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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

VOL. I

No. 7

The 9th March 1963



सत्यमेव जयते

1963
PRINTED AT THE ASSAM GOVERNMENT PRESS
SHILLONG

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Assam
Legislative Assembly
Debates

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ASSEMBLY AT THE ASSAM GOVERNMENT PRESS
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1913

DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1963

(Budget Session)

Vol. I, No. 7

The 9th March, 1963

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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 9th March, 1962.

PRESENT

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury, B.L., Speaker in the Chair,
nine Ministers, the three Ministers of State, three Deputy Ministers and
sixty four Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Re: Construction of Namti Veterinary Dispensary Building

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA ((Nazira) asked :

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

- (a) Whether administrative approval to the construction of the Veterinary Dispensary buildings at Namti in the Sibsagar Subdivision was accorded long ago, and tenders were also called for ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that now Government have decided not to take up the work during the current financial year even in spite of the fact that the scheme originated in the Second Five-Year Plan ?
- (c) When the work is expected to start ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary)
replied :

8. (a)—Yes.
- (b)—No.

(c)—Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Assam has instructed the Executive Engineer, Sibsagar Division to start the construction work early.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : May I know from the Honourable Minister when the administrative approval was accorded ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) :
The administrative approval was accorded towards the end of the last Financial year.

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira) : Sir, is it a fact that the Veterinary Department has asked the P. W. D to stop the work for the time being ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) :No.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : May I know from the honourable Minister how many tenders have been received for the work.?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : That I cannot say off hand, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER : It is for the P. W. D to reply and not the Minister in-charge of Veterinary.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE : May I know, Sir, when the construction of the building will be started ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : It all depend on the availability of fund. The fund of the Veterinary Department for this Purpose is inadequate ; the works have to be limited by t'e P. W. D. within the funds allotted to them.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : Is there any want of funds for the construction of the building ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Yes, Sir.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : Sir, while Government decided not to curtail any plan provision in the Second Plan, why there is d arth of money to construct the buildings of this project ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Sir, the position is this—The Veterinary Budget and l as a matter of fact the Veterinary plan is not a very big one. We took up the plan to have some dispensaries during the second plan. Construction works of these dispensaries could not be completed owing to dearth of money in the Second Plan. These were a spill over schemes in the Third Plan itself. In the Third Plan also the fund provided for the Veterinary Department was not adequate. There are, works of some of the dispensaries proposed to be constructed like Chapar, Janjhi, Singri, Sapatgram, Laluk, Namti and Kamarbandha could not be taken up or where works were taken up the expenditures had to be limited within the budget provision available during the year.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : Will the Minister in-charge be pleased to see that the matter is expedited ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : It is not in my hand, Sir.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : What is the budget provision of this scheme, Sir ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : I want notice for it.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding) : Sir, what is the use of calling tenders when there is no administrative approval ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : I am afraid, the hon. Member has not heard me properly.

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member did not give proper attention.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : When there is no sufficient fund, may I know from the hon. Minister, why administrative approval was given ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, P. W. D.) : I am afraid, Sir, the position is not properly appreciated. In P. W. D. Budget certain schemes and projects for constructions are included only after administrative approvals to these schemes are given. So far as construction works in a particular project is concerned, this is done by the P. W. D. P. W. D. will naturally take up larger number of schemes, then they can or will execute within a particular time as there are many slips between the cup and the lip. Sometime land is not available ; sometime proper contractor is not available ; at times all these including money are available but cement and other items necessary for construction are not available ; and so on and so forth. All these possible eventualities are taken into consideration in taking up more schemes.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : Sir, may I know why the tenders were called for without knowing the fund position ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : There is nothing more for me to add in this respect, Sir.

Re: Pay Committee and Interim Relief to low-paid Government employees

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

- (a) Whether the Pay Committee constituted in 1962 last is functioning ?
- (b) If so, when the Pay Committee is expected to finalise its deliberations and to submit its report to the Government ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Pay Committee suggested to the Government for payment of an Interim Relief to the low paid Government employees of the State in September last ?
- (d) If so, what are the recommendations of the Pay Committee for payment of Interim Relief to the low-paid Government employees of the State ?
- (e) When Government propose to implement those recommendations for payment of Interim Relief to the low-paid Government employees ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

9. (a)—The Committee had its last sitting on 25th September, 1962. Due to the National Emergency, the sittings of the Committee were temporarily suspended thereafter. The deliberations of the Committee will be resumed after the Budget Session of the Assembly is over.

(b)—In view of the reply to (a) above, submission of the report may be somewhat delayed, but every effort will be made to speed up the deliberations and reach conclusions.

(c)—Yes. The Committee submitted a report to Government on 27th September, 1962 on the question of giving Interim Relief to the Government servants.

(d)—As the report is still under the consideration of Government, it will not be in public interest to disclose the interim recommendations of the Pay Committee at this stage.

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

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a minor correction in reply No.9(a) in the first sentence which should be—

“The Committee had its last sitting from 25th to 27th September, 1962.”

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj North) : Sir, does not the Finance Minister consider that it is high time for the Government to give the interim relief to the ill-paid employees, as was recommended by the Pay Committee ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I have already pointed out that the matter is under the active consideration of the Government. The wishes of the hon. Member will also be kept in mind.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : Sir, in view of the present hardship of the low paid employees, will the Government immediately implement the interim relief as recommended by the Pay Committee ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I have already replied, Sir.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) : May I know from the hon. Minister what will be the financial implication of the interim relief that will be given effect to ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : As I have already indicated, I do not consider it desirable to give the figure now.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : May I know from the hon. Minister when we can expect to get the final decision in respect of this interim relief, Sir ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I have already indicated that the matter is under active consideration of the Government and the wishes of the House will be kept in view in taking early decision.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS : Sir, how many times the Committee sat for deliberation ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Twice we sat.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East) : Sir, when can we expect the final report of the Committee ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : We shall try to expedite the matter. In fact we wanted to complete this work within six or seven months. If it were not for emergency, perhaps, the work would have made satisfactory progress by now. The hon. Members will be interested to know that we had framed questionnaires and sent them to various Associations and furnished them for the benefit of individuals. A large number of replies had also been received and the next step was to give an opportunity to the Associations to place their views verbally, place there reviews and add what they had to say about these matters. For that purpose a meeting was fixed in the early part of November, but some of the members could not come and due to national emergency the matter had to be postponed. From that stage the work will be resumed and we shall try to expedite.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) : In view of the fact that the people are hard-hit due to the rise in prices will Government take immediate steps so that interim relief can be given to the employees ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): I have already replied, Sir.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): What is the desire of the Government? Is it to approach the Pay Committee for their final recommendations or to implement their recommendation with regard to interim relief?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Both.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): If the emergency continues, will the Pay Committee sit?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I have already said that as soon as the Assembly Session is over the Pay Committee will resume its sitting unless the situation deteriorates.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to inform the House what time was taken for finalisation of decision by the last Pay Committee?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Over a year was taken by the last Pay Committee for submitting its report and Government took action within two or three months after the report was submitted.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: What is the difficulty in giving the amount which the Pay Committee has recommended as interim relief?

Mr. SPEAKER: The matter is under the active consideration of Government.

Re: District Development Committee

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) asked:

*10. Will the Minister-in-charge of Planning and Development be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there are District Development Committees in Assam?
- (b) If so, the composition of these Committees and their functions?

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

10. (a)—There are at present Subdivisional Development Committees in each Plain Subdivisions of the State and in the Hills, there are both Subdivisional Development Boards and Subdivisional Development Committees.

Prior to the establishment of Panchayats in the Plain Districts, there were Subdivisional Development Boards also in the Plain Subdivision consisting of both officials such as Deputy Commissioner or Sub-Divisional Officer, Development Officer and non-official, viz., M. L. As/M. Ps, Chairmen, Municipal Boards/Committees, etc. The Subdivisional Development Boards in the Plain Districts have been abolished with the functioning of Mahkuma Parishads.

(b)—The Subdivisional Development Committees consist of the following officials as its members—

- (1) Deputy Commissioner/Sub-Divisional Officer..... Chairman.
- (2) Development Officer/Planning Officer Secretary.
- (3) All Senior Local Officials dealing with Development works Members.

The main functions of the Subdivisional Development Committees are to co-ordinate the activities of various Departments concerned with Development Plans in the interest of integrated progress.

The Subdivisional Development Boards functioning in the Hill Districts consist of Deputy Commissioner/Sub-Divisional Officers as Chairman, Development Officers as Secretary and M. Ps/M. L As, representatives of the District Councils, etc.

The main functions of the Subdivisional Development Boards are to advise on the formulation of Five-Year Plans and Annual Plans in relation to the needs of the Subdivisions and to review implementation of approved programmes of development, on the basis of quarterly progress reports.

Mr. SPEAKER: The word "etc.," should be avoided in reply to questions. "Etcetera" means there are certain other things which are not mentioned. The reply should be as exhaustive as possible.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning and Development): I agree, Sir.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): The Hon'ble Minister has given details of the Committees which are not in existence.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: No, Sir, the committees are in existence.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East): In which year these committees were formed?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Long ago.

Shri PRABINDRA NATH SARMA: What is the life of these committees?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: These are official committees and their term is not limited.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI: Are we to understand that with the formation of Mahkuma Parishads the Committees have been abolished?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: No, the Boards have been abolished.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati): May I know whether the development plans for districts and subdivisions are formulated by these committees?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: It was the function of the Planning Boards to advise on the formulation of plans. This function has been taken over by the Mahkuma Parishads. The Committees were for the purpose of seeing to the co-ordinated execution of the development plans. The Committees which consist only of officers are to see that co-ordinated development takes place and the plan and programme as approved by both the Mahkuma Parishad and the Government are undertaken and completed in right time.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): These Subdivisional Development Committees are purely official committees then?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning and Development): Yes, Sir.

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU [Majuli (Reserved for Schedule Tribes)]: May I know whether Government propose to include the respective Presidents of the Mahkuma Parishads as members of the Development Committee of the respective subdivisions.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: No, Sir.

Shri NALINDRA SANGMA [Dianadubi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: In the Hills districts the Development Boards could not be constituted as the Government have not approved the list of members as yet.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Which district?

Shri NALINDRA SANGMA: In the Garo Hills, a list of members was sent to Government, but this has not yet been approved.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): So far as Hill areas are concerned, Sir, as you know some members of the Development Boards had resigned. Afterwards in some places these Boards have been reconstituted and in other areas action is being taken to reconstitute them.

Shri NALINDRA SANGMA: The resignations took place before the election. What is the difficulty in reconstituting them after the election.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: They ought to have been reconstituted after the election.

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU: Will the Government see so that the proceedings of the Development Committees are placed before the Mahkuma Parishads concerned?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: That can be done, Sir.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Re: Silchar Weaving Superintendent's Office

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North) asked:

3. Will the Minister, Weaving and Sericulture be pleased to state—
 - (a) Whether the Silchar Weaving Superintendent's Office is still functioning at Jorhat?
 - (b) If so, what is the reason?
 - (c) Whether it is a fact that Clerks, Typists, Chowkidars, etc., for the Weaving Superintendent's Office, Silchar have already been appointed except the appointment of the Superintendent?
 - (d) When the Government propose to locate the Weaving Superintendent's Office, Silchar; at Silchar proper instead of Jorhat?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving) replied:

3. (a)—No.
- (b)—Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.
- (c)—Yes. A skeleton staff was appointed last year and attached to the Office of the Superintendent of Weaving, Jorhat.
- (d)—The Office of the Superintendent of Weaving which is proposed to be located at Silchar will be established there as soon as a suitable officer is available for appointment to the post.

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North): Sir, I fail to understand what the Hon'ble Minister exactly means by his reply to (c). A skeleton staff was appointed at Silchar for the office of the Superintendent of Weaving and they have been attached to the office of the Superintendent of Weaving at Jorhat.

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving): এই Skeleton Staff টা মোহাট রাখা হয়েছে শিক্ষার জন্য তাই শিলচরে নিতে পারে নাই। তা ছাড়া Superintendent Post টা P. S. C. ৰ কাছে রয়েছে। গত ২৫ জানুৱাৰী তাৰিখ P. S. C. Advertise করেছে এবং P. S. C. মনোনিত লিষ্ট সরকারের কাছে পাঠাইলেই সরকার অফিচাৰ নিয়োগ করার পরেই Staff শিলচরে পাঠানো হইবে।

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North): মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে আমাক আশ্বাস দিবনে যে অতি সোনকালে উইভিং চুপাৰিণ্টেণ্ডেণ্টৰ অফিচটো চিলচৰত প্ৰতিস্থ কৰিব?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Weaving and Sericulture): আমি ইতিপূৰ্বেই বলছি যে আসাম পাব্লিক চাৰ্ভিচ কমিচন থেকে মনোনয়ন লিষ্ট আসলেই, চুপাৰিণ্টেণ্ডেণ্ট নিয়োগ কৰা হব।

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): মন্ত্রী মহোদয় কি বলবেন যে Superintendent নিয়োগ করার পূৰ্বে যে Skeleton staff নিয়োগ কৰা হয়েছে, তারা কি কাজ করছে?

Mr. SPEAKER: প্রশিক্ষণ নিচ্ছে বলেছেন।

Shri R. THANHLIRA [Aijal-East (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]—May I know, Sir, whether Mizo District comes under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Weaving, Jorhat and if so, how many times has the Weaving Superintendent, Jorhat visited the Mizo district?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture, etc.): মিজো পৰ্ব্বতৰ আৰু মিকিব উত্তৰ কাছাৰৰ কাৰণে এজন চুপাৰিণ্টেণ্ডেণ্ট হাফলঙত নিয়োগ কৰা হৈছে; আৰু হাফলঙৰ জনেই আইজালবো কাম কৰিব।

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla): Weaving Superintendent সকলৰ কাৰীকৰী প্ৰশিক্ষনৰ আৱশ্যক আছে নেকি?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: হয়, আৱশ্যক আছে।

Shri R. THANHLIRA [Aijal-East (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: In view of the fact that plenty of scope for Cottage Industries like Weaving, etc., exist in Mizo district, will the Government be pleased to post a Superintendent of Weaving separately for Mizo district as it is not possible to supervise the work in Mizo district efficiently from Haflong office?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving): বৰ্তমান অৱস্থাত হাফলঙৰ জনেই ঠিক-মতে কাম চলাই আছে।

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharghat) : মন্ত্রীৰ প্ৰশ্নোত্তৰত কিছুমান গোলমাল হৈছে। চিলচৰৰ Superintendent ৰ office টো যোৰহাটত খোলা হৈছে কিন্তু তাৰ Superintendent কোন ? কিন্তু Superintendent নিয়োগ নকৰাকৈ office টোৱে কি কাম কৰিছে।

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : মহোদয়, মই ইতিপূৰ্বে ই কৈছে যে, তেওঁলোকে তাত প্ৰশিক্ষন লাভ কৰিছে। যিহেতু শিলচৰৰ কাম যোৰহাটৰ Superintendent ৰ অফিচটোৰ পৰাই কৰোৱা হৈছে।

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI : চিলচৰৰ Superintendent ৰ অফিচটো তেন্তে যোৰহাটত পতা বুলি মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে উত্তৰত কব লাগে। গতিকে সেই অফিচৰ কাম Superintendent ৰে চলাই।

Mr. SPEAKER : তেনেহলে যোৰহাটৰ Superintendent জনেই চিলচৰৰ কামো চলাই আছে।

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN : যোৰহাটৰ পৰা শিলচৰ কিমান দূৰ?
(Voice—সেইটো ভূগোলৰ কথা মাননীয়া সদস্যই চাই লব।)

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : শিলচৰত Superintendent নোহোৱাকৈ Superintendent ৰ অফিচটো যোৰহাটত কিয় খুলিছে ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Staff টোক প্ৰশিক্ষণ দিছে বুলি কৈছে।

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : যদি চিলচৰৰ কাম Superintendent ৰ অফিচেই নাই তেন্তে চিলচৰত Superintendent ৰ কাম বিলাক কোনে কৰিছে ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving) : অন্যান্য প্ৰশিক্ষন লোৱা কৰ্মচাৰীৰ দ্বাৰায় যোৰহাটৰ Superintendent জনেই কৰি আছে ?

