so. I said we need 13,50,000 tons of rice for consumption. The question was how much we require for consumption. We require 13,50,000 tons of rice for coosumption ; plus this we require something for seed. Then pest and rats destroy grains. Taking all these into consideration, I said we were marginal.

**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)** : What is the total production of paddy in the Government seed farms ?

**Mr. SPEAKER** : How does this arise ? The question is regarding the food position in Assam.

**Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri)** : What is the optimum dose of ration per adult ?

**Mr. SPEAKER** : He said three maunds per year.

**Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN** : In terms of daily ration ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** : This question may be put to the Supply Department. I don't know how much they are issuing at present.



**Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN:** The Food Minister ought to know.

**Shri MOHANANDA BORA (Bihpuria):** The figures supplied show that there is increase in paddy production year after year. May I know whether this is due to intensive cultivation or extensive cultivation?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** Both.

**Shri MAHANANDA BORA:** The Minister said that the figures were provisional. Will the Minister try to obtain accurate figures by adopting some other method?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** In course of my reply to the debate in this House on 18th March, 1963 I explained in detail some of the difficulties which had arisen about our agricultural statistics and also the causes for it. I also spoke about the steps we had been taking in order to correct our statistics.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar):** May I know whether the statistics are collected by the Agriculture Department or the Statistics Department?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture):** There are two things. So far as collection of statistics with regard to acreage under cultivation is concerned, this was being done by the Revenue Department in the plains districts through mandals, kanungoes and patwaries. In the permanently settled areas and districts and in the Sixth Schedule districts, this was being done through the headmen. These figures used to be compiled by the Deputy Commissioners and sent to the Director of Agriculture, who used to publish them indicating the sources as the Director of Agriculture.

With regard to the yield per acre, this was done through a system called "sample survey", which was done jointly by the Revenue, Agriculture and Statistics Departments. Since 1960-61 or 1961-62, I am not very sure, the work has been transferred to the Statistics Department.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI:** As the figures are collected by the Revenue staff, may I know what are the criteria by which they find out the production per bigha?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** For this I require notice.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari):** Are Government aware that there are some food scarcity pockets in our State now?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** There are and there will be; it depends on the particular circumstances obtaining at a particular time. For example, the last flood caused widespread devastation in many areas and naturally there would be shortage in such areas.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED:** What steps have Government taken to supply paddy and rice to those areas?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** This is a matter for the Supply Department.

**Re: Muktapur-Borghat Road in Jowai Subdivision**

**Shri ENOWELL POHSHNA [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]** asked :

\*97. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the total amount sanctioned for improvement of Muktapur-Borghat Road in Jowai Subdivision for the years 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63 ?
- (b) What is the total amount spent for each year ?
- (c) Whether tenders have been invited for the work ?
- (d) To whom it was allotted ?

**Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY (Deputy Minister, Forests)** replied :

97. (a) & (b) —There was no sanction of any expenditure for improvement of the Muktapur-Borghat Road (which is known to the Department as Muktapur-Jaliokhola Road) during 1960-61. But during 1961-62, an amount of Rs. 2,405.00 was sanctioned and Rs. 2,215.00 was spent and during 1962-63, an amount of Rs. 14,400.00 nP. was sanctioned and Rs. 11,319.50 nP. was spent.

(c) —Yes.

(d) —During 1961-62 the work was allotted to one contractor, Shri Newell Bokston Kyndiah and during 1962-63 the work was allotted to another contractor Shri Mahim Barua. The tenders of both the contractors were regular and lowest.

**Shri ENOWELL POHSHNA [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]**: May I know whether the notification calling for tenders was gazetted or hung in the notice-board of the Subdivisional Officer's office or the forest office at Jowai ?

**Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY (Deputy Minister, Forest)** : It appears all the formalities were done.

**Re: Sittings of Pay Committee**

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora)** asked :

\*98. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) How many sittings of the Pay Committee were held up to this day ?
- (b) What steps have been taken so far as regards payment of interim relief to the low-paid Government servants ?
- (c) Whether Government has fixed any final date for submission of its recommendations to the Government ?

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)** replied :

98. (a) —The Pay Committee had two sittings, one on 12th August, 1962 and the other from 25th September, 1962 to 27th September, 1962. Due to the National Emergency the Committee could not meet thereafter.

(b)—The Pay Committee in its sittings from 25th September, 1962 to 27th September 1962 considered the question of giving interim relief to the Government servants and a report on the same was submitted to Government on 27th September 1962. The report is still under consideration of Government.

(c)—No.

(After the printed replies were read out.)

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Sir, this is the fourth time I have replied to these questions.

**Re: Implementation of the Assam Official Language Act**

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** asked:

\*99. Will the Education Minister, be pleased to state—

(a) What steps have been taken by the Government for implementation of the Assam Official Language Act?

(b) What progress has been made by Committees formed for preparing the Terminology of technical terms in Assamese?

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education)** replied:

99. (a)—Government set-up an "Implementation Committee" with a view to prepare a phased programme suggesting the manner and stages of implementation of the various provisions of the "Assam Official Language Act, 1960".

(b)—With regard to the preparation of paribhasa (terminology), the work was earlier entrusted to a person on part-time basis, who had taken up the work; but the Committee has now decided to appoint a person on whole-time basis as Compiler and he will be available in April next.

†**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** May I know how many sittings the Implementation Committee had?

†**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education):** Two sittings.

†**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA:** When can we expect the final report of this Committee?

†**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH:** It is not a reporting committee, it is an Implementing Committee. The Committee has decided that the first stage will cover the implementation of the Act at the district level and we are making preparations accordingly; that is to say, we have to prepare terminology not only for Assamese but also for Mizo, Garo, Mikir and Khasi languages. We have not done anything in case of terminology for Bengali as we expect to get it from the West Bengal Government. This is the first step. We are also trying to get typewriters prepared for Assamese as well as for Bengali. I am told Bengali typewriters are available. As for Assamese typewriters, we have been given a prototype and we are trying to finalise it.

†**Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara)**: Will the Implementation Committee look after the typewriter also?

†**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH**: No, but this is very important. Without typewriters it will be difficult for Government officers to do any work.

*Re: Shifting of the Jowai Post-Mortem Shed*

**Shri ENOWELL POHSHNA [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]** asked:

\*100. Will the Minister of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Director of Public Health has issued order for shifting the Jowai Post-Mortem Shed from the present site to a place near the Civil Hospital?
- (b) If so, why no action has been taken upto now?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister-in-charge, Medical)** replied:

100. (a)—No. The Director issued no such order. But he submitted a proposal to Government to sanction such shifting. Government approved it and sanctioned Rs.7,000 (Rupees seven thousand) on 16th March, 1963 to meet the expenditure involved.

(b)—Does not arise.

*Re: Gauhati Medical College*

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati)** asked:

\*101. Will the Minister of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government desires to start construction of building for Gauhati Medical College and Hospitals for the students?
- (b) If so, when the work will be started and the amount sanctioned therefor?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister-in-charge, Medical)**

101. (a)—Yes, undoubtedly.

(b)—The plans and estimates of the hostel buildings are expected to be ready by April next and Government will try to sanction the estimates as early as possible, so that the work may start by May-June next. For the College building also plans and estimates are being prepared and will be sanctioned too as soon as received.

Amounts as and when necessary will be sanctioned.

**Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY (Patacharkuchi)**: What is the amount of money sanctioned for the building purpose?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical)**: Sir, the total amount sanctioned for two colleges under the Third Five Year Plan period is Rs.1,55,00,000.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati):** I want to know what is the total amount sanctioned for Gauhati Medical College?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** I want notice for that question. So far I remember no separate allocation has been made.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA:** What is the amount necessary for the purpose?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** I cannot say that at this stage as the plan and specifications are under preparation.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA:** My question is that "whether Government desire to start construction of building for Gauhati Medical College and Hospitals for the students" and the hon. Minister has replied that "the plans and estimates of the hostel buildings are expected to be ready by April next and Government will try to sanction the estimates as early as possible.....".

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Sir, I beg to bring to your notice, a serious matter namely how the hon. Member could secure a printed answer. Sir, you realise that the hon. Member is reading from the printed replies. How he could get one?

**Mr SPEAKER:** Wherefrom have you got it; you must have taken it from some Ministers?

**Shri DEVENDRANATH SARMA:** I quoted from what the Minister has replied just now. I want to know from the Minister what is the amount to be spent for Medical College Hostel and Medical College buildings?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** How can I give the estimated amount unless the plans and specifications are approved by the Public Works Department and without knowing the rates fixed by them and the types of buildings that will be built. It will all depend on such information. Therefore, how much money will be spent and what will be the amount necessary, I am not in a position to say at this stage.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** Sir, may I point out one thing? How did the hon. Member get the replies?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I shall look into it.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat):** Whether there are any students in Gauhati Medical College at present? If so, where do they live now?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** When the College is functioning there must be students. The students are staying in different places at Gauhati town and its suburbs, but definitely not at Silchar. What a fine question to put.

**Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri):** What amount has been provided in the next year's budget for the Medical College buildings and Hostels for Gauhati?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** As I have already stated that the plans and specifications for hostel buildings are under preparation. ....

**Shri MAHAMMDA UMARUDDIN:** The Minister has said that the buildings will be constructed in the next year. How much money has been provided in the next year's budget as without providing money in the budget the Minister cannot spend ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** For the buildings about Rs.10 lakhs have been provided at the first instance for Colleges.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat):** Whether there is any temporary hostel arrangement at present for the students, and if so, where are they located ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** They are at different places ; one at Jhalukbari, one at Chandmari and there is another one near about Assam Tribune Press. I do not know the exact name of that locality, Sir.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI:** What is the distance from Chandmari to the Medical College ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** I think the Public Works Department Minister will be in a better position to reply.

**Shri GAURISHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra):** What will be the amount of cost for the land ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** It was near about Rs.10 lakhs of rupees. I cannot give the exact amount.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati):** May I know what is the total allotment for construction of buildings there this year ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Sir, I have already replied to that question.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI:** When the classes of Gauhati Medical College begin ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Does the hon. Member mean the daily routine ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Yes, he means the daily routine.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Sir, I think for different subjects the classes begin at different times, and routines are prepared by the Principal in consultation with the Professors in-charge of respective departments. So, it is very difficult for me or for a matter of fact for any-body here to give a picture of time table from memory of a Medical College. But if the hon. Member wants to have the routine, I can collect it for him, or ask the Principal to send a copy to him.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** He means the working hours of the College ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical) :** Sir, the students are required to be present from morning till late at night according to classes and subjects.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** From morning at what time ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** That I cannot say, Sir. There are both theoretical and practical classes. The work begins in the morning.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) :** Whether there is any arrangement for the lunch of the students near about the Medical College ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** Sir, there is no special arrangement. But there are restaurants, and there can't be any difficulty if one has the money, he can have enough of food for him.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) :** Sir, is it a fact that a deputation of students waited on the Minister very recently ? If so, what were their grievances.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** Sir, how does that question arise here ? This is a new question altogether.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** Mr. Mookerjee, if you can reply, you may reply. If you cannot reply, you may say that you want notice.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI :** Is there any conveyance given to the students for attending their classes ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** Yes, Sir. Some facilities for some of the students are there. This question also does not arise.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI :** Who pays for it ?

**Mr. SPEAKER :** That question does not arise. The question is concerned with the building programme and not for anything else.

**Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY (Patacharkuchi) :** Why Government is making delay in the construction of buildings ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** Government is not delaying. After the land was acquired, our architects were asked to prepare the model. That was prepared. Then the emergency period came ; there was a lull for about two months. I have already explained in another occasion that the architects came here and visited the site. Now, they have been asked to prepare the plans and estimates for the hostel buildings, and after this they will prepare plan etc., for the college buildings.

**Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara):** May I know from the Minister whether in case of a fresh emergency, the construction work will be held up again?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** Sir, what will happen in future is a hypothetical thing. It is not possible to reply. But I may say this much that if there be any emergency, and the situation so demands why this Medical College, but many other schemes will have to be put off. It may so happen that for national emergency we may not be able to assemble here even for such discussions being busy otherwise for protecting our people and mother land.

*Re: Silchar Medical College*

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) asked:**

\*102. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Has the site for Silchar Medical College been finally selected?
- (b) If so, where and when the construction of the buildings for Medical College would be started?
- (c) If not, why the site has not been selected till now?
- (d) When the Government propose to start the Silchar Medical College at Silchar?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical) replied:**

102. (a)—Yes.

(b)—At Ghungur. The programme of building construction will begin after the acquisition proceedings are finalised, the possession of the land got and plans and estimates are approved.

(c)—Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d)—As soon as the minimum numbers of buildings sufficient to accommodate the students, the staff, the hospital, the Laboratories, the Lecture theatres, etc., are available.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora):** Sir, how much time will be required to complete all these formalities?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** That I cannot say, Sir. There are several, some legal formalities to be observed. The rules are there; the land acquisition proceedings will take its own course; then survey of the land will have to be made; then the plans and estimates will have to be prepared and approved by the Public Works Department; funds will have to be provided; then tenders will have to be called so on and so forth. Ultimately, the progress of works will depend upon the availability of funds, materials etc.



**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** Why the Hon'ble Minister is giving the reply in such a zig-zag way, Sir ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** He is only explaining the procedure.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE:** Is there a Medical College named Silchar Medical College at Gauhati ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** No, Sir, the name of the College is Gauhati-Silchar Medical College.

**Shri PRABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East):** What is the amount earmarked for the Medical College.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** A total amount of Rs. 1.50 lakhs has been allotted for the Gauhati-Silchar Medical Colleges in the third plan period.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA:** How can the Hon'ble Minister say that no money has been ear-marked for the Silchar Medical College, Sir ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** No money has been provided separately for the Silchar Medical College but money has been allotted both for the Gauhati-Silchar Medical Colleges.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTABHARJEE (Katigora):** Are not any students taking admission in the Silchar Medical College ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** The name of the College is Gauhati-Silchar Medical College. (laughter)

Both the Colleges are functioning together at Gauhati.

*Re: Appointment of Eye-Dental Surgeons*

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) asked:**

\*103. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) How many consulting honorary eye-Dental Surgeons have been appointed in the State ?
- (b) Whether they are getting any allowance or remuneration ?
- (c) If so, who are they ?
- (d) How many of them are not getting any allowance and who are they ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical) replied:**

103. (a)—Seven.

(b)—One of them is getting conveyance allowance at Rs.200 per mensem. The question of the others are under consideration of Government.

(c)—Dr. B. Dowrah, Honorary Dental Surgeon and Lecturer, Assam Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh.

(d)—Six. They are—

- (i) Dr. G. S. Guha (Major I. M. S. retired), Honorary Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon, Shillong Civil Hospital.
- (ii) Dr. R. K. Chanda, Honorary Dental Surgeon, Shillong Civil Hospital.
- (iii) Dr. M. S. Dutta, Honorary Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon, Silchar Civil Hospital.
- (iv) Dr. R. Choudhury, Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon, Silchar Civil Hospital.
- (v) Dr. N. M. Guha, Honorary Consulting Dental Surgeon, Goalpara Civil Hospital.
- (vi) Dr. S. C. Das, Honorary Dentist, Tezpur.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora):** Who is getting Rs.200 p. m. as allowance ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** Dr. B. Dowrah, Honorary Dental Surgeon and Lecturer, Assam Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE:** Do the Government consider to appoint some more Dental Surgeons ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** That question is under consideration of the Government even without any request being made by the hon. Member.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE:** When will the question of giving honorariums to the Dental Surgeons will be finalised ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** As soon as we are in a position. Government are considering the question.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Mr. Mookerjee, you sometimes provoke hon. Members to put unnecessary supplementaries.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** When some hon. Member wants to cross-examine me, naturally Sir, I also feel provoked to give provoking reply. But I am always to the point.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati):** Whether there is any Dental Surgeon in the Gauhati Medical College Hospital.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** Sir, I have already given out the names of the honorary Dental Surgeons mentioning the places.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar):** Does the hon'ble Minister propose to appoint one in Jerhat Civil Hospital also, Sir ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** Sir, I shall consider the suggestion.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora):** Sir, whether the term 'as soon as possible' has any limitation or it is an unending duration ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** If you followed his reply properly, it would be clear that it depends upon the availability of suitable persons. Therefore, he says 'as soon as possible'.

*Re: Supply of Water in Gauhati Medical College*

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) asked :**

\*104. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that even today proper supply of water is still lacking in Gauhati Medical College Hospital ?
- (b) If so, reasons therefor ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that patients of Gauhati Medical College Hospital do not get proper supply of water and benefit of sanitary system of latrines ?
- (d) If so, what is the decision of the Government on this matter ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical) replied :**

104. (a)—No complaint has been received by Government regarding the supply in the new building. But supply in the old one is insufficient.

(b)—The old hospital buildings did not have pipes running through or along them.

(c)—No complaint has been received by Government regarding the new building. In the old building sanitary systems do not work properly for want of sufficient water supply.

(d)—Government have sanctioned an expenditure of Rs.10,000 to lay pipe-lines along the old buildings and to improve the water supply.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati):** Is it expected that the laying of pipe-lines in the old building will be completed during this year ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical):** If the hon. Members means by 'this year' the year 1963-64, then the answer is yes; but if he means 1962-63, then I am sorry, Sir, it can not be completed.

*Re: Sibsagar Tank*

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :**

\*105. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Health be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Sibsagar tank is one of the biggest and ancient tanks in Assam ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Sibsagar tank is the only source of drinking water of the people of Sibsagar town ?
- (c) Whether Government have received any representation from the people of Sibsagar to protect the banks of the tank ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that due to erosion and other defects, the waters of the tank receded abnormally this year ?
- (e) Whether Government proposes to improve and protect the tank within this year ?
- (f) If not, why not ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical)** replied :

105. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, but some people have other sources also.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—This does not appear to be due to erosion, but it may be attributed to the lesser degree of rainfall in the region of Sibsagar area in the driest months coupled with percolation and evaporation losses. The water has receded very abnormally this year due to the reasons as stated above.

(e)—The proposal is under consideration of Government. No effective measures can be taken up in a short period from the Public Health Engineering point of view within this financial year as proper survey and collection of various data will occupy at least three months without which full investigation will be incomplete. The Public Works Department has, however, prepared estimates amounting to Rs.4,05,700 for 1st phase and amounting to Rs.4,09,700 for the 2nd phase to improve and protect the banks and has referred the matter to Government in the Transport Department.

(f)—Does not arise.

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra)**: Will Government consider or be pleased to advise the Sibsagar Municipality to collect water from the Dikhau River instead of from the Sibsagar Tank.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical)**: Sir, I shall discuss this matter with the expert of my Department, if there is no difficulty that may be done.

**Mr. SPEAKER**: His point is that water supply should be from the river itself and not from the tank.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical)**: I shall look into the matter and advice of the department to do the needful if there is no reasonable obstacle.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)**: Will Government consider the question of clearing under-ground spring of the Sibsagar tank ?

**Mr. SPEAKER**: That has already been replied.

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA**: Whether the work will commence during the year, i.e., 1963-64 ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE** (Minister, Medical): Yes, Sir. That is an intention.

**Re: Supply of C. I. Sheets in Dhubri Subdivision**

**Shri ZAHIRUL ISLAM** (Mankachar) asked:

\*106. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) The quantity of C. I. Sheets distributed Anchalik Panchayat-wise from April, 1962 till today under Dhubri Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether any quota of C. I. Sheets has been distributed during the period by the Supply Advisory Board, Dhubri ?
- (c) If not, why not ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA** (Minister, Supply) replied:

106. (a)—The quantities of C. I. Sheets distributed Anchalik Panchayat-wise are as follows—

1. Golakganj	..	...	...	67 bundles.
2. Bilasipara	...	...	..	123 "
3. Chapar	..	...	..	51 "
4. Mankachar	..	..	...	82 "
5. Agomani	...	...	...	94 "
6. South Salmara	...	...	..	118 "
7. Gouripur	..	..	..	87 "

(b)—No, but in a meeting of the Supply Advisory Board in March 1962, the allotment as indicated in reply (a) above was made.

(c)—A small quantity of about 22 tons of C. I. Sheets was received during the period and because the quota was too small, a meeting of the Supply Advisory Board was not convened.

**Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN** (Dhubri): May I know from the hon'ble Minister whether there is any prospect of C. I. sheets coming this year ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA** (Minister, Supply): I have been repeatedly telling the hon. Members of this House that no new allotment has been made this time, not only to this States but to other States of India also.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** What about the arrear quota.

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA** (Minister, Supply): To that also I replied in course of answering supplementaries. I have not the figures with me, Sir, at this moment, that may be a huge one.

*Re: Need of qualified Overseers*

**Shri MAHADEB DAS (Bhabanipur) Reserved for Scheduled Castes** asked:

\*107. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B. Wing) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is need of qualified Overseers in the Public Works Department ?
- (b) If so, whether Government propose to train up the Grade III Overseers ?
- (c) If not, why not ?

**Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Minister of State, P. W. D.)** replied:

107. (a)—Yes.

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

(c)—Does not arise.

*Re: Deficit System of Grants to Schools*

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra)** asked:

\*108. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the deficit system of grants to the schools creates more complicacies to the schools as well as to the Government for which regular anomalies occur and for which teachers are deprived of getting their pay regularly ?
- (b) Whether Government will consider to pay a fixed grant monthly as was done previously and the amount found short or excess be adjusted quarterly or half-yearly ?

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education)** replied:

108. (a)—No.

(b)—Grant at the previous year's rate is sanctioned first for 3 (three) months. Necessary adjustment is made at the time of sanction for the remaining 9 (nine) months after calculation of deficit.

The printed reply at (a) should be substituted as follows:

(a)—Not to our knowlege.

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra)**: Is it a fact that due to non-receipt of order for the first three months, the teachers were half-fed ?

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education)**: That is a matter which is difficult for me to say. It may be that there may be some difficulties about payment, but in any case this is a matter which has been referred to the Secondary Education Enquiry Committee.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Is the Minister aware of the fact that in some schools the teachers are not getting their pay in time because of some irregularity in giving the Deficit System Grants specially when new appointments are made with the approval of the Inspector concerned ?

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education):** I am told, Sir, what happens if a teacher is appointed in the middle of the Session, then there is some difficulty in calculation because calculation is mostly based from the previous year. This is a hiatus which has occasionally to be remedied.

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA:** Is it a fact that generally the order is issued in the month of July for the first quarter ?

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH:** I will find it out, Sir.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding):** Is the Minister aware that in certain schools this deficit grant is in arrear from 1960 ?

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH:** It may be, Sir.

*Re: Soil Conservation Scheme at Lumshnong-Narpuh Forests*

**Shri ENOWELL POHSHNA [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]** asked :

\*109. Will the Minister-in-charge of Soil Conservation be pleased to state—

What is the amount so far spent for Soil Conservation Scheme at Lumshnong-Narpuh Forest of Jowai Subdivision ?

**Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T. A. D.)** replied :

109.—The amount spent so far for Soil Conservation Scheme at Lumshnong of Jowai Subdivision was Rs.51,731.60 nP.

**Shri ENOWELL POHSHNA [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** May I know from the hon'ble Minister whether he intends to visit the area in order to find out what improvement has been made in the scheme ?

**Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T.A.D.):** That, of course, I may do, but it will be difficult to assure him now.

