



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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 A. M., on
Monday, the 7th December, 1959.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Nath Barma, B.L., Deputy Speaker in the Chair,
nine Ministers, four Deputy Ministers and seventy-nine Members.

Oath of Allegiance :

The following Member was sworn in :—

Shri C. Chunga.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

(Starred question No.1 standing in the name of Shri Hareswar
Goswami was not put and answered as the hon. Member
was absent.)

**Arrangement for Tea Plantation by Goneshbari Tea
Company over the Sarkari Gaubat in Niz-Moderkhat
village, Moderkhat Mauza**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Goneshbari Tea
Company is arranging plantation of Tea over
the Sarkari Gaubat in Niz-Moderkhat Village in
Moderkhat Mauza ?
- (b) What is the area of "Gaubat" Sarkari land and
annual patta land occupied by this Tea concern
in Moderkhat Mauza ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the local Land Revenue
Staff has not taken adequate action as yet to
evict this concern from Sarkari Gaubat ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

2. (a)—It is not a fact.
- (b)—The Tea concern has not occupied any such land.
- (c)—Does not arise in view of the reply at (a) above.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether the Minister-in-charge will accept the fact that there is already plantation of tea in that area ?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is the hon. Member giving information ?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: The reply is that 'it is not a fact', my question is, whether the Minister-in-charge knows that such complaint was submitted to the local Deputy Commissioner ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): A complaint may have been submitted but the tea concern has not occupied any such land.

Theoretical and Practical Training in Blacksmithy and Carpentry in Institute at Barpeta

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is no facility for Theoretical and Practical Training in Blacksmithy and Carpentry in Institute at Barpeta ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Gas Welding Training has not been given to the Students though there is the Instructor ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that 3 batches of students have gone out after training and they have not been given the certificates as yet ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that there is no Board to see and manage the affairs of the Institute ?
- (e) If so why ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the students of last batch have not received their grants up to this time ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education) replied :

3. (a) & (b)—The Education Department do not run any Technical Institution at Barpeta. আগার ভেনেকুরা কোনো স্কুল বরপেটাত নাই ।

(Starred question No.4 standing in the name of Shri Hareswar Goswami was not put and answered as the hon. Member was absent).

Number of registered Co-operative Krishi Farms in Barpeta Subdivision

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED asked :

*5. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state how many registered Co-operative

Krishi Farms are there in Barpeta Subdivision and how many of them have been provided with land and other kinds of necessary help by the Government ?

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) : What is that Farm which was given 200 bighas of land ?

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

5.—There are 11 Krishi Farming Co-operative Societies in the Barpeta Subdivision, excluding Barpeta Road Circle. One of these has been provided with 200 bighas of Government waste land temporarily by the Government.

Constitution of a State Pharmacy Council under the Pharmacy Act, 1948

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that according to the Pharmacy Act, 1948 a State Pharmacy Council is to be constituted after the completion of 3 years of first register of the Registered Pharmacists ?
- (b) If so, why the State Council has not been constituted ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to introduce a Syllabus for Pharmacist Training course recommended by the Central Pharmacy Council of India ?
- (d) Whether Government contemplate to appoint more number of Drug Inspectors to stop selling spurious drugs ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

6. (a) & (b)—The Medical Department of the Government of Assam has, as a condition precedent to the formation of a State Pharmacy Council, set up, in 1949 under Notification No.MMD.223/48/44, dated 3rd January 1949, a Registration Tribunal of Pharmacists for the purpose of preparing the first register is required under Section 30 of the Indian Pharmacy Act, 1948 (VIII of 1948). The first register so prepared and published in the Gazette by the Registration Tribunal of Pharmacists will form the basis of the electoral roll for the purpose

of election of six members to the State Pharmacy Council by the registered Pharmacists from amongst them as required under Section 19(a) of the Indian Pharmacy Act. The rules, prepared for carrying out the purposes of Chapters III, IV and V of the Indian Pharmacy Act for the constitution of the State Pharmacy Council of Assam have been approved by the Government. Steps are now being taken to constitute the Council soon.