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS : তাত Weaving Demonstrator থাক ইনস্পেক্টৰ আছে নে নাই ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : হয়, আছে।

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI : তেন্তে উত্তৰটো গোলমাল হৈছে শুদ্ধ কৰি দিব লাগিছিল। Staff ৰ প্ৰশিক্ষণৰ কথা নাই নহয় ?

Mr. SPEAKER : প্ৰশিক্ষণৰ কথা আগতেই মন্ত্ৰীমহোদয়ে কৈছে।

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI : ক'তা প্ৰশ্নোত্তৰত প্ৰশিক্ষণৰ কোনো কথা নাই।

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : প্ৰশিক্ষণৰ কথা আছে।

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): বর্তমান যে staff নিয়োগ করা হয়েছে, সেই staff শুধু প্রশিক্ষণই করেছে না শিলচরের কাজও করেছে?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: প্রশিক্ষণের সঙ্গে শিলচরের কাজও করিতেছে।

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH NATH: Training শেষ কবোতে কিমান দিন লাগিব?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: তাব কোনে নির্ধারিত সময় নাই।

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: যোবহাটৰ পৰা টিলচৰৰ কাম চলাওতে অসুবিধা হৈছে নে নাই?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: অসুবিধা হয়, সেই কাৰণেই Superintendent Office টিলচৰত পতাব আয়োজন কৰা হৈছে।

Re: The Scheme of Pilot Project

Shri ABDUL MUNIM CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked:

4. Will the Minister-in-charge, Community Project be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is a scheme of Pilot Project?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to take up the following roads under the said scheme in the South Karimganj Anchalik Panchayat?

(i) From Kaligonj-Chandrapur Road to Mazatkandi Road via Kaligonj Basic Centre, Chowdhury Bazar and Tukor Bazar.

(ii) From Girishgonj to Kaligonj Bazar via Suprakandi Railway Station.

(iii) From K. P. C. Road on the point of Bahadurpur to Khagail, Kaligonj Roads via Ghuramara and Giashpur.

(iv) From Nilambazar-Keoutkona via Kanakpur Road.

(c) When these roads will be taken up under the said scheme?

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

4. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

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

Re: Misappropriation in the Office of the South Karimganj Anchalik Panchayat

Shri ABDUL MUNIM CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some amounts were misappropriated in the Accounts Branch of the Office of the South Karimganj Anchalik Panchayat ?
- (b) If so, what were the amounts misappropriated ?
- (c) Who misappropriated the amounts ?
- (d) Who is responsible for the overall supervision of the accounts branch and for executive control ?
- (e) If the reply to (c) above is in affirmative, what action Government propose to take against the person or persons found at fault ?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Panchayat and C. D.) replied :

5. (a)—Some cases of suspected misappropriation have been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b)—The misappropriated amounts are reported to be Rs. 167·55, Rs. 744·03, Rs. 7,072·53 and Rs. 1,261·00.

(c)—The cases are being enquired into.

(d)—President and Secretary of the Anchalik Panchayat are responsible for overall control of accounts.

(e)—Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Re: Appointment of Labour Inspector for Karimganj

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North) asked :

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

- (a) Whether the Government are aware that it is no longer possible for one Labour Inspector stationing at Silchar to cope with the day to day labour troubles and grievances of the entire Cachar District ?
- (b) If so, whether Government propose to take immediate steps to appoint one more Labour Inspector with his Headquarters at Karimganj ?
- (c) If the reply to Question (b) is in the affirmative, whether Government finalise appointment of a new Labour Inspector with his Headquarters in Karimganj town within December, 1962 ?
- (d) If so, by when ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister for Labour) replied :

6. (a)—There are three Labour Inspectors at Silchar, and not one.
 (b)—There is no such contemplation at present.
 (c)—Does not arise.
 (d)—Does not arise.

Shri GAURISANKAR ROY (Katlicherra): Are Government prepared to increase the number of typists and clerical staff in the office of Labour Inspector.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): Yes, if necessary, we will do it.

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj North): Sir, in 6(a) the Hon'ble Minister has replied that there are three Labour Inspectors at Silchar and at (b) he has replied that at present Government is not contemplating appointment of any further Labour Inspector. In view of this, will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to give us assurance that out of the three Labour Inspectors now posted at Silchar, one will be posted at Karimganj because of the emergent necessity of labour supervision work in the Karimganj Subdivision as also Karimganj is fast developing into an industrial area. If the Hon'ble Minister decide that an office of a Labour inspector be established even, if necessary, by transferring one out of the three Labour Inspectors posted at Silchar, then.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Are you putting a question or making a statement? Your question is whether a Labour Inspector will be appointed at Karimganj, is not it?

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN: Yes, Sir.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries): The present arrangement is functioning very satisfactorily as Cachar is a very manageable district inasmuch as from that one office at Silchar both the Silchar and Karimganj subdivisions are managed satisfactorily. Besides, posting of one Inspector at Karimganj is not enough. If the post of an Inspector for Karimganj is created, with that we will have to make provisions for typists, clerks, peons, etc. Therefore, I think since the present arrangement is functioning satisfactorily, we need not upset the present arrangement.

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN: The present functioning is more than unsatisfactory as far as I can see. I am therefore unable to accept the contention of the Hon'ble Minister.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): In view of the fact that the present arrangement is functioning very satisfactorily, will the Government agree to distribute the three Labour Inspectors between the two subdivisions?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): In that case the efficiency will be less.

Shri PULAKESHI SINGH (Sonai): Is there any Agricultural Labour Inspector at Silchar?

Mr. SPEAKER: That question does not arise.

Supplementary Demands and List of Excess Grants

Mr. SPEAKER: That question hour is over. Now item No. 2 Mr. Ahmed.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg to present the Supplementary Demand for grants and Supplementary Appropriation for 1962-63.

Mr. SPEAKER: Item No. 3, Mr. Ahmed.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to present the List of Demands for Excess over Grants and Appropriation in 1959-60.

Laying out Copies of Ordinances

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I lay the Assam Contingency Fund (Augmentation of Corpus) (No. III) Ordinance, 1962 (Assam Ordinance No. VIII of 1962).

Mr. SPEAKER: Item No. 5, Mr. Ahmed.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to lay the Assam Appropriation (No. III) Ordinance, 1962 (Assam Ordinance No. IX of 1962).

The Assam Finance Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: To introduce the Assam Finance Bill, 1963 a message from the Governor is necessary. As the Message is not coming we may take it later on.

Agriculturist Loans (Extension to United K. & J. Hills District) Bill, 1963

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T. A. D.): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Agriculturist Loans (Extension to United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Agriculturist Loans (Extension to United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted.)

Land Improvement Loans (Extension to Mizo and United Khasi and Jaintia Hills Districts) Bill, 1963

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T.A.D.): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Land Improvement Loans (Extension of Mizo and United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Land Improvement Loans (Extension to Mizo and United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Districts) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted.)

**The Assam Regulated and Licensed Warehouses (Amendment)
Bill, 1962**

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Regulated and Licensed Warehouses (Amendment) Bill, 1962.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Regulated and Licensed Warehouses (Amendment) Bill, 1962 be introduced.

(The question was adopted.)

**The Assam Town and Country Planning (Amendment)
Bill, 1963**

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted.)

**The Assam Local Funds Accounts and Audit (Amendment)
Bill, 1963**

Shri FAKHURUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Local Funds Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Local Funds (Accounts and Audit) (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted.)

The Assam Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Shri BAIDYANATH MOKERJEE (Minister, Excise): Sir, I beg leave of this House to introduce the Assam Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted.)

The Assam Liquor Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Shri BAIDYANATH MOKERJEE: Sir, I beg leave of this House to introduce the Assam Liquor Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Liquor Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted.)

The Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, Local Self-Government) : Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted).

Government Resolutions

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) : Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.3,950 under the heads "9.—Land Revenue—F.—Survey, Settlement" for the items below. The amount involved will be met from the sanctioned grant "9.—Land Revenue—F.—Survey, Settlement and Record Operation". The necessity of the demand has been explained in Appendix A.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.3,950 under the heads "9.—Land Revenue—F.—Survey, Settlement" for the items below. The amount involved will be met from the sanctioned grant "9.—Land Revenue—F.—Survey, Settlement and Record Operation".

(The motion was put as question and adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.18,88,200 under the heads "50.—Public Works State—(Excluding Establishment and Tools and Plant)" and "52.—Capital Outlay on Public Works within the Revenue Account" for the items below. The amount involved will be met from the sanctioned grant.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.18,88,200 under the heads "50.—Public Works State—(Excluding Establishment and Tools and Plant)" and "52.—Capital Outlay on Public Works within the Revenue Account" for the items below. The amount involved will be met from the sanctioned grant.

(The motion was put as question and adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.3,51,306 under the head "103.—Capital Outlay on Public Works Outside the Revenue Account, etc." for the items below. The amount will be met from the sanctioned grant.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.3,51,306 under the head "103.—Capital Outlay on Public Works Outside the Revenue Account, etc." for the items below. The amount will be met from the sanctioned grant.

(The motion was put as question and adopted).

Laying out copies of Reports and Rules

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg to lay out the Eight Annual Report and Accounts of the Assam Financial Corporation for the year ended 31st March, 1962, under section 38(3) of the State Financial Corporation Act 1951.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): Sir, I beg to lay out the Third Annual Report of the Assam Government Marketing Corporation for 1961-62 under section 619A (3) (b) of the Indian Companies Act, 1956.

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving): Sir, I beg to lay out the Annual Report of the Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board for the year 1960-61, under section 23 of the Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board Act, 1955.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries): Sir, I beg to lay out the Second Annual Report of the Assam Spun Silk Mills Ltd., Jagiroad, for the year 1961-62, under section 69A (3) (b) of the Indian Companies Act, 1956.

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, Tribal Areas Department): I beg to lay out the Assam Probation of Offenders Rules, 1962, under section 17 (3) of the Probation of Offender Act 1958.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical): Sir, I beg to lay out the Assam Spirituous Medicinal Preparations (Sale) Rules, 1962.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, I beg to lay out the Assam Spirituous Preparation (Manufacturing) Rules, 1962.

Election to Committees and Boards

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Parliamentary Affairs): Sir, I beg to move:

“This Assembly do elect seven Members in accordance with the provisions of rule 242 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly to the Committee on Public Accounts to function from the 31st March, 1963”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that this Assembly do elect seven Members in accordance with the provisions of rule 242 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly to the Committee on Public Accounts to function from the 31st March, 1963.

(The Motion was put as question and adopted).

(The Secretary will notify the date, time and place for holding the Election, if necessary).

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister of Education): Sir, I beg to move:

“This Assembly do elect five representatives of the Assam Legislative Assembly from amongst its Members to the State Board of Assam Elementary Education under the provision of Section 4(1)(viii) of the Assam Elementary Education Act, 1962”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that this Assembly do elect five representatives of the Assam Legislative Assembly from amongst its members to the State Board of Assam Elementary Education under the provision of Section 4(1) (viii) of the Assam Elementary Education Act, 1962.

(The Motion was put as question and adopted).

(The Secretary will notify the date, time and place for holding the Election, if necessary).

Motion on Third Five Year Plan

Mr. SPEAKER: Now we may take up Private Members Business. There is one Motion pending before the House, that is, further discussion of the following motion moved by Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami, M. L. A. on the 21st June, 1962.

“That the House do now consider the Third Five Plan of the Government of Assam”.

Any Member wants to take part in the debate may do so. (No response) The Minister in-charge will now give the reply. I want to give a time limit to the Hon'ble Minister. I want to give him 1½ hours' time for this purpose.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): I hope, Sir, there would not be any necessity for fixing time limit in view of the fact that the whole day is before us.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are so many Resolutions and Bills before us.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): I am going to speak without a time limit.

So far as the Third Plan is concerned it is already finalised. So our discussion must be in retrospect. Such a discussion may help us to understand the plan, but hardly will this be available for the purpose of redrawing.

Now, Sir, due to the national emergency there have been certain changes in the plan provision, but they have been of a very minor nature. So far as I understand in the meeting of the National Development Council the Chief Ministers of India together proposed to the Prime Minister that the whole plan might be dropped so that it may be re-arranged for national defence. That shows that under the National Emergency the whole of India realised that if the plan had to go on and Development, national honour must be vindicated. The emergency is still there but the intensity of emergency has been slightly reduced. May be for this reason the plan as such has not been very much curtailed. Chopping is also not to be very much. When the Central budget was presented a large number of taxation proposals were mooted and as a result a fund will be raised adequate enough for the purpose of meeting the Defence requirements arising out of the national emergency as well as for normal requirements of the Plan. It is now taken for granted that the Plan as drawn stands, as is understood, and we would be able to go forward in implementing the Plan. Therefore, the discussion about

the Plan is not inopportune. It will be helpful in the sense that the Plan will be understood and if any changes are required in the light of the emergency those changes will be understood and the Plan will go forward as it is. One of the recommendations is that within that scope of the Plan itself we may so adjust that it becomes Defence re-oriented. Now we have to some extent brought changes so that slight reorientation towards the Defence is possible. Government of India has made it in a different way and to some extent the Plan has changed its character. But since the original plan of the States continued as it was. Therefore, so far as the States sector is concerned the change towards the Defence reorientation has been very little, and, therefore, we are with the Plan. Now there is a feeling both in Delhi—in the Planning Commission—and here that there should be some flexibility in the Plan. The flexibility is necessary because we are projecting for the future end. That means the future to some extent is controlling and guiding the present development.