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

*Re: Purchase of Paddy by Rice Mills*

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** asked :

106. Will the Minister of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the rice mills were allowed to purchase paddy from open market during the year 1961-62 ?

- (b) What was the total amount of paddy supplied to the rice mills of the State from Government stock procured by the Government during the year 1961-62 ?
- (c) What is the total amount of paddy supplied to the rice mills by the Government during the year 1962-63 from the Government stock ?
- (d) What was the total amount of paddy allotted to the rice mills of Kamrup during the year 1961-62 ?
- (e) What is the total amount of paddy supplied to the rice mills of Kamrup during the year 1962-63 ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply)** replied :

106. (a)—The millers were not allowed to purchase winter paddy but they were permitted to purchase side by side with Co-operatives, Ahu paddy upto 30th November 1962 because the Co-operatives alone were not in a position to purchase the entire marketable surplus of Ahu paddy during the year 1962.

(b)—70,873·537 tonnes during the Khariff year 1961-62.

(c)—7,703·101 tonnes upto 12th March, 1963.

(d)—14,179·190 tonnes from Government buffer stocks. 22,973·811 tonnes from Co-operatives' stocks.

(e)—826·633 tonnes from Government buffer stock upto 13th March, 1963. 2863·9 tonnes from Co-operatives' stocks upto 13th March, 1963.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)**: In reply to (b) the Minister has stated that 70,873·537 tonnes of paddy have been supplied to the rice mills during the year 1961-62, and again in reply to (c) he has stated that 7,703·101 tonnes have been issued to the rice mills by the Government from their stock upto 12th March, 1963. That is practically the end of the year. Am I to understand that the mills have not been supplied with adequate quantity of paddy for milling ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply)**: The allotment cannot be adequate to meet the demands of the existing mills. It depends on the availability of paddy and also procurement.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding)**: The other day, the hon. Minister stated that the mills have not faced any crisis now and to day he says that this year.....

**Mr. SPEAKER**: He feels it is sufficient.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI**: Then as regards "millers were not allowed to purchase" paddy during the last year, whether this year also the millers have been allowed to purchase paddy from the market ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply)**: The millers were allowed only to purchase Ahu paddy from the market, now winter paddy.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI**: Whether the Minister is aware that even now rice is selling at Rs.30 per maund at Rangiya ?

**Mr. SPEAKER**: How can he say it just now ?



**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply):** I will have to ascertain it, Sir.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Then, Sir, is it a fact that the people in those areas are living with one meal a day?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply):** That may be so, Sir, in deficit areas where there was flood damage or erosion.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Will Government be pleased to take immediate steps to make rice available in such deficit areas?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA:** That is being done, Sir. Whenever there is such scarcity necessary steps are taken at once to supply rice.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari):** Sir, there is scarcity at Tarabari. If what the Minister has stated is true, may I know from the hon'ble Minister what steps the Government have taken to supply paddy at Tarabari?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA:** We have been issuing instructions from time to time to the local officers to report at once where there is any scarcity. As soon as we get the report we issue instructions to take steps to supply rice and paddy to those areas.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED:** Are the Government aware that Government failed to supply paddy in that area?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA:** I have not received any such report, Sir.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar):** At Jorhat, rice is selling at Rs.27 per maund. What steps Government have taken to lower down the price of rice?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The question is regarding Kamrup District.

**Shri MOHANANDA BORA (Bihpuria):** The Minister has replied in a previous question that our total requirement is 13 lakh and odd tons. The production this year is 15 lakh and odd tons and thus there is a surplus of 2 lakh tons. In that case, why are these restrictions?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** He has already explained it in his reply.

*Re: Ex-Supply Service Personnel*

**Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Rampur) asked:**

107. Will the Minister, Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) When the Supply Department was made permanent?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the persons leaving the Supply Department in between 1st October, 1956 and 31st August, 1959 will be treated as *Ex-Supply* service personnel?
- (c) Whether there are persons who left after this period have been made permanent?
- (d) If so, whether they left the department with lien or with any order from the Government?
- (e) If not, how they are made permanent?

- (f) Who are those personnel ?
- (g) Their names with—(i) Date of joining, Date of leaving the department, (ii) Pay in other department before made permanent, and (iii) Pay fixed in time of making permanent?
- (h) Whether their arrear pay has been paid ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply)** replied :

107. (a)—In 1959, the Supply Department was declared permanent with effect from 1st October, 1956.

(b)—Yes, persons leaving the Supply Department in between 1st October, 1956 and 18th August, 1959 will be treated as *Ex-Supply Service* personnel provided they completed 5 years continuous service in Supply Department on or before 1st October, 1956.

(c)—None among those who left the Supply Department after 18th August 1959 has been made permanent.

(d) to (h)—Do not arise.

**Re. Failure of crops in Kamrup District**

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** asked :

108. Will the Minister of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that there has been large scale failure of Ahu and Sali crops in Kamrup District specially in the Gauhati Subdivision due to flood and drought this year ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that paddy is being sold even in January at Rs.13 to Rs.14 per maund in the villages of Kamalpur, Hazo and Rangiya areas this year ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that due to restriction of movement of paddy genuine consumers whose crops totally failed have been subjected to great hardships for purchasing paddy ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that persons who collected paddy in lieu of their wages for manual labour have not been allowed to bring their paddy to their homes and thereby they have to suffer immense difficulties in some areas of Kamrup District ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to establish godowns in every mauza for supply of paddy to the consumers in the flood, affected areas ?
- (f) What steps Government have taken to avert the impending famine in these areas during the lean months ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply)** replied :

108 (a)—Yes.

(b)—According to report received paddy was not being sold at Rs.13 to Rs.14 per maund.

(c)—It is not a fact that the general consumers have been subjected to great hardships due to movement restrictions. There is no movement restriction on rice and paddy within the district upto a limit of 3.73 quintals which a person can purchase and move for his own consumption without a movement permit under the Assam Foodgrains (Licensing and Control) Order, 1961.

(d)—Yes, a few such cases were received and necessary action was taken after due enquiry on the merit of each case.

(e)—No.

(f)—With a view to avoid scarcity resulting in a famine condition in any part of these flood affected areas, Government is building up a reserve stock of paddy by means of internal procurement in Kamrup District and also a reserve stock of rice by obtaining from Central Government which will be released during lean months through Fair Price Shops at controlled rate. Arrangements for opening more fair price shops in these areas for supply of rice from the nearest Government godowns have also been made. Besides, rice is also being distributed through approved wholesalers and retailers in these areas. Strict vigilance is exercised by local supply staff and the Price Vigilance Committees.

*Re: Licences for hullers in the Mangaldai Subdivision*

**Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Kalaigaon)** asked:

109. Will the Minister, Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of licences issued for hullers in the Mangaldai Subdivision since the date of enforcement of Control Order with the location and the date of granting of the licences?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that some of the hullers in the State are still functioning without licence?
- (c) If so, the number of such hullers in the State? (to be shown Subdivision-wise).

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply)** replied :

109 (a)—Six, as per statement below :—

Serial No.	Name of huller mill	Location	Date on which licence was issued
1	M/S. Sandik Rice Mill	... Mangaldai	18th Dec., 1959.
2	Shri Kshitish Ch. Mandal	... Mangaldai Town	16th Aug., 1960.
3	Shri Kanailal Saha	... Kharupetia Ghat	16th Feb., 1961.
4	Shri Rashik Ch. Sarkar	... Kharupetia	23rd Apl., 1962.
5	M/S. Hanuman Paddy Husking Mill.	... Kopati	13th July 1962.
6	Shri Gadadhar Saha	... Kharupetia Town	21st Nov., 1962.

(b) & (c)—Report has been called for from the District Officers on whether unlicensed millers are still in illegal operation, and if so, to take action against the millers under the provisions of the Rice Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958. The reports are awaited.

**Re: Primary Health Unit for South Karimganj**

**Shri ABDUL MUNIM CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South)** asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government announced in the last August, 1962 session of the Legislative Assembly that setting up a Primary Health Unit will be considered in right earnest for South Karimganj ?
- (b) If so, when the proposed work will be started and whether all preliminaries in respect of the site plan, etc., have been made or finalised ?

**Sbri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister-in-charge, Medical)** replied :

110. (a)—Government only stated that the claim of South Karimganj will be considered along with those of others.

(b)—Nilambazar has already been approved for location of a Primary Health Unit in the South Karimganj Panchayat area. Plans and estimates have not been drawn up as sufficient suitable land has not been made available free of cost. As soon as land is arranged, P.W.D. will frame plans and estimates and sanction will follow.

**Re: Excavation of a link channel from the river Jamuna for supply of water to Hojai**

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding)** asked :

111. Will the Minister-in-charge (Flood Control and Irrigation) be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the progress so far made in the work of 'Excavating a link Channel' from the River Jamuna for supplying water to Hojai and adjoining areas for irrigation and other purposes under item No.16 of page 6 of Revenue Expenditure XXXV—Irrigation and Navigation, etc., for 1962-63 ?
- (b) How much of the amount so far been spent and for what work out of Rs.20,000 earmarked for Jamuna Project under item No. 2 in page 14 of Revenue Expenditure XXXV—Irrigation and Navigation, etc., for 1962-63 ?
- (c) How much of the amount from Rs.50,000 so far spent for the improvement of Jugijan Channel from Kumrakata village to Railway Bridge under item No.40 of page 16 of Revenue Expenditure XXXV—Irrigation and Navigation, etc., for 1962-63 ?

(d) What is the progress so far been made in Samboria-Bardolong Excavation Scheme in Lanka Mouza ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Flood Control and Irrigation Wing, P. W. D.)** replied:

111. (a)—The work has been practically completed.

(b)—Rupees 15,117 had been spent upto 28th February, 1963 for carrying out detailed survey for the Weir and Canal alignment, etc., and other preliminary works.

(c)—Rupees 33,673 has been spent so far.

(d)—No such scheme has been taken up.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lunding)**: May I know from the hon.'ble Minister from which point of the river Jamuna the said channel is being excavated and through which villages it passes and where it meets at Hojai ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture)**: I think, Sir, the hon. Member who puts the question should know about it. Has he been briefed by some body else (A voice from the Opposition side: "It is an objectionable remark")

**Mr. SPEAKER**: It is not proper to say like this. He can express his own reply.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lunding)**: Sir, my question is from what particular village on the bank of the river the link channel has started and through which villages it passes.

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY**: I cannot say off hand.

**Re: The post of Assistant Director of Public Instruction**

**Shri CHANOO KHERIA (Morongi)** asked:

112. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state—

(a) Since when the post of Assistant Director of Public Instruction of Assam is lying vacant and reasons thereof ?

(b) Whether Government will fill this post early in public interest and to give scope to suitable officers of this department ?

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education)** replied:

112. (a)—Since 1st June 1962, consequent on reversion of Dr. (Mrs.) P. Borua to her original post of officiating Professor of Cotton College, Gauhati.

(b)—Necessary steps have already been taken to fill up the post by a suitable officer of the Department.

**Re: Application for Poor Student Scholarship**

**Shri ABDUL MUNIM CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South)** asked :

113. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—
- Whether Government has received any application from Hussain Ahmed Choudhury of Karimganj College for poor student scholarship in August and September of 1962 ?
  - Whether his application has been forwarded by the Principal of the College ?
  - Whether M. L. A. of the area strongly recommended his application ?
  - If so, whether Government propose to consider his case ?
  - Whether he enclosed the marksheet of Intermediate Examination with his application ?

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education)** replied :

113. (a)—Yes. Two applications had been received from Md. Hussain Ahmed Choudhury of Karimganj College.

(b)—Yes. One application has been forwarded by the Principal of the Karimganj College.

(c)—Yes.

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

(e)—Yes.

**Re: The emporium at Calcutta**

**Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]** asked :

114. Will the Minister-in-charge of Industries be pleased to state—
- When the emporium was started at Calcutta by this Government ?
  - What is the amount invested for this ?
  - What amount of profit earned by this emporium during the last three years ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister for Industries)** replied :

114. (a)—The emporium at Calcutta was started by the State Government in the year 1955-56.

(b)—An amount of Rs.3,75,153.00 has been invested in the form of stock, furniture and fixtures in the Calcutta Emporium since its inception till 31st March, 1962.

(c)—In the year 1959-60, it earned a profit of Rs.7,128.74 nP but sustained loss of Rs.54,177.00 and Rs.12,922.00 during the year 1960-61 and 1961-62 respectively.

**Shri GHANASYAM DAS** [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: এই দুবছৰত ইমান লোকচান কিয় হৈছে?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** (Minister, Industries): এই দুবছৰ লোকচান হোৱাৰ প্ৰধান কাৰণ হল emporium খন কলিকতাৰ মুখপতা ঠাইলৈ অনাৰ বাবে ভাৰা বেচি দিব লগা হৈছে।

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE** (Katigora) প্ৰথম বৎসৰ কত লাভ হয়েছিল ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI**: প্ৰথম বৎসৰ লাভ হয় নাই। তখন emporium টি Russel Street এ ছিল সেটা interior জায়গা। সেইজন্য এখন Hall and Anderson building এ আনা হয়েছিল।

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA** (Jorhat): এই লোকচান পুৰাবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে কি ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লৈছে।

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI**: এই লোকচান পুৰাবলৈ আনক অন্তত: ৩ বছৰ লাগিব। প্ৰথম বছৰ লোকচান হয় ৫০,১৭৭ টকা দ্বিতীয় বছৰ লোকচান হয় ১২,৯২২ টকা তৃতীয় বছৰত লোকচান নহব বুলি আশা কৰা যায়। গতিকে চতুৰ্থ বছৰৰ পৰাহে মুনাফা কৰিব পৰা হব।

#### Re: Emporia of the State

**Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS** [North-Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

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

- (a) How many emporia have been opened in this State till now ?
- (b) Whether all the emporia have been able to earn profit ?
- (c) How many of them have become losing concern ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** (Minister for Industries) replied:

115. (a)—So far 30 emporia have been opened in different parts of the State.

(b)—All the emporia have not been able to earn profit.

(c)—About 12 emporia are losing concerns from the commercial point of view.

#### Re: Primary Education in garden Schools

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA** (Thowra) asked:

116. Will the Minister, Labour be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that under the Assam Plantation Labour Rules framed under the Plantation Act, 1951 only workers' children are entitled to primary education in garden Schools ?

- (b) The number of surplus labour residing in tea plantations ?
- (c) Whether Government will enquire into the matter contained in the letters dated the 22nd December, 1962 No.G/5—279—62, dated the 2nd May, 1962 from the Manager, Sepon T. E. to the School Master, Sepon T. E. copies to Sepon garden units or ACKS & ACMS ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to take steps for imparting education to the children of persons residing in and around tea garden areas in the tea garden Schools ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister for Labour)**

replied:

116. (a)—Yes. The provisions relating to education under the Plantations Labour Act are applicable only to children of “workers” as defined in the Act.

(b)—According to the sample survey conducted by the Director of Statistics in 1958, the number of unemployed labourers in tea gardens in Assam is little over 66,000.

(c)—The letter under reference has not been received by Government. This has been called for, on receipt of which necessary enquiry will be made in the matter.

(d)—Government have already decided to extend facilities for primary education to plantation areas by stages which will benefit children of all persons residing in tea garden areas irrespective of the fact whether they are tea garden workers or not.

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra):** Sir, with regard to reply (d), may I know from the hon'ble Minister how long it will take to take over all the primary schools of the tea gardens of Assam ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries):**

The whole problem has been redoubled by the great difference salary structure of teachers, Under the private sector the salary structure is far higher than that of the Government Department. Therefore, it has not been possible to take over the schools without reducing the salary structure to which my Hon. friend could not agree. So, we have adopted a phased programme starting from Cachar with a scale which is comparable to structure where the difference is high.

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA:** What will be the fate of the children of those other than the tea garden workers who are not permitted to read in the garden schools ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** I agree that this action of the tea garden manager has been improper. Although legally we cannot hold him responsible under the Act, we think he is morally responsible for not permitting the other children staying in the garden to go to the garden school.

**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister Education):** I may add that we have taken up the matter with the tea garden management to allow the children in the neighbourhood to go to the garden schools and the children of the garden workers to go to other schools in the neighbourhood.



**Re: Supply of bone-meal**

**Shri ENOWELL POHSHNA** [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

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

- (a) What is the total amount of subsidy granted to the cultivators of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills in respect of supply of bone-meal at subsidised rate for the year 1960-61, 1961-62 ?
- (b) What is the total amount earmarked for the year 1962-63 ?
- (c) What is the principle adopted by Government in respect of supply of bone-meal for the year 1962-63 ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (Minister of Agriculture)

replied :

117. (a)—1960-61	...	...	...	Rs.37,876.50 np.
1961-62	...	...	...	Rs.21,297.75 np.
(b) - Normal Schemes	...	...	...	Rs. 7,500.00
Emergency Scheme	...	...	...	Rs.35,000.00
-----				
Total	...	...	...	Rs.42,500.00

(c)—The principle adopted is to supply the bonemeal at 25 per cent subsidised rate to the genuine cultivators in proportion to their needs depending on the availability of stock.

**Shri ENOWELL POHSHNA** : Sir, is there any control in the sale of bone-meal ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (Minister, Agriculture) : I think there is no control about selling fertiliser. Anybody can sell it. But, so far as Government is concerned, we helped the Assam Apex Marketing Society in 1961-62 and they issued bone-meal in the K. and J. Hills.

**Re: Test relief work**

**Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA** (Kalaigaon) asked :

118. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Minister, Revenue visited the Burhinagar area in the Mangaldai subdivision in connection with flood during last June, 1962 ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the people of Burhinagar area submitted a representation to reconstruct the embankment of the river Nonai near village Bhakatpara which was breached by the high flood causing heavy damages to paddy and paddy fields of about thirty villages of Mangaldai subdivision ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Honourable Minister asked the people of that locality to close the said bridge of the embankment on test relief basis and assured the people to pay the cost of the work ?
- (d) Whether the Government is aware that the people of that area completed the work according to the advice of the Embankment and Drainage Department as desired by the Honourable Minister ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that uptill now the villagers have not yet received the amount of money for the work done by them inspite of several representations ?

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

118. (a)—Yes.  
 (b)—Yes.  
 (c)—Yes.  
 (d)—Yes.

(e)—A sum of Rs.2,000 has since been allotted by the Subdivisional Officer, Mangaldoi to the Block Development Officer, Khairabari for disbursement to the persons who completed the Scheme on Test Relief basis.

*Re: T. B. and Cancer in Karimganj Subdivision*

**Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North)** asked :

119. Will the Minister of Medical be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether Government is aware of the rapid increase of T. B. and Cancer cases in Karimganj Subdivision ?
- (b) What effective steps the Government propose to take to save the society from this infectious T. B. disease ?
- (c) Whether Government will take up construction of a fairly large T. B. Clinic in Karimganj near Puamara village where the State Government has lands of its own suitable for such Clinic and the already constructed small T. B. Ward in Karimganj Civil Hospital transformed as an extension of Karimganj Civil Hospital ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that Karimganj Civil Hospital has been greatly suffering for short of staff since a pretty long time ?

- (e) Whether Government is aware that the number of Out-door patients is 400 per cent more than it was even in the year 1959 ?
- (f) Whether Government is aware that along with the increase of T. B. and other various diseases the X-Ray Department of Karimganj Civil Hospital too has become heavily operative but without a Radiographer ?
- (g) Whether Government is aware that the compounding assistants are also too less in comparison to the rush of daily patients for dispensing ?
- (h) Whether Government is aware that it is no longer possible for the existing Physicians in that Hospital to cope with even 50 per cent of the pressure of patients ?
- (i) Whether Government propose to increase the staff of Karimganj Civil Hospital in all sphere, *i. e.*, Doctor, Nurses, Radiographer, Compounders and other fourth grade employees ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister-in-charge, Medical)** replied :

119. (a)—Yes.

(b)—(i) A T. B. Clinic with an indoor ward attached to the Civil Hospital, Karimganj has been established.

(ii) Mass B. C. G. vaccination is being continued in wide scale.

(c)—No.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—There has been a steady increase due to conversion of the Hospital into a referred Hospital.

(f)—It is a fact that the X-Ray Plant is heavily engaged. But no difficulty is experienced for want of a Radiographer.

(g)—Not too less. But Government are trying to post another.

(h)—It is not that 50 per cent of the patients go unattended. All are being attended to but the Doctors are over-worked.

(i)—Yes, the proposal is under active consideration for additional staff of Doctors, Nurses and Pharmacists.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora)**: Sir, do the Government consider it necessary to hold a survey for finding out figures of incidence of T. B. and Cancer diseases throughout the State?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE** : Not t praesent, Sir.

**Re: Issue of Licence for Private Doctors**

**Shri ABDUL MUNIM CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South)** asked :

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

- (a) How many licenses were issued by the Government for private doctors in 1960-61 and in 1961-62 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that those who have no license are not allowed to practise ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to take steps against these private medical practitioners who are practising as a physician without license ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister-in-charge of Medical)** replied :

120. (a)—Nil. Government do not issue any license to doctors for private practise.

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise-

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE:** Sir, what is the reason for not issuing linense to private doctors ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** I think my Hon. friend is making a confusion in the matter. Issue of license and registration are quite different things. There is a procudure for registration of doctors which fact it appears is not known to my Hon. friend. From the reply it is quite clear that we do not issue any license, no do we register.

**Re: High price of Rice at Gauhati**

**Shri SARAT GHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** asked :

121. Will the Minister of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that even the coarse rice is selling at Rs. 28 to Rs. 30 per maund at Gauhati ?
- (b) What steps Government have taken for stabilising the prices of rice at Gauhati and in the district of Kamrup ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply)** replied :

121. (a)—According to the report received coarse rice is not selling at Rs.28 to Rs. 30 per maund at Gauhati.

(b)—The Government have taken the following steps to stabilise the price of rice at Gauhati and in the District of Kamrup.

(i) A buffer stock of paddy is being built up by means of internal procurement.

(ii) A reserve stock of rice is also being built up by obtaining rice from the Central Government.

(iii) Appointment of Approved Retailers and more Fair Price Shops has been made for distribution of rice.

(iv) Adequate supply of rice to the open market has been arranged through wholesalers and arrangements for release of rice from Government buffer stock have been made for distribution through Fair Price Shops.

(v) Strict vigilance is being exercised by Local Supply staff and the Price Vigilance Committees which have already been formed in different areas of the District for keeping watch over market prices and giving guidance to the retailers.

(vi) Check gates have been set up at important places to guard against possible unauthorised purchases and movements of rice from the district to outside.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Golakganj):** Sir, at what price rice is selling at Gauhati ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply):** According to the report the present market price of rice of Sali and Arua selling at Gauhati is from Rs.22.50 nP to 23.50 nP. per maund respectively.

**Re: Determination of Merit of Government Employees**

**Shri ABDUL MUNIM CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked:**

122. Will the Minister of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) How merit of Government employees are determined ?
- (b) What is the process of recognising merit, etc., for promotion of an employee to the higher post in the Department in which one serves ?
- (c) Whether the award like Jangi-Inam, mentioned in Despatches come under the purview of merit ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply) replied:—**

122. (a)—Merit of a Government employee is determined on the basis of the record of his service.

(b)—For purposes of promotion, merit is assessed either by the appointing authority or by a Selection Board according to Service Rules and in certain cases this is subject to the approval of the Assam Public Service Commission.

(c)—For purposes of promotion, such awards are not taken into consideration.