(c) — Scheme of starting a two years' Pharmacists' Training Class as per Syllabus approved by the Pharmacy Council of India has already been approved by Government. Arrangement is in progress to start the class at Dibrugarh as early as possible.

(d) — Yes, it is under consideration of Government.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): Do Government know that some spurious drugs have been and are being sold in some Pharmacies in the State ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister): How does that question arise Sir ? The main question is with regard to constitution of the State Pharmacy Council.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, the question is with regard to constitution of the State Pharmacy Council.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA: No Sir, in question (b) spurious drugs were mentioned. My question is whether it is in the know of this Government that some spurious drugs have been and are being sold in some pharmacies in the State ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I have no information at the moment but I shall make an enquiry, Sir.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA: Will the Minister enquire about it ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Yes Sir, I have already said that an enquiry will be made.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): How many drug inspectors are there at present in the State ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: So far I know there are three at present—one at Jorhat, one at Gauhati and one at Shillong.

Settlement of excess lands in Kaimari Professional Grazing Reserve of Barpeta Subdivision

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that some thousand bighas of excess lands in the Kaimari P. G. R. of Barpeta

Subdivision are ready to be given settlement to landless persons ?

- (b) If so, how many Kabula petitions have been filed and since when the matter of settlement is pending and what is the cause of such delay in settlement ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

7. (a)—Three thousand three hundred and ninety-nine bighas of land in the excess area of Kaimari P. G. R. is lying Sarkari for settlement with deserving cultivators, but the area is under unauthorised occupation of some persons.

(b)—One thousand three hundred and fifty-six Kabula petitions were filed for settlement of the land. The matter of settlement is pending since 1953 due to the unauthorised occupation of the land by some local cultivators as stated at question 7(a) above.

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): How long will this matter remain pending ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Our intention is to speed up matters. A special staff has been appointed and they are doing this work. We want to finish it soon but I cannot exactly say when it will be finished ?

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): When was the special staff appointed.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: They are working since the middle of October this year.

Regarding a member from Jania Constituency in the Barpeta Land Settlement Advisory Committee

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED asked :

*8. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is no member from Jania Constituency in the Barpeta Subdivisional Land Advisory Board and also there is no member from Southern side of the Barpeta Subdivision ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

8.—It is a fact that there is no member of the Barpeta Land Settlement Advisory Committee from Jania Constituency, but the Hon'ble questioner Shri Tajuddin Ahmed, M.L.A., who was elected from the Tarabari Constituency comprising the

southern part of Barpeta Subdivision is a member of the Barpeta Subdivisional Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): May I know why there is no member from the Jania constituency ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Members are not selected constituency-wise.

Rehabilitation of families affected by the erosion of Tarabarihat

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED asked :

*9. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state the step taken by Government for the rehabilitation of families who have lost their properties by erosion in Tarabarihat ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

9.—Government have issued necessary instructions to the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta, directing him to dereserve 200 bighas of land from Bahari V. G. G. for accommodation of the landless deserving persons including those who were affected by the erosion of Tarabarihat.

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): May I know whether consideration will be given to the landless people first or the eroded people ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : With regard to Tarabarihat, the persons who actually had their holdings and have lost them will get priority.

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED: Then eroded people of Tarabari will get first preference ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Not other eroded people.

Completion of embankments on either side of Nadlajan under Nalbari Embankment and Drainage Sub-division up to the bank of Buradia river

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*10. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Flood Control) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that public petitions and resolutions passed into several public meetings, have been sent to Government to complete the

embankments on either side of Nadlajan under Nalbari E. and D. Subdivision upto the bank of river Buradia ?

- (b) Whether Government is aware that due to incomplete construction of Nadla embankments thousands of acres of paddy field have been damaged in last June Flood ?
- (c) Whether Government will be pleased to complete the construction of Nadla embankment up to Buradia within 1st April 1960 ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Flood Control) replied :

10. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—No regular embankments were constructed on the banks of Nadlajan but while excavating the Jan for improving the drainage of the area, the spoils were thrown on the banks which now formed short stretches of embankments of irregular formation in a length of about 3 miles down-stream from the Railway line. The flood problems of the area are intimately connected with flood problems of a much greater area which is affected by floods of two or three rivers. Investigation and collection of data for drawing up a comprehensive scheme for relieving the flood congestion of the entire area as advised by India, are in progress. As an interim measure a scheme for improving the drainage of the Nadla basin which may form a part of the comprehensive scheme is also being drawn up for execution during the Second Plan period itself as an urgent scheme, if necessary additional funds for Flood Control works can be arranged.