Now future is not very clear to a nation at any particular point of time. A shadow of the future casts itself in the present to the extent that the shadow goes on changing and the present plans have to change. Therefore, although the plan is drawn, there is an element of flexibility in the Plan. Now the emergency has come against which the Plan will have to be flexible and drawn accordingly. Future requirements also bring about certain flexibility and changes. Therefore, the mental approach towards planning should continue to be one of flexibility. That does not mean that the Plan which we have drawn up is not a plan. It is a real plan for us, but it does not prevent us from making changes if they are worthwhile and necessary. Therefore, I say, Sir, in this Plan which we have drawn up the approach should be pragmatic. That is we learn from situation to situation and thus proceed towards the final end. With this background, Sir, the Planning Commission has advanced a theory of perspective planning. Now what is this perspective planning? We have a perspective of the future. The future as is apparent before us say for 20 years' stretch of time. We take the nature of the population rise, the nature of the changes in the requirements of the population in course of the next 20 years as its character goes on changing, its conservatism goes on changing, its educational structure, its desires, volitions, expectations go on changing. Then, we have to map out these changes in the march of time in course of the next 20 years, and then corresponding to the same we draw up a plan. Naturally, our anticipations may be belied, we may not find exactly what we had anticipated to come true or it may come to 50 per cent or 70 per cent but whatever it is, we go on changing. Therefore, Sir, planning has now been deemed a continuous process. It is not a process where a few people gather and draw up a plan and then try to implement it. We try to plan continuously because it is a 20 years or even a longer plan. We have tabulated on the plan the requirements, the resources, the production, the development and the rest of it. Now, we also go on projecting the realities of the Plan. On the projection into the future we go on projecting the realities as we find them at any particular time. For instance, we drew up the Second Plan. In the Second Plan we drew up certain amount of rise in the national income and certain amount of per capita rise in the national income. This was naturally based on a certain figures, or certain rate of rise in the population. Now that was belied. Instead of 1.5 the population rise in India was 2. In Assam the population rise was 34 per cent in Assam. Therefore, instead of increase in the national income in Assam the rise in per capita did not appreciably reflect it. So, here is a new reality, namely, increase in the rate of population growth. Now we may say this rate will be maintained or we may

say this was fortuitous. Certain other factors came into being, therefore, the future rate of growth would not be as disclosed at present. Therefore, if we provide this amount of increase in the national income, then so much will be rise per capita. That also is a projection. In this, way, what I was saying, perspective planning has come to stay and this perspective planning is very necessary for Assam. The Planning Commission is a very costly affair. Government of India can afford it but Planning Commission for a State, it is very difficult to obtain. Therefore we have not been able to take steps towards setting up a Planning Commission for the State. What we have done then? We have decided that there should be a Planning Committee set up in the State and this Planning Committee should be given a continuity and permanency so that this Planning Committee may continue permanently to draw up a perspective plan. Because if the Plan is a perspective plan, the persons who draw up or the organisation which draws up the Plan has to be continuous. At present we have no such organisations. We have some *ad hoc* organisations. We get the help of some people, Members of this House, Members of Parliament, some members of Society, some of our officials; we bring them together and hold an *ad hoc* meeting for one, two or five days and then we say this shall be the Plan. The plan is drawn out with the help of various departments who intimate their requirements and then the members express their views and thus the Plan is finalised and there is an end of it. Thereafter what remains is not planning but implementation. Therefore, this constant adjustment which should go on by plotting the realities into the picture of the future by way of plan, does not take place. Therefore, whenever a change is necessary, that change is fortuitous, *ad hoc*, emotional and it has often no reality to the requirements of the future. Therefore what is necessary is, Sir, that the Planning Organisation should be permanent and continuous. It should have a statistical department of its own which goes on assisting the Planning Organisation continuously so that the future may be drawn on it. Now a large number of statistical datas have to be found in the planning organisation. I gave an example of population change. Secondly, may be the character of the population which goes on changing—as I said, the educational standard, technical qualifications, its increases and changing requirements. The third may be the consumer requirements which go on changing as the population structure changes. Take for instance, today we have got a population which is rice eating. So we project into the future 20 years, that population will rise by so many percentages and therefore the increase in the consumption of rice would be so much. But what guarantee is there that the increase in population would go on to the extent as today or that we continue to the same citizen as rice-eaters? There is no guarantee. I will give you an example. In 1957, the wheat consumption of Assam was about 5,000 tons a month. Now it is nearly 15,000 tons a month. What has happened? Is it a reflection of the population change? No. It is not merely a reflection of the population change. It is a reflection of the change in the food habits. Wheat products are cheaper. They are available at Rs.15 or Rs.16 per maund; whereas rice is available at Rs.22 to Rs.28 per maund. Now what has happened? The poorer section of the population cannot go for rice, they go over to wheat. What happens to the richer section. They go over to wheat not so much for necessity, but for a change. So you see, the habits of the people go on changing. Therefore, it is customary in the Labour Department to have periodical assessments of the change in the food and other requirements of the population, *i.e.*, working class I mean, so that the changes may be adjusted accordingly, so that changes are adjusted according to the changing pattern of consumption. Therefore, on the

one hand the population goes on changing, on the other hand the character of the population goes on changing and thirdly according to the character the consumption pattern goes on changing. The requirements pattern goes on changing. Take for instance—house. A man thinks that kutchra house will be enough for him. He would not like to leave it. For example, in some tea gardens of Cachar, some planters made pucca houses and workers are not willing to go into pucca houses. They want to remain in the kutchra houses. There was a great controversy. I went there and asked the workers why they did not like to go into pucca houses. They told me that if they go to the pucca houses, they would not be able to keep their earthen pitchers. In pucca houses the earthen pitchers break. In kutchra houses the floor being kutchra the earthen-pitchers do not break. So these workers of the tea garden have not changed their requirement pattern, so far house is concerned. Now what happens about middle class? So far house is concerned, their requirement pattern has changed. They like pucca floors even if the house is kutchra. The consumption of the population today will never compare with the consumption pattern ten years hence. It will be out of recognition 20 years hence. Therefore, the problem of planning is not easy. Because you are all the time drawing a line on a moving table. It is easy to draw a line on a static table, but not on a moving table. In a moving table the line goes curved and crooked. Therefore, we have to continuously adjust the imbalances which arose in our calculations. Therefore, Sir, it is very necessary that an organisation which is permanent and continuous may undertake the planning not merely for a State but for the country as a whole. We have already got the Planning Commission. This Planning Commission started from a rudimentary structure and has become a good organisation. Statistically they are very well equipped and have been able to project into the future plan the details necessary. For this State also what we have done, Sir, we took a decision that a permanent and continuous organisation will be set up in the State for the purpose of drawing up the perspective plan and carrying on this continuous adjustments from time to time. What will be the character of this body, it is not yet possible to say. Sir, a great deal of our resources has been diverted from one end to the other. Therefore, the picture is very clear, but we hope that this national emergency will come to a change soon either fully or partly and in that case it will be possible for us to visualise what type of organisation we will have. Once this organisation is set up this will naturally be able to assist us in any ways. It will require somebody who expert in economics, somebody who is expert in statistics, somebody who is expert in technical matters and somebody who is expert in sciences. This seems to be a bare minimum for undertaking the task of planning in the State. Whether we will get all this sanctioned by the Finance, I cannot say. Therefore, I am not in a position now to indicate to the House what we are determining with regard to this. Secondly, even if finance is available, the availability of personnel is not very easy. We will have to select them very carefully, so that they may discharge their functions. It is a difficult function in the sense, Sir, that the work of this body will be like that of research work and we will have to find out administrators who have flare for research work. In our society, such people are not many. Most of the people consider themselves to be suitable for executive branch. So far the technical, theoretical and abstract research are concerned, many people are not available. Even if they are available they are equipped mentally or otherwise, or from experience to undertake the task. Therefore, although we have made this, we have two difficulties, one is of finance and the other searching out the suitable type of personnel to undertake the same.

Mr. SPEAKER: If that is so, what is in other States.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): This direction from the Planning Commission came towards the end of only last year. So far as I understand no State has yet been able to set up full-fledged organisation of this type, but in one or two States they have entrusted some body to go forward to set up this organisation. In our State we have taken as the nucleus the Director of Statistics for this purpose. He is mentally equipped and he has the flare for this type of work and I have no doubt that he will prove himself capable of this task. But to assist him some personnel will have to be provided before he can project this as we desire. Planning of necessity from the Directorates has been in terms of physical targets and there has always been a conflict between the physical targets proposed by the Directorate with the financial structure provided by the Planning Commission. The plan drawn up by the statistician, Shri Mahalanavis, for instance, was a financial plan. It was not a plan in terms of physical targets. When we are planning in terms of finance what do we do? Any projection in terms of finances is hardly able to meet the various requirement of the regions and the States and one of the results of this has been that the attention which is necessary for giving to the backward regions of the country is not forthcoming. There has been projection in terms of money. In the First plan—the starting point, the States were not ready and each State took some plan ad hoc as they did not know what to do. The State of Assam also drew up a plan of twenty one crores. But what is the twenty-one crores? It is a child's play. But at that time we were not prepared, we were not adequately equipped mentally and otherwise for the purpose of undertaking a plan. We had no resources. We had no technical personnel. Therefore, we were in a quandary and we suddenly we had to draw up a plan. Ever since the 21 crores limit has been dragging us as the original sin, as subsequent plans are to be a certain per cent rise over the first. Now if a State like Bombay with huge resources with the surplus of Rs. 12 crores or something and the Civil Service, which was well-equipped technically far better than that of ours and the industrial activities in the State which are of the highest order in the country, drew up a plan which was bigger in proportion than ours. It is quite understandable. But the proportionate increase in the Second Plan provided for Bombay is almost like the proportionate increase for a backward State. If plans were based on requirement then the country would have a different Plan. But since the plans were of the basis of finance they all become financial plans. And we have the Mahalanavis Plan, the Birla Plan, this plan and that plan. The result has been that the attention which is required to be given to the backward States and Backward regions has not been possible. If it were proper planning we would have given higher percentage of development to the backward regions and lower percentage of increase to developed areas. But since the resources have to be created, the developed State can create more resources than the backward State. Take for instance the case of Assam. Assam's per capita taxation is one of the highest in the country and when were allocated funds the Planning Commission said "Well, we can give this much if you increase your resources". But how can we increase our resources when the per capita taxation is so high in our State. If there is a State where the per capita taxation is low, then that demand may be justified. But since our State's per capita taxation is one of the highest the matching of resources with further taxation does not seem to be correct.

But, what to do; that is the method which has been adopted by the Indian Planning Organisations and therefore, we have been suffering. Now, Sir, on what stage this matching of finance with matching of physical targets will be brought about? I do not know, uptill now this has not been possible. The Planning Commission is always obsessed with financial consideration and yet it has not been able to break off from the overriding financial considerations. When the Third Plan was drawn up we set up a Planning Committee constituted of Members of this august House, members of Government, members of Civil Services, members of society, professors and lecturers and so on. This planning body sat from day to day and in some cases broke off, and sat again. This body has sat several times and they ultimately provided the indication of priorities.

What are priorities? Sir, priorities are inevitable in planning. Because you have to draw up a plan for development of the people.

Therefore, you have to determine all requirements which shall be given priorities, first priority, second priority and so on. And, therefore a very long discussion in that Committee to ascertain as to which should be the priorities and accordingly priorities were set. Then, the intensity of priorities had to be indicated. Because requirement for funds have to be matched against the intensity of requirements.

Now, Sir, Assam's development is known to the hon. Members. It developed in a particular line. Take for instance, the railway line of Assam does not touch most of the towns except two. It passes through the areas which are hilly and mostly through the tea gardens because the railway was conceived primarily for tea gardens. Now this was the development and since then towns have grown. They now want railway services and quick transport development connected by roads. The roads are not good enough. Now the question arises as to what should be transport planning of the State. If there is transport planning the question is what should be the trunk railway line and what should be the branch railway line. Similarly, with regard to roads, the question arises as to which should be trunk road and which should be branch road. These are the adjustments which will be necessary according to the growth of the population. When Assam developed the railways developed according to the needs of the tea industry. It did develop in that way and perhaps it was inevitable at that time. But now the transport system has to be re-organised. Take another example. Now, when India became free, Assam got partitioned. Assam was cut off from the rest of the country. It is very difficult to realise what amount of handicap arises when transport system becomes dislocated. The railway line which connected Assam with the rest of India now passes through Pakistan. So, we found ourselves disconnected and this had a tremendous effect on the growth of Assam. It completely retarded the development. When India was born free, Assam was also born free, but with several handicaps, and these are still there and are worrying us. Even in the crisis, we found that one single railway line like a hair connected Assam to the rest of India. The General Manager of the Railways who is a very capable man did his very best to meet the situation and the Chief Minister has paid him tribute. But the fact must be admitted that the railway service in Assam during the emergency was very inadequate. Now there was a discussion about this matter when Shri Krisnamachari came here. We gave our memorandum

and I am glad that he realised the necessities of a broad gauge railway link between Assam and Calcutta, and he made a recommendation. But unfortunately, Sir, up till now the Railway Board and the Railway Ministry have been only thinking about it, and what they are thinking I do not know; what they are calculating I cannot say. The Railway budget has been passed and the only assurance that the Railway Minister has given is that in terms of quantities requirement of Assam's transport will be met. Was the question of Assam's requirement mooted there? No. It was not Assam's requirement alone but it was the requirement for defence purposes which made the necessity paramount for extending the broad gauge line to Assam. Now, what is the defence requirement? Can any body forecast? Nobody will be so fool to assess the defence requirements. The amount of pressure to be brought by China will determine the defence requirement of the Indian army. When it is a strategical necessity to extend the railway line to Assam, the Railway Board goes on tinkering with the problem. What I feel Sir, is that it has not yet been realised as to how important this question is. Goods loaded at Calcutta have to undergo rehandling for transfer from Broad gauge to metre gauge. This is a time consuming affair. In war this loss of time may prove too costly. Normally it may matter less. But when there is a war, it will not brook any delay. Five minutes even will be too long a time. Therefore, Sir, the necessity of rehandling goods from one gauge to another must be done away with if we have to meet the National emergency. But I submit with regret that the Railway Ministry has completely failed to appreciate the position and they have been tinkering with the problem and have not decided even to-day. If a decision was taken even in January when the Minister came, I have no doubt that the efficient General Manager would have been able to take steps to extend the broad gauge line from Siliguri to Assam in course of the year or by the beginning of the next year. But, unfortunately, the decision has not been taken and it has been deliberately delayed to whose cost I do not know. The Railway Ministry will have to bear the responsibility if any crisis recurs. Sir, I was saying that since we are cut off from the rest of India the development of Assam was retarded for few years and no industry could develop in Assam. The money which was accumulating by way of capital in Assam naturally flew out to Calcutta and other places. There was no inflow. So when the rest of India went ahead with industrial development, Assam could not go ahead with industrialisation. The transport was the greatest handicap.

The third difficulty is with regard to power. In Assam electricity is inadequate. We had very rudimentary power stations providing electricity for lighting only and there was no industrial electricity. When I say 'industrial electricity' I mean cheap electricity. Unless we produce electricity in bulk we cannot give it at cheap. At the time of independence we produced very little electricity, only 3 to 4 thousand k. w. in the whole State. In other States even a single middle sized town produces 10 times more electricity than our State did. How can there be any industry in this State when there is so much shortage of power?