**Re: Allotment of C. I. Sheets**

**Shri DANDI RAM DATTA (Kalaigaon)** asked :

123. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) What quantity of C. I. Sheet was allotted to each Subdivision during the years 1961 and 1962 ?
- (b) What basis the C. I. Sheet has been allotted to each Subdivision ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply)** replied :

123. (a)—A statement showing the allotment to each Subdivision during 1961-62 is placed on the library table.

(b)—C. I. Sheets are allotted on the basis of population and importance of the area and on the availability of total quota received from Government of India.

**Re: Average income of Gaon Panchayat**

**Shri MOHANANDA BORA (Bihpuria)** asked :

124. Will the Minister of Community Development and Panchayat be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government have figures of average income of a Gaon Panchayat in each Subdivision ?
- (b) If so, what is the average income and average expenditure Subdivision-wise ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that the establishment of the Gaon Sabhas is a heavy and unnecessary drain of public money ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that some Gaon Sabhas with very poor income cannot maintain even the Secretary ?
- (e) Whether Government have made some sort of provision for such Gaon Sabhas ?

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, in-charge of Community Development and Panchayats)** replied :

124. (a)—Subdivision-wise figures are not available and have been called for.

(b)—Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c)—No.

(d)—Yes, and in that case there is provisions for maintenance of a Secretary by two or more Gaon Panchayats.

(e)—Yes, and with a view to avoid disparity of Goan Panchaya. income procedure for distribution of hat revenue has been changed. Moreover, the share of land revenue for Gaon Panchayat has been increased from 15 per cent to 23 per cent.

*Re: Goan Sabhas for Forest Villages*

**Shri MATHIUS TUDU (Gossaigaon)** asked :

125. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Development (Panchayat) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any decision has been taken by the Government to establish Gaon Sabha for the Forest Villages ?

(b) If not, what step Government have taken to extend Panchayati Raj in the Forest Villages of the State ?

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, in-charge of Community Development and Panchayats)** replied:

125. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Does not arise in view of reply to (a).

*Re: Abolition of the Local Boards*

**Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY (Patacharkuchi)** asked :

126. Will the Minister-in-charge of Panchayat, be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that after the abolition of Local Board the charge of the office and officers of the same were taken over by the Subdivisional Officers and Deputy Commissioners ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the services of these officers were transferred to Anchalik Panchayat and Mohkuma Parishads ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that these officers used to get increment and had the facilities of Provident Fund in Local Board Services ?

(d) Whether these officers have been given the same facilities of increment and Provident Fund, now serving in Anchalik Panchayats and Mohkuma Parishads ?

(e) Whether pay and other facilities are equal in all Anchalik Panchayats and Mohkuma Parishads ?

(f) Whether their services are transferable ?

(g) If so, who is the authority for their transfer ?

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Panchayat and Community Development)** replied :

126. (a)—Consequent on the abolition of the Local Boards, Deputy Commissioners/Subdivisional Officers were entrusted under section 165(1) of the Assam Panchayat Act, as amended with the duties and powers of the Local Boards till these were assigned to the various Panchayats by order of the State Government. There upon the Deputy Commissioners/Subdivisional Officers took over the offices of the defunct Local Boards from the date of abolition.

As contemplated under section 163 of the Act, suitable employees of the Local Boards were absorbed in various Government Departments and in Mohkuma Parishads and the rest were made available to the Anchalik Panchayats for absorption.

(b)—The question of transfer does not arise. After absorption in different Government Departments and Mohkuma Parishads, the remaining employees were offered to Anchalik Panchayat for appointment.

(c)—The employees under the defunct Local Boards used to get their usual increments in their respective scales of pay. But as the Local Board, Provident Fund was not compulsory, only those employees who contributed to it got benefit from such fund.

(d)—Yes, so far as employees absorbed under Mohkuma Parishad are concerned. Those absorbed under Anchalik Panchayats are getting increments but not the benefit of Contributory Provident Fund as the Anchalik Panchayats have not yet initiated the said Fund.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Generally their services are not transferable.

(g)—Does not arise.

**Re: Mohkuma Parishad Development Committee**

**Shri MOHANANDA BORA (Bihpuria)** asked :

127. Will the Minister of Community Development and Panchayats be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there are Mohkuma Parishad, Development Committee and Development Branch of Subdivisional Officer's Office in each Subdivision ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that the Mohkuma Parishad is given a separate staff by the Deputy Commissioner or Subdivisional Officer and the Deputy Commissioner or Subdivisional Officer has a separate Development Branch tagged to the Mohkuma Parishad Office ?

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Community Development and Panchayats)** replied :

127. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, but the staff for the Mohkuma Parishad is created within the Development Branch of Deputy Commissioner/Subdivisional Officer.



**Re: Bihaguri Veterinary Dispensary building in Tezpur**

**Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla)** asked :

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

- (a) Whether the Bihaguri Veterinary Dispensary building in Tezpur have been requisitioned for defence purpose ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that all furnitures, implements, medicine, etc., have been removed to Khelmati Veterinary Dispensary in Bahbari Mauza ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that the public of Bihaguri Mauza have made repeated representations to the Government to de-requisition the Dispensary building at Bihaguri so that the vast number of cattle of the area may get proper treatment ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that there is even no Veterinary out centre or Veterinary Field Assistant in Bihaguri Mauza ?
- (e) Will the Government be pleased to take earliest step to arrange medical facilities for the cattle of Bihaguri Mauza ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary)** replied :

128. (a)—Yes ; on 1st January 1963.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No such representation was received from public by the District Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Officer.

(d)—No. There is a Veterinary Aid Centre at Thelamara under Bihaguri Mauza and a Veterinary Field Assistant is working there.

(e)—Veterinary aid is being given to the extent possible in this kind of a situation.

**Re: The flood affected area of Sarabari and Kalaigaon Mouzas near Burhinagar area**

**Shri DANDIRAM DUTTA (Kalaigaon)** asked :

129. Will the Minister, P.W.D. (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Assam visited the flood affected area of Sarabari and Kalaigaon Mouzas near Burhinagar area in the month of October, 1962 last ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Assam assured the local flood affected people of that area that the breach will be closed within this financial year ?

- (c) Whether Government propose to complete the work this year to protect the villagers as well as their paddy fields ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (Minister-in-charge, Flood Control, etc.) replied :

129. (a)—Yes, in September, 1962.

(b).—There is nothing on record that such an assurance was given.

(c)—Instructions have been given to the local officers to close the breach by a retired bund before the next floods.

*Re : Desang river in between Bhojo and Arabari*

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA** (Thowra) asked :

130. Will the Minister, P.W.D. (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Desang river in between Bhojo and Arabari village took such a curve that in some places the difference came to a furlong, for which people of the locality gave representation for a short circuit ?

(b) Whether Government propose to short circuit it in a suitable point ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (Minister, Flood Control, etc.) replied :

130. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

*Re : Behali Irrigation Scheme*

**Shri BISHNULAL UPADHYAYA** (Gohpur) asked :

131. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Behali Irrigation Scheme has been sanctioned by Government last year ?

(b) What is the total amount sanctioned for the scheme ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the construction of its Headwork had to be started before December, 1962 ?

(d) What is the reason for calling tender for construction of the Headwork for the second time ?

(e) Whether contract has been settled ?

(f) If so, with whom ?

- (g) When the work is expected to start ?  
 (h) What amount is allotted for this year ?  
 (i) When the whole scheme is expected to be completed ?  
 (j) Whether Government be pleased to take necessary steps for its early execution ?  
 (k) What is the area expected to irrigate by this scheme ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (Minister, Flood Control etc.) replied :

131. (a) & (b)—Behali Irrigation Scheme has been administratively approved for Rs. 2,47,400.

(c)—No.

(d)—Certain items of works were left out in the original tender notice, in absence of detailed estimate, and so tenders had to be invited for the second time.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Shri S. K. Roy.

(g)—Preliminary works, like collection of materials and construction of steel gates, etc., have already been taken in hand.

(h)—There is Budget Provision for Rs. 40,000.

(i)—1st Phase work, comprising of Headworks, is expected to be completed by March, 1964 provided cement is available in adequate quantities.

(j)—Does not arise in view of replies to (g) above.

(k)—6,500 acres.

**Re: Tama-Dingdinga Irrigation Scheme**

**Shri MATHIUS TUDU** (Gossaigaon) asked :

132. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Tama-Dingdinga Irrigation scheme in the Kokrajhar Subdivision is complete ?

(a) If not, when it will be completed ?

(c) If so, whether Government are taking steps to repair the dong ?

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (Minister-in-charge, Flood Control, etc.) replied :

132. (a)—Main works completed, only finishing touches remaining.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Yes.

**Mr. SPEAKER** : The Question hour is over.

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has expressed a desire to have a discussion under Rule 50 about the emergency situation arising out of Chinese aggression. Sir, I had a discussion with the Leader of the Opposition day before yesterday and we felt that instead of having a discussion in the house it might be advisable for me to meet the hon. Members of the Opposition separately and discuss these matters. He has appreciated the idea and we have decided to have a discussion to-morrow, the Sunday at 9 A. M.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** But to-morrow there is a programme to visit Umiam project. The Minister has invited the hon. Members to visit the project.

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** We may discuss these matters informally between 9 and 11 A. M. I feel, Sir, that it will be more profitable to have discussion over the matter separately.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Mr. Goswami, do you agree to it?

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat):** Yes, Sir.

#### Report of the Committee of Privileges

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Golaghat):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly agrees to the extension of time till the 30th March, 1963 for submission of the Report of the Committee of Privileges.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Motion moved is that this Assembly agrees to the extension of time till the 30th March, 1963 for submission of the Report of the Committee of Privileges.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Eighth Report of the Committee of Privileges.

#### The Annual Financial Statement of the Assam State Electricity Board for 1963-64

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Electricity):** Sir, I beg to present the Annual Financial Statement of the Assam State Electricity Board for 1963-64.

#### The Assam Finance Bill, 1963

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Bill, 1963, be taken into consideration.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Motion moved is that the Assam Finance Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

As there is no amendment we pass on to the next item.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Bill 1963 be passed.

**Mr. SPEAKER**: Motion moved is that the Assam Finance Bill, 1963 be passed.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

**The Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963**

**Mr. SPEAKER**: There is a message from the Governor of Assam: "Under the provision of Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India, I, Vishnu Sahay, Governor of Assam, recommend the introduction in the Assam Legislative Assembly of the Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963."

Sd/ VISHNU SAHAY  
Governor of Assam.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)**: Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963 (relating to the Demands for Grants).

**Mr. SPEAKER**: Has the hon. Minister got the leave of the House to introduce the Bill?

(voices:—Yes, yes).

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)**: Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963.

(The Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly then read out the title of the Bill)

**Mr. SPEAKER**: The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

There is a message from the Governor of Assam.

"Under the provision of Article 207(3) of the Constitution of India, I, Vishnu Sahay, Governor of Assam, recommend that the Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963, be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly."

Sd/ VISHNU SAHAY  
Governor of Assam

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister Finance)**: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No. 1) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

**Mr. SPEAKER**: Motion moved is that Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963, be taken into consideration.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

As there is no amendment, we pass on to the next item.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED**: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963, be passed.

**Mr. SPEAKER**: Motion moved is that the Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1963 be passed.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

**The Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963**

**Shri SIDDHINATH (Minister, Transport):** Sir, I beg to move that the the Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Motion moved is that the Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat):** Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to oppose it. Sir, during the general discussion of the Budget the hon. Finance Minister expressed the wish that from our side we should not oppose the taxation provision in the Budget. We thought over the matter and we found it very difficult to compromise with the Finance Minister in this matter, I would have liked very much to comply with the wishes of the Finance Minister but when it is not possible to compromise with conscience we are compelled to oppose this taxation provision because we think that at this critical time when our people are economically very hard-hit, it will not be appropriate to burden the people of Assam with such a heavy taxation. Sir, we marked with satisfaction the views expressed by the hon. Members of the Treasury Bench. Most of them have criticised the taxation provision. But, Sir, we do not know where they will stick to their views. Democracy has been defined as a discussion of vital matters among equals in matters of common interest. But, here, in this House discussions on vital matters are not among equals, not even among near equals. By the majority strength of the ruling party they may carry the taxation provision and we have sometimes seen that when the Government come up with certain matters for discussion in this House, they decide it before hand and just for formality they bring the matter before this House. But the fate of the matter has already been decided by them. Whatever it may be, this taxation provision in the name of Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill is an indirect tax on the common man. Sir, direct tax is a tax which the tax payers can understand and can know the burden, but indirect taxes should always be discouraged in a civilized society.

The Motor Vehicle Tax though apparently it appears that it will fall on the motor vehicle owners, but ultimately, it will be realised from the passengers and owners will not pay it. Sir, we know what happens to the Passengers and Goods-Carriage Tax. It was realised not from the owners, but from the passengers. Similarly, whatever may be the provision, though it appears that the tax falls on the owners, it will surely and indirectly be realised from the passengers by the owners. Specially, Sir, it is stated in the First Schedule, Part A, II that Vehicles constructed and used solely for the conveyance of passengers and light personal luggage of passengers" and then again in the same schedule in III (B) Vehicle used partly for the conveyance of goods. Sir, again, in item No. II in the First Schedule, Part A, it is stated that—

Description of Vehicles	Annual tax	Quarterly tax
14 H. P. or less .. .. .	90	27
Exceeding 14 H. P- .. .. .	110	33

Now it has been raised to the figures of 90 annually and 27 quarterly and in later 110 annually and 33 quarterly. Similarly, in III (B) formerly the annual tax was 9 and quarterly 3. Now it has been proposed to raise to 15 annually, and quarterly 6. Sir, again, from Part, B, the tax on State Carriage has been proposed to be increased by Rs.10. In V, VI, VI (A) all the taxes have been raised. Sir, I leave apart other items of taxation. The passenger buses and the contract carriage trucks are utilised by the common people. It is not the rich people who travel on these buses, Sir, only last year these common people were taxed ten n.P. per rupee. Then again, when these taxation measures are to be taken, the burden will not fall on the owners of buses, it will fall ultimately on the common people. Sir, while coming forward with fresh taxation proposals, Government should take into consideration the economic condition of the people. Sir, in this State the per capita income has gone down. The National income has not risen fast. The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech said that 'the State's National income in 1961-62 in terms of 1948-49, rose by 6 per cent over 1960-61, the aggregate income during the year has been higher than that of India. Expressed on the basis of current prices, the State Income was Rs.385 crores and Per capita income Rs.319.'

But, Sir, in page 48 of the book "A Review of Progress of Second Five Year plan, Assam", published by the Department of Economics and Statistics, Assam, Shillong, we find the figures of national income at current prices in 1950-51 was Rs 254 and in 1960-61 was Rs.358 crores.

Now, the Finance Minister, in his Budget speech has given us the figure as Rs. 385 crores. But, Sir, if we calculate this figure on the basis of an increase of 6 per cent, then actually we do not get the figure as given in the Budget speech by our Finance Minister. If we calculate the figure by adding 6 per cent increase the figure comes to Rs.378.

Sir, while making my observation in General discussion on Budget, I pointed out that if we take the comparative position between 1957-58 and 1960-61, we realise that Assam's per capita income has gone down by 6 per cent. It has not gone up. In 1955-56 the per capita income was Rs.268 and in 1960-61 it has gone down to Rs.260, thereby the difference being Rs.8. This means the per capita income in 1960-61 has gone down in comparison to 1955-56 by Rs.8.

Similarly, Sir, the cost of living has increased. The Finance Minister, in his budget speech, stated that the cost of living in 1962 has not risen appreciably compared to that in the previous year.

Consumers' price index for the first 9 months of 1962 stood at 118. It was the same for 1961 as well. For our rural population, the price index rose from 163 to 168 according to 1944 prices, as 100.

Again from the "Review of progress of Second Five Year Plan in Assam" we find that consequential of the higher prices, the cost of living in the State, during the period of Second Plan, was also quite high. The consumer price index, which broadly indicates the trends in cost of living, has risen in all the three important centres of the State during the period

of the Second Plan. Between 1955 and 1960 the consumer price has risen by 17·2 per cent in the case of Gauhati, by 25·0 per cent in the case of Silchar, and by 16·8 per cent in the case of Tinsukia. The year to year movement over the period of the Second Plan is set out in the table below:

## INDEX NUMBER OF CONSUMER PRICES

	(Taking 1959 equal to 100)					
	Gauhati		Silchar		Tinsukia	
1955	87	...	88	...	...	101
1956	96	...	99	...	...	110
1957	103	...	105	...	...	118
1958	103	...	107	...	...	118
1959	98	...	109	...	...	117
1960	102	...	110	...	...	118

The Finance Minister also has admitted that the cost of living and the price has gone up, and it is gradually rising. So, Sir when we consider the economic condition for national income as also from the point of view of per capita income and the rising cost of living in the State, we find the economic condition of the people has gone from bad to worse. The wholesale price index to which the Finance Minister referred in his budget speech gives us the following figures:—

Index of wholesale Food price—:

1955	...	...	...	...	...	101·7
1956	...	...	...	...	...	117·9
1957	...	...	...	...	...	133·6
1958	...	...	...	...	...	130·3
1959	...	...	...	...	...	129·3
1960	...	...	...	...	...	128·8

This is the condition of food price and it is greatly rising. It may be due to natural hazards which we had in the State, but whatever the case may be the fact remains that the economic condition of the people has gone down. Now for the all commodities wholesale price index we get the following figures:—

1953	...	...	...	...	...	100·0
1955	...	...	...	...	...	103·8
1956	...	...	...	...	...	117·3
1957	...	...	...	...	...	131·8
1958	...	...	...	...	...	124·4
1959	...	...	...	...	...	123·7
1960	...	...	...	...	...	131·2

Now, let us compare the figure in 1959, which is 123·7 with the figure in 1960 which is 131·2. Here we find that there is a tremendous rise.

So, Sir this is the background under which the Finance Minister has come with fresh taxations, indirect taxation. We should let the people know that they have been taxed and they will pay directly to the Government and let them feel the satisfaction of sacrificing for the cause of State and also what amount they have to pay. Now, most of the taxes which the Government propose to collect from the people are indirect taxes and these will be collected without their knowledge.



This should be discouraged and should not be allowed to be a permanent feature, which unfortunately, is so in our State.

As regards Motor vehicles, Sir, we have the Masani Commission Report on Road Transportation Reorganisation Committee, March, 1959. Here at page 23, Sir..

**Mr. SPEAKER:** You have taken 25 minutes. How long will you take ?

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat):** Sir, another 10 minutes.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** May I ask my hon. Friend one thing, Sir ? When the hon. Member is criticizing the taxation proposals he is raising the question of Direct and Indirect taxes, but could he also suggest what are the measures of taxation for raising the resources ?

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat):** Sir, when the standard of a particular class of people and of the people enjoying privileged position goes higher, no amount of taxation probably will be able to meet their needs. So, we must think of austerity also. Without thinking about austerity measure if we go on increasing the requirements and go on taxing the people, both the end cannot meet. However, Sir, I was talking about the Masani Committee's Report. At page 23 we find the following on Taxation :

“While the subject of taxation on motor transport was not specifically examined by the Committee, the weight of the evidence before it was that the cumulative burden of such taxes was unduly high and should be reduced to level not exceeding 75 per cent of the present incidence in the State of Madras as repeatedly recommended by the Government of India in the recent years.

Incidentally, the Committee was repeatedly told by witnesses that some of the State Governments who justify an increase in their taxes on the ground that their rates are below 75 per cent of the Madras rates conveniently forget that it is the cumulative burden and not the vehicle tax one that should be within 75 per cent of the incidence in Madras. This, it appears, that even in States where octrois or terminal taxes constitute a heavy burden on road transport as referred to later or where sales and other taxes on vehicles are higher, the vehicle tax has been raised to limits which take the cumulative burden to beyond 75 per cent of that in Madras”

This is the position in Assam. Sir, At page 25 it is said that ‘On an examination of the matter the Committee has come to the conclusion that steps need to be taken to simplify the structure of taxation. It is recommended that octroi, wheel taxes and other imposts charged by the Municipalities as well as the tax on passengers and goods wherever levied should be discontinued’. Some other levy unconnected with motor transport and all other taxes being merged in the vehicle tax. In so far as sales taxes are concerned, it is further recommended that the sales tax on trucks and buses should not as at present be at luxury rate but at rates applicable to other essential goods.

Now, Sir, this is about the Masani's Committee Report. Now, here also we find the tax which was unfortunately levied on this State on passengers and goods, continues while the Committee suggested that this should be discontinued. In Assam Sir, when I have already drawn the background, this tax-indirect tax-should be stopped in view of the fact the Central Government has also levied tax on certain important items and the same articles are going to be taxed by the State Government again. So, if we really want the willing co-operation of the people in every plan, the Government have taken up, if we want the willing co-operation of the people in this emergency situation it becomes necessary for us to have a sympathetic view on the economic condition of the people. We should not go on burdening the people by taxing over and over, again and again. Here, in this Motor Vehicle Taxation Act, there is resentment not only from the common people but also from the owners of vehicles. The owners of vehicles came up with a resolution to the Government that they should be allowed to increase the rate of fare and we are sure, Government will have no moral right to ask these owners of vehicles not to increase the rate of fare. When they will raise the fare in order to pay to the Government they will definitely realise it from the common man, *i. e.* the passengers.

So Sir, though it appears that a few fortunate persons who are using motor cars and motor vehicles will be required to pay this tax, as a matter of fact, the majority of the population which has not been included in this taxation proposal shall have to pay this tax. Burden of this taxation must be borne by the common people. Though it was my desire to try my best not to oppose this bill I could not comply with the desire of the Finance Minister. Sir, when I see the condition of the people, it is not possible to give our consent to this bill and it has become our bounden duty to oppose this Bill.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari):** Mr. Speaker Sir, I oppose this Bill. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated that on the advice of the Road Transport Re-organisation Committee (Masani Committee) and the Transport Development Council, this Government have decided that different levies on Motor Vehicles should be consolidated into a single levy. Accordingly, a decision has been taken to merge the permit fees now paid by the Transport Vehicle with the motor vehicle tax. Nevertheless fees for application for permit will be levied and realised on the normal scale. Moreover, it is necessary to raise local resources for financing the development projects in the State for improvement of communication. The tax and fees levied on a motor vehicle now is extremely low in comparison with the other States. And even after an enhancement of overall incidence will not be in excess of the rates prevailing in other States. Moreover, the main purpose is rationalisation and imposition of a single levy, which will amply be served by the Bill."

So, Sir, it is said here that it has been done according to the report of the Road Transport Organisation Commission *i. e.*, Masani Committee. Secondly, it is also stated that it has been done according to the advice of the Transport Development Council. We are kept in darkness about this report. It is also said here that "Nevertheless fees for application for permit will be levied and realised on the normal scale". But Sir, what is the abnormal scale it is not stated. Moreover, Sir, the motor vehicles are

already overtaxed. So the motor owners will face loss. They will directly or indirectly tax the common people. Sir, I am citing an example: vehicles not exceeding 14 Horse Power used to pay Rs 30 per year, but it is proposed to raise to Rs.90 and exceeding 14 H. P. it will be raised to Rs.110. And the vehicle which was paying Rs.225, shall have to pay 300 and for every additional metric tonne it will have to pay more. Sir, I am giving another example. The motor vehicle which pay Rs.100 per year it shall have to pay now 250 under the proposed scheme. The omnibus which was paying Rs.175 per year shall have to pay 300 per year. So the increase will be abnormal and extremely higher. So Sir if we go on taxing our people like this it will be very bad. So I oppose this Bill.

**Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhobri):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. It is clearly laid down in the Statement of Objects and Reason that this particular Bill is introduced in order that different forms of levies on Motor Vehicles can be consolidated into a single levy, that is, by merging the taxes and permit fee.

Now Sir, I want to cite an instance. Formerly there were two categories of taxis and motor cabs. The existing rate for motor cabs and taxi below 14 H. P. is Rs.100 per year and for those above 14 H. P., Rs.150 and under the amended Act it will be increased to Rs.250 irrespective of Horse Power of the vehicles. This will also include permit fee. Now if the average of the existing rates of taxes of both categories of vehicles below 14 H. P. and above 14 H. P. is taken, it comes to Rs.125. Now, if we take the permit fee which varies from Rs. 100 to Rs.125 and add this to the tax, the total comes to slightly less than Rs.200 which is sought to be fixed under the amending Bill as the consolidated amount for taxis and permit fees. So there is actually no substantial increase in the rates of taxes except in the some cases in the case of big tractors which are now being used, the existing rates cover upto tractors exceeding 2 tons in weight. Now this Bill provides separately for another category of tractors exceeding 3½ tons in weight for which a new tax is sought to be imposed. Formerly, people did not bring heavy tractors. If we use heavy tractors on our roads, they cause considerable damage to them and this will entail heavy expenditure for maintenance of the roads. Besides, in the State, the number of motor vehicles have greatly increased and are causing damage to the roads, and actually the quantum of money necessary for repair has considerably increased—the maintenance cost being an additional charge on the Government exchequer. Therefore, unless Government has the resources from this particular source it may be difficult to meet the requirements arising for repair. If you go through the taxation properly you will find that there has not been any abnormal increase. In any case, it is a question of rationalisation of their rates of taxes and permit fees. Then, again, Sir, we all know that there is persistent demand for more roads, for better roads, and as a result we have to undertake extensive programmes of blacktopping of roads and in consequence more and more roads, are being taken up for blacktopping which costs about Rs.1 lakhs per mile, so that the motor vehicles may ply faster and less damage done to the vehicles also. If we undertake improvement on our roads, the wear and tear of the motor vehicles will be much less. Then again they can move faster, that is to say, the same motor vehicle can travel faster and carry more passengers and goods by having more round trips in a day or a given periods than on bad roads. Therefore, Sir, if we want to have a good system of roads with blacktopping we require more money.

Consequently if you want to have hundreds of miles of good roads more funds will be necessary and for this, motor vehicles tax which is meant for the improvement of the roads we will have to make some contribution. Therefore, there will be some impact on the existing freight rates of motor vehicles. But on the whole, the owner of motor vehicles will benefit, and we shall have better vehicles and better roads; more movement of goods and less trouble to the passengers and the public. Therefore, I think in principle, the Bill should be approved.

Therefore, I am opposed to the stand which has been taken by my friend, Mr. Goswami, Leader of the opposition group.

**Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, after giving much thought to Part B of the Schedule in taxation for more development, I find it very difficult to see the logic therein. My hon. friends have criticised the taxation measures on the ground that living index in the State is very high. Does it necessarily follow, Sir, that because the living index is high, therefore, there should be no taxation whatsoever in any form or in any manner. If we really need the development of the State, taxation has to come in. There is no State anywhere in the world which wants to develop the State that they will at no time adopt taxation measures. The principle of taxation which is going to be adopted by our State Government cannot be questioned. If we question it, we will question at our own cost.

Secondly, many hon. Members who have criticised the principle of taxation have not come forward with concrete or rather alternative suggestions that instead of taxation measures, they should point out such other ways and means by which we can develop the State. We are only criticising the principle; we have not been able to come forward with any concrete suggestion to the Government and tell them to leave aside the taxation measures and in their place these are the measures and suggestions. But such suggestions are not coming forward. Moreover, in this proposal for taxation, the State Government has categorically stated in their statement of Objects and Reasons that "The tax and fees levied on a motor vehicle now is extremely low in comparison with the other States". To this statement no contradictory figure has come forward to show that this principle or this figure is too high, or this statement made by the State Government is incorrect or is higher in comparison with other States. So, this part of the statement has not been challenged.

Thirdly, Sir, after the enhancement of the rates, the overall incidence will not be in excess of the rates prevailing in other States. On the contrary, the rates in other States are higher. I do not see any reason how we can challenge that the taxation measures on this particular head as introduced by the State Government is incorrect or does not go for the interest of the State. So, if we really mean business and if we are really sincere to develop this undeveloped State, there is no way out under the present circumstances without adopting taxation measures. As the Finance Minister has very clearly and in explicit terms expressed on the floor of the House that the incidence of tax on the *per capita* income cannot be more than 3 per cent in comparison with the national income and that is also much lower than the incidence of tax in other States. So, in view of all these reasons, I find that the proposed Bill is quite relevant and quite proper. Therefore, I support the Bill and oppose the motion.

**\*Shri KHOGENDRANATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):** Sir, our Finance Minister and some of the hon. Members on the other side made certain observations to the effect that the Members from the Opposition side are failing to show any source of revenue income to the public exchequer. Whether our Finance Minister is a very intelligent man or not it does not matter. But the tax should be levied and he is coming with a Bill that taxes should be levied somewhere else. But he is not willing to tax the richer section of the people. For instance, crores of rupees have been reaped every year by foreign capitalists, tea planters and our capitalists also. This is emergency time and the profits should be taxed; at least 50 per cent on the profits. In this way, crores of rupees will come to the public exchequer. Therefore, I say that this motor vehicle Bill, if it is enacted, it will certainly be a burden on the poor people who are already hard hit by other taxes.

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Opposition Leader has rightly stated before the House that he is objecting to this proposal of taxation. He has pointed out that in the Statement of Objects and Reasons in which it has been clearly stated that "on the advice of the Road Transport Re-organisation Committee and the Transport Development Council, this Government have decided that different levies on motor vehicles should be consolidated into a single levy." The first point is whether it has been consolidated or not. The second point is "accordingly a decision has been taken to merge the permit fees now paid by the transport vehicle with the motor vehicle tax. Nevertheless, fees for application for permit will be levied and realised on the normal scale. Moreover, it is necessary to raise local resources for financing the development projects in the State for improvement of communication".

Sir, my friend, Shri Goswami has also stated that in the Road Transport Re-organisation Committee, the suggestion is not implemented. Here, in the statement of Objects and Reasons, it has been stated that they are going to impose this tax according to the recommendations of the Road Transport Re-organisation Committee. It is clearly stated on the recommendations that the tax on passengers and goods should be discontinued. Here, in our State, it has been continued.

Moreover, the question has now come up as to whether we can give him any other source of taxation and if we can give him, then it implies that he will withdraw this proposal for taxation. Now, Sir, in my opinion, my hon. Friend, Shri Barua has rightly said that we are not going to tax the capitalists. If our Government would have been willing to tax the capitalists, we would have got a large amount of money. If the tea industry would have been nationalised, we could have utilised the money now earned by these tea gardens as profits in our development projects. But instead of that we are formulating our taxation proposals in a manner so as to tax the poor people of our State beyond the limit of their paying capacity. It will not be far from truth to say that in some cases tax levied

is double the amount of previous rates. Such a ruthless method of taxation will surely hard-hit the poor people. Over and above, all these new measures of taxation will affect the poor people still more. The poor people use the buses and taxis as their only means of conveyance. I, therefore, feel that Bill should not be introduced in this House and it should be withdrawn.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, our leader as well as some other hon. Members also have already spoken opposing the introduction of this taxation Bill in the House. I also want to make a few observations on this taxation measure from a lay man's point of view as I am not an expert on taxation measures. Sir, the method of taxation, in my opinion, should be such as not to throw the burden on the poor people. I think the hon. Members as well as the Hon'ble Finance Minister will agree with me that burden of taxation of this particular taxation measure will fall not on the richer section of the community but it will fall heavily on the poorer section. Had the policy of the Government been to make the poor poorer, then, of course, it would have been different. When they speak of the Socialistic Pattern of Society, when they profess this as their objective, this measure to tax the poor people does not fit in with their profession. Sir, the *per capita* income of our village people is very low. On the other hand, the cost of living in this State is much higher than in many other States. At the same time, our rate of land revenue is also equally higher. In spite of all these, if we go on taxing our people in this manner, then Sir, I do not know, specially at this time, how our Government can expect to get co-operation and good will of our people. It is true, our Finance Minister was kind enough to ask some suggestions from the Leader of the opposition. It has been stated that these taxation measures are necessary to finance our development plans. But can they say definitely that they are actually developing the State? Had it been so, there would not have been so much wastage in the departments of the Government. If you go through the report of the Public Accounts Committee you will find how huge amounts have been wasted in all the different departments of the Government. Therefore Sir, I say that instead of attempting to collect money for our development plans and projects by any new measure of taxation on the people, Government should try to check this wastage. Instead of doing that if they try to collect money by a method of systematic exploitation of the people, they will not be able to count upon the willing co-operation of the people which is so essential at all time for smooth running of the administrative machinery, and doubly so, specially at this time when the country is passing through a period of emergency. I, therefore, say that this is not the opportune moment to come forward with any fresh taxation proposal. Because, there are those reactionary people who will not spare any efforts to exploit any situation. I, therefore, suggest to Government to collect the huge outstanding amounts on account of Sale Tax and on other accounts. In view of the large number of taxation proposals brought before the House by the Government, this Government can very well be termed as the 'Taxation Government'. In the name of development of the country they are going to exploit the people in such a way that all enthusiasm of the people are likely to be snapped thereby and they will not feel enthused to contribute their mite for the development of the country. Already famine conditions are prevailing in some parts of the State. Only recently I have received a letter from a very prominent gentleman of Dhakuakhana stating

that condition of famine is beginning to show its sign in that place. Economic backwardness of our country has already pushed us back in many respects ; natural calamities are also there. In view of all these, I do not find any justification for this new taxation proposal.

**Shri R. THANHLIRA [Aijal-East (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak against this Bill specially when it seeks to tax on vehicles. As already mentioned by the previous speakers, I am also of the opinion that the burden of this taxation will ultimately fall on the common people, (Mr. Speaker: How the burden will fall on poor people?) Because, when this taxes imposed on the vehicles carry passengers the vehicle owners will be compelled to realise this tax by raising the rate on passenger tickets. In this connection, I will support my contention by citing an example of my own district., Mizo Hills, where there is no such thing as the State Transport buses to carry passengers. There passengers are carried by private vehicles run by private owners. So, the passengers will be at the mercy of the vehicle owners. Hence it is quite evident that this new taxation measure will hard-hit the common people, the low paid and poorer section of the community. I, therefore, think that it is not the time to levy this tax.

Sir, if I remember aright, I read in a book somewhere to the effect that the Father of the Nation once advised our leaders that whenever a new piece of legislation affecting the common people is introduced, then one should ask himself first whether that proposed legislation would affect adversely the poorest section of the people. If it would do so, it should not be introduced. I think, Sir, that this advice is still worth following. Our country is still backward and as you know the cost of living is high indeed. I have already said about the position of transport in my district. At the moment, the cost of living there is very high. Rice is selling at Rs.30 at Aijal. It is very likely that the price of rice will rise to Rs.40 per maund in the near future. When, Sir, such is the condition, I think it is not at all fair and proper that such kind of legislation which affects the people unfavourably should be introduced.

Sir, we have been speaking of the National Emergency. In the name of the National Emergency some of us may advocate this taxation. As already mentioned by Mr. Barua, this is not the proper time for fresh taxation. If we are to enlist the goodwill of the people, it is proper that we spare them at the moment. Then when the National Emergency actually demands it, we shall be able to enlist their support with much less effort if the climate is there. I have no doubt that at that time everybody will be ready to sacrifice whatever they have in any shape or form. But at the present moment, the situation being as it is, the Emergency is not so rigid that in fact we are going to have bye-elections also, it is not time to come up with such a measure of taxation and we should spare the common people from the burden of fresh taxation. Sir, with these words, I oppose the motion.

**Shri ENOWELL POHSHNA [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully associate myself with the views expressed by the hon. Members who opposed this taxation measure at present. I am very glad that some Members from the other side stated that the taxes that are going to be raised are meant for the improvement of the

people and the Government. This reminds me of a remark made by a lady passenger travelling from Jowai to Shillong that although the freight has been raised 10 nP. per rupee, there is no improvement of the vehicles at all. Last time, during the discussion about taxation it was said that whatever Government had been doing was being done to improve the lot of the people. I invite the attention of the hon'ble Minister to one of the questions I put on the floor of the House asking him whether there was any break-down in the Jowai to Shillong or Shillong to Dawki road. It is strange that his reply was No ! and I donot agree that the reply is right. What makes me sorry in this matter is that at present although taxes are being raised, there is no intention on the part of the authority concerned to improve the buses.

Sir, I was speaking of Motor Vehicles. I have studied the Bill as it is and I find that it does not relate to the State Transport buses but it is intended for the private owners. As Mr. Thanhlira has said the private buses are run out of the places where nobody can exercise any check. Now the price of petrol has risen. People travelling in Jeeps and Station Wagons are at the mercy of these private owners who realise illegal freight. But Government are hardly interested in these difficulties of the people.

Therefore, Sir, I fully agree with the views of my friends opposing this Bill and I also invite the attention of the Government to the fact that while bringing in any Bill for fresh taxation, they should also see that the condition of the vehicles be improved. With these few words, I oppose this Bill.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir. In support of the statement by our Leader, Mr. Goswami, I want to make a few observations.

So far I remember, Shri Pabindra Sarma himself criticised the taxation proposal and suggested 1 per cent cut on the total Budget of 212 crores. In reply to the Budget speeches the Hon'ble Finance Minister curiously remarked that the hon. Member referred to the entire amount of 212 crores as Income of the State including amount of the Public accounts and suggested 1 per cent cut. Now he has come forward in Support of Taxation proposal.

At the present moment the vehicles are to pay four types of taxes, Road Permit Taxes, Annual Taxes, the Insurance Fee and Examination Charges. These taxes are very high. This proposed taxation will react on the people. Sir, as the last amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act was made in August, it was raised by 10 nP. per rupee. From Laitumkrah to Police Bazar it was 19 nP. for a Passenger to pay, now it has been raised to 22 nP. In this way it will be raised. Ultimately, people will have to pay these increasing fares. It has been seen that in the Supply budget there is something like Rs.1 crore 23 lakhs under the head 'National Emergency Expenses' and it has been shown to be required for the purpose of Pay, Honoraria and allowances of the Staff. This is a new inclusion and for the current year it is 66,00,0 0 and for the coming year : is Rs.1,23,00,000. Again under the Police Head also there is a sum kept to be spent for the National Emergency purpose. I think that this amount as envisaged in this Bill can be obtained by curtailing expenditure under other Heads of the Budget and therefore, this fresh taxation is not necessary and can be avoided.



With these few observations, I conclude my speech.

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Leader of the Opposition and some hon. Members from the Opposition have opposed the Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 on the main ground that the taxation is very high and it will fall upon the poor people. I am glad that the Leader of the Opposition made a reference to the report of the Road Transport Reorganisation Committee which is also called Masani Committee's Report. If they study it properly they will find that this Road Transport Reorganisation Committee and the Transport Development Council recommended that different levies on motor vehicles should be consolidated into a single tax. So long this recommendation of the Committee was not acted upon and now time has come to implement this recommendation of the Masani Committee as well as the Transport Development Council. Now, when the Chinese are at our door there is a national emergency and during this emergency there must be some amount of taxation to meet the additional expenditure for our defence purpose. This is one reason. Another reason, as I have stated, in the statement of objects and reasons, is that it is necessary to raise the resources for financing the development projects in the State for improvement of communication. Unless roads are improved it is not possible to run the vehicles efficiently. So, Sir, there are two kinds of levies one is road permit tax and the other is motor vehicles tax. These are two main levies in the State on motor vehicles. Now, this Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 is introduced with a view to consolidate these two levies into one levy, according to the recommendation of the Road Transport Reorganisation Committee and the Transport Development Council. In the opinion of the Masani Committee this tax on Motor Vehicles is the highest in Madras at present. In other States it is not so high. So, Sir, the Masani Committee recommended that this tax should be raised to 75 per cent. of the Madras tax in other States. But we have not raised this to the extent recommended. Our main object is to consolidate the two levies of tax into one single levy and to rationalise it. The tax and fees levies on Motor Vehicles in our State now is extremely low in comparison with other States. In doing this also it has not been raised to 75 per cent of the Madras tax. The incidence of taxation is negligible and will not affect even the poorer section of the public. Let us examine it. In the case of private carrier if one  $6\frac{1}{2}$  tonner vehicle performs 100 miles of journey per day, it will perform  $100 \times 360 = 36,000$  miles in a year, on 36,000 miles the rise is Rs 171. Therefore for 100 miles incidence is  $171 \times 100 = .48$  and the increase per maund on 100 miles is  $\frac{.48}{175}$  will be  $\frac{.00027}{175}$  nP. This is the incidence of taxation. Now in case of public carrier it will be  $\frac{.0049}{175}$ . On 36,000 miles the rise is Rs.312. Therefore, on hundred miles  $312 \times 100$  it is  $\frac{.86}{175}$ . Therefore, the increase per md. on 100 miles is  $\frac{.86}{175} = .0049$ . Let us examine the case of stage carriage (40 seater bus). On 36,000 miles the rise is Rs.700. Therefore for 100 miles, if we divide  $700 \times 100$  by 36,000 it will be 1.94 nP. Therefore the increase per seat of passenger on 100 miles

comes to  $1.94 = 047$  nP. is to say  $.05$  nP. Therefore there is increase per  $\frac{40}{40}$  seat (passenger) on 100 miles. This cannot be called high.

If you compare the motor vehicles taxes providing in other States you will see that taxes in other States are higher than the proposed tax in Assam. I shall give you the comparative figures of other States. Sir, in West Bengal the tax on stage carriage for 30 seaters is Rs.1,860, whereas in Assam it will be only Rs.1,200, *i. e.*, in West Bengal it is more than Rs.660. In West Bengal tax on goods vehicles is Rs.1,935 whereas in Assam it will be only Rs.1,337, *i. e.*, it will be less by approximately Rs.600. Similarly in Orissa tax on goods vehicles of 9 tons in weight laden is Rs.1,920 but in Assam tax on goods vehicles of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  tons is Rs. 1,337. Tax on stage carriage for passengers in Orissa on 30 seaters is Rs.(120+30) Rs.3,600 and in Assam that of 40 seaters will be (40+30) *i. e.*, Rs.1,200 So, Sir, this Amending Bill has rationalised and consolidated taxation and at the same time it is not high.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** But they say that will affect the poor people. You are to show that it does not affect the poor people.

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport):** Sir, it is not so. The incidence will clearly show that it is negligible and during this emergency even poor people will have to share the burden to some extent.

Then Sir, Shri Pohshna has criticized that there is frequent break-down in Shillong-Jowai road. It is not so. Sir, I can give the comparative figures of break-down of some important States of India during the year 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62, but there is no time I shall only give the figures of 1961-62. The figures that I will give is the figures of break-down per 10,000 miles for the year 1960-61. Sir, in Bombay, the rate of break-down was 12.87 times; in West Bengal it is 6.01, in Ahmedabad it is 3.11; in Andhra, in the plains areas it is 5.57 and in city service 2.16, in Madras it is 10.02 and in Assam it is only 1.58.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** Sir, the hon'ble Minister has given the figures of taxation in other economically advanced States, but the economic condition of our people is altogether different.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** He is giving the figures of break-down and it has nothing to do with the economic conditions.

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA:** So, Sir, the break-down in other advanced States is much more than in Assam. I would now request the hon. Member to withdraw their objections.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The question is that the Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted).

Now next item, Mr. Sarma. As there is no amendment, you can move (c).

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport)**: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be passed.