In the First and the Second Plans which we drew up, we undertook small lighting stations, small villages, towns and urban areas were to be lighted by electricity. Somehow some diesel sets were procured and light was provided. Obviously that was not an industrial planning, at all. No industry was possible based on such electricity planning. Large electricity planning takes long time. I mean execution. Therefore, development of

power and transport has been described as infra-structure of development that is-the basis of development. Once you lay down transport and power, development is there. If you do not lay down these two, there will be no development. In one of my constituency there was no road. Paddy was selling at 3 to 4 rupees per maund. But when road was constructed, the price of paddy jumped up to Rs.7. So, we say as soon as we provide transport it beomes an economic centre of development. If we provide roads, modern economy centers. Therefore, transport and power are the infra-structure of development.

Now, Sir, I am going to say something about the minds of a man. People must be prepared to accept industrial age, industrial civilisation—a new type of civilisation. People are not willing to accept at the beginning. It brings iron hoops of regulation also. Normally, the reaction of individual is to take all the advantages and reject all disadvantages. That is not possible. Advantage and disadvantage are the two sides of a coin. They cannot be separated. The question is whether we want the new type of civilisation. If you want a motor car, you do, but you cannot say that I will have a motor car, a modern bungalow and salary so much.

But I will not be able to accept any difficulty of industrialising life. That cannot be, because these are all the product of industrialisation in the age of modern industry. To some extent there is a mental resistance against industrialisation. All sorts of theories are advanced to justify the same. Most of them are uneconomic. For example, it is said, give us the machine, we will start industry; but do not bring technicians from outside. Then you will not be able to run the business. You cannot run a business with a machine without a technician. You cannot run a machine without technical knowledge. Artisans take considerable time to develop for economic production is not easy.

Another thing, Sir, Industrial development requires three factors (1) entrepreneurs which we have not, (2) finance—we have none, (3) technical know-how—we have few, our industrialisation has been tardy in coming. Apart from the general education in which Assam is not so backward we are backward in technical education. In education we have heritage and we have tradition. It requires expansion, it does not require infra-structure, but all other things require the prop of the infra-structure. Therefore, development in all other fields did not go with the development of education. From the beginning of the Third Plan, say about 1958, unemployment began to increase. Then unemployment of youths began to increase as the Government services could not be extended. Therefore, necessity came for providing employment to the educated youth otherwise than in Government services. Otherwise how can it be done? It can be done only through industrialisation. It will be seen, Sir, the industrialisation became a necessity so that employment can be found. Industrialisation had become one of the cardinal points just as transport and power. We cannot break away from the past completely. Yet our planning was tied to the past. For instance, there was certain amount of expenditure for social service, certain amount for health, and certain amount for general education and so on. Now, we had to continue to provide them. So far expansion of future was concerned, the rate of expansion had to be checked. But we would not do that fully, because the direction of the Government of India was that the primary education must be universal by the end of the Third Plan. Obviously, it took a fair amount of money. Secondly, we found that technical education had been neglected. Industry means technical education, without technical education industrialisation is

impossible. That is why we were forced to give high priority to two types of education—(1) primary education and (2) technical education, thus large diversions from Education to Industry was not found possible. Similarly, health and other departments. In Health, however, luckily for us, due to eradication of malaria, health condition improved, as a result the death rate had gone down. The life expectation which was 32 at the time of independence had gone up to 48 by now, The growth is almost one per year, which is extraordinary. Most of this was due to eradication of malaria, control of dysentery, and other epidemics. For all these measures, the health of the State improved much more than what it was before. There are other social services which are also in a rudimentary stage of development and it is not possible to cut them. Therefore, although we decide that the rate of growth of social services be reduced in order to provide for those items in which Assam lag behind, in reality we cannot effectively cut them. And what is the provision for social services in Assam? In the 2nd Plan, the provision was for 44 per cent, in the 3rd plan we could bring it down merely to 35 per cent. India has brought it down to 22 or 21 per cent. Now, obviously what are we to do? We have to take recourse to high investment in power high investment in transport and high investments in industry if we want to create jobs. There was in the beginning of the century sufficient lands in Assam and therefore if population grew, it could expand to unoccupied space and cultivate the lands. To-day no land is there; for the flood eroded people even we now cannot find any land. Therefore, the expanding population cannot expand unto land. We are in a blind alley. Therefore, we have now to divert the increasing population from land to industry. From that point of view compulsion of circumstances forces us to divert to industry so as to take the load of expanding population. Now from the compulsion of events we are forced to decide mentally that the time has come for us to give high priority to industrial development in the State. But the other compulsion which is also equally important, is the question of funds. Funds were not available. Although our social services were not cut down from 44 to 21 per cent as they desired, we had to retain it at 35 per cent, we had to give more money for the purpose of industrial development. The amount of money which we got for industrial development is about Rs. 4 crores or so barring the other provisions. This amount is inadequate for setting up industries. But we have to develop our industries at any rate. So we have adopted the policy of participation of loans. We have decided that Rs. 50 lakhs may be earmarked for development of industrial roads, *i. e.*, roads in industrial areas. But Rs. 50 lakhs is not at all adequate. Now we are developing an industrial complex at Naharkatiya where we are trying to develop a Turbine based on gas for electricity. There we have power station of 69 K. W., a fertiliser factory set up by Government of India, and also a few other industries. Now if we want roads for development of this industrial complex, we require more money. We want more money for Gauhati, for Garo Hills so that industries and power stations projected there may be developed. An industrial area is developing near Goalpara. Another industrial area is likely to develop in Cachar. Naturally therefore the amount of money required by us is quite huge. We have provided something but we could not provide as much as we require. Sometimes it is asked what kind of priorities are given by the rest of India. I propose to give an example. In the first Plan, Madras provided 30 per cent of the funds for powers; in the 2nd Plan 33 per cent or so for power and in the 3rd Plan their provision for power is still more. Now Madras is already a fairly developed State in power of electricity. Even in 1950 when I went

there for the first time, I was told that 17 per cent of the roads were cement-concrete roads. And here? Not to speak of cement concrete roads, we did not have so much surfaced roads. So, Madras had been a highly developed State from that time. Their hydro-electric power developed even in British days. Yet they have been able to provide for huge amounts for their electricity plans. The first question interpreneur's ask is what is the rate of power for industries. We had no power in the past; our rate was 8 annas in Gauhati. And what is the industrial rate of power in Calcutta? Well, it is 2 nP. Now, how can industrialists come to Assam when our rate is two annas even now? So, industrial power has to be developed first. Now we are going to have the Umium Project with thirty-six thousand K. W. installed capacity. We took our decision about this project only in 1961 and now it is proposed to complete this project in 1964. You see the time taken. Then the Kopili Valley Project. It will take seven years for construction. So, if you want power suddenly, could it be possible for any one to accommodate? If you want power to-day, then power planning should have been made at least seven years back. Now what can we do? We had not planned for power earlier. Some body has said that 27.5 crores have been provided for power. If you think Rs.27.5 crores is too much, then may God help us. While now we are planning for power we are only planning for the future. Planning for power is like the planning of a tree. Well, nobody plants a tree for himself. Does he?

Shri BAIDYA NATH MOOKERJEE : হা, হা, কলা গছের ফল সে নিজেই ভোগ করতে পারে।

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) : Sir, I stand corrected by my friend, the Hon. Minister, Shri, Baidya Nath Mookerjee. He has more experience than I have in these matters.

So I say Sir, power and road development takes 6 to 7 years. We were caught napping and left behind other states. Therefore we are now in difficulty. We have now to go fast in the 3rd Plan for power. In the 3rd plan Madras has provided over 23 p. c. after having provided so much during the previous Plans. You know Sir, power provision of this State in the 1st and 2nd Plans. We purchased a few diesel sets from Czechoslovakia. The cost of production of electricity per unit in many cases is Re.1 which we are selling at annas 5 per unit the rural areas. So every power project of that type is a subsidised power project. But how long can the society be supplied power on subsidised rate. Therefore the bulk of the generation of power should have been planned long ago. The D.V.C. was planned as far back as in 1905 and it was taken up only recently. Therefore, I say that so far this hydel project is concerned, it requires a long investigation. But in our case, very few investigations were done. The only project which was investigated and undertaken was Umium project. When we took it up the Planning Commission immediately gave us O. K.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : When this project will be functioning?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge Electricity) : The Project will function in 1964 June. So I say that for the Hydel Project considerable long time and huge fund or investment are necessary.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : Then this Project is meant for the grand son only.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Electricity) : Sri Das Gupta has already a grandson perhaps, so it is not derogatory to say that this project is meant for the sons and grandsons.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE : What will be cost per unit ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Electricity) : The other day, Hon. Chief Minister said that it would 2.7 nP. but some other expenses like transmission and other expenses shall have to be added. Apart from this we will have to prepare a schedule showing different rates for industrial and domestic consumptions. We have taken up Naharkatia Project which is based on Gas. I may tell the hon. members that these two projects were not originally included in the Second Five Year Plan. When the Umtinger Project was abandoned, we hurriedly approached the Planning Commission for allocating funds for the Umiam Project. In the meantime the Planning Commission had already placed the Umtinger Project in cold storage. Every member knows that a great thing happened for India in the year 1957, that is the foreign exchange of 700 crores in shape of sterling balances eroded away to 110 crores in 1958. So, a special meeting of the National Development Council had to be held for reviewing the plans and estimates and to reallocate funds and priority which required foreign exchange. Umtinger Project, accordingly got relegated. In the meantime we had located the Umiam Project and the Planning Commission readily agreed to this Project. The install capacity of this Project is 36,000 kw whereas the capacity of the Umtinger Project was only 6000 Kw. The only advantage we would have got was that it would have been ready by 1960. But the Cement factory for which it was planned did not come up. It has not yet come up. We had in the meantime promised the Refinery to supply 6000Kw. At our request and Planning Commission agreeing the Refinery itself set up 6000Kw electric generator under the Rumanian credit. Therefore, although we lose 6000Kw in Cherrapunji we really gained it in Gauhati. The Electricity Board, was formed with installations of 14,000 kw in our State. In other state small towns have that generation.

Now again, we have undertaken the Naharkatia Project which is based on Gas. Its capacity is 69,000Kw. Besides 3000Kw is granted by the Oil India Ltd. So we are getting 36,000Kw from Umiam Project. 69,000 from Naharkatia Gas Project and there will be another 15,000KW from the Umiam Second State. Thus again we worked for Garo Hill so that they might develop. They immediately sanctioned 5 thousand kw. We approached a Hungarians and order for machine have been placed. Then we approached the Planning Commission saying that if they could give us more we would be able to do a lot more. You will be glad to know that the Planning Commission expanded our Garo Hills plan to 30,000 kw. Now they have sanctioned 30,000 kw already and another 30,000 kw will be given to us. So, 60,000 kw. will be available for Garo Hills Plant in the beginning of the 4th plan and by the end of the 4th plan they will be increased to 2 lakhs kwt. So, we are planning for future. By the end of the 3rd plan our power installed capacity will come to 1,30,000 kwt. The Board started with 14,000 kwt and by the end of 3rd plan it will be 1,30,000 kwt, that is, 10 times of the 1958 installed capacity.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding) : I wanted installation of about 8,000 horse power capacity for Hojai area and in spite of requests for the last 6 or 7 years the sanction could not come for supply.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Electricity) : I fully agree with the hon. Member. The present is nothing compared to the future. I am not responsible for the past. I will be responsible for planning for the future. Due to scarcity of power the Board has passed a rule that no sanction for more than 10 kwt. will be done except by the Board. This is a restriction measure. Then there is a rule that there is to be a stand by, otherwise no power station can function. I may confidentially tell you without giving out any secret that there is hardly any power station in Assam now under the Electricity Board which is not overloaded and which has any stand by. So, if there is any breakdown anywhere I will not be surprised. Every power station is running beyond its capacity. When we met in a meeting the other day the light became very dim and a colleague of mine asked me what my Electricity Board was doing. I said that it was in its teething stage of growth. When a child grows at its teething stage it has to suffer a little. Similarly, at the stage of growth of the Board at the present moment there may be some suffering, but the future will be better. I have no doubt that the emphasis given to electricity in the 3rd Plan was justified yet inadequate. We are planning according to the existing condition of our society today. Therefore, we can make only changes, but we cannot make revolutionary changes in the plan. Sir, the emphasis given in the plan on power was extremely justified and necessary. When D. V. C. was made people used to ask: "What will you do with so much electricity". Today we find tremendous shortage of electricity in Calcutta and many other areas. When there was so much surplus of electricity in Bhakra-Nangal people could not know what to do with it, but now all the surplus electricity has been fully booked. That shows the dynamism of growth. It is not merely the industrial growth. It is psychological growth, it is the growth of changes in modern habits of living. So, the change is coming very fast. We remained suppressed for the last 200 years under foreigners' rule and suddenly we got loose. A lot of change of habits has come to India overnight in customs, manners and everything. Therefore, the planning of electricity is inadequate. When I became Minister in 1957 the Planning Commission used to say: "When you will not be able to consume so much electricity why are you planning for so much" and today they say: "You are planning so little that you will run out of it and so plan more". So the advice of the C. W. & P. C. which was restrictive in character in 1957 ceased to be so in 1960, because there is complete change. In 1957 they were planning for the present generation and in 1960 they are planning for the future generation also. There was a conference in Delhi which decided that the planning of electricity on the State basis was wrong and out of date. When I went to Mysore I found it having surplus electricity and on the border nearby there was a ropeway and so when Madras asked Mysore for some electricity Mysore said that they could not spare any as all the surplus was already booked although it was not fully booked then. Then difference between the two borders is that one was surplus in electricity and the other was in deficit and yet nothing could be spared for the deficit one. There came a great deal of conflict with regard to planning of water resources. There was a quarrel between Andhra and Maharashtra and Orissa with regard to availability of water resources for power generation.

So ultimately the Government of India have come to the conclusion that supergrids on regional basis will have to be set up. I think it was a very wise decision. Power resources whether they be of water or of electricity have to be planned on regional basis and, therefore, it was a very correct decision and I hope it will be executed in the spirit it deserves.

Assam has been put in the region according to which Assam, N. E. F. A., Nagaland, Manipur and Tripura will be regarded as one Zone. Already in a discussion in Zonal Council, we have taken a decision that Assam will supply power to Tripura. At one stage even Pakistan came forward to offer Assam electricity. There was a discussion at least, since then what has happened to it I do not know. (A voice : that was not a good suggestion, Sir, we should not take light from them but we should give them). I think

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : Did Pakistan offer electricity to India ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : East Pakistan. They have built up Karnaphuli dam. They offered it at one time in course of the discussion. Since they have not given us anything to know.

Sir, this region is very rich in hydel potential. As a matter of fact from the point of hydel potential this is one of the richest area in the world. I do not know how long it will require to develop the water resources of the area but if we did our problem will also be solved and we shall get electricity along with it. If we can develop it, we can supply electricity to the whole of India ; such is the potential here. Therefore, I have no doubt that the conception of regional planning is the correct conception ; over it should be the all India Planning so that wherever resources are available, they should be planned taking the country as a whole. Electricity is like water, it flows but it flows at a tremendous speed which is unseen. Therefore, it can run to thousand of miles. I have no doubt, Sir, that this Zonal planning of electricity would come to stay and will be greatly advantageous to the people of this region as well as to the other parts of India also.

Now, as I had pointed out that although the second plan was a very restrictive plan, inadequate plan, and a toy plan, so far as electricity production was concerned, we were able in the second plan itself to expand the electricity programme from about 10,000 K. W. which was provided to nearly 1,30,000 K. W. which we are going to have in the third plan. I have no doubt that this question of fuel oil which is hanging fire for some time will also be solved. When Shri Krishnamachari came we had discussed with him about this matter. He visited the Refinery and found that the fuel oil there is not being marketed. But naturally the idea occurred that it can be utilised for the production of electricity. It would be sufficient for the production of 30,000 K.W. But the difficulty is the price and the duty. The price which we have offered is about Rs. 85 and the price they are asking is about Rs. 130. Unless the price is remunerative, for power production it would not be wise to go for it. Our offer is open if they accept. We will immediately accept the idea of producing electricity out of this oil if our offer is accepted. The problem

with regard to I.O.C., that is the Indian Oil Company which is marketing it is that a large amount of duty has been put on fuel oil. Unless the duty is reduced at least with regard to electricity production, they are finding it difficulty in agreeing to our proposal. We had thought that the intervention of Shri Krishnamachari would succeed but uptill now it has not succeeded. We are looking forward to a success in this matter. If this is accepted, I mean our offer, we shall go forward to accept this oil and to produce electricity.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA: I have come to know from the Oil Refinery of Noonmati that they have not found any market for their furnace of oil. Why don't you install diesel sets for generating electricity?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): That is what I am talking about, Sir. I am calling it fuel oil and you are saying furnace oil. We have offered Rs.85 per ton and they are asking Rs.130 per ton. Obviously the price gap is too great. Unless they give us at a price at which we produce electricity—naturally the consumption.....

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA: What my information is that they cannot store furnace oil beyond 15 days.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: The logic is very apparent to us as well as to the hon. Member. But it is not apparent to the Managing Director of Indian Oil Company. Even it is not so to the Finance Minister of Government of India. Now, by taking furnace oil from Gauhati to Calcutta, you unnecessarily clutter up transport and then what you get Rs.60 or so, that is hardly worthwhile. It would be wise for them to forgo for production of electricity.

Uptill now we have not succeeded but I hope this matter will be possible to be squared up in the near future. Our offer in this matter is open. But we cannot stop our progress waiting indefinitely for this fuel or furnace oil. Therefore, Sir, we will plan on the basis of coal available in the Garo Hills. We are going ahead with our planning for production of electricity based on Garo Hills coal. Our mind is open but our preparations are closed. We hope that the requirements of power in Gauhati region will mount so steeply that even if we get the fuel oil later on, it would be possible and it should be possible to produce electricity out of furnace oil whenever it is given. So, Sir, the emphasis on electricity was rightly given in the Second Plan and in the Third Plan we are going ahead with this. In the power production plan, Sir, we have no scheme excepting the Garo Hills coal. It may be that we may be able to put one more generator at Nahorkatiya in Namrup based on steam and we may extend the Garo Hill Thermal project considerably.

This will be a major contribution to the power plan in the Third or Fourth Plan. The Kopili Scheme which will be taken up in the Fourth Plan will be completed by about 1972 about seven years time will be required for its construction. So the power that will be available in Kapili.....

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA: Whether it will be a simply irrigation project or power project?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning) :

It will be a power project but the control of floods will be an indirect benefit. So I was saying if the requirements of power in the Fourth Plan rise very steeply, there will be a gap in the Fourth Plan between the power available and the power requirements, because the number of projects which have been investigated and are ready for being taken up are not there. The only power projects that has been investigated and is ready for taking up excepting for some minor adjustment as a result of last minute discussion with the C.P.W.D. with regard to the dam site of Kapili. Kapili will be taken up for construction in the Fourth Plan. We have not been able to complete the detailed investigation even now. Sir, this is with regard to power plan. It has to be distributed all over the State. So we have decided that two grids will spread out from two generating points. The first grid is Umiyam grid. From here we are taking a line to Badarpur in the Cachar region and it will feed, on its way, Jowai. The second grid will go to Gauhati. From there one line will go to Nowgong, the other line will cross over to North Bank and go to Tezpur on one side and Rangia and Nalbari on the other. Whether this line or a separate line will be taken to Bongaigaon is not yet clear. Originally, it was planned that this line itself would extend upto Bongaigaon, but due to the difficulty of crossing the river Aye it may have to go to Goalpara, Panchatantra and Jogighopa. The Garo hill line naturally will have to go down and join the grid somewhere and if the Garo Hills production of electricity becomes more than our requirement of that area, it can supply to Gauhati. The first point of second grid is Namrup. Now the Namrup project will grid up Namrup, Mariani and Golaghat and join up Dergaon, Jorhat and Mariani. The other branch will go upto Margherita; the third will go upto Doom Dooma, the fourth will go to Dibrugarh. These grids will cover two vast areas of the State. These two grids ultimately will be joined up with the Kapili project, coming into being, and the grid will be extended on the North Bank, *i.e.*, North Lakhimpur and it will even go upto NEFA, Nagaland then Manipur and Tripura and in this way the whole State and Zone will be covered. Sir, the idea is to grid up the whole State, so that small towns may get electricity, cottage industries may get electricity and the industrial enterprisers can plan the setting up their industries, avoiding the congested town areas. Now, Sir, one of the purposes of this electricity would be irrigation. In the Third Plan, we have provided Rs. 50 lakhs for power irrigation. Power irrigation has become necessary in Assam, because in Assam there are no long stretches of valleys and therefore canal irrigation will not be suitable in many places. So far as hills are concerned, irrigation by way of pump will be more suitable. Therefore, we feel, if this cross-country electricity is available, it would be possible for agriculturists to utilise river water or subsoil water for the purpose of irrigation. We have asked the Agriculture Department already to take up this power irrigation. One of the advantages of irrigation by power is that in hills where we have terrace cultivation, water can be brought down from terrace to terrace. Such a thing, I saw in Indonesia when I went there in 1950. I saw terracing of the hills and bringing water from one terrace to another. If we can utilise this power for irrigation it would be a material factor for development of agriculture. So this power plan of Assam is for dual purposes, agriculture as well as industry apart from the other uses provided by electricity. The programme of power of this State is tied up with industry. Unfortunately, due to the Chinese threat there has been a set-back in industrial development in the State. Unfortunately, the raw materials which Assam have are amenable to heavy investment. Our raw materials are petroleum, gas, coal, lime-stone, bamboo

and timber. Apart from timber all other raw materials are capable of heavy investments. There are of course jute and cotton which are light industries. We have to grow long staple cotton and if we grow long staple cotton we can produce fabrics, etc. We are already growing short staple cotton. Similarly, Sir, our molly bomboo has been found to be good enough for the purpose of rayon. If rayon is produced in the State we will be able to produce rayon yarn also. I am trying to impress the Government of India the necessity of allowing us the production of rayon. If we can produce rayon then we can go to rayon weaving. Now we have the natural silk. The production of this natural silk has to be raised extensively in this State, for which we have already started a Spun Silk Mill at Jagiroad. Unless we can reduce the cost of our silk to compete with the artificial silk it has no benefit.

(Adjournment)

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

After Lunch

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before we resume, I would request the Finance Minister to introduce the Assam Finance Bill which we left over. I have received the recommendation from the Governor of Assam to this effect, which I am reading—

“I recommend under Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Finance Bill, 1963 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.”

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Finance Bill, 1963.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Has the Hon'ble Minister leave of the House to introduce the Bill?

Voices—Yes, yes.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED Minister, Finance: I beg to introduce the Assam Finance Bill, 1963.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion is that leave of the House be granted to introduce the Assam Finance Bill. Those who are in favour of the Bill, please say ayes and those who are against, please say nose. Ayes have it, Ayes have it—the Bill is introduced.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was speaking about transport bottleneck of Assam. When the Chinese came and threatened us in a cavalcade all people moved out in trucks and cars etc., outside Assam. One of the reasons of this high haste departure is that Assam was hung by India by a silver thread through the narrow neck of Siliguri. If it were not so, if a broad enough area connecting India with Assam were available this sort of departure would not have been there. So ultimately our great problems are arising out of this great bottleneck and sooner it is ended and difficulties of transport removed the better will it be for the purpose of India's defence against aggressive enemies in this part of the world. Now, if effort is made commensurate with the requirements, I have no doubt, the position of the

defence on this part of the world will very greatly improve. It will be seen that the defence of India was oriented south ward and west ward. What do I mean thereby? Defence of any country is oriented towards the direction of danger. India was also supposed to be in danger from the North-West and South East. And now the danger has cropped up from South and North East. Therefore defence arrangements should be adequately made in the North-East and North West. This is of paramount importance if we have to really prepare for a major defence scheme in this part of the world. Therefore transport will have to be reoriented in this direction. It will be seen that on the North-East belt there is only one metre gauge and in the South and West there is broad gauge. Now in the North from Bihar to Assam it is all metre gauge so that in any major movement the success of transshipment from broad gauge to metre gauge became a bottleneck. Naturally this consumes much time. Consumption of time during emergency like war is to be avoided at all cost, therefore what is necessary is a broad gauge railway line in this part of the world. The existence of metre gauge became a liability in the case of the danger which has cropped up from the North. Unless the gauge difference disappears and only one gauge system is introduced India's defence will always be handicapped. The sooner it is realised the better it is. I am not a defence expert. But we have by experience become better transport experts. So unless we realise this transport cannot be improved. We are told that the Minister for Defence Co-ordination is in charge of the Transport Planning. He has already come to the conclusion from the paramount importance of the people. Therefore it needs immediate implementation and any decision necessary should be arrived at. Not merely with regard to railways but also with regard to roadways. It would not be necessary to express about the highways in India. In other countries like—I went to these countries in 1950, 1952, 1953, I found that they built mighty highways facilitating ground movements of tanks. Similar thing is necessary for us at this time. But what about ours? To my mind it is necessary to build express highway in the Northern belt extending from Kashmere to Sadiya capable of taking heavy traffic.

The reason is obvious. India did not think in terms of war. The Central Government obviously.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Tripathi, you are not to speak about matters which concern the Central Government.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): I am talking about transport.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Not defence?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: No, Sir. The transport bottleneck impinges on us; it is a terrible reality. Therefore we in our turn have to cry out so that the Government of India may hear and understand. The question put to me was why it was not visualised so long even after 15 years of Independence? This is a valid question and the answer is also obvious. In India we thought there would be no war so far as we were concerned. We are a non-aligned country. The danger of a future war was expected to come from a clash between two giants, Russia and America and since we were non-aligned we thought that would not impinge on us. Our neighbours are small countries, Burma, Ceylon and Pakistan. We were very friendly with Burma and Ceylon and Pakistan was not regard as an equal adversary. China was a big

country but she did not pose any threat for us. "Hindi-Chini-Bhai-Bhai" was the slogan and we were the greatest friends of China across the world. We were also friendly with both Russia and America. Consequently we never thought of any defence requirement seriously and never planned for any transport requirement in the background of hostilities. If is for this reason that we did not go for planning in a big way the transport system of India. As a matter of fact, neglect was so great that when the Steel Mills came into production—Rourkella, Bhilai and Durgapur—the transport bottleneck became so great that they had to suffer for lack of coal. Coal could not be move. When coal moved Sindhri suffered because coal coming to Sindhri was diverted to the Steel Mills. There was a terrible bottleneck with the result that the production of one or other was hampered. The Steel mills have not been able to come to full production. Of course, they were not expected to go into full production so quickly, but they were expected to go into economic producing. But, Sir, up till now their production has been bedevilled by all these uncertain factors. The Minister for Coal, Shri Malaviya, announced some time back that coal would be moved northwards by river and the Railways announced some time back that they would move coal not in wagons but in rakes and trains and the States should arrange to take delivery of coke and coal in trains and distribute them internally through road transport. This had the effect of increasing the cost so far the industries are concerned. Therefore, there has been great resistance from the industries. Now I find that the Ministry is again thinking of revising this method of transport of coal by river. Therefore, I say, Sir, that the transport system was not planned (a) with regard to defence requirements and (b) with regard to industrial development of the country, but was taken part for granted.

Then, Sir, I would point out how backward is our thinking. There was the Masani Committee's Report with regard to transport. This report was circulated to the States inviting their opinions. I was surprised to see some of the opinions, which were tied up with our past thinking about the supremacy of the Railways. Our road transport was neglected because the Railways were dictating terms. When they said that a particular road was going to complete with them and should not be permitted, Government did not permit construction or upgrading of that road. The whole policy was framed with a view to benefit the Railways. Sir, this thinking was present even at the time of Masani Committee's Report. But, Sir, within the last 3 years the whole picture has changed. We have come to realise that road transport cannot be taken for granted, neither the rail transport. They have to be planned for commensurate with the task to be undertaken. Therefore, the transport bottleneck has been the hardest reality which has arisen in course of the Third Plan and to some extent correctives are being applied after the last threat. It has been decided that we will have a two-lane highway of this trunk road. The Assam Trunk Road will be diverted from where it is to-day to the Amingaon bridge and the single way track would be widened to double way track in order facilitate movement of traffic. In view of the terrible bottleneck the Government of India also decided that they would have a road transport organisation set up to move the traffic from Siliguri on to Assam. Some trucks are plying already. The requirement is for a road from Calcutta on to Assam. The whole thing should be made two-way, all the rivers should be bridged and the shortest route should be provided. For this purpose, the idea was to have a bridge at Farakka. The Farakka Barage would also serve as a bridge which over trucks would pass

Now in view of the emergency and in view of the fact that the construction of the Farakka Barrage would take a long time, a railway bridge may have to be built near about there so that through traffic to Assam may be facilitated. The construction of bridges over the rivers in the North Bengal as well as the four rivers in Assam has, I understand, been undertaken and with the completion of these bridges the transport picture of Assam would change and the movement of traffic by road from Calcutta on to Margherita and Ledo would be facilitated. It is necessary that the river transport also should continue and the Pandu project which was started in the Second Plan might be completed. Unfortunately, the project has not been free from difficulties. Therefore this small port which was expected to come up already has been delayed and it will take some more time. The necessity of a port in Pandu is very great because Gauhati is the gateway of Assam, as they say, and transport distribution occurs from Gauhati. Therefore if the port at Pandu is built it will facilitate movement of steamers and the transport would be improved. I hope this will be executed soon. Again, Sir, the passage of steamer through Pakistan has been another great problem for us. As is well-known, there was a big steamer strike during the crisis days and this strike was lifted only after the crisis was over. We can, therefore, come to the conclusion that this strike was a politically inspired one. Whatever the cause might be, it succeeded in embarrassing and jeopardising our condition at the most critical moment. The joint Steamer Company, have come to an agreement with the Union and I am surprised to find that there is a clause incorporated in the agreement that communal Unions will be permitted. But the Constitution of India does not permit any communal Union and so how it has been permitted I do not know. The second point of dispute has been referred to an arbitration by the I. L. O. More than half of our merchandise is carried by the Joint Steamer Co. Therefore river transport is of paramount importance and it should continue. It is for this purpose that this Company was granted a long of Rs.6 crores to modernise its fleet. Some how the Company has been able to modernise its fleet, in Cachar but when they will do so far Assam, I do not know. May I point out here Sir, that following the crisis the Joint Steamer Company, has come forward with a proposal to increase the freight rate and Commission has been appointed to enquire into this matter and the matter is under enquiry. I am told that when the Company filed its loan application for 6 crores, it gave an undertaking in writing that it would pay back the loan on the basis of the existing freight structure. But now how the Company has come forward to increase its freight rate I do not know. This is very unfortunate because already the cost of living in Assam is very high. During this crisis period anything which increases the cost of living is unfortunate. Any company or organisation which can do without raising the existing freight rate should not raise the freight. Although a Commission has been appointed in this regard, I hope, the Joint Steamer Company will think twice before going forward to increase the freight rate. If there is any other way by which the company can meet its loss, I hope it will try to do so. I have no doubt in my mind that this can be done. The company can spread the losses over a number of years and it can meet the loss by taking a long-term loan Sir when I went abroad in 1957, one of the things which I studied there was the river transport, and I was surprised to find that river transport was one of the cheapest in the world. It is cheaper than railways. But here the steamer companies compare their freight structure with that of

railways. The operation cost and capital cost of river transport is far less than that of railways. Therefore in my opinion the comparison of steamer freight with the railways is not correct. There may be some factors which cause the Joint Steamer Company, raise there its freight. But it is these factors which should go so that the freight may be brought with a reasonable bound and then and we will be able to show to the world that our steamer freight compares favourably with other inland transports of the world. Sir, I am emphasising this question of transport only because the transport problem of Assam is the most vital as compared to other parts of India. I am glad, Sir, that the Government of India have connected most of the towns of Assam by Air. But so far as Shillong is concerned, it has not been connected by Air. We are now trying to widen the road from Gauhati to Shillong, but I do not know whether the surfacing would be done during the Third Plan. Mr. Gogoi might be able to say. So far as I understand there are financial difficulties. But unless it is done, the two way traffic, which is very necessary, cannot move. Sir, the capital of any State should be approachable at any hour of the day or night and that should be the proper transport development. But, unfortunately, it is restricted here. So long it did not matter much but now that our frontier is in trouble and the Assam has become one of the centres of this danger it is of great importance.