**Mr. SPEAKER**: Motion moved is that the Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be passed.

**Shri HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY (Patachar-kuchi)**: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই "মটৰ ভেইকল টেকচেচন বিল" খনত যি আসোৱাহ আছে মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে দূৰ কৰিব পৰা নাই, কাৰণ তেখেতে যথাযথ উত্তৰ দিব পৰা নাই।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই বিলৰ দ্বাৰাই লগাব খোজা, টেক্চৰ বোজা গৰীৰ সকলৰ ওপৰত যে পৰিব—ই একেবাৰে খাটাং কথা। এইটো মন কৰিব লগীয়া যে এই কৰব বোজা দুখীয়া সকলৰ ওপৰত কেনেকৈ নপৰিব বুলি মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়ে বুজাই কবলৈ কোৱাতে বিভাগীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে বুজাই কব নোৱাৰিলে এবাইহে গল।

**Mr. SPEAKER**: He has proved by figures.

**Shri HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY**: এই বিলত, 'মটৰ ভেইকল চ'ৰ ওপৰত টোল লগোৱা হৈছে—যাত্ৰী বা গাৰীত নিয়া মাল-বস্তৰ ওপৰত লগোৱা নাই। কিন্তু চালকে বা মালিকে ভাড়া বঢ়াবই কাৰণ নবঢ়াবলৈ এবিলত নিয়ন্ত্ৰণৰ কোনো কথা নাই। কাষেই গাৰীৰ মালিক সকলে যাত্ৰী আৰু মালৰ ওপৰত দান বঢ়াব পাৰে। সেই কাৰণে দেখা যায়—এই 'টেকচৰ' ভাৰ গাৰী গৰাকীৰ ওপৰত নপৰি, যিবিলাক যাত্ৰী আৰু যিসকলে মাল পঠায় তেওঁলোকৰ ওপৰতহে পৰিব।

### Adjournment

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

*After Lunch*

**Shri HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY (Patachar-kuchi)**: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই কব বিচাৰিছিলো যে আমাৰ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে বৰ্তমান গাৰীৰ ওপৰত বহোৱা কৰব বোজা যে গৰীৰৰ ওপৰত নপৰিব আৰু কোনো নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ থকা বুলিও কোৱা নাই বৰং সেই কথাটো এৰি গৈছে। তেখেত কেৱল ভীষণপ্ৰতীম শ্ৰদ্ধাভাজন মানুহেই নহয়, আমাৰ অসমৰ সকলো মানুহে তেখেতৰ কথা যুক্তি পূৰ্ণ বুলি গ্ৰহণ কৰে। তেনে জন লোকে এই কথা ইচ্ছা কৰিয়েই উল্লেখ কৰা নাই; তাৰ পৰাও ধাৰণা হয় যে এই কৰব বোজা বেচিকৈ পৰিব গৰীৰৰ ওপৰত। অৱশ্যে কৰ বা অতিৰিক্ত ভাড়া কেইটামান ভাল বাস্তাত নপৰিব পাৰে, কিন্তু গাওঁ অঞ্চলত, যত গৰীৰ লোকৰ বসবাস, তাত তেওঁলোকে এই কৰব হাতৰ পৰা মুক্তি পাব নোৱাৰে। তেওঁলোকৰ যাত্ৰায়ত ভাড়া বৃদ্ধি হব; হাট বজাৰ লৈ নিয়া বস্তৰ দাম চৰি যাব। জাতীয় উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে tax বহাব লাগে কিন্তু সেই tax বহন কৰিব কোনে? সেই tax বহাব লাগে এনে ধৰণে যাতে তাৰ বোজা ধনীৰ ওপৰত পৰে। যিবিলাকৰ শক্তি নাই তেওঁলোকে কৰ দিয়ে ক'ব পৰা? কৰৰ আদ্য এটা উদ্দেশ্য হ'ল, সামাজিক সমীকৰণ—কিন্তু গৰীৰৰ ওপৰ tax য়ে গৰীৰক বেচিকৈ গৰীৰ কৰিব।

সিদিনা মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰীয়ে কৈছে যে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত কৰ্মচাৰীসকলৰ শতকৰা ৬১ জনৰেই দৰমহা ৫০ টকাৰো কম। এই সকল কৰ্মচাৰীতকৈ গাওঁত আৰু গৰীব আছে। গতিকে এনে ধৰণৰ tax লগোৱাত আমাৰ গৰীবসকলৰ উৎসাহ উদ্দীপনা কমি যাব সহযোগ কমি যাব, দেশ বন্ধাত বৰবাধা পৰিব—নিজৰ দেশ বুলি ভাবিব এৰিব।

আমাৰ চৰকাৰে জনপ্ৰিয় চৰকাৰ বুলি নিজক অভিহিত কৰে। কিন্তু এনেধৰণৰ tax লগালে আমাৰ লোকসকল চৰকাৰী বিদ্ৰোহী হব পাৰে। গতিকে সকলো কৰৰ বোজা যাতে গাওঁৰ দুবেলা দুমুঠি খাব নোপোৱা মানুহৰ ওপৰত নপৰি ধনীৰ ওপৰত পৰে, সেইটোহে কৰিব লাগে।

Tax কোনে দিব পাৰে, বুলি এটা প্ৰশ্ন আমাৰ বিৰোধীদলৰ নেতাক স্মৰিছিল। তাৰ উত্তৰত মই সংক্ষেপে ইয়াকে কও, যে আমাৰ বহুলোকৰ কিছুমান মাটি গৰাবাদ হৈ পৰি আছিল, যেনে আমিনগাওঁত, পাণ্ডুত, নাৰেঙ্গিত ইত্যাদি। কিন্তু সেই মাটি Refinery Pipe Lineৰ কাৰণে লগা হোৱাত বন্ধপুত্ৰৰ দলঙৰ বাবে লগা হোৱাত সেই মাটি অত্যুচ দামত চৰকাৰে কিনিছে—তেওঁলোকৰ পৰা heavy tax লব লাগে। বহুতো মাটি কিনা-বেচা কাৰ-বাৰীয়ে অসম্ভৱ লাভ কৰিছে তেওঁলোকৰ পৰাও tax লব লাগে।

এতিয়া জাতীয় সঙ্কটৰ সময়ত সেই পতিত মাটিত দিয়া সৰ্বোচ্চ দামৰ ওপৰত tax বহাব লাগে সেইবিলাক unearned income, তাৰ ওপৰত tax লগালে কোনেও অনুভৱ নকৰে আৰু আপত্তিও নাই।

চৰকাৰে মিতব্যয় কৰিব লাগে। অদৰ্কাৰী খৰচ বাদ দিব লাগে। যেনে, কালিলৈ উমীয়াস দেখুৱাবলৈ আমাৰ সদস্যসকলক নিব আৰু তাতে lunch খৰাব। এনে 'পাৰ্টি'ৰ নিছিনা, আনোদ থুমোদ এৰি দিব লাগে। অকল চৰকাৰ মিতব্যয়তাৰ কথা কোৱা নাই—জনসাধাৰণকো মিতব্যয়ী কৰিব লাগে আৰু সেই অৰ্থে মানহক বুজাব লাগে। আজিৰ দিনত বিয়া, সৰাহ আদিত অসংখ্য মানহ মতা, সভা উৎসবত দিনে ৰাতিয়ে যাত্ৰা গান থিয়েটাৰ মাতা বন্দ কৰিব লাগে।

যিসকল লোকে বিয়া, উৎসব আদিত দেশৰ বেচি মানহক খুৱায়, তেওঁলোকৰ ওপৰত tax বহাব লাগে। তেনে ধৰণৰ মিতব্যয়তা যাতে হয় তাৰ কাৰণেও চকু দিব লাগে।

আৰু এটা কথা Nylon কাপোৰত পাকিস্তানে বেচিকৈ কৰ বহুৱাইছে বহু লাভ কৰা বুলি পঢ়িছে। ই বৰ দংখৰ বস্তু। আমাৰে Nylonৰ ওপৰত luxury tax বহুৱাব লাগে।

মই কব বিচাৰিছো যে, মটৰ গাড়ীৰ ওপৰত tax বহুৱাই আৰু ক'ত ক'ত বহাব পোৱা সেই source বিলাকহে উল্লেখ কৰিছো।

মই কও যে, আমাৰ জাতীয় ডিগবই তেল কাৰখানা লিডুৰ কয়লা আদি কাৰখানা বিলাক জাতীয় কৰণ কৰিব লাগে।

গতিকে আনাৰ চৰকাৰে tax বহুওৱাত সজাগ হোৱা উচিত। আৰু  
মটৰ ভেহিকেলৰ ওপৰত টোল বহুৱাই গৰীবৰ পৰা টানি আজৰি অনা ঠিক  
হোৱা নাই।

মই ইয়াকে কৈ এই কৰ বহুওৱাৰ পৰা বিবত থাকিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰো।

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Now, Mr. Sarma.

**Shri LAKHSMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to waste the time of the House in this way. Sir, I like to say a few words only. While replying to the points I raised, the Minister in charge of Transport referred to the taxation measures of Madras. Sir, according to Mr. Masani's report, it is said:—

“Thus, it appears that even in States where octrois or terminal taxes constitute a heavy burden on road transport as referred to later or where sales and other taxes on vehicles are higher the vehicle tax has been raised to limits which take the cumulative burden to beyond 75 per cent of that in Madras.”

Sir, my point is that the object of this Bill is to consolidate all different taxes levied on motor vehicles. Now, Sir, what are these taxes that are levied? These are Token Tax, Permit Fees, Inter-District Permit Fees, Inter State Permit Fees, Octroi Duty, Toll Tax, Petrol Tax, Taxes on goods or vehicles, Passenger Taxes, etc. Registration Fees, Inspection Fees and so on and so forth. Sir, all these taxes are not proposed to be taken in one tax according to the proposal. Whereas all taxes in Madras, if we go through the report of Mr. Masani, are consolidated together. Everything concerning motor transport, it goes to 75 per cent. Sir, according to Masani Report the cumulative burden of such taxes is higher in Madras than in other States. But Sir, if we take the cumulative burden of all taxes taken together, I am sure, the taxation proposal in Assam will be more.

**Shri SIDDHINATH SRAMA (Minister, Transport):** At present the owners of vehicles pay two taxes, one vehicles tax and other Permit tax and these two are going to be amended to one.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI:** Vehicles pay toll when Crossing bridges in most of the districts.

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport):** There is no toll ferries in the National Highways. There are only few toll bridges in Assam. So increase of incidence of tax will be very negligible on this ground. In case, bus fare is not increased, the cultivators and common people will not be affected. At present, the owner of motor vehicles pays two taxes. He pays Motor Vehicles Tax, Permit Fees as well. This amending bill seeks to consolidate the two taxes into one and it is also rationalised. In some cases, if the hon. Members examine the proposal, they will find that a common man will pay less in one case and in others, he will pay a bit higher. Therefore, taxation

on common people will be high if fare is not increased. Again, if taxation proposal is examined, it will be seen that the taxation proposal which is proposed in the amending Bill, in some cases, there is a decrease and in other cases it has increased to a small extent. As I have stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, taxes on motor vehicles have been consolidated upto a Single levy and rationalised. The incidence of increase is also very small. Sir, if you compare the rates of taxation with other states you will find the tax in Assam much less. If we compare the tax levied in West Bengal with that of Assam, you will find that for stage carriage of a 30-seater it is Rs. 1,860 in West Bengal and that Rs.1,200 in Assam. For goods vehicles it is Rs.1,935 in West Bengal whereas in Assam it will come to Rs.1,337. Similarly, if we compare the taxes in Orissa, we find that for goods vehicles-9 tonner in 1930 in Orissa and in Assam for a 6½ tonner it is Rs.1,336. I may mention that a 9 tonner in Orissa is equal in laden weight to 6½ tonner in Assam. So, the taxation here is much less. Then for stage carriage of 30-seater passenger buses it is 3,600 in Orissa, whereas it is 1,200 i. e., much less.

মাননীয় সদস্য হোসেশ্বৰ চৌধুৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে, এইটো গৰীবৰ ওপৰত পৰিব আৰু তেখেতে কৈছে যে, এই বিষয়টো উত্তৰ নিদি এৰাই গৈছে। মই হিচাব কৰি দেখুৱাইছো যে, যৎসামান্য টেক্সৰে বাঢ়িব আৰু সেইটো মটৰৰ মালিক সকলৰ ওপৰত পৰিব। সাধাৰণতে যাত্ৰীৰ ওপৰত হেচা নপৰে যদি যাত্ৰীৰ ভাড়া বঢ়োৱা নহয়। মানৱ সম্পৰ্কেও একে কথাই খাটে। সেই কথা পৰীক্ষা কৰি চাবলৈ বিচাৰিলো। যিবিলাক তেলদিয়া বা পককা বাস্তা তাত গাড়ীৰ মালিকৰ খৰছ কম হয় সেই কাৰণে সেই বিলাক বাস্তাত চলা যাত্ৰী গাড়ীৰ বা মাল গাড়ীৰ ভাৰা বেচি নকৰিলেও বোধহয় মালিকৰ বেচি হানি নহবও পাৰে। আকৌ কেচা বাস্তা বা বেয়া বাস্তাত মালিকক গাড়ীৰ ভালদৰে চলাবলৈ হলে বেছি খৰছ কৰিব লগীয়া হয়। সেই কাৰণে ভাড়া বঢ়োৱা হয়। এই বিলাক বিষয় ভালদৰে বিবেচনা কৰি চাব লাগিব। গতিকে গৰীব মানুহৰ ওপৰত যাতে বেচিকৈ কৰা হেচা নপৰে বা মালিকৰো হানি নহয় তাৰ বাবে চিন্তা কৰা হৈছে। আৰু এই বিষয় বিবেচনা কৰি চোৱা হব। কৰ মানুহৰ ওপৰত পৰিলেও সমান্য ভাবেহে পৰিব। মাহে ৫০ টকাটকৈ কম উপাৰ্জন হোৱা মানুহ বিলাকে যাতে টেক্সৰ বোজা বহন কৰিব নালাগে সেইটো কোৱা হৈছে।

কিন্তু সদস্য সকলে জানে যে আজি-কালি এমাইল দুমাইল বাস্তা যাবলৈ হলেও মানুহে খোজ নাকাটে। মটৰ পালে মটৰতহে যায়। পলাশবাৰীলৈ যেতিয়া প্ৰথমে গাড়ী চলিছিল তেতিয়া মানুহে খোজকাটি যোৱা দেখিছিলো। এতিয়া দেখা যায় মানুহে এমাইল বাস্তাত খোজ নাকাটে। সেই কাৰণে গাড়ী বঢ়াই দিব লগা হৈছে। গাড়ীত যাব খুজিলে ভাড়াও দিব লাগিব। কাজেই গৰীবৰ ওপৰত হেঁচা নিদিয়াৰ কথাটো বিবেচনা কৰা হব। সেই কথা আমি পুণৰ বিবেচনা কৰি চাম যাতে টেক্সৰ হেঁচা গৰীবৰ ওপৰত বেচিকৈ নপৰে। মটৰৰ মালিকে যাতে লোকচান দিব নালাগে সেইটোও পৰীক্ষা কৰি চাব লাগিব। এই দুয়োটা কথা চৰকাৰে বিবেচনা কৰি চাব।

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The question is that the Assam Motor Vehicle Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963, be passed.

The House divided with the following result:—

Ayes	47	}	(To save time division was taken by asking, the members for and against the motion to rise in their seats separately and counting their nos. The "Ayes" were asked to rise first.)
Noes	12		

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The question is that the short and long title and the preamble of the Bill do stand part of the Bill.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

**The Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963.**

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963, be taken into consideration.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Motion moved is that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose this Bill. The intention of this Bill is to increase the tax on special goods and also it will give way to tax over kerosene. For the first item I have no objection because it is special goods and tax will be raised from .....

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Then you are not opposing this Bill?

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED:** No Sir, I oppose the Bill. The tax on kerosene oil will be very heavy on our poor people directly. Kerosene oil is an essential commodity used by all poor people living in the village side. When there is scarcity of food, our village people can maintain somehow. When there is scarcity of cloth they can weave cloth in their own houses. But no body can produce kerosene oil, salt and other essential commodities used by our people. Our people have already been overburdened with tax and they have the last straw on the camel's back. They should not be taxed further. So, when Government go to tax on Kerosene oil this way it will be very bad and an injustice will be done to the poorer section of the people. So, Sir, I oppose this Bill.

**\*Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):** Sir, I want to support my hon. Friend in opposing the Bill. Sir, Kerosene oil is used by the poorest section of the people. For instance, in Shillong also the houses of richer class of people and the Government buildings all are fitted with electric lights and so also in other towns.

But many poor people in these towns even use lamps and other battis and they need kerosene oil. Therefore, it is evident that kerosene oil is used by the poorer section and if tax is levied on this essential article the poor people will be very hard hit. Therefore, I do not know the reason why Government is levying tax on such essential commodities which are really used by poorer section of the people.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding)**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, against Deletion of Section 13 of the Act, *i.e.*, Clause 2 regarding the provision of publication of the list of registered dealers, I would like to make some observations. If the provision of publication of the registered dealers be deleted there may be some anomalies. It is for the benefit of both Government and dealers that their names should be registered and notified

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)**: Sir, I do not understand what the hon. Member is referring to. That Clause is not before this House. The hon. Member will please see that we have on this page an extra provision and out of this existing provision we have suggested deletion of Clause 13.

**Mr. SPEAKER**: You are going to delete that Clause. But Shri Das Gupta says that it should not be deleted.

**Shri SANTIRANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding)**: I want so to say, Sir that this clause benefit both Government and the dealers. This clause will help Government to collect statistical data and matters like that. Sir, if this system is discontinued then there will be very many false, fake and fictitious figures and much advantage will be taken of by fictitious dealers. If it is deleted their number will increase more and there will be thousands of fake dealers. Therefore, Sir, both for the interest of Government as well as for the dealers this clause should be there.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)**: Sir, so far as the hon. Members opposite are concerned, they have opposed not only this taxation measure, but all other taxation measures on the following grounds. They are opposed to these measures because of there putting heavy burden on the poor people. They feel that if resources are required and interest be raised by Government for developmental and other activities, these should be done by only taxing the richer section of the people. Further it is asserted by them that whatever funds we need for the purpose of development or for meeting the situation arising out of emergency, can be found by effecting economy and not it is necessary to resort to any taxation measure. Sir, I took nearly 2 hours in placing before this House the facts and figures to refute the assertions made by the hon. Members that proposed taxations will put a heavy burden on the poor people. Sir, it is not enough to assert that this or that tax will put heavy burden on the people. If my Hon. friends have anything to differ from the facts and figures given by me and they have had sufficient time during these few days to scrutinize and examines those figures they ought to have quoted figures in order to convince the House that what I had stated was not correct and what they are asserting gives the correct picture. Unfortunately, nothing has



been indicated by hon. Members except a price assertion that the taxations will affect the poor people. Sir, I would request the hon. Members to reckon the figures I had only recently placed before forming any judgement or making an assertion. The State taxation as a percentage of the State National income, Sir, as I have said earlier, was only 3.6 per cent. The hon. Members should be pleased to consider this in the context of the taxes and receipts which we get from the Government of India either as Excise duty or on other account. Sir, our revenue collection is 9.4 per cent of our national income. I have quoted the figures of percentage of revenue collection to National Income both of the Developed Countries and Under Developed Countries like Colombo and Indonesia. I also informed that our National Income had between 1955-56 to 1961-62 risen from 274 crores to 385 crores. While the revenue increase was Rs. 5 crores and 20 lakhs only during this period.

Sir, in placing before the House the per capita income of our people and the increase in national income from 1955 to 1961-62, I also indicated that the Planning Commission was of the opinion that at least 30 per cent of the National Income should be ploughed back and invested in order to develop our country and to create more resources. It is very unfortunate that without taking all these figures and facts into consideration, the hon. Members are making sweeping assertion that the burden of the taxation will be falling on the shoulders of the poor people. For information of the hon. Members I am repeating the figures. Sir, the measures placed before this House for yielding additional taxes are as follows. The first of this is the Agricultural income tax. Unfortunately, my friend, Mr. Barbaruah is not here to listen to the reply of the matter raised by him. Sir, he said that only the poor people will be taxed more and no rich people will be affected by this taxation measure. Sir, we have for the purpose of examination classified our people into four categories. Under the first category comes those whose annual income is Rs. 1,500 or less the Second category is of people whose annual income is between Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 6,000; the third category is of people whose annual income is between Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 15,000 and the 4th category is of people whose annual income is above Rs. 15,000. So far as the Agriculture Income tax is concerned, we are likely to collect about 53 lakhs of rupees more and this entire additional taxation of Rs. 52 or 53 lakhs will be collected from the persons whose income is over Rs. 15,000. Actually, under this category, comes the Tea Company. Therefore, agricultural income tax will come from the persons whose income is more than Rs. 15,000 per year.

Sir, next comes the stamps duty; which will give us an additional revenue of Rs. 10 lakhs. Now Sir, this Rs. 10 lakhs will be collected mostly from that category of persons whose income is Rs. 15,000 and more. Another 3 lakhs and 30 thousands will be collected from those persons whose income is between Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 6,000. Then Rs. 3 lakhs 4 thousands will be collected from the people whose income is between Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 15,000. It was also estimated that from the motor vehicle, additional amount of Rs. 31 lakhs would be collected. This additional income of Rs. 31 lakhs will not come from the persons whose annual income is less than Rs. 1,500. This will come from 2 categories of people, namely, whose income is between Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 15,000 and persons whose income is over Rs. 15,000.

Sir, so far as the first two categories of persons are concerned, they constitute 75 per cent of the population. Thus there will be no impact of this taxes on vast majority the poor people we have also imposed tax on Kerosene. Sir, we are likely to get about Rs. 24 lakhs from this source and out of this 24 lakhs nearly 12 lakhs will be contributed by the poor section of the population. Sir, 75 per cent of the population constitute this class. The incidence per capita will be small 8 lakhs of rupees will come from the second category of people, an other Rs. 3 lakhs 50 thousands will come from the persons having income between Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 15,000. In this connection I would like to inform the hon. Members that at present the Jet planes are run with Kerosene oil. So, when the International Planes will come to Gauhati Airdrome these Jet planes will purchase Kerosene oil and from this source, the state is likely to get a very high tax.

From the Sales Tax we are likely to get about Rs. 16 lakhs. This will have no impact on the people which constitute about 75 per cent of the population and whose annual income is less than Rs. 15,000. So, Sir, how the hon. Members can say that this is likely to affect the poor people.

Then Sir, sales-tax on luxury goods. This is likely to yield about 10 lakhs of rupees ; it will not have any impact on the poor people. From the second category of people only one lakh will be realised and the rest will be realised from the richer section of the people. Then from the excise and country liquor there is likely to be additional revenue of about 3½ lakhs of rupees. Now, if the people give up their drinking habit they need not pay this tax and it will have no impact whatsoever on the poor people. In fact, this is one of the measures to discourage people from drinking liquor. If the poor people really want that their health should be protected and they should have enough money for helping their families, it is for the hon. Members to convince them to give up this habit. In that case, the incidence of this tax will not fall on them. Sir, in order to appreciate the position, I also quoted figure which, unfortunately, I have not now with me to indicate the hon. Members that having regard to the budget of this 4th category of person, who spend about 100 rupees per month, the impact of taxation will be only about 2 Naya paise in a month. In the case of a labourer having a family budget of Rs. 150 per month the additional burden would be 24 n.P. but in the case of middle class persons and others, it will be more. I have also worked out the impact of the additional taxations and all previous taxations on people ; 55 per cent of this will fall on the rich people ; 15 per cent on the category having an annual income of Rs. 6,000 to 15,000 a year; 14 per cent on the category having an annual income from between Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 600 and 16 per cent on the category having an annual income of less than 1,500 and the people constituting that category as I have already said are 75 per cent. Therefore, the impact on the individual will be much less. I hope after this the hon. Members will be convinced and will not repeat the assertion that this tax is likely to hit the poor people. This will also help me and the State. They should also place before the people the correct picture in order to prepare them to sacrifice which only can hold a better future. Now, why these things are required. Only during the recess, some hon. Members approached me for grants for schools and other things. I frankly told them that when they require grant for

a particular school, dispensary and other public amenities and needs they should also realise and consider how the funds for all these things should be found. The other day I also posed a question before the House whether the hon. Members would like the State to remain in this position without any development? But the sense of the House was that there should be more roads, more industries and all kinds of amenities in towns and so on and so forth. (Voices: We want that there should be no wastage.) How are we to provide for these things? Please have patience, sit down, and let me explain.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA ( Jorhat):** On a point of order, Sir. Whether the Hon'ble Finance Minister can ask any member to sit down?

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** I only requested him to sit down so that I can explain the position. There are three ways of getting funds for these things. To go to the market and borrow funds for investment to raise funds by taxes and to economise I am in entire agreement with the hon. Members that we should try to curtail the expenditure on unproductive schemes and divert it to productive schemes. As there is scope for curtailing that expenditure I have already indicated the appointment of a Committee to examine this. We however, require the cooperation from all because, curtailing of expenditure will depend upon the preparedness of all those people entrusted with this responsibility. We have not only to work more and increase the output by increasing working hours but also by improving efficiency. Take for instance, the working hours should not be less than 8 hours a day. But the moment we put such proposal there are associations of our employees which will oppose such a step. They are not there to look to this aspect but only to demand more salaries and more amenities. I have listened very carefully to the criticisms against waste and inefficiency made by hon. Members. They will agree with me that this difficulty to-day can not be overlooked by punishing or taking action against one individual. The truth is that we have not yet been able to develop the proper mentality and outlook and realise that as Ministers, Secretaries or as employees of the Government we are not to serve any individual but to serve the people of our country. We have to serve and reach our objectives through successful implementation of five year plans. Unfortunately, this realisation is lacking with the result that this criticism made by the hon. Members is not without justification. I would therefore, appeal to all that whenever is possible and whatever is possible for us to do in that behalf we should make a serious attempt at economy in the administration. In order to attain success in this direction we have to pool together our efforts and realise that by working harder and more efficiently we can bring about economy in the administration. We should also see that whatever funds are placed at our disposal they should be properly, timely and fully utilised for the development of our country and the betterment of our children. I submit, Sir, that at least after I have made efforts to remove misconception about these matters my Friends will not repeat before this House that the taxation measures proposed and placed before the House would

hit the poor people. I appeal to them to pass this Bill. I seek and hope Sir, to get their co-operation not only here, but also outside this House in explaining the proposals to the people and the necessity which have compelled us to increase taxes.

So far as the amendment is concerned, we want to delete Clause 13. This is proposed to effect economy by avoiding unnecessary publication. I So, request the hon. Members to withdraw their amendments.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** The question is that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

Those who support the motion say 'Aye' those who oppose it say 'No'.