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

Sir, as you know, Assam is a land of the 'lahe' 'lahe' and so this work will also go in this fashion. Rs. 17 lakhs is going to be spent for Gauhati-Shillong route.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning)

Sir, the Air strip at Shillong which has been under investigation for the last three years has not yet been completed. I hope the Government of India would soon complete the investigation and would come to a conclusion soon. Sir, the Government of India is kind enough to introduce Fokker Friendship in Assam after the great tragedy which occurred near Hailakandi when a plane met with a cyclone in the mid air. After that Fokker Friendship was introduced which can detect a cyclone from 80 miles. But I was surprised to find that although the air crash took place at Silchar, this type of plane has not been provided there and Dakota plane is plying there. This type of Fokker Friendship plane was brought to avoid air crash, but unfortunately this plane has not been provided at Silchar and only a few such planes ply in Assam.

They say we cannot introduce Fokker Friendship planes in the Silchar Line, because Manipur airfield is not adequate now to receive these planes. This occurred two years back. But two years is a long a period. By this time they could have made these air fields serviceable for these planes. The length of Gauhati aerodrome going to be 9,000 ft. which is about 2 miles. This aerodrome is able to receive even supersonic aircrafts Why when Manipur airfield cannot be developed to receive these Friendship in a year. Therefore, I like to say that the transport policy of Government of India is not according to the purpose. This shows that the the co-ordination of the purpose is not there. Therefore, I hope the Government of India will give their attention to this so that in the cyclone zone, right type of aircraft is put and the existing airfields may be developed to receive the aircraft. In any case, transport development either by rail, road or air has to be strengthened in this part of the world,

otherwise situation of Assam will never be improved, and consequently there will be no development in industry in this part of the world in near future. To attract people from outside and to give fillip to our industries transport development must be given first priority now.

Sir, another point which I am going to dwell upon is that immediately after the Chinese withdrawal and following the Tezpur episode, there was a great shit in the economic life of the State. It has given such a shock to the economic life of our State as is difficult to believe. The banks of Assam stopped credit even the Calcutta merchants who used to bring merchandise stopped credit. Local capital was not available. A part of local merchants migrated. Almost all the Banks in the locality were closed. Trade and commerce practically became standstill. From the Government level, proper steps have been taken to improve the situation. Visit of Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, Union Minister to this State was a great help. He brought with him Sri Trilok Singh and other high officials of Government of India. He also asked the bankers to come to Assam. So far the tea industry is concerned, at the beginning they were given restricted credit which means only Labour wages. Now, I am glad that these bankers ultimately have agreed to give necessary credit. The other day, the representatives of some banks were seen distributing credit in Gauhati and Tinsukia arrears. So far Calcutta and outside credit was concerned in connection with merchandise, it was not fully restored. I have no doubt that the stock of commodities which used to be booked to Assam has yet to be fully restored. Any how, with the co-operation of the trading committee, we were able to check the rise of price of the commodities during the period of emergency. For that reason, the price of commodities did not rise.

So far as the industrial trading is concerned, we will have to continue to depend, to a great extent, on the rest of India. Assam has no entrepreneurs and no capital market with the result that we have to depend upon the rest of India. Capital of any country has a tendency to behave as a whole. Therefore, so far Assam is concerned, we have difficulty. Credit of a State is also largely dependent upon the production of that State. We have in our State Electricity Board which floated a loan of Rs. 1.50 lakhs and subsequently got Rs. 1.70 lakhs. So, we have a loan credit in the market of India and our credit market is increasing day by day. India Carbon floated a company in Assam. It was hundred times over subscribed. This also shows that the capital is responding well for Assam.

Assam is a good place for capital investment. As we have no capital market, we have not been able to develop industries. The eyes of India now are on Assam. I discussed this matter with Mr. Tata while I went to Bombay last time. He told me that he was thinking of coming to Assam for smaller investment. I am pointing out this only to show that Assam, from the point of view of capital investment has a great future. This leads to the conclusion that Assam with her huge potential of raw materials will not lie in languish provided we can build up the atmosphere. The other day I went to Cachar in connection with the Industries Seminar. The people there asked me about industries in Cachar. I told them, "give me the atmosphere and and I will give you the industries." You know, Sir, only recently Cachar had suffered from the unfortunate communal riots, and when communal riots take place, industries are chary of coming in. Industries are like, the Sensitive plant, if you touch it with anything undesirable, then it closes up.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA: What is so far the Industrial Development in Cachar ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I was saying Sir, that in Assam we are unfortunate. Since we held the Industries Conference in 1958 which was attended by industrialists from all over India including Bombay, an atmosphere had gradually been developing for industrialisation in Assam ; large number of enquiries were coming up from different parts of the country ; I was flooded with letters and I was beginning to dream to the day when Assam will get an investment of 1 thousand crores. Sir, you might have seen the Techno-economic Survey Report of Lokanathan for Assam. It says that Assam needs an investment of 554 crores for its development in course of this decade. So I was not far wrong in my expectations, and if the tempo of 1958 could have been kept, we could have definitely made much leeway in the matter of industrial development in Assam. You know, Sir, all the backward areas of the world have a tendency which may be described as anti-industrial bias and since we are emerging from agricultural economy to industrial economy, our mind also swings like the pendulum of a clock . It keeps moving up and down once welcoming again opposing industrialisation. When the mind of the people was also in such a unsettled stage, there come the two riots-one language riot and the other communal riot which occurred only recently in Cachar, and these riots naturally distracted the mind of the people from going forward with industry.

Shri ABDUL JALIL CHOUDHURY (Badarpur): उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में हमेशा communal trouble हुआ करता है मगर वहाँ तो बराबर industry बढ़ती जा रही है । क्या वजह है कि सिलचर में उस दिन एक महदुद area में जरा सा communal trouble हो गया और उसी वजह से सारे काछाड़ में industry grow नहीं कर सकती है ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries): वजह यह है हमारे प्रांत में industry के लिये रुपया बाहर से ले आना पड़ता है । बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश में यह सवाल नहीं उठता है । वहाँ industry बढ़ रही है तो रुपया भी वहीं का है । इसके अलावा North Bihar में communal trouble होता रहता है । इसलिये वहाँ industry बढ़ नहीं सकी है । लेकिन South Bihar में वैसा trouble नहीं होता है इसलिये वहाँ industry बढ़ रही है । Bombay में communal trouble नहीं होता, इसलिये वहाँ बहुत बड़े पैमानेपर industry बढ़ चुकी है ।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, order. What do you want ? Are you speaking on a point of order or on a point of information ?

Shri ABDUL JALIL CHOUDHURY: On a point of information, Sir,

Mr. SPEAKER: What is your point of information ?

Shri ABDUL JALIL: हमको शुभव हो रहा है कि सिलचर के इस communal riot के लिये काछाड़ में industry का progress नहीं होगा । और industry के लिये काछाड़ का दरवाजा बन्द रहेगा ।

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning); यह बात नहीं है मैं जानता हूँ कि कछाड़ के नागरिक शान्ति ही चाहते हैं। क्यों कि शान्तिके बिना industry का progress नहीं हो सकता।

Shri ABDUL JALIL CHOUDHURY (Badarpur): क्या हम शान्ति नहीं चाहते है ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : सब लोग शान्ति ही चाहते हैं। संघर्ष कोई नहीं चाहता। मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि industry के बढ़ने के लिये एक शान्तिपूर्ण वातावरण चाहिये। जहाँ झगड़ा होता रहे वहाँ industry की उन्नति रुक जाती है।

There are two types of industries-one type of industry is based on raw-material and the other type depends on the requirements of the place. Say for instance, our engineering industry is not based on raw-material. It may be asked why industries are growing in Durgapur, Burnpur or event at Jamshedpur? It is because the raw-materials for those things are there. Industries such as the coal industry, petrol industry, paper pulp industry and other industries now we see growing up in Assam are based on raw-materials. We should remember that population concentration in these areas is one of the greatest in the whole country. Therefore, to meet the local requirements, the various types of industries might have grow up there; but they do not grow because of the constant riots that frequently break out there. Therefore, I say, we cannot have the two things together you may have either the luxury of living in property which industry in the midst of riots or have peace and industry with prosperity. Now, it is for you to choose which you will. That is why I say, Sir, that the atmosphere is very important. If you have the atmosphere, industries will be pouring in. That is what started taking place in 1958.

I do not say, Sir, that there will be no industries in Cachar.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I quite agree with the hon. Minister so far as the atmosphere is concerned, but so far as the mineral and natural resources are concerned, Durgapur and other places have no such raw-materials as the State of Assam possesses. There are great resources and industrial potentialities in Assam and if these are properly harnessed, there is great future for industries in Assam. So far as the atmosphere about for giving incentive to the industrialists. I agree with the Minister that no industrialists come forward to set up industries in the public sector. That is my submission.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): I tell you the total provision for industries is 9 crores for Assam's plan. Obviously it is quite insufficient even to set up a Paper Mills of modern size. The fund at our disposal is very meagre. The time as well as the population gallop are known to the hon. Members. We are breaking the record with regard to the population. We are already 45 crores and by 1970 we will be 50 crores. The back-log of unemployment in the Second Plan was already there. Then there will be new job entrants. Large number of people will be out of employment by the end of the Third Five Year Plan. We had expected that Sir, by 1975 we would be able to create jobs which will be equal to the employment requirement. Now it is clear that this is not going to be because by that time the population

will also increase. The Medical Minister will tell you about this. So the increase of population is taking place at a higher rate than what was planned in the beginning of the Second Plan. Therefore the job creation must be higher than the rate of population increase; but how to do it? Job creation requires investment. If it is Khadi and Village Industries, for a job there must be an investment of 1,000 to 2,000 rupees; If it is small scale industry money investment varies from 10,000, to 15,000 to 20,000 per employed if it is heavy industry per capita job investment may be of the order of 60 to 70 lakhs of rupees. So it involves terrible amount of investment per job. This means that surplus must be created for investment, but how can it be created? We eat away all our surpluses. The standard of living is rising at a fast speed. The bank habit does not show any improvement in the matter of investment anyway. The total annual income of India is not reflected in the bank. Therefore, I say that capital creation is behind the job requirement.

Therefore, I would submit that we have been forced to seek assistance from all over the world. Our Finance Minister of India went all over the world seeking assistance Russia, America, England, Australia and Canada are coming to our assistance. Obviously, 3,000 crores would be necessary in Foreign Exchange for the 3rd Plan; but where we are to get that? What is our export? Our export is less than our import. Therefore, there is no surplus created from our export. Then where are you to get this three thousand crores of foreign exchange? Our Gold Policy has not been so successful, our Sterling balance has come down to Rs. 100 crores. How this country is going to get this huge amount of foreign exchange. All these countries have come to our assistance to maintain democracy in the Far East. Our savings in the Second plan come to 8 per cent and our investment comes to 11 per cent. This three per cent extra has to come from outside. So the 11 per cent of the national income is coming to be invested for the Plan development. This is naturally very inadequate. The amount of investment which is necessary is tremendous. Therefore, we must not simply learn to ask, we must earn also to give. Otherwise we will stultify ourselves.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Sir, I want to clear one point. I want to know why we do not maintain the speed. What we have seen is that in the second and first plans all the money has been spent for administration. So the speed could not be maintained.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): During the Second Plan, I may tell you that the first two years were required for the purpose of preparation. Therefore, the per capita income...

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, on a point of information our Minister has just now said that by 1975 there will be no unemployment. I think by the end of 3rd Five Year Plan, there will be more unemployment.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : I think the hon. Member is right because the increase in population is going on at a faster pace than is job creation. Therefore, for some time the gap between job potentiality and job requirement will go on increasing. They will converge towards each other later. This point of convergence was thought to be in 1975. I agree with.

the hon. Member that in view of the increasing between job potentiality and requirement 1975 will not be a fit target. Therefore what we expected to be in 1975 may not be in 1975 but it may be in 1980 or 1985. From the study carried on by the Planning Commission with regard to consumption it was very surprising to find that a very large percentage of population will continue to be below the bread line till the end of the century. Below the bread line because bread is given the first priority. Second priority is given on to cloth and third priority on home, by the Planning Commission. If a poor man gets some more money what we find him to do? He will go for some rashgulla, and if he finds more money he goes for clothings, then if he has still more he will try to go for a house also.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): From the report of the Russian Scientist Research Society it has been found that the family planning as introduced in India is not in a scientific process and so the increase in population will not come down. So, Sir, there is something wrong in our family planning system.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: All this is known to us. After all habit will have to be inculcated. Now 72 per cent of our people in India live in villages who have not got the benefit of education of modern type. If you want to talk to them about family planning you will not be able to succeed immediately. Secondly, in undeveloped areas, particularly in rural communities, birth control has not had that success as it is found in urban communities. If in a shanty in Bombay with one room if you have three children it is difficult to exist, but if you on the other hand have three children in one room in a village you will not feel it. Therefore, birth control is dependent on habits of the people, intellectual standard and political and industrial environment in which they exist. The system which we are following is costly and so costly system in our society cannot be easily followed. (One Member: Chinese are not following any such family planning system) because they believe in war. Those who believe in war need not have any family planning, as they can reduce their population through war.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are in the midst of the 3rd Five Year Plan and we are trying to follow things in a scientific way and in view of this and considering the resources that we already have and also in view of the unemployment problem can we not come to a definite conclusion to solve our unemployment and such other problems?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning)
This is a good question, but it pre-supposes one thing and that pre-supposition is wrong. The pre-supposition is that there is a static situation of our population and in a number of years this problem has to be solved. The society is in a state of flux and change. With the growth of population there is flux and change in the habit, manners, customs, requirements, tradition and job requirements and ultimately consumption. All these are changing. One philosopher asked a man: "Can you draw a straight line". That man said "Yes" and he drew a line. The philosopher said; "It is not straight line, as in this

universe no straight line can be drawn because the world is round. The position is that in a dynamic society you are always advancing or going back. There is no static situation. So, in our society also we will be going forward or backward. If the population goes on increasing at the present pace naturally some steps will have to be taken to control it. The population of France was static from the first world war to second world war. Now there is increase. How they did it? They must have followed birth control and other social measures for it. In our society the projection of population to-day may not be a projection of population tomorrow. It will be more or less even. If the people get enlightened naturally growth of population will decline. It is true that we are planning for raising employment potentiality and for that we are going to set up industries, commerce, etc. So that any job potential which is created may be available to any youngman who walks in. When the divergence narrows, that would be the time for preparing for high specialisation. Now that position is not there. A youngman came back from America. He was an engineer, an Assamese. He met me in New Delhi and let me understand that he was coming back from America and was searching for a position in such and such office but he was told "You are over qualified for us you please go back to America." I looked into the papers and I discovered that he was a highly qualified engineer of a specialised type for which there was no need at the moment in our country. May be after five years the requirement may be there. Therefore the officer interviewing him told him humorously that he was overqualified and should go back to America. Now in America there is no general purpose engineer. All of them are specialised. Now most of the doctors also get highly specialised. It is very difficult to get an all purpose doctor there. You go to one and he replies "This is not my line." In this way in highly developed society doctors and engineers always specialise in some branch. In only a backward society like ours a multi-purpose doctor is better suited (Laughter). Therefore, in our changing society also such a time will come to pass. There are inevitable over the future years and we will have to be in a position to know things and accordingly prepare ourselves for the change. The whole point is that the time is dependent on the atmosphere which you create. This atmosphere I want from Cachar people; this atmosphere I want from the people of Assam.

Shri BAIDYA NATH MOOKERJEE: কাচাৰ কি অসমৰ
ভিতৰে নৰ)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning):
The part is not the whole. So, I was saying that the atmosphere is not very important. Now in Calcutta there was a rush for industrial jobs once. Why? The Trade Union leaders will be able to tell you that the wage structure of Calcutta region is lower than the wage structure of Bombay region. For instance, Bombay textile workers get Rs. 100 whereas the Calcutta workers get something around Rs. 60 to Rs. 65. Therefore, for some time there was a tendency for the industries to migrate towards Calcutta. Now, what has happened? The tendency for industries to migrate away from Calcutta has started. Because a great deal of agitation within the last 3 to 4 years cropped up about sons of the soil, Bengal for Bengalees, and so on and the result was that the problem of maintaining discipline in the industries became very difficult. In one case one Manager was picked up and thrown into a red-hot boiler

and burnt to death. Obviously the management get scared. Thereafter, there has been a tendency to migrate away from Calcutta. You might have read the speech of the Industries Minister of West Bengal in which he has pointed out this matter. He was saying that they were trying to bring back industry as soon as possible. There also the problem of proper atmosphere is involved. When I went to America, I was told that such a problem was existing in America also. There was a tendency for industries to migrate from North to South because South where Negro inhabited and wages were low and because of the low wages industries were migrating southwards. Now what has happened with all this Negro baiting and integration, High Court trying to fight against this colour prejudice, these industries have become scarce. Now industries are again migrating towards north where the problem of integration is not there.

Therefore, the theory, atmosphere, has to be maintained so that the development takes place. Therefore, it is our duty to maintain the proper atmosphere and I have no doubt.....

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: Not riots alone, there are other cases.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Yes, individuals are not alone to be blamed. There are so many cases of riots, so many cases of quarrel, so many cases of loss of friendship. One great Minister of England said: Friendship has to be kept in constant repair. Therefore, the mutual industrial relations—relations between man and man are problems which bristle with delicate situations and one can make or mar such relations. It is, therefore, necessary to make constant repair of friendship, industrial relations. It is easy to build but difficult to repair. Now I am not putting the blame on Cachar, or Bengal but I want to pose the problem before us. Unless you understand the problem, you will not find a solution and solution is necessary for results. Therefore, I pose the problem before you. I request you to rise upto the occasion and create the necessary atmosphere, in the background of which development may take place. This is my earnest request to you as Minister of Planning and I have no doubt that I have full co-operation from all of you. In this effort if you fail, you fail because circumstances overpower you and circumstances are beyond anybody's reach. Nobody wants nuclear war, yet the problem is not so easy to solve although the Disarmament Conference is taking place year after year. Is it that people do not want to be free from the danger of war? No, it is not because of that, but the road to progress is not easy. This is a crooked world, warped, which tends to bring you to the very place from where you started like मुज मूवों of Lucknow.

Now, industrial development in Assam, as I was saying is based on two aspects. One is consumer industries which are not tied to raw materials and the second is dependent on raw materials. I have already said that our raw materials are such as are amenable to heavy capital investment industries and therefore with the lack of capital entrepreneurial skill, and technical know-how, we have been

tardy in our progress towards that end. When we wanted to progress after 1958 a situation came which prevented us. Then came the Chinese threat which has again given a blow to our progress but in spite of this I can tell you that progress is inevitable. Progress is the way of life, when the danger comes it shrinks back like a tortoise. When danger goes out, it comes out. If there is a stretch of time which is peaceful, Assam will get industrialised. The problem before us is to get at least a stretch of time which is peaceful for ten to fifteen years or so, so that we may generate the tempo of industrial development because industrial development is chronic like a disease. We must set the balls of development rolling. It generates its own momentum and one industry brings another and another, another. We have this refinery for instance. It has brought in a gas factory, a carbon factory, an electricity generating unit, if possible and a series of other factories which are possible. All these big industries provide raw materials for a large number of feeder industries. Therefore, the problem is to start one industry in one region. Then the regions will begin to develop. This is often called Take-off. This is a very crude way of describing Take-off. Take-off means that development has come to such a stage that further development is possibly based on the capital creation of your own capital, technical know-how, entrepreneurial skill and market.

When these four are co-ordinated into one, you find the take-off stage. Right now, the take-off stage in India has not come, but the Third Plan in a large measure is intended to facilitate the take-off stage. The Third Plan is not adequate. Until and unless we have a saving of 15 to 20 per cent, it will hardly be possible for us to develop our Industries on our own. Other countries are having a saving of 30 per cent, or 25 per cent and ours is only 8 per cent. So it is very inadequate for a take-off economy. The take off period is not possible unless industrial development takes place. Unless there is industrial development there is no capital formation. Capital creation is necessary. Along with this, two things are necessary—entrepreneurs and technical know-how. The Third Plan is not adequate.

For this purpose, the Third Plan has to be geared up.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state if the Third Plan was not intended for capital formation.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): We made a mistake. Government is not above mistake. The fiscal policy is intended for a purpose. Now our Plan is not at this time for a take-off economy. It is intended for the war economy. The defence potential has to be built up and production has to be geared up for the purpose and for that purpose the budget is designed and it is justified. Now if you want to say that the Chinese threat has to be met then it is a justified budget. If you say Chinese threat has not been met it will not be a justified budget. When you have said that we want to give a befitting reply to the Chinese, you have committed yourself. If you say you do not want such a budget, that would be like a man who is always in half thought, half act and half cock. I hope the reason of the present budget will be appreciated by the industrialists. We should take a lesson from the British people who were in our country for a long time. When the war came, the whole British nation stood up to the war efforts and everything what was wanted by the Government was given without asking and in our country when the

Government asked for gold we give very little. You cannot say that India has only 12 crores worth of gold. It is the greatest gold hoarding country in the world. You have asked us to fight a war but you have failed to give the sinews of it. Therefore, it has to be taken by legislation what cannot be taken by donation. There were efforts made by the people. I must admit that many poor people came and gave their money, gave their gold, but the people who gave inadequately are of the higher strata. Therefore, we had to bring in a legislation to get more from the higher strata of the people. This desire must be fulfilled.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : Is it that the Indian industries have suppressed production ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning) : The Indian industry can be divided into three parts, the first part is running 100 per cent, the the second part is running 75 per cent, the third running 50 per cent (and some running 25 per cent). I do not know the reason for this. In the present market; there is no scarcity of market, it is the scarcity of raw materials which makes the industries produce 75 per cent or 75 per cent and not the war. If we can get the foreign exchange to buy the raw materials then it will be possible to increase the production. Discussion is going on with foreign banks for funds to purchase more raw materials so that our factories may run full time. If they succeed, then it will be possible for our factories to run full time. If the factories can be run full time the cost of production will be less. This is one of the reasons why Indian industry is less economic than the western industries. Indian industry is not fully exploited. It does not run full time. It is not permitted due to so many restrictions. Therefore, I say, the problem of Indian industry is the problem of raw materials. If we can give adequate raw materials than our production would increase, the cost of production would go down and to that extent our economy will survive. Now the Government will go in for assistance to give more raw materials to the industry. The other day a central Minister while describing the industrial development of India said that if there was an industry of Rs. 1 crore the industrialist has 10 lakhs, he got Rs 50 lakhs from the Financial Corporation, Rs. 30 lakhs from the State Government and 10 lakhs from others and he has an industry. With that 10 lakhs he became the master of Rs. 1 crore. What is this logic ? Now you see in the developing economy of India, Government of India have set up the financial institutions like the Financial Corporation, the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation and such other agencies which are giving long term finance for industrial development purpose. Therefore, personal requirement of money for the purpose of developing industries has been greatly reduced. I hope it is worthwhile for anybody to start industries with only 50 per cent of capital. Therefore, money in the hands of Government is the money in the hands of Private sector. In this Third Plan we have provided 4 thousand crores for private sector for industrial development and 200 crores have been provided by way of Government assistance to the private sector for the above industrial development. So, the idea that money that goes into the hands of Government disappears is not correct. Take for instance, when the L.I.C. was nationalised, people said that Government had taken away all the resources. What the Government has done ? It has nationalised the business and in course of a short period it has become the greatest fund authority in India. What it is doing with the money. It has been investing the money in the

private sector and in the public sector. So, the resources which were available to the private sector before the L.I.C. was nationalised are available to the private sector even to-day. Therefore, to say, because, the Government has a certain fiscal policy that it is anti-industrial is not correct.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : What about the income-tax the L.I.C. used to pay before it was nationalised ? They are now exempted from this income tax, and is it not a loss to Government ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Now the whole income is ours, and we have benefitted 100 per cent thereby. The corporation tax is 50 per cent. Now the whole purpose of the money with the L.I.C. is for the national plan. It is invested according to our desire. We give it to the private sector, public sector and others. So it is always better to have 100 per cent. The take-off period cannot be generated in the course of the Third Plan. It will be generated by the end of the Fourth Plan if for and reason your development cannot keep pace then we may require another 4 or 5 years. For, the take-off period it is very essential that the capital goods industries, which make machines are developed. A heavy machine building industry has been started at Ranchi, Bhopal has been entrusted with making electric machines. Both of these have gone into construction and production will take place in the course of the Third Plan, and by 1967 it will go into full production. Once we have machine building industries, there is no doubt that we will take a big leap forward. Now, naturally big industries have to be in the Public sector for two reasons—(1) It is the national policy that they be in public sector and (2) Indian capital is shy. It behaves as if it is a child. Anything great it wants to do with big foreign collaboration. That means it has got to become adult. Without help it will not undertake high responsibilities. We give some licenses for manufacturing of paper machinery and such other higher machinery. But unfortunately, industrialist who have taken the licences have not gone to production. The progress is very slow and the result has been that what India was expecting to have in 1958, 59 and 60 has not come even to-day. Therefore, Indian industrialists are yet not adult. Until and unless they attain adulthood they will not be able to stand on their own legs.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : What about the Jute mills, Sir ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning) : So far as Assam is concerned a jute mill has been given to Co-operatives. The Co-operative has gone forward for collection of money. They have already collected 4 lakhs of rupees. Their requirement is very great and therefore they cannot start the mill with 4 lakhs. Another project has been taken up at Goalpara and Shri Khagendra Nath Nath is the sponsor. That jute mill has advanced a little further than the Co-operative Jute Mill at Nowgong. Jute Mills, and textile mills are medium industries.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : Sir, why Government donot try to take foreign money for Jute Mills.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : It will be taken.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : Sir, in fact we have to develop all industries and at the same time apart from the industrial resources and other factors, man power is also necessary. 99 per cent of the people here in the State of Assam, Sir, almost cultivators. For that reason

we are to make the people industry-minded. Do the Government, therefore, consider reduction of the number of cultivators as in that case it will be necessary on our part to reduce the cultivators and divert them to industry side? In view of this cannot Government consider that equal number of people be engaged in Agriculture as well as in industries?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning):

I think it is a very good question. In America, Sir, 15 per cent of the population depend on agriculture, in England 11 per cent and in France 30 per cent depends on agriculture. What has happened in the economy is that a large per cent of population was diverted from agriculture to industries and other avocations of life. Now the same result in India will also take place. But as I have said, the employment in industry requires heavy investment.