(Voices from the Opposition—No, No.)

(After a pause)

Order, order. The question is that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 taken into consideration.

(After a pause)

(The question was adopted).

There are no amendments to Clauses 1, 2 and 3.

I put the question: The Clauses 1, 2 and 3 do stand part of the Bill.

Then Clause 4, Mr. Tazuddin Ahmed.

(After a pause)

Yes, Mr. Tazuddin Ahmed, what are you going to do with your Amendment.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) :** We are not given copies of the Amendment, Sir.

**Mr SPEAKER :** Amendment is placed on everybody's table. Here is the Amendment. In clause 4

(1) in the marginal heading the word and figure "and all" shall be deleted ; and (ii) the item (b) shall be deleted.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED** : Copies are not with us, Sir.

**Mr SPEAKER** : The hon. Member should know that when he moves an amendment, he should have Copy of the amendment with him.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari)** : No Sir, I am not moving.

**Mr. SPEAKER** : The hon. Member is not moving his Amendment. Then I put the question. The question is that Clause 4 of the Bill does stand part of the Bill.

*(After a pause)*

(The question was adopted).

Clause 4 of the Bill does stand part of the Bill.

The question is long and short titles and the preamble of the Bill do stand part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted.)

Yes, Mr. Ahmed

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)** : I beg to move that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be passed.

**Mr. SPEAKER** : The Motion moved is that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be passed.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to oppose the passing of the Bill because the explanation given by the Hon. Finance Minister is not at all convincing though he has been trying to convince us by force. (Mr. Speaker : How does the question of force arise ? Better say force of arguments). All right Sir, by force of arguments. Sir, Government by laying stress on the emergency and without considering the economic aspect of the people are going to levy taxes one after the other. I do not propose to go into details at the moment, I would refer to only one thing. I hope the hon. Members of the House will all agree with me that the price of all essential commodities are rising to-day. I want to know from the Government, in this connection, what effective measures are they going to take against this rising price. I want to know from the Government what steps are they taking to make up the loss on the royalty on oil which is entirely due to their either negligence or incompetence to put up the case properly before the authority that be ? Therefore, the question arises, had the Government been able to realise the royalty rightly

due to the Government, then, Sir, if I calculate aright, there would have been no deficit in the Budget. Now having failed to do that due to their utter incompetence, they are now raising this bogey of emergency in season and out of season to tax our people. I would like to tell the Government that the people of Assam will not tolerate this for any length of time. It is clearly evident that this taxation measure will affect our people adversely; they will suffer directly from the impact of this taxation. On the plea of Sales Tax businessmen will raise the price of essential commodities like anything. This is exactly happening at present, from the very next day of the presentation of the central Budget, prices, of all the commodities included therein began to rise long one month ahead of the enforcement of the proposal. The after effect of the taxation proposal of our State is also not an exception. Will the Government be able to control this rising prices. As the Hon. Members are fully aware, Government has upto now sadly failed to bring any effective check on the greedy businessman trying to raise the prices of essential commodities. Hon. Finance Minister knows very well how to put up fine arguments to carry through his points. But the real problem lies in implementation of the proposed measure. Can Government give us an assurance that the greedy businessmen will no longer be able to raise the prices of essential commodities? Although our Government is trying to immitate other progressive States in the matter of levying taxes one after the other, they have failed to give due importance to the fact that the people of our State are economically most backward. Can Government develop the country simply by force of arguments, by telling the people that they are following a progressive method of taxation? I would rather say, the method followed by our Government to tax our people is far from progressive; instead, it is the most digressive method of taxation.

It is a fact that the burden of Central taxation will be on the shoulders of the common people. Now in all matters of taxation there are some sort of mixtures. They are going to mix up this taxation with something else. Now, it is the emergency with which it is being mixed up. At present, keeping aside development, it is emergency that predominates our thinking. This has given rise to twin objectives that taxation measures have to achieve. But the trouble is this that nobody in-charge of developmental activities is sincere and honest. The present drive seems to be something like just to white-wash their defects and wastage in the name of development. The Finance Minister argued that we want development, but development in the real sense of the term extending benefit to the people in any microscopic form, nowhere we can find. In every department there is huge wastage of money. At least 57 per cent or 60 per cent of money has been a sheer wastage. Since there is wastage of revenue, their coming with proposals of fresh taxation finds no justification. I am giving a lot of stress on the item of Kerosene. Government should not come forward with any proposal for fresh taxation on this essential article. They failed to get the due share in the oil royalty case, and in respect of other subvention from the Centre and now they are trying to get money like this, by imposing taxation on the essential commodities like Kerosene. Government should not forget that we are producers of Kerosene, nor should Government ignore the plight of the common man, the economic condition of the poor people of Assam. Taking all these factors into consideration, we cannot accept this Bill. This is my submission, Sir.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Mr. Speaker Sir, as all the facts and figures have already been placed by me before the House, I feel it is not necessary to repeat them again to meet the points raised by some of the Members. In opposing this Bill, Shri Barua has contended that, as the Government have not properly looked after the interest of the people and have wasted the funds and resources. At their disposal, there is no justification for the levy of this taxation. The Oil Refinery award has been cited as an instance of the State Government showing scant regard to the interest of the people. I am sorry, Sir, that, after the copies of the award and the materials connected with it have been placed before this House, there should still exist in the mind of some persons a feeling that we did not do our best to get what belongs to the State. Sir, I would like to emphasize that all that was possible was done by us to get the maximum royalty and, above all, to get our legal rights to have say in its determination recognised. I doubt if any one else could have done better. The hon. Member should realise that the only other alternative to agreeing to arbitration by Prime Minister was to go to the High Court or Supreme Court as was done by our Sister State, West Bengal, in the case of coal dispute. I have no hesitation in saying that we got satisfactory solution without going to the Courts. The West Bengal Government has not gained much by going to the Court as the latter has given the decision in favour of the Central Government. He ought to have been generous to realise that because of the placing of our case in correct prospective and proper manner, we succeeded in obtaining from Government of India the recognition of Assam's right to higher royalty than the Oil and Mines Ministry were proposed to give. The only matters where Assam's contention was not accepted was the basis of determination of the well-head value of crude oil. The cost of the extraction of crude oil, which would enable the determination of its well-head value, has not yet been worked out in India. If this could be worked out there would have been no difficulty in determining the royalty as 10 per cent of such well-head value would be the royalty. The Assam Oil Company has thus been paying on a national value and for this purpose the Oklahoma price has been taken as a basis—this being considered a substantially free market. We objected to the Middle East price being taken as the basis, on the basis of which Mines and Oil Ministry had assessed Rs.4.8 per ton as the royalty due to us, because Middle East Market was not a substantially free market and the Government of India objected to Oklahoma price being the basis.....

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** If these are not the correct basis, why then they made the agreement with the Government of India? What was the Government doing since 1949?

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** I was just going to mention the reason for their objection. It was said that till 1959 Oklahoma could be considered as a substantially free market but when the import of crude oil was prohibited in U. S. A. since 1959, Oklahoma also ceased to be a free market. The United States became a close State from 1959 so far as import of crude oil from outside was concerned. Therefore, in absence of any market being a substantially free market so far as crude oil was concerned, the question arose what should be the basis for determining the well-head value of crude oil extracted from fields in Assam? Naturally, the one basis would be the price of crude oil at which the producer will sell the crude oil after extraction to the refinery or to any other buyer as for instance

the Assam Oil Company. The Oil Refinery is purchasing the crude oil from Oil India and also the Assam Oil Company at a rate of about Rs.75 per ton. If this is the price received by Oil India is there any justification to say that ten per cent of this is not reasonable particularly when there is no substantially free market any where else on the basis of which we could press for taking into consideration the national value? Formerly, the Oil and Mines Ministry of Government of India arranged to pay us royalty on an arbitrary basis but because of our putting up of the case in the proper manner an equitable basis of determination of royalty has been arrived at. I do not understand how the hon. Member can say that we have done nothing to put properly Assam's Case and that the present basis of determining royalty is not reasonable and equitable.

I am constrained to submit that it becomes very difficult to make some persons appreciate the royalty when they are bent upon closing their eyes to facts. If what we experience and observe in different part of the States interpret work and express correctly we shall have to admit that we have made tremendous progress, since we became independent. Whether it is the development of power, extension of roads, construction.....

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** On a point of clarification, Sir, does the Hon'ble Minister think that by constructing roads, few buildings, Government have developed the State?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** That is a matter of opinion.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Sir, if the increase in literacy, facilities for imparting of education on a large scale, the extension and improvement of roads, the transport development, more and more power available to the people, provision of medical facilities and spread of technical institutions, do not indicate progress and development, I do not know what else can be the yard stick to measure and determine the progress and development of any country?

(Noise)

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** We differ.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order, order.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** I, therefore, submit that mere assertion that this State has not developed, will not convince any one and is not acceptable to me. All fair minded people will have to admit that progress and development in this State have been made. It is necessary that, for further development of our State, funds and resources have to be made available. As I pointed out, our annual plan outlay for the next Financial year, which will begin day after to-morrow, has been increased and it may exceed Rs.29 crores. Are not the hon. Members prepared to go for that much plan outlay during the next financial year. If the proposed outlay is described and accepted, the resource for implementing the programme and scheme in the coming year have to be found partly by raising loans and partly through taxation.



The investment much thus will bring about further development, I do not know what else can maintain the speed of development. Therefore, Sir, I submit what we see around, if sufficiently indicative of the progress we have made and if some are determined not to see this change for the better, I cannot help them.

**Mr SPEAKER:** The question is that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963, be passed.

## HOUSE DIVIDED

## Noes—15

- |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Shri Dulal Chandra Barua.      | 9. Shri Rampirit Rudrapaul.      |
| 2. Shri Emerson Momin.            | 10. Shri Ram Prasad Das.         |
| 3. Dr. Homeswar Deb Choudhury.    | 11. Shri R. Thanhlira.           |
| 4. Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah. | 12. Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta. |
| 5. Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami.   | 13. Shri Tajuddin Ahmed.         |
| 6. Shri Madhusudhan Das.          | 14. Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee. |
| 7. Shri Nanda Kishore Sinha.      | 15. Shri Zahirul Islam.          |
| 8. Shri Nallindra Sangma.         |                                  |

## Ayes—58

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|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha.    | 30. Shri Gauri Sankar Roy.       |
| 2. Shri Baidyanath Mookerjee.     | 31. Shri Hakim Chandra Rabha.    |
| 3. Shri Dev Kant Borooah.         | 32. Shri Harendra Nath Talukdar. |
| 4. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed.     | 33. Shri Indreswar Khound.       |
| 5. Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi. | 34. Shri J. B. Hagjer.           |
| 6. Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika.   | 35. Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwala. |
| 7. Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury.   | 36. Shri Khogendra Nath Nath.    |
| 8. Shri Rup Nath Brahma.          | 37. Shri Lila Kanta Bora.        |
| 9. Shri Siddhinath Sarma.         | 38. Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta.     |

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 10. Shri Girindra Nath Gogoi.      | 39. Shri Mahamad Umaruddin.      |
| 11. Shri Radhika Ram Das.          | 40. Shri Mahadeb Das.            |
| 12. Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika.   | 41. Shri Mal Chandra Pegu.       |
| 13. Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua.   | 42. Shri Manik Chandra Das.      |
| 14. Shri Lalit Kumar Doley.        | 43. Shri Mohananda Bora.         |
| 15. Shri Abdul Jalil Choudhury.    | 44. Shri Narendra Nath Sarma.    |
| 16. Shri Abdul Munim Choudhury.    | 45. Shri Omeo Kumar Das.         |
| 17. Shri Abu Nasar Md. Ohid.       | 46. Shri Pabin Sarma.            |
| 18. Begum Afia Ahmed.              | 47. Shrimati Padma Kumari Gohain |
| 19. Raja Ajit Narayan Deb.         | 48. Shri Pulakeshi Singh.        |
| 20. Shri Akshoy Kumar Das.         | 49. Shri Radha Kishon Khemka.    |
| 21. Shri Baliram Das.              | 50. Shri Ramdeb Malah.           |
| 22. Shri Bazlul Basit.             | 51. Shri Ram Prasad Das.         |
| 23. Shri Chanoo Kheria.            | 52. Shri Sarat Chandra Singha.   |
| 24. Shri Dandeswar Hazarika.       | 53. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami.  |
| 25. Shri Derajuddin Sarkar.        | 54. Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi.     |
| 26. Shri Devendra Nath Sarma.      | 55. Shri Surendra Nath Das.      |
| 27. Shri Dwijesh Chandra Deb Sarma | 56. Shri Syed Ahmed Ali.         |
| 28. Shri Emonsing Sangma.          | 57. Shri Tilok Gogoi.            |
| 29. Dr. Ghanashyam Das.            | 58. Upendra Nath Sanatan.        |

The House divided with the following result :

AYES	...	...	...	...	...	58
NOES	...	...	...	...	...	15

(The Bill is passed)

(The motion was put as question and adopted),

**The Assam Finance (Sales Tax) (Amendment) Bill, 1963**

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)** : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance (Sales Tax) (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

**Mr. SPEAKER** : The motion moved is that the Assam Finance (Sales Tax) (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

(The motion was put as question and adopted).

As there is no amendment Mr. Ahmed can pass on to item (c).

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)** : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance (Sales Tax) (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be passed.

**Mr. SPEAKER** : Motion moved is that the Assam Finance (Sales Tax) (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be passed.

(The motion was put as question and adopted).

**The Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum Products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) (Taxation Amendment) Bill, 1963.**

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)** : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum Products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) (Taxation Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration-

**Mr. SPEAKER** : Motion moved is that the Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) (Taxation Amendment) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

**Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta)** : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই বিল সদনত উল্খাপন কৰাত মই আপত্তি কৰি ইয়াকে কওঁ যে এইবাৰ যি বিলাক বিল সদনত উল্খাপন কৰিছে সেই গোটেই বিলাকৰ ভিতৰত আটাইতকৈ দুৰ্ভগীয়া বিল এইখনেই।

এই বিলৰ দ্বাৰা, চৰকাৰে চালচিগা দৰীদ্র জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰতহে কৰ বোজা দিবলৈ যত্ন কৰিছে।

ইয়াত উল্খাপন কৰা বিল খনৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰথমতে Motor Spirit (Except Diesel oil and Internal combustion oils other than petrol).

দ্বিতীয়তে Lubricants.

তৃতীয়তে Deisal Oil and other Internal combustion oil and other than Petrol.

চতুৰ্থতে Kerosene not ordinarily used as an internal combustion oil.

৫ নতে Crude oil অব ওপৰত কৰ লগাব বা আগেয়ে থকা কৰ বৃদ্ধি কৰিবলৈকে বিচৰা হৈছে।

কেবাচিনৰ ওপৰত ইতিপূৰ্বে কৰ নাছিল। আনবোৰৰ ওপৰত কেই বছৰমানৰ পৰা কৰ লগাইছে। এতিয়া আকৌ সেই কৰ বৃদ্ধি কৰিবলৈ ওলাইছে।

মহোদয়, আমাৰ বাজাৰ এই সঙ্কট অৱস্থাত বাজহুৱা ভড়ালত বেচি টকা লাগে, সেই কথাটো নিশ্চয় আমি উপলব্ধি কৰিছো। তাৰ কাৰণে আৰু বেচি কৰ দিবলৈকো আমি প্ৰস্তুত আছো। কিন্তু সম্পূৰ্ণ এই কৰ নবহালেও হয় কাৰণ ই আমাৰ সমাজৰ নিম্নস্তৰলৈকে যাব।

সেই কাৰণে এই বিলখন উঠাই ললে ভাল হয়। এতিয়া কথা হ'ল যে আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰীয়ে তেখেতে লগোৱা কৰৰ বোজা সৰ্বসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত নপৰি ধনী শ্ৰেণীৰ ওপৰত পৰিব বুলি আমাক বুজাবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিছে। তাৰ সপক্ষে তেখেতে যি যুক্তি দিছে সি আমাৰ মনঃপূত হোৱা নাই। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ, তেখেতে ভালকৈ বুজাবই নোৱাৰিলে নে আমাৰেই বুজা শক্তিৰ অভাৱ কৰ নোৱাৰো। যি হওক তেখেতৰ যুক্তিসমূহ আমি গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ অক্ষম।

তেখেতে কৈছে, কৰৰ পৰা উঠা টকাৰ ২৪ লাখৰ ভিতৰত ১২ লাখহে নিম্নশ্ৰেণীৰ লোকৰ ওপৰত পৰিব। তেখেতে হিচাবটো বা কেনেকৈ কৰিছে কৰ নোৱাৰো। আমি জনাত চৰকাৰৰ পৰিসংখ্যা বিজ্ঞান বিভাগৰ হিচাব বিলাক একেবাৰে আটল-আঠানি-কোনো ঠিক নাই। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে কওঁ পৰিসংখ্যা বিজ্ঞান বিভাগটো হৈছে সংখ্যাৰ ভোজ ৰাজী খেলোৱা বিভাগ এটি মাথোন। Techno-Economic Survey নামৰ চৰকাৰে প্ৰকাশ কৰা কিতাপখনত বনবিভাগৰ অন্তঃভুক্ত প্ৰতি বিষয় মাটিৰ আয় অতি কম বুলি কৈছে—প্ৰায় ৩০০ টকা মানহে, কিন্তু আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰীয়ে সদনত বনবিভাগৰ আয়ৰ ব্যাখ্যা কৰি এনেকৈ দেখুৱালে বন বিভাগৰ প্ৰতি বিষয় মাটিৰ পৰা ৩ হাজাৰ টকা আয় হৈ গ'ল। গতিকে পৰিসংখ্যা বিজ্ঞানৰ সংখ্যাবোৰ ব্যাখ্যা কৰি উলট পালত কৰি দিব পাৰি গতিকে এই পৰিসংখ্যা বিভাগৰ সংখ্যাৰ কথা ওলালেই মোৰ বৰীজ নাথৰ “হিং টিং ছট” নামৰ কবিতা কথা এফাঁকিলৈকে মনত পৰে—তাত কৈছে —

“ব্যাখ্যাই কবিতো পাৰি উলট-পালট  
 সম্বৰে ব'লে সবাই হিং, টিং ছট।”

কেবাচিন আমাৰ বাজাৰ একেবাৰে দুখীয়া মানুহেহে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰে। খেতিয়কসকলে বাবুসকলক পুহিবৰ কাৰণে দিনটো খেতি কৰি গধূলি অকনমান সময়ৰ কাৰণে কেবাচিনৰ চাকি এটা ব্যৱহাৰ কৰে। এতিয়া ভাবো মুখা মৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা হৈছে। গৰীৰ শ্ৰেণীৰ লৰা-ছোৱালীয়ে দিনটো কাম কৰোতে যায়—লৰাবোৰে গৰু চৰা বন্ধা কৰে, বজাৰ কৰে, ছোৱালীবোৰে দিনৰ দিনটো ঘৰুৱা কাম কৰে—এইদৰেই সিহঁতৰ দিনটো যায়—গধূলি অকনমান সময় লৈশি চাকিৰ পোহৰত পঢ়ে—আজিকালি তেওঁলোকৰ মাজত পঢ়া-শুনাৰ ধাউতিও হৈছে। কিন্তু এতিয়া কেবাচিনৰ ওপৰত অতিৰিক্ত টেক্স লগাই তেওঁলোকক সেই সুবিধা কনৰ পৰাও বঞ্চিত কৰিবৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে। বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই খুব ভালকৈ জানে গৰীৰ শ্ৰেণীৰ লৰাই মাচুল দিব নোৱাৰে বুলি কিমান আপত্তি পাই আছে। এতিয়া কেবাচিন তেলৰ অভাৱত তেওঁলোকে পঢ়া-শুনা বন্ধ কৰিব লগিয়া হলে কিমান দুখৰ কথা হব। আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়া বৰ দয়ালু মানুহ। যোৱাব লোকেল বেটৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত আমি আপত্তি কৰাত তেখেতে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটো উঠাই ললে। এইবাৰ এই কেবাচিন টেক্সৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতো তাকে কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিছো। পেট্ৰ'ল-লব্ৰিকেশ্বট আদিৰ টেক্স বঢ়োৱাৰ কাৰণে মটৰ বাচৰ ভাড়া খুব বেচি কৰিছে। এই শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহে চেনু বিচাৰি কুৰেই, এতিয়া যদি পেট্ৰ'লৰ টেক্স বঢ়োৱাৰ দুতালৈয়ে ভাড়া বঢ়াব—সেইদৰে মোটৰ আদি যান বাহনেৰে অনা অন্য বস্তু-বাহানিৰ দামো বঢ়াই গৈ থাকিব। এই গোটেই বোৰ কৰৰ হেঁচা প্ৰধানকৈ গৰীৰ শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহৰ ওপৰতে পৰিব। দেশৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ সকলো মানুহে সকলো প্ৰকাৰ তাগ কৰিবলৈ প্ৰস্তুত আছে সেই কথা আমি চীনৰ আক্ৰমণৰ সময়তে দেখিছো। কিন্তু এতিয়া সেই বিপদ কিছু সান কাটিছে গতিকে দুখীয়া বাইজক অলপ সকাহ দিয়া উচিত।

আমি বাজেট আলোচনাৰ সময়ত বহুতো পৰামৰ্শ আগ বঢ়াইছিলো, কিন্তু আমাৰ কথা বিলাক চৰকাৰৰ পক্ষই যুক্তিযুক্ত নহয় বুলি ভাবে আৰু আমিও তেখেতসকলৰ কথাবিলাক যুক্তি সঙ্গত নহয় বুলি ভাবো—গতিকে আমাৰ দুই দলৰ মাজত এটা বোজা পৰাৰ ভাৱ গঢ়ি উঠা উচিত। তেতিয়াহে সমগ্ৰ বাইজৰ মঙ্গল হ'ব। বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰীয়ে কোনো এটা বিভাগৰ মিতব্যয়ীতাৰ কথা কৈছিল তাত ১৪ লাখ মান টকা মিতব্যয়িতাৰ দ্বাৰা বাহি হৈছে। তেনেকৈয়ে কিছু টকা আন আন বিভাগৰ পৰাও বাহি কৰি মানুহৰ টেক্সৰ বোজা পাতলাব পাৰে। কিন্তু বাহি কৰাৰ কথা কি কম? কালিলৈকে আকৌ উমিয়ামত কিবা ভোজ-ভাতৰ যোগাৰ কৰিছে। তাত বহুত টকা খৰচ হ'ব। অলপ অলপ কৈ সঞ্চয় কৰিলেহে বাহি হয় টোপা-টোপ সঞ্চয়ৰ দ্বাৰা কলহ এটি ভৰাব পাৰি। চৰকাৰে এই নীতিটো ললে বাইজৰ ওপৰত অতিৰিক্ত কৰ নলগোৱাকৈ চলি যাব পাৰিব। কেবাচিনৰ ওপৰত কেৱলীয় চৰকাৰে টেক্স লগোৱাৰ পিচতো আকৌ বাজ্যিক টেক্স লগোৱাৰ কাৰণে মানুহে বৰ বেয়া পাইছে, আৰু বৰ উদ্ভিগ্ন হৈ উঠিছে। গতিকে অন্য উপায়ে এই টকাখিনি সংগ্ৰহ কৰাৰ উপাই উলিয়াই হলেও, কেবাচিনৰ ওপৰত লগোৱা টেক্স যেন উঠাই লয়।

**Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora)** মাননীয়  
উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয় বলেছেন এই যে কেরগিনের উপর টেক্স লাগালে

হবে প্রতি লিটারে দুই নয়া পয়সা করে তাতে আমাদের আয় হবে ১৪ লক্ষ টাকা। কিন্তু এ সামান্য টাকার জন্য সমগ্র জনসাধারণকে করের চাপ দেওয়া উচিত নয়। এই টাকা অন্য উপায়ে, বা অপচয় বন্ধ করে যোগাড় করা কিছু কঠিন না। মন্ত্রী মহোদয় জানেন গত বার বণ্যার ফলে গারি আসামের প্রায়ঞ্চলে দুভিকের আকার ধারণ করেছে। আজকে আমি চিঠি পেয়েছি যে কয়েকটি পরিবার খেতে না পেয়ে তাদের খাবার ব্যৱস্থার জন্য আমাকে চিঠি দিয়েছে। এতে বোঝা যায় দেশের খাদ্যাবস্থা অতি শোচনীয়। আজ দেশের লোকের টেক্স দিবার ক্ষমতা নাই। আসামে Revenue Head এ যে টেক্স দাওয়া হয় সেটা পড়ে ১৭:৮১ per cent State Revenue রে পড়ে ১২:১২ per cent

আসামে per capita tax বিহার, জম্মু-কাশ্মীর, মধ্য প্রদেশ, মহিশুর, উরিষ্যা, রাজস্থান এবং উত্তর প্রদেশ সেয়ে বেশী। সেই সমস্ত রাজ্যে দিন দিন উন্নয়ন মূলক কাজ হয়েছে, শিল্প প্রতিস্থা হয়েছে যার ফলে সেখানকার জনসাধারণের ক্রয় ক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধি হয়েছে। কিন্তু আমাদের আসামে করের বোঝা দিন দিন বেড়েছে এবং ক্রয় ক্ষমতা কমে গেছে। তার ফলে জনসাধারণ দিন দিন প্রপীড়িত। সমাজের উপরের স্তরের লোকের হাতে সমস্ত টাকা চলে গেছে এবং নিম্নস্তরের লোক দিন দিন দরিদ্র হয়ে গেছে। যদিও মন্ত্রী মহাশয় বলেছেন যে করের বোঝা ধনীরা উপর বেশী হবে। আমার মনে হয় করের শেষ বোঝা গরীব জনসাধারণের উপরই পড়বে। গরীবের উপর এই রকম করের বোঝা দেওয়ার কোন যুক্তি থাকতে পারে না। এই কেরাসিন তেলের কর বন্ধ না করিলে দেশে হাহাকার অবস্থার সৃষ্টি হবে এবং গরীব জনসাধারণ একবার ভিজ হয়ে গেলে কান্ড করা কঠিন হয়ে পরবে। জনসাধারণের অবস্থা এমন হয়েছে যে ৭ তারিখের পর তাদের হাতে পয়সা থাকে না এবং কোন বিপদে পড়লে কাবলীর কাছ থেকে ধণ নিতে হয়। মাসের মধ্যে যদি কেউ মারা যায় তাহলে ধর থেকে ১০টি টাকা বাহির করতে পারে না।

প্রতি বৎসর যদি কর বৃদ্ধি হতে থাকে তাহলে দেশের আর্থিক অবস্থার খারাপ হয়ে যাবে। আজকে হয়ত ভোটাধিকারের দ্বারা পাচ করতে পারব কিন্তু জনসাধারণের সমর্থন পাব না। আমি কিন্তু মন্ত্রীকে অনুরোধ কাষ তিনি যেন এই কেরাসিন কর কমান্বার জন্য চিন্তা করেন। দেশের গরীবই জনসাধারণের প্রতি অন্যায় করলে তাঁদের অভিযোগে ব্রহ্ম হইতে হইবে। বোর জনসাধারণের উপকার করে জীবনের শেষ দিন গুলি একটু শান্তিতে কাটান্বাৱ জন্য গরীবের উপকার করে জীবনের শেষ দিন গুলি একটু শান্তিতে কাটান্বাৱ ব্যবস্থা করণ। শেষে আবার অনুরোধ করলাম এই কেরাসিনের কর করে জনসাধারণকে শান্তি দেন এবং নিজেও শান্তি ভোগ করণ।

**Sri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri):** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I find that the hon. Members of the opposition are bent upon opposing systematically every measure of taxation which the Government is proposing. Now, Sir, the most important thing for consideration is whether there is any genuine necessities to adopt taxation measures to increase financial resources of

the State. We are already committed for certain developmental programmes under the Third Year Plan for which we have also an obligation to raise additional resources. Now, do the hon. Members from the Opposition want that the Third Year Plan must be stopped and pruned down. The next point is—Mr. Barua remarked that on the pretext of the Emergency the Government is taking advantage of the situation to impose more and more taxations. I may explain that there are certain new items of expenditure bearing entirely on the National Emergency. Now, you will find in course of the debate on the Governor's address many hon. Members particularly from an Opposition said that the number of Home-guards should be raised from 25,000 to 1 lakh, and Shri Tajuddin observed that the Home-guards should be paid some pocket money in addition to being provided with uniforms and equipments so that they may be enabled to discharge their duties properly. Sir, these are the opinions of the hon. Members of the other side of the House. Now, Sir I would like to draw the attention of the House to the expenditure under the head Civil Defence. This is estimated at Rs.1 crore 13 lakhs and odd. This is entirely a new item which did not find any place in the out going year's Budget.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Mr. Umaruddin, you are not to explain the points raised by the hon. Members.

**Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN:** Sir, I am only making out a case for additional taxation. Now, if we talk about raising the Home-guards on one hand and oppose taxation measures to raise resources then how to meet the expenditure of Rs.1 crores and 13 lakhs under Civil Defence. Then this sum includes Rs.70 lakhs to meet expenditure under 'Home guard' only.

Secondly, the Police Budget was for a little over Rs.5 crores last year and it has been raised to Rs.7½ crores in the present budget. So, this excess of Rs.2½ crores is on account of National Emergency alone. This is entirely an additional expenditure not for any development work but for emergency.

Thirdly, provision has been made for Rs.45 lakhs under Agriculture for a special programme for increased production of more rice and vegetable, etc., which are in short supply because we have to feed the Army, we have to feed the increasing Civil population. Therefore, we must produce more foodgrains, more vegetables and poultry, etc. These are on account of the emergency alone. There is a provision of Rs.1 crore 13 lakhs under Civil Defence, Rs.2 crores 46 lakhs under Police and about Rs.45 lakhs under agriculture respectively and thus the total expenditure is estimated to be about Rs.4 crores 4 lakhs. So, I would like to ask the hon. Members of the Opposition from which source this money would come. Our budget is already deficit. So, we must first face this emergency and these emergency measures alone will cost more than four crores let alone expenditure for developmental activities. The various taxation measures of the Government will bring rupees one crore and sixty-two lakhs only. We must, therefore, be prepared to face this fundamental fact; we must not play upon the sentiments of the people by raising the slogan that the poor people are hard

hit by this taxation. Our approach to this matter should be realistic and rational. The hon. Members from the Opposition are persistently raising the slogan that the poor people are being oppressed with taxation. They are trying to make capital out of the taxation on Kerosene oil at 2 nP. per litre. All I can say is that all these talks about poor people being taxed are mere clicks.

Then again Sir, in this national emergency facing the country the poor as well as the rich must participate not only through physical support but also in terms of monetary sacrifice according to their capacities. In other words, not only the poor should participate the various physical programmes but they should make some sacrifice in terms of money also. There should be a sense of participation in all the citizens of India rich or poor otherwise we will not be able to face the great danger. Sir, during the last Great War in 1941, if I remember a right, the whole British Nation placed their property at the disposal of the Government. Then late George Bernard Shaw said, "what the Russians achieved in 25 years, the British people achieved overnight". The British people placed their everything including the lands and properties voluntarily at the disposal of the Government. Our people should also follow this example. So, Sir, instead of doing this if we simply raise the slogan that the Government is imposing taxes only on the poor people, this will be very harmful, the situation will be dangerous and detrimental to the implementation of defence efforts.

Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Members of the Opposition to show where from this four crores of rupees will be available. I request them to point out the sources and offer their suggestions as to the methods of taxation.

Sir, I agree with one point that this hard earned money of the people should be properly utilised. On this point I am at one with them. If the money to be raised is properly utilised there will be no difficulty for the people to come forward to pay more taxes and to do this we must create a favourable climate by successful implementation of various measures and showing satisfactory results. It is only then it will be possible to mobilise the resources of the people. Therefore, I hope Sir, the hon. Members of the Opposition will face this fundamental fact and will appreciate the difficulties confronting first and will not raise the slogan that the poor people are hard hit by this taxation measure both inside and outside the House.

**Shri RAM PRASAD DAS (Bijni)** মিঃ ডেপুটি স্পীকাৰ চাব,  
আমি দেশৰ উন্নয়ণমূলক কাম বিচাৰিলে চৰকাৰৰ হাতত টকা লাগিব, এই কথা  
সঁচা। আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰীয়ে বাৰে বাৰে কোৱা দেখা গৈছে যে, টকাৰ অভাৱ  
হলে উন্নয়ণ মূলক কাম কৰিব নোৱাৰি কিন্তু আনপক্ষে বিৰোধী দলৰ সদস্য-  
সকলেও এনেকোৱা কোনো definite plan আৰু প্ৰথমে দিখ নোৱাৰে। যাৰ  
দ্বাৰা টেক্স নলগোৱাকৈ ধন চৰকাৰৰ হাতলৈ আহিব পাৰে। বোৰ মনত পৰে  
বাজেট আলোচনা প্ৰসঙ্গত মই কৈছিলো যে, আমাৰ বৰ্তমান বছৰৰ ১৮ কোটি  
টকাৰ ষাট পৰিছে আৰু তালৈ লক্ষ কৰি মই তেতিয়া কৈছিলো এই বছৰ  
কাৰণে নতুন কৰ নলগোৱাকৈ যে শাসন পৰিচালনাত অপচয় আৰু দুৰ্নীতি



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বন্ধ কৰি আৰু কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ পৰা আমি পাবলগীয়া অংশৰ টকা আদাৰ কৰি শাসন চলাব পাৰি। এতিয়া মই অধিক নকও—মাত্ৰ কেবাটান তেলৰ সম্পৰ্কত এই কথাই কও যে এই কেবাটান তেল, এনেকুৱা এটা বস্তু—যিটো আমাৰ মানুহে produce কৰিব নোৱাৰে আৰু তাক কিনিবলৈ বাধ্য। আমাৰ সমাজৰ বিশেষকৈ নিখন্তৰ মানুহক এই তেল লাগে। বাতিৰ অন্ধকাৰত বাট বুলিবলৈ জীৰ্ণ কুটীৰত শয্যাশায়ী ৰোগীজনৰ কাষত বহি পৰ দিবলৈ আৰু দৈনন্দিন জীৱন নিৰ্বাহৰ মানান কামত চাৰিৰ পোহৰ লবলৈ দৰিদ্ৰ জন-সাধাৰণৰ পক্ষে ই এটা অত্যৱশ্যকীয় বস্তু। কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে বহুওৱা লিটাৰত দুই নয়া পইচা কৰব ওপৰত আকৌ মিটাৰত দুই নয়া পয়চাকৈ কেবাটান তেলৰ ওপৰত ৰাজ্য চৰকাৰে কৰ ধাৰ্য্য কৰি যিখিনি ৰাজহ পাব বুলি ভাবিছে সেইখিনি টকা বেচি নকও—মই আগতে বন বিভাগৰ ৰাজেট বৰাদ্বৰ কৰ্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ দিয়া প্ৰসঙ্গত উনুকিউৱা বিষয় কেইটিত যদি অকল এই ফৰেষ্ট ডিপাৰ্টমেন্টত চলি থকা অপচয় আৰু দুৰ্নীতি বন্ধ কৰিব পাৰে তেন্তে অকল তাৰে পৰাই আহিব। নিৰ্দিষ্ট Suggestion হিচাবে মই ইয়াকে কৈ এই কৰব বিৰোধীতা কৰিলো।

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding):** Mr. Speaker Sir, I also rise to oppose this taxation on Kerosene and in doing so Sir, I want to point out first, Sir, in clause 3, sub-section 1 in item 3 here it has been stated that.....

**Mr. SPEAKER:** It will be better if you discuss it when the Bill will be taken up clause by clause.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA:** Sir, there no amendment Sir. I want to make a few observations. Actually, there are variety oil, namely, Diesel Oil has three different names namely diesel oil, crude oil and furnace oil. It has been stated that diesel oil and other internal combustion oils will be levied at seven naye paise per litre, and crude oil will be levied at one naya paise per litre and kerosene not ordinarily used as an internal combustion oil will be levied at two naye paise per litre. Sir, if things are done like this, I think there will be huga anomaly. There will be a chaotic condition because when the tax officer will examine the accounts of various farm they will not be able to get at the real thing. So I think it will be better if seven naya paise be put against high speed diesel oil and one naya paise against diesel, crude and furnace oil.

Sir, 20 years before we used to get kerosene tin at /15/ now we have to pay Rs.8/8/ and the rates have increased considerably. It is argued that this taxation will not hit the poorer section of the people or the low income group. The same argument was also put forward by the previous Government in this House. But the gradual increase is there on these commodities. Now, Sir, if we calculate it from the statistical figure we find that the impact of this taxation will fall on 75 per cent of our population. In actual practice, the people have to face this trouble. It is very difficult for the people in the rural areas to carry on and they do not know that there is serious taxation and they do not know basically as to what has been the taxation. So, Sir, my submission is that this tax

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can be avoided and there are different heads in the Budget where excess expenditure have been estimated. This morning I have referred to one or two of such budget heads. There has been new inclusion almost in every grant whether in this name of the national emergency or other pretext. So, these expenses can be avoided easily and if this taxation on kerosene can be avoided then the Government will not lose a very heavy sum, but there will be confidence in the people's mind that the Government responded to their call. Therefore, I submit that this new taxation should be dropped and the Government will show their good gesture that they have sympathy to the people.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)** Sir, this matter has been thoroughly discussed and I need not trouble the House by repeating what I have already said in meeting the objections raised by the hon. Members. I would however like to clear the point raised by the hon. Member, Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta. He said that the levy of different rates of tax on the crude oil and the diesel oil and other internal combustion oil is likely to be confused as under Item 5 one Naya Paisa is levied on crude oil and under Item 3, 7 Naya paise is levied on diesel oil, etc. Sir, I would only like to point out that we do not propose to increase the tax on crude oil under Item No 3. This difference in rates has been in existence from long before and no confusion was found to arise. Apart from this, I would ask the hon. Member to look at the definition of the 'crude oil' in the principal Act. The crude oil is defined there as the crude petroleum in its constituent stage. There can be no fear that there is likely to be any confusion with this terminology of crude oil and of other internal combustion oil etc. We are realising tax on crude oil extracted and sold by the Oil India to the refinery or to the Assam Oil Company. This proposal has no reference to Item 3. Sir, since the other bill has been passed and since this bill only provides for the rate, the hon. Member I hope will not oppose this.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER** The question is that the Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum Products including motor Spirit and Lubricants) (Taxation Amendment) Bill, 1963, be taken into consideration.

(Division).

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I will not take your votes by standing.  
Ayes 56 ; Noes 13.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

There is no amendment to Clause (1). So I put the question. The question is that the Short Title and Commencement of the Bill do form part of the Bill.

In Clause (2), there are three amendments. Is anybody moving the amendments ?

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Clause (2) shall be deleted.

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Sir, kerosene was a commodity on which there was no tax previously. Now, the Government is going to impose tax on kerosene. In this respect we have already stated our views. But the arguments put forward by the Finance Minister in this House are not convincing. So, we again vehemently oppose against imposition of tax on kerosene oil. That is why, I have brought this amendment to this Bill. Sir, the Treasury Bench here which is in the majority can pass any Bill.

I appeal to the hon. Members here to consider this case. These commodities are used by our poor people living in the village side. The income from this is proposed to be raised from 12 lakhs to 14 lakhs. This is not very big amount; we shall be able to raise this amount from some other sources also. We want to develop our country; we want success of our development plans; we want to defend our country. So we want money and money can be raised by imposing taxes on our people. This can also be raised by stopping certain other expenditures which are not necessary. So, I am giving some instances or ideas by which the money required may be raised. Firstly, by stopping extravagance in various offices; secondly, by stopping the loss of Government property and then by stopping corruption in the offices; thirdly, by shifting some offices from Shillong to Gauhati which are not necessary to be here; and fourthly, by reducing the number of unnecessary tours undertaken by our Ministers and Deputy Ministers and some of the top officials. Fifthly, if necessary, we can have some money by nationalising some of the industries, i.e., tea industry. For all these reasons I am again vehemently opposing this Bill by means of which our Government is going to tax our poor people. With these words, Sir, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat)** মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰী ভাণ্ডাৰীয়াৰ উত্তৰত ফুটি উঠিছে যে তেখেতে আমাৰ বিবোধীদলৰ এই কৰ সম্বন্ধে আপত্তি তোলা প্ৰসঙ্গত ব্যৱহাৰ কৰা সৰ্বসাধাৰণ শব্দটোৰ পৰা আশনি পাইছে।

মহোদয়, আমি আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ নিচিনাকৈ উচ্চ খাপৰ মানুহৰ লগত থকা নাই, আমি সৰ্বসাধাৰণৰ মাজৰে একোজন।

মই একো বেয়া কথা কোৱা নাই—কিয়নো তেখেতে যেতিয়া Aeroplane ৰ কথা কয়, আমাৰ মনত পৰে গাঁৱত থকা গৰীৰ মানুহে সদায় ব্যৱহাৰ কৰা কেবাচিন তেলৰ চাকিৰ কথা। এইটো ব্যক্তিগত দৃষ্টিভঙ্গীৰ পৰা পৰ্য্যবেক্ষণ কৰা বিষয়—তেখেতে তেনে কথা যেতিয়া চিন্তা কৰে তেতিয়া আমাৰ প্ৰাণ চিন্তা ধাবাত আশনি পাবই। তেখেতে কৈছে যে খৰচ কেনেকৈ কৰাৰ লাগে অথচ উন্নয়নৰ কামো কৰিব লাগে। কিন্তু আমি লোকৰ ওপৰত Tax লগোৱাৰ পৰামৰ্শ দিবলৈ ইয়ালৈ অহা নাই। চৰকাৰে টকাৰ কাৰণে কি কৰিব লাগে, তাৰ কাৰণেই তেখেতক পৰামৰ্শ আগবঢ়াবলৈ আহিছে।

আজি কেইবা জনো সদস্যই কেবাচিন তেলৰ কথা কৈছে। মই কব পাৰো যে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্ট পক্ষৰ সদস্যয়ো স্বীকাৰ কৰিব লাগিব যে জৰুৰীকালীন অৱস্থাৰ কথা যেতিয়া কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে

ঘোষণা কৰিছিল আমাৰ মানুহে তেতিয়া বাস্তা পদূলী বাট ঘাটৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰলৈ অহা নাছিল। বানপানীত দলং ভাঙিছিল—তথাপি চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰলৈ নাহি সেই বিপদতো প্ৰাপ্তীত মানুহে ধন আগ বঢ়াইছিল। বাস্তা-ঘাট ভঙা মানুহে বান্ধি দিনলৈ কৰ অহা নাছিল। তেনে জৰুৰীকালীন অৱস্থাত কিবা কৰ লগালেও আমাৰ কৰলগীয়া নাছিল বা মানুহে উপলক্ষিও কৰিলেহেঁতেন। কিন্তু এতিয়া জৰুৰী অৱস্থাৰ কথা দোহাৰিলেও সৰ্বসাধাৰণ বাইজে বুজি নেপায় কাৰণে প্ৰশাসনীয় ক্ষেত্ৰত মিত্যব্যয়িতাৰ আদৰ্শ দেখা নাই। আমি বুজিবলৈ টান পাইছো যে কেবাচিন তেলৰ কৰ মধ্য বিত্তৰ পৰা গাৱঁৰ চালচিগা গৰীবলৈ দিব লাগিব যেতিয়া, এই দুবেলা দুমুঠি খোৱাৰ সংস্থান নোহোৱা লোকসকলক পৃথিবীৰ পৰা নিচিহ্ন কৰিবলৈ ওলাইছে। সেই লোকসকলৰ এই কেবাচিন তেল নিত্য প্ৰয়োজনীয় আৰু অপবিহাৰ্য বাহানি—সেই লোকসকলৰ পৰাই এই কৰ আহিব। যদি নিৰিখ থাকিলহেঁতেন যে এই গৰীবসকলে কিমান কেবাচিন তেল ব্যৱহাৰ কৰে, আৰু সেই হিচাবে কৰ যদি বেহাই দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা থাকিলহেঁতেন তেতিয়া আমি এটা শাস্তনা পালোহেঁতেন।

আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰীয়ে কৈছে যে এই কৰ সৰ্বসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত পৰাতকৈ ধনী শ্ৰেণীৰ ওপৰতহে বেচিকৈ পৰিব। কিন্তু আমি বুজিবলৈ টান পাইছো। আমি ইয়াকেই বুজো যে, যিবিলাক মানুহ অৱস্থাপনু, যাৰ উপাৰ্জনৰ পথ বেচি, যিসকল কৰ দিবলৈ সক্ষম, তেওঁলোকেও কৰ বেচি দিব লাগে। যিসকল কাৰ-বাৰ কৰি বেচি টকা অৰ্জন আৰু যিসকলৰ ক্ৰয়শক্তি বেচি তেওঁলোকে বেচি কৰ দিব লাগে। বেচিকৈ কিনিলে বেচিকৈ কৰ দিব লাগিব।

বিশেষকৈ কেবাচিন তেল কিনে গাৱঁৰ দুখীয়া মানুহে ধনীৰ **Electric light** আছে—গৰীবৰ একমাত্ৰ সম্বল কেবাচিন তেল—গতিকৈ তাৰ ওপৰত বহোৱা কৰৰ বোজা নিশ্চয় বেচিকৈ পৰিব গৰীবৰ ওপৰত।

তাবিপচিত, এজন ধনীৰ ৫ টকা কৰ দিলেও গাত নালাগে—কিন্তু এজন গৰীবৰ ৫ নয়া পইচাও গাত লাগিব। সেই ফালৰ পৰাও কেবাচিনৰ কৰৰ **Burden** গৰীবৰ ওপৰত পৰিব। চৰকাৰে এই অৱস্থালৈ ব্ৰুক্ষেপকে কৰা নাই। ই এটা ব্যক্তিগত অনুভূতিৰ কথা।

দেশত যেতিয়া জৰুৰীকালীন অৱস্থাৰ উদ্ভৱ হয় তেতিয়া আমি জনসাধাৰণ কও যে এই জৰুৰী পৰিস্থিতিৰ সম্মুখীন হবলৈ আমি আমাৰ আৰাম আনন্দ বাদ দিব লাগিব—তেতিয়া আমাৰ কথা যানিব—কিন্তু যেতিয়া দেখিব যে কিছু মানৱ আমোদ-প্ৰমোদ, আৰাম-আনন্দ পূৰ্ণোদ্যমে চলিলে তেতিয়া যদি আমি জৰুৰী পৰিস্থিতিৰ দোহাই দিও, তেতিয়া অকল আপত্তি কৰাই নহয় দৰকাৰ হলে অপমানো কৰিব।