Therefore, the transfer of population from agriculture to industrial sector is not very easy. Secondly, training is necessary for the agriculturists to be fitted into industrial economy. For such discussion re-training and industrialisation are necessary. For this finance and entrepreneurial skill are necessary. Therefore, this process goes on over a number of years. As the industrialisation goes ahead our men and women gets benefits of industrialisation and they will be attracted to industrial sector and will acquire technical skill which is very necessary for industrialisation. Sir, in 1953 when I went to America I visited a place where Red Indians live. Their profession is sheep keeping. Women are more valuable than men because they keep sheep and the boys do not fit into the economy. In the beginning the American Government's policy was one of contentment, *i.e.*, they did not allow other people to acquire land there. But afterwards the American Government changed its policy and the young people there were given industrial training and they were provided with jobs in industrial undertakings in places like Chicago. But the process took sometime. In our place this process is yet to start. The Assam Government has taken steps in this direction. As you know, in our Third Plan we have given emphasis on technical education and we are providing 13 I. T. Is, 4 Junior technical schools and 6 technical institutions. An amount of Rs. 3½ crores has been provided in the Plan for the purpose. Naturally from now onwards we must divert our youngmen from general life to industrial life. This can be done only by improving technical education and increasing the facilities for such education. We also set up some training-cum-production centres. But these centres did not succeed as we had anticipated. The reason was that a boy after coming out of a training-cum-production centre does not get necessary confidence which may set him in life, because he has not handled any machine adequately nor has any experience of organisation. There were cases in which after a boy came out of such centre we gave him some cash and tools. It was found that the boy sold the tools to the shop from where these were purchased and went home. Therefore, what is most important is to invite some entrepreneurs to come and set up industries here and employ our boys. Unless there is commercial production we cannot fit in our boys to industrial sector. Our training-cum-production centres are only training centres and these are not for commercial production. Therefore, the programme of ours is geared for that purpose which the hon. Member questioned. The second programme is for training artisans outside Assam and we are giving high scholarships for that purpose. A student who studies engineering in Kharagpur gets Rs 75 p. m. and the under-Matric trainees who are sent to Sindri and

Madras get near about Rs.100 p. m. We thought that unless our boys are trained outside we cannot make any improvement because the local industries are not adequate to impart necessary apprenticeships training. Some boys are, of course, receiving training in Digboi and other local industries but these are not adequate. This training is essential. This can be done in two ways—(a) by imparting training in institutions set up by the Government and (b) by training the boys in the industries. But since in our State the number of such industries are few, we have taken steps to send some of our boys outside. Refineries have also come forward to give some training and the A. O. C. have given some scholarships for technical education. But this, as I said before, is a process and gradually our people will be attracted to industries. In this matter all things should go *pari passu*. It is not that we should first set up industries and then our boys will be trained; it is not that we should train our boys first and then set up industries. It is not also that we should do these two things and then capital will come. All these things should go together and it is a process. One type of training goes on imparting other types of training. When industries develop, technical personnel also increases and this process goes on. I saw in one case in a foreign country that boys and girls receive general education after 12 noon in schools run by the industries and in the morning from 7 to 12 they receive training in the factories. Now, naturally the industrialists do not want general education. They are interested in artisan-ship. But general education improves the ability of the workers. Therefore, this is a continuous process and the industry and people go on co-operating, one tries to improve the other and this process goes on. This is how Assam's industrialisation will take place. Therefore, you see how important it is to develop local artisans. The few industries which have been set up at Gauhati are short of artisans, and they import artisans from Calcutta. A man who was getting only Rs.70 p. m. has been recruited at Rs.200. Besides, he has been provided with free quarter. During the last Puja some of these people drank and they were caught by the Police and the General Manager had to get them released on bail. And there is another difficulty. Some of these people go to Calcutta during the Puja and never come back. Therefore, it is a very costly thing to import artisans from outside.

Therefore, considerable industrial development cannot be expected from artisans imported from outside. Artisans should be produced locally. The industrial units must train their own artisans, otherwise, their industry will not grow because examination of any industry is based on the skill of trained artisans. On the other hand, once a man get training, his bargaining capacity is increased and consequently his per capita income will also increase. Increase of National per capita income is independent on the increase of individual per capita income. Therefore, training of artisan locally is very essential. One of the pre-occupation of an industry should be to train artisans locally. This takes place generally before expansion of any industry. So, indirectly, as soon as industry grows up, skill of an artisan also grows up and as soon as the skill of an artisan grows up, production will also grow up. With the development of an industry, side by side, there is the process of migration also. But it is difficult to forecast how soon this migration takes place. The migration means growth of population. With the growth of population, pushing forward of economy will come into operation, which is very important in increasing our national per capita income.

Now, Sir, I am going to give an example. When we undertook the First Plan, we had 72 per cent of our production from agriculture and when we undertook the Second Plan, nearly 65 per cent was the agricultural production and lastly, when we undertook the Third Plan, the percentage of the agricultural product was 45 or so. Does it indicate that the food production is going down? No. Last year, the food production was 80 million tons which decreased to 70 million tons this year. But for this reason we cannot say that agricultural product is going down nor we cannot say that the industrial production of India is going down. There are so many other factors. It merely says that the percentage of agricultural product is decreasing. It does not necessarily mean that the per capita income or national income is decreasing. The rate of industrial development is rising high and consequently the agricultural development is decreasing. There is a change in the trend of mind of our people. There is an inclination coming to industry from agricultural pursuits. The result is that the industrial production has increased more and more. Now, does it effect on population? It shows that percentage of population is shifting. People who are agriculturists may not give up their agriculture, but their sons and daughters are migrating. They are generally inclined to industry more than agriculture. That is why migration takes place.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): On a point of information, Sir. If what the Honourable Minister says is true, is it not a fall in the percentage of population in the villages?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): Yes, that is true. You will find that is the reason why the percentage of population in the villages is declining. That is what I am going to drive at. There is a distinct change of population in the rural areas. Looking to the production pattern, we find that there is a fall of percentage in agriculture and there is rise in percentage of industry. The population which are coming from agriculture is absorbed in industry. That is why this is happening. This shifting will go on in near future also.

Another point I am going to dwell upon is Organisation. This is another factor for which the percentage of population in the rural areas is declining. This is an inevitable factor in the modern society. But the whole of population of Assam cannot be pushed to Calcutta, London or Tokyo all on a sudden. Because conveniences which it can afford will be no greater than the irreparable loss. We cannot expect the rise to 20 per cent or so all on a sudden, but in due course, it will rise, in the industrial areas. This process of shifting is more in India than any other country. For example, Gauhati which was town of 60,000 population the other day, rises to one lakh to-day. This is due to organisation and industry only. The greater the organisational activities the greater will be migration and better will be industrial development. Due to this factor alone percentage of population at Gauhati rises leaps and bounds. This is the march of civilisation. Therefore, organisation is one of the factors of increasing population. Organisation is brought about by the industrialisation. This is what I am going to show that industrialisation is responsible for raising the standard of living. Higher standard of living can be achieved only by raising working capacity and efficiency. If I can raise my working capacity, my wage will increase. If my machine assists me to raise my working capacity, I must have a machine to raise the standard of living. That is why we are trying to increase organisational activities. Organisation is only possible by capitalisation and capital formation is possible by saving.

That is what we are planning to-day. In this way we are going to bring about industrialisation. But there are difficulties. When you have this type of industrialisation, you have to counter-balance it by similar type of agricultural development. Now our agriculture is mostly dependent upon uneconomic small farming. How to give the agriculturist tools and implements so that with this small farm he will be able to increase his income? This is a difficult process. In western countries smaller farms have been integrated to composite units. In Russia they have done this. But in India we are trying to do it by maintaining the individuality of the small farms. Therefore, it has become necessary for us to discover new types of machinery. For, in Western countries, western science has developed large machines. If we want to maintain the small farms, we have to develop small machinery which may give higher efficiency to individual producers. Our science has not been able to do so as yet. You might have noticed, recently, our Prime Minister has given emphasis on the discovery of small ploughs. Now these smaller ploughs which to be purchased from outside at Rs. 30 or 32 or are being distributed to farmers at R and D. Naturally these ploughs will increase the efficiency of our agriculturists. But this has not solved the whole problem. Our agriculturists now find that the bullocks used by them are very weak for these smaller ploughs even. This has brought us to the question of bullocks. We have to solve it. In this way one solution brings us face to face with some other problems. So that all the problems of the agriculturists can be solved. For all these, we are facing newer and newer problems. We have got to solve them. How quickly we will be able to do that is a matter which needs our serious thought and concerted efforts. Acquirement of scientific knowledge is also of utmost importance for solving the problems of our agriculturists. We are introducing the Japanese method of cultivation with a view to increase the productive capacity of our agriculturists. This also brings us to the questions of improved manuring and improved method of irrigation. These are concomitant problems. All these difficulties are there in the matter of improvement with the condition of our Agriculturists. Take for instance, milk production. If you have a big farm, the economy of a big farm will be of one type. and if you have small farm with four or five cows, the economy will be of different type. Poultry farming, fishery, piggery, vegetable production, all these go to make a composite life. The method of individual farming of all these is rather an inefficient method of production. It is, however, efficient in one way. Because there is no wastage. The wastage of one section, is the raw material of another. In this way it is efficient. But in this method of production you cannot specialise. For instance, a cow in a big farm in England easily produces 30 to 35 seers of milk, in some case it is 40 seers. I went to a farm in which I saw that the udder of the cow came down as far as to the ground. As a result, the cow cannot enter into the threshold of the cowshed. This cow naturally needs the attention of a doctor. The economy of the big farms and small farms are different. In mixed farms the economy is interdependent. In Assam and as a matter of fact, in India, it is necessarily an interdependent economy. This economy can be changed. For instance, science has discovered that gas may be produced out of cow-dung. This is a single item. Now let us take it. Supposing we produce gas out of cow-dung, the manurial value of the cow-dung is not lost and it can be used for productive purposes. Gas can be used for cooking and light purposes. But all these are easier said than done. Because the majority of our cultivators are illiterate innocent

of all these modern scientific development. Our Government machinery is hardly able to reach them. Therefore something should be done to augment this rudimentary type of village economy so that new income may be generated into this house hold. Now about vegetable cultivation about which there was a discussion in this House. It has been said if vegetable is produced in a large quantity, there is no market for them. Recently there was a survey conducted in England regarding the nutrition of children of rich people and you will be surprised to know that a large percentage of the boys were found to be suffering from mal-nutrition.

So there was an investigation showed that balanced diet which was necessary was not given to the children. Though the parents were rich they did not have the knowledge about the nutritious values of the vegetables. So I say that we must produce more vegetables and feed them ; at present we are definitely underfed in vegetable. Some people say that if more vegetables are grown, there is the problem of marketing. Yes, I agree that marketing of vegetables is dependent upon the good communications and transport. If all the vegetables grown in Shillong can reach Gauhati within one hour then the Shillong vegetables become the Gauhati vegetables. But if it takes more than 10 to 12 hours from Shillong to Gauhati, then it will not be Gauhati vegetables and shall not have a good market there. So the efficient transport system is an indispensable factor for getting good market for vegetables. Agricultural economy is primarily dependent on the highly developed transport system. In America, 3,000 miles are covered in a very short time and vegetables are delivered in distant stations early in morning. They can do it because of the highly developed transport system. Take another instance of fish. We consume the required quantity of fish here and the surplus fish is generally destroyed. Very few people dry it. This is colossal wastage. If we can have ice van or if we can make arrangement for cold storage, then surplus fish can be kept for a longer period and can be transported to the scarcity areas. Similarly, other perishable commodity like oranges can also be kept in the cold storage for a long time. You will be glad to know that a process has been discovered which is known as dehydration. By this method, the water of the commodity is extracted, vitamin is not lost and as a result it becomes very light. One maund of commodity can be reduced to 1½ pounds. It is very convenient for transport. It will greatly facilitate if developed transport of commodities to especially N. E. F. A. and other interior places. Before consumption of such commodities, these should be kept under water for sometime when orange becomes the orange, potatoes becomes the potatoes and everything becomes everything, and it eases the transport problems. This will naturally minimise the major hurdle of transport difficulties and I have no doubt that this system would be promoted here also, if not for us, at least for the Army.

Therefore, vegetable production should be much more intensified and its consumption should also be intensified. There is a big talk about giving lunch to our boys and girls in the school. The other day, I went to a school with the Education Minister. I talked to a boy, he told me that he came from home at 8 a. m. and went back at 6 p. m. Sometimes his father gave two annas and he took tea in the tea stall. I went to the tea stall and found that there was no milk in tea it was only red tea that was served to the boys ; of course sugar was there,

Now if we deeply think we will find that our boys under go chronic starvation for 10 to 15 years during school age. This is the age in which these boys should be properly fed; but they are actually starving. If we can give lunch in the schools, it will be a boon to the society. We are told that the Government of Madras has undertaken a programme known as child feeding programme in the primary school. Here it seems the Government has become Catalitic Agent. Food and milk are supplied to the Children.

Sri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Children food programme মাজুলীত কৰিছিল, পিছে সেইটো হল কি কৰ নোৱাৰো।

Sri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister. Plaining): এই টোৱেই ভুল কৰিলে মাজুলীত আবন্ত কৰি। এনেকুৱা ঠাইত কৰিব লাগিছিল যত কৰিলে আন ঠাইত বিয়পীৰ পাৰে। কিন্তু মাজুলীৰ পৰা বিয়পীৰলৈ সুবিধা নাই, ইফালেও পানী ইফালেও পানী সেই কাৰনে বিয়পীৰলৈ সুবিধা নাই।

Though I am laughing, the whole point is that I am drawing your attention to a very chronic problem. We are to seriously think how we can save our children from starvation. We must be able to supply our children with nutritious food, otherwise, they will be under fed which will adversely affect in their health. Not only this will affect in their growth, but this will affect their energy and efficiency. Our Foot-ballers are defeated by the Hungrians. Our Hocky teams are defeated by Pakisan. We have, of course, produced one Milkha Singh, but he could not beat anybody in the International competition. This is inevitable due to the nutritious system prevalent in India. We are told a Negro Wrestler could eat one bunch of Bananas at a time and such giant will definitely be difficult to be beaten.

So I say that we must produce required amount of vegetables. Similarly, we must produce sufficient quantities of meat. If you look at the statistics you will find that only ten thousand mds of pulses are produced in Assam. Can it be sufficient for the whole people? And this is substitute protein. I am afraid after sometime we will not get a man of Dulal Baruah's height. So I say that agriculture must be carried on a scientific basis and scientific knowledge must be employed to increase our production. Scientific knowledge should also be used for Poultry development. In England, poultry is managed on a highly scientific basis. Artificial hatching is done there. The chicken is generally kept in a dupfge when it be kept for a time without being spoiled. People can bring it but whenever necessity arises, cook it and eat it. So, whatever the land availability an individual may have for increasing the food production every bit of it needs to be utilised. There is wrong theory that some land should remain uncultivated, for instance, 'Faringati' land. Now Faringati land is more valuable because it produces more vegetable than other kinds of land. At times it produces more paddy also when brought under proper irrigation. It is a misconception for some people to say that such land is not productive. People in some places are not inclining to produce vegetables because they are in the habit of living more on fish and meat than on vegetables. Now that is disappearing and we are to depend on vegetables, but for this purpose only 10 per cent effort is given at present. The situation is changing. We have

got very little land for agricultural purpose. Our people will have to change their present method and unless that is done the increased production cannot be expected to meet our requirement. Therefore we have to plan in an economic way considering our small land holdings taking help of science and technology. Since big machines are not practicable for our agricultural land we shall have to improvise in some other way for increase of our agricultural produce. In America I know of a man who was working as an Under Secretary to the Government getting a salary of Rs.4,000. He was mowing his lawns. Similarly small power given machinery is hard for us here. Our engineers should try to develop methods which benefit our cultivation. Our engineers are so conservative that we cannot introduce anything new according to requirement in particular areas. Our engineers still like to follow rather than lead in invention. When once I had been to Delhi I saw construction of some new pattern of houses and when in my return I asked some of our engineers why it was not tried in our State no result followed. I understand that no consideration is given to remove our conservatism and so our progress is halted. I understand Japanese Engineers make it a point not to import the same machine twice.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning): Sir, I could not finish somehow (Laughter) because I had not taken up the Plan at all. I was just talking about the basis of the Plan. (Member from the Opposition Benches how long will it take, Sir ?

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: You spoke about 4½ hours. To-day the time is up.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: So, naturally I could not go into the plan because my friends put so many intelligent questions. In fact, this debate was turned into a Seminar.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 10 A. M. on Monday, the 11th March 1963.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A. M. on Monday, (the 11th March, 1963.

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