অন্য প্ৰদেশৰ তুলনাত অসমৰ মানুহৰ কৰ দিয়া শক্তি কম। মানুহৰ উপ-জ্ঞানৰ বাস্তা কমি আহিছে। পাচবছৰীয়া পৰিকল্পনাৰ জৰিয়তে বাস্তা কিছু হৈছে। আমাৰ এজন সদস্যই যেতিয়া কয় যে, বাস্তা কৰিলেই দেশৰ উন্নতি হয় বুলি কব নোহাবো তেতিয়া বিত্তমন্ত্ৰীয়ে কৈছিল আমি হেনো চকুমুদি ফুৰো। কিন্তু পোহৰ দেখিও আমাৰ আৰু অন্ধকাৰক পোহৰ বুলি কলে উপায় কি? বাস্তা ঘাট পাতিলে, দালান তৈয়াৰ হলে দখীয়া মানুহৰ অৱস্থাৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তন হয় মে? তেওঁলোক

যি সেয়ে আছে। যদি দালানেই দেশৰ অৱস্থা বুলি কোৱা হয় তেনেহলে আমি যিটো সমস্যা সমাধান কৰিবলৈ গৈছো সেইটো সমাধান হোৱা বুলি কব নোৱাৰো। আমি যেনে যেনে সৰ্বসাধাৰণৰ কথা কোৱাৰ কাৰণে মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে বেয়া পোৱা যেন দেখিছো। আমিও দেশৰ বিপদৰ কথা নুবুজা নহয়, অথচ সৰ্বসাধাৰণৰ কথাও পাহৰিব নোৱাৰো। জৰুৰী কালীন অৱস্থাত আমাক চৰকাৰৰ কাৰ্য্যত সহায় কৰিবলৈ স্তুবিধা নিদিয়াত আমি দুখ প্ৰকাশ কৰিছো। আমি সেই পৰিস্থিতিত চৰকাৰক সহায় কৰিবৰ উদ্দেশ্যে একেলগে কাম কৰিবলৈ যিটো স্তুবিধা বিচাৰিছিলো সেইটো আমি পোৱা নাই। এই কৰৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতো আমি দেশৰ ভাল হলে ভাল নাপাওঁ এনে নহয়। কিন্তু এজন সদস্যই কৈছে যে চীনৰ আক্ৰমণ ৰোধ কৰিবলৈ এই টেক্সৰ প্ৰয়োজন কিন্তু এইটো ঠিক যে, সৰ্বসাধাৰণক লগোপে ৰাখি এই কৰ লগাই কিবা লাভ হব জানো। ডেকানৰা বোৰে ৰাস্তাই ঘাটে কৈ ফুৰিছে “কমিউনিষ্টেই ভাল। কমিউনিষ্টে অন্ততঃ খাবলৈ দিয়ে। আমি কমিউনিষ্ট পাৰ্টীক সমৰ্থন কৰিম” এই কথা শুনি আমি দুখ পাইছো দেশৰ কাৰণে আমাৰো অনুভূতি আছে। আমি যদি আমাৰ কাৰ্য্যৰ দ্বাৰা জনসাধাৰণক বুজাব নোৱাৰো যে, এই দেশত যদি এই চৰকাৰ থাকিলে গণতন্ত্ৰ থাকিলে সকলোনে সুখ হব, তেতিয়াহলে ৰাইজে কি আশালৈ চৰকাৰক সহযোগ কৰিব? সেই কাৰণেই এই কেবাচিন তেলৰ টেক্সৰ বিপক্ষে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ অনা হৈছে।

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat)** উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, কেবাচিন তেলৰ ওপৰত বছৰা টেক্সৰ সম্পৰ্কে বহুত আলোচনা হৈ গৈছে। মই বিশেষ বহলভাৱে কবলৈ নাযাওঁ। সাধাৰণ ৰাইজৰ মাজৰ পৰা অহা গাৱলীয়া লৰা হিচাবে মোৰ মনলৈ যি ভাব আহিছে তাকে মাত্ৰ কম। গণতন্ত্ৰৰ নামত আজি চৰকাৰে জোৰতন্ত্ৰ খটুৱাইছে। আজিৰ চৰকাৰে ৰাইজৰ মতামতলৈ লক্ষ্যপেই নকৰে। অলপ আগতে বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে কৈছে যে, আমি বোলে চকু মুদি ফুৰো। কিন্তু চকু মেলি ফুৰা সকলে কি দুৰদৰ্শিতাৰ পৰিচয় দিছে? এই টেক্স মানুহৰ মনত কি reaction কৰিছে সেইটো আপোনালোকে ভাবি চাইছেনে? মানুহে কমিউনিষ্ট পক্ষৰ ফালে দলে দলে যাব বুলি মোৰ বিশ্বাস, এই কথা মই আজি সতৰ্ক কৰি দিছো। আজি দেশত যিবিলাক “reactionary group” আছে তেওঁলোকে এইটো এটা ডাঙৰ স্তুবিধা পাইছে। গতিকে মই কব খুজো যে, মন্ত্ৰী সকলৰ দুৰদৰ্শিতাৰ অভাৱ হৈছে। তাৰ কাৰণে প্ৰস্তাৱ লাগিব বুলি সতৰ্ক কৰি দিছো। আজি অন্যান্য সদস্য সকলে পাৰ্টীৰ খাতিৰত সমৰ্থন কৰিছে। সেই কথা division bell পৰিলেই গম পোৱা যায় তেওঁলোক লাইন পাতি কেনেকৈ সোমাইছি। দেশৰ পৰিস্থিতি চাই তাৰ লগত খাপ খোৱাকৈ টেক্স বহুৱাব লাগে। আজি কৰ লগাব আমাৰ যৰ আন্ধাৰ হৈ থাকিব, কিন্তু ছিলঙৰ দালান যবত ক্লাৰ যবত লাইত জুলি থাকিব। Be aware of dogs ৰ ঠাইত আজি Be aware of tax হৈ পৰিছে।

চাৰ, সাধাৰণ ৰাইজৰ মাজত কি অৱস্থা হৈছে কিদৰে তেওঁলোকে চলিছে সেই কথা আমি ছিলঙত থাকি গম নাপাওঁ। ছিলঙত থাকি মন্ত্ৰী সকলেও গম নাপায়, তেখেত সকলে ৰঙা চহুমাইদিছে দেখে।

আজি দেশত কি অৱস্থা হৈছে সেইটো আমি ছিলঙত বহি থাকি কব নোৱাৰো । মন্ত্ৰী সকলে আজি সকলো কথা চূমা লৈ চাইছে আৰু হেঙুলীয়া চূমাৰ মাজেদি দেশখনো বঙীন দেখিছে । কিন্তু দেশৰ অৱস্থা আজি বঙীন নহয় । যিবোৰ দেশৰ সন্তানৰ কাৰণে দেশখন গঢ়িব খুজিছে সিহঁতৰ অৱস্থালৈ চাওক । আজি কিমান মেধাবী ছাত্ৰই অভাৱত পৰি শিক্ষা ত্যাগ কৰিব লগাত পৰিছে । এজন মেধাবী ছাত্ৰই কতিয়েৰে শিক্ষালাভ কৰিব পাৰিলে দেশৰো লাভ হয় আৰু সেই ছাত্ৰ জনৰ শিক্ষাত বাধা পৰিলে দেশৰো হানি হয় । এই হৈছে আজি আমাৰ দেশৰ অৱস্থা । সেই কাৰণে এই কেবাচিন কৰব বেলিকা বাইজৰ মতামত লোৱা দৰকাৰ । এইটো আমাৰ ঘৰৰ বস্তু । যেনেকৈ বাৰীৰ তামোল পাৰিবলৈ গিৰিহঁতৰ মতামত লব লাগে ; সেইদৰে আমাৰ সম্পদ কেবাচিনৰ ওপৰত কব লগাবলৈকো বাইজৰ মতামত লব লাগে । আজি শাসনৰ নামত শোষণ কৰিবলৈ দিব নোৱাৰি । বুকুৰ তেজ দি কোনেও কাকো ধনী হবলৈ দিব নোৱাৰে । যদি গণতন্ত্ৰৰ প্ৰকৃত অৰ্থ মানিব খোজে তেনেহলে কেবাচিনৰ কব বছৰাঙতে দটকৈ ভাবিচোৱা উচিত । ইয়েই হয়টো চৰকাৰৰ দেশ বন্ধাৰ বেলিকা বাধাৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিব পাৰে । বাইজ জাগ্ৰত হলে হয়টো ক্ষান্ত কৰিবলৈ টান হব । সেইবাবে মই পিতৃতুল্য বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰীক অনুৰোধ কৰিছো যাতে দেশৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰে, দেশৰ অখণ্ডতা বন্ধা কৰে আৰু দেশ বন্ধাত বৰঙণি যোগাবলৈ বাইজক উৎসাহ দিয়ে । আমাৰ ইয়াত যিবোৰ টকা তুলিবলৈ বাকী আছে, যেনে মাটিৰ বাজহ, ফৰেষ্টৰ বাজহ আদি সেইবোৰ আদায় কৰক আৰু যিবোৰ টকা পাব লগীয়া আছে সেইবোৰ আদায় কৰক । তেতিয়া আমাৰ কোনো কামেই পৰি নাথাকিব ।

আমাৰ দৰে চাৰিওফালে শত্ৰুৱে বেৰি থকা দেশ পৃথিবীত নাই । আমি সদায় সচেতন থাকিব লাগিব আৰু তাৰ বাবে লাগে একতা । সেই একতা নহলে বৰ্তমান পৰিস্থিতিত কাক লৈ দেশখন গৰিব ? কাক লৈ দেশখন বন্ধা কৰিব ? বিত্তমন্ত্ৰীয়ে বন্দুকলৈ দেশ বন্ধা নকৰে; কৰিব দেশৰ যুৱক শক্তিয়ে । সেই বাবে যুৱকশক্তি হাতত ৰাখক আৰু তাকে কৰিবলৈ এই কেবাচিন কৰ বাদ দিয়ক নহলে পিচত হয়টো পস্তাৰ লাগিব ।

\***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, while I asked for hand co-operation to deal with the difficult situation to overcome the number of difficulties we have under the present circumstances, I expected that that hand of co-operation will be given by my friends. Now, I have been threatened with stones, I have been threatened with all kinds of consequences. Sir, I do not know how far that mentality can be helpful to bring about the unity, the co-operation that we need at this time. I can understand that the hon. Members who at every stage and every step are opposing each and every taxation measure and making their speeches not based on facts and figures but merely on sentiment to justify their existence in this House. These are the kind of speeches which are made in the Legislature where we have to sit down and calmly and coolly discuss every item dispassionately and come to a definite decision. These speeches are made for the purpose of propaganda. . . . (Disturbance from the Opposition) Sir, I would seek your assistance in asking the hon. Member to behave properly. If hon. Members make some observations they must also

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be prepared to listen to the reply given. This is not the way to conduct the business of this House. I was really surprised to hear when the Leader of the Opposition said that he was not here to give suggestion how the resources of the State are to be raised, how taxes are to be levied...

\***Shri LAKHI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat)**: There is a misunderstanding, Sir. I said that I was not here to give suggestion how to raise tax but to give suggestion how to raise resources.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)**: I would like to know from him whether there is any country in the world where it can do without taxation. Supposing we are going a long way it is the duty of the Opposition to say that those are the proper methods by which taxation should be raised so that we may accept them. But I was really surprised to see him shirking the responsibility of giving suggestion in this respect. Any how, Sir, I would not like to deal with many of the matters which the hon. Members have raised, but I would like to say this much that as I have already admitted, the impact of tax on kerosene oil will be on all classes of people including the poor people.

But at the same time, I have also said that when we have dedicated ourselves, the rich, the middle class and the poor must sacrifice in order to build better future. Sir, it is only essential that everyone of us, from the rich to the poor, must make his contribution in having a better future for our children. It will not be equitable to put the entire burden on the shoulder of one class of people. The poorer classes should also bear a portion of the burden according to their capacity. Sir, if you will be pleased to see the figure, you will find that out of a sum of Rs.162 lakhs which we are going to raise by additional taxation, only about Rs.12 lakhs will be raised from what is called poorer section of the society. Everybody will admit that this poor class constitutes about 75 per cent of the total population. Therefore, to bear a tax burden of 12 lakhs of rupees out of Rs.162 lakhs by a section which constitutes 75 per cent of the population is not very heavy. The rest Rs.150 lakhs will be borne by the richer section of the population which constitutes only 25 per cent of the total population. Therefore, the per capita taxation per head will be much less in the case of poor people than the so called richer sections. Sir, I have not been able to appreciate the idea that no burden should be imposed on the poorer sections of the society. No country can make any progress or develop until and unless there is some amount of sacrifice from the top to the bottom. Sir, since the Congress Government came into power in the States, the people must realise, that we have changed our policy of taxation and on account of this change in our policy of taxation, as I have already explained, 55 per cent of the tax is realised from the richest section of the society, that is the people whose income per year is above Rs.15,000, and their number being very less the incidence of tax is much more on this section. Fourteen per cent of the tax comes from the lowest income group. Therefore, the hon. Members must realise this thing when they talk of communism. Here I would like to tell the hon. Members that in Communist countries tax burden is much higher than here.

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**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** Sir, on a point of clarification. We did not compare our country with the Communist countries. What I said is that, it is not the time to impose any fresh tax.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Sir, what the hon. Member was driving at was that as a result of this taxation the people would become Communists.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA:** Sir, I said that it is not the time to impose fresh taxation.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, when the hon. Members spoke I did not disturb them but now when I am speaking they are interfering. So, I would like to seek your indulgence. The hon. Member said that this is not the time for taxation and if taxes are imposed, people might become Communists. If the people like to become Communists, as a result of this taxation I would request the hon. Members to convince the people that the burden of taxation in communist countries is much higher than here.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA:** Sir, on a point of clarification.....

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED:** Sir, on a point of clarification.....

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture):** Sir, there should not be any disturbance when the Hon'ble Minister is making a speech.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** When an hon. Member asks for a clarification and the Minister can reply, there is no objection.

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture):** The best way to get clarifications is to ask for clarifications at the end of the speech.

(Many hon. Members from opposition stood up to speak).

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order, order please. I would seek the co-operation of the hon. Member from opposite. When the hon. Minister is speaking, there should not be any interference.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, I would like to submit before the House that when the hon. Members from the opposite were speaking I did not interfere even though some of their observations were highly provocative. I would now request the hon. Members to have patience to hear me. But if the hon. Members go on interrupting like this then I cannot reply to the points raised by them. Sir, all sorts of arguments have been advanced from both sides of the House, but I maintain that if they think over this matter coolly they will see that there is no other alternative



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but to come to the conclusion that this tax is inevitable. Sir, taxation measures are not liked by anybody, far less by the poorer section of the society. But to say that this small burden of taxation cannot be borne by the poorer people is far from truth. Sir, the hon. Member said that I remain in Shillong and so I do not realise the miserable condition of our people in the villages. But I can say that perhaps none has more clear knowledge than myself, so far as the condition of the rural population of Assam is concerned. I have moved with the people, I have lived with the people, I spent night with them and I talked to them and so I can say that a tremendous change has taken place in the living condition of our rural people. They are much better off than before. Sir, about 30 years back when I used to go to the villages the villagers used to serve me with tea with gur, without any sugar and milk, but now they not only serve tea with sugar and milk but they also offer 'Sandesh' and biscuits. That shows, Sir, that the standard of living of our people has gone up. I remember the days when our people used to come to attend meetings with half ganji, dhoti and pajama and they used to come to the meetings by walking 15 to 20 miles. But now they come to attend the meetings with good dress and they come either by Bus or Cycle.

These are the facts—if our people are not able to appreciate that the standard of living has risen, then they are mistaken. I have seen with my own eyes that the standard of living in our rural areas has risen which nobody can deny. Sir, thirty years ago how many people used to go by buses, but now a days everyone is clamouring for buses. You will hear everyday that there is no buses, sufficient buses are not plying so on and so forth. So, I am sure, what Mr. Barua is vehemently opposing for 2nP only per liter, if it is explained to our poor people that this increase is only for the development of our country, and is for the benefit of their sons and daughters only, they will surely sacrifice it. If they know the real fact, they will not run away. They will certainly sacrifice these two N. Ps. for the development of other things. Now I feel that the hon. Members have now realised that it is not out of pleasure but we have been forced to take this measure for the development of the State and welfare of our children, and I hope the hon. Members will co-operate with us in this respect by withdrawing their amendments.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding):** On a point of order, Sir, according to rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Assembly, "The Assembly shall ordinarily sit from 10 A.M. to 12-30 P.M. and from 2 P.M. to 4-30 P.M. on all week days except Wednesday. On Friday, it shall sit from 9 A.M. to 11-30 A.M. provided that the Speaker may, in his discretion, according to the exigencies of the business, adjourn earlier or extend the hour.

The hour has been extended. Therefore.....

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The debate on this Bill is going on. That is why, I have not adjourned the House. This is at my discretion.

Shri Goswami, are you going to withdraw your amendment?

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**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI:** Sir, I am not placing the amendment.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Then I put the amendment "that Clause 2 shall be deleted".

(The House is divided).

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The result is: Ayes 12 and Noes 55.

The amendment is lost.

Now, I put the main question "that in section 2 of the Principal Act, in sub-section 7 the word "Kerosene" shall be deleted.

(The question was adopted.)

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Now I put the question that Clause 2 does form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted.)

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Sir, I will just point out that it is open to the hon. Members to move the amendment. But suppose the amendment is moved and accepted by me, then more tax will be levied on Kerosene because if the amendment is accepted the sales tax will be levied at 4 per cent but if it is not amended the levy will be 2 nP. per litre.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Before that I want to ascertain from the House whether the House will sit longer.

(Yes, yes yes).

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Yes, Clause 3.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the item (iv) of new sub-Section (1) of Section 3, going to be substituted by Clause 3, shall be deleted, and the subsequent item shall be renumbered accordingly.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Mr. Goswami, are you not moving Clause 2 ?

**Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat):** No, Sir.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED:** Sir, the intention of the amendment is to keep kerosene oil from taxation. My views have already been expressed. So, I do not like to speak more.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Sir, does the hon. Member want to put more tax or he actually wants to make it less ? I think, he has not understood the significance of the Clause. If this clause is deleted and kerosene oil is made free of taxation, this examination will mean the levy of 4 per cent under sales tax.

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**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED:** I would request Government to stay action, Sir,

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** If we delete that clause and accept the amendment and the provision of the clause remains then the tax will be 2 nP. per litre, whereas if it is amended 4 per cent will be levied under Sales tax.

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED:** Yes, Sir, I have understood the significance. Government will be free to impose Sales Tax at 4 per cent. However, Sir, I cannot withdraw it.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** He is not withdrawing the amendment.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, the hon. Member wants that the poor people should not be taxed. But by moving this amendment he is going to tax them at 4 per cent instead of 2 nP. per litre.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Now I put the amendment that "the item (iv) of new Sub-section (1) of Section 3, going to be substituted by Clause 3, shall be deleted and the subsequent item shall be renumbered accordingly".

(The amendment was lost.)

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I put the main question that Clauses 1 to 6 do form part of the Bill. The long title and the preamble of the Bill do form of the Bill.

(The question was adopted.)

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum Products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963, be passed.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Motion moved is that the Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum Products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be passed.

**Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY (Patacharkuchi)**

মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই এই বিলৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰিছো, এই বিল পাচ কৰিব নালাগে। এই বিল প্ৰস্তত কৰাৰ সমৰ্থত বোধকৰো অসম চৰকাৰে নাজানিছিল যে, কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰেও এই একে ধৰণৰ বিল আনিব। কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে প্ৰতি লিটাৰত ১০ নয়া পইচাকৈ টেক্স লগোৱাৰ উপৰিও এই চৰকাৰে ২ নয়া পয়ছাকৈ টেক্স লগোৱাত বাইজৰ ওপৰত অতি বেচি হেচা পৰিছে। কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে টেক্স লগোৱা একেটা বস্তৱ ওপৰত আকৌ টেক্স লগোৱা উচিত নহয়। এইটো নাজানিহে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে এইখন বিল আনিছে। কেবাচিন বঙা জাহাজ বগা দুবিধ। বঙা তেল ব্যৱহাৰ কৰে একেবাৰে পৰিব সৰুলে। যিবিলাকে বঙা তেল ব্যৱহাৰ কৰে অন্ততঃ তেওঁলোকক বেহাৰ দিব লাগিছিল। কিঙ্ক বিত্তমন্ত্রীৰ কথাৰ পৰা বগাতেলৰ কথাই নাই এনেকি বঙা

তেলত কিবা বোহাই দিব বুলি আমি গন পোৱা নাই। গতিকে চাফা তেলৰ ওপৰত কৰ লগালেও বঙা তেলৰ ওপৰত কৰ লগোৱা এই বিলৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰিছে।

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই আগতে কৈছো যে, এই বিল পাচ কৰাৰ আগতে জনসাধাৰণৰ মতামত লোৱা উচিত আছিল। গতিকে এই বিলখন আজি পাচ কৰা উচিত নহব।

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, I have nothing to add to what I have already said to meet the arguments.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Then I put the main question. The question is that the Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum Products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963, be passed.

(The House was divided.)

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The result is Ayes—55, Noes 12.

(The question was adopted.)

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Next item—Item No. 14.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, I think the Opposition Members are not opposing the Stamp (Amendment) Bill. That is a small matter.

(Voices from Opposition—Yes, Yes, we shall oppose the Bill.)

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Item No. 14. As today is the last day of the Financial year 1962-63, the Hon'ble Minister wants to move Item No. 14 if there is no objection.

**Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat):** We are not responsible for non-availability of time to-day.

**Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture):** When this agenda was fixed, nobody can say that it was done without consulting the Opposition Members. It was fixed by the Business Advisory Committee in consultation with the Opposition Members.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** No. No. As there were several divisions today we could not finish the agenda and today is the last day for the subject.

**Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding):** When the Opposition was consulted for this item?

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The leader of the Opposition has agreed to this.

#### Government Resolution

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply):** Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.22000 under the head "124.—Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading", for the items indicated below in the printed copy of the Resolution. This expenditure has been necessitated due to creation of additional posts of officers and staff in connection with the national emergency operations.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Motion moved is that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.22,000 under the head "124.—Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading" for the items indicated below.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Before adjournment I would like to state that the outstanding items of the agenda will be carried over to 1st April, 1963.

The House stands adjourned till 10 A. M. on Monday.

### Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A. M. on Monday, the 1st April, 1963.

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

# Assam

## Legislative Assembly

### LIST OF MEMBERS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No.	Name	Address
1.	Mr. G. B. Saha	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
2.	Mr. B. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
3.	Mr. K. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
4.	Mr. S. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
5.	Mr. M. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
6.	Mr. N. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
7.	Mr. P. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
8.	Mr. Q. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
9.	Mr. R. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
10.	Mr. S. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
11.	Mr. T. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
12.	Mr. U. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
13.	Mr. V. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
14.	Mr. W. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
15.	Mr. X. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
16.	Mr. Y. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
17.	Mr. Z. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
18.	Mr. A. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
19.	Mr. B. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta
20.	Mr. C. C. Ghosh	110 Oxford Street, Calcutta