Expenditure incurred for use of Helicopter in flood relief works in the State

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

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

- (a) The total expenditure incurred so far for use of Helicopter in relief work, during the time of flood in the State in 1959 ?
- (b) Whether any expenditure from the State exchequer has been incurred on the use of Helicopters after the Military personnel had been engaged in flood relief work ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

11. (a) & (b)—No expenditure was incurred for use of Helicopter engaged in flood relief works in the State till now.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): I may add in this connection, Sir, that the helicopters which were used for flood relief work belonged to the Defence Department and we have not so far received any bill from them. May be we may not have to pay, but we cannot be quite sure about it now.

Damage done to Boro paddy cultivation in Majumaelia village of Thowra Mauza by sudden rise of water in Dimow river

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware that Boro paddy cultivation of nearly 200 bighas in Majumaelia village of Thowra Mauza, Sibsagar, was damaged just at the time of last harvest ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that due to non-completion of the Test Relief ring-bund on the bank of Dimow, the water came in and damaged the crops ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that the ring-bund will reclaim some 2,000 bighas of land suitable for Boro and other paddy cultivation ?
- (d) Whether Government have received any representation for an additional grant of Rs.15,000 as Test Relief to complete the said bund ?
- (e) Whether the D. C. or the S. D. C. has visited the site to see the extent of damage on public representation ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

12. (a)—Government have received report that out of 180 bighas, 130 bighas of Boro paddy were damaged.

(b)—The damage is partly due to the non-completion of the bund, but the main cause of damage of crops is due to sudden rise of water in Dimow river.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—The P. E. O., Dimow and S. D. A. O., Sibsagar visited the area on direction of the S. D. O., Sibsagar.

Cultivation of Boro paddy in about 2,000 bighas of land in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government is aware that Boro paddy was cultivated on some 2,000 bighas of land in Sibsagar Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that in some places, cultivation was completely damaged and in some places partly damaged and if so, what is the percentage of damage and the names of the places where such damages took place ?
- (c) Whether Government has issued agricultural loans to the growers ?
- (d) If so, whether Government desire to write-off the loans ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

13. (a)—One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one bighas were brought under Boro paddy cultivation in 1958-59.

(b)—Yes. A statement is laid on the table which gives the details.

**Statement referred to in reply to Starred Question
No.13 (b) asked by Shri Durgeswar Saikia, M.L.A.,
at the Winter Session, 1959**

Name of the centre	Area covered	Area damaged	Percentage of damage	Remarks
Dimow Project—				
1. Alichiga Boloma ...	175 Bighas	...	...
2. Chitaldubi Afola ...	205 ,,	10 Bighas	4.9 %	
3. Tepartal Gohaingaon ...	160 ,,	22 ,,	13.8 %	
4. Kathpara ...	130 ,,	...	...
5. Dimow Ikarani ...	160 ,,	100 ,,	62.5%	
6. Dimowmukh Miri ...	60 ,,	8 ,,	13.3%	
7. Majumalia Fukolani ...	180 ,,	130 ,,	72.2%	
8. Sarupalangi ...	200 ,,	90 ,,	45%	
9. Dhaibari ...	100 ,,	...	...
10. Laibeel ...	60 ,,	60 ,,	100%	
11. Dhundarmukh ...	19 ,,	...	...
	1,449 Bighas	420 Bighas		

Sonari N. E. S.—

1. Bhalukaguri	...	30 Bighas
2. Shyamgaon...	...	12 „
3. Qwguri	...	3 „
4. Basabari	...	3 „

48 Bighas

Non-Project area—

1. Vasalimari	...	104 Bighas	45 Bighas	44%
2. Dadhara	...	100	...	...
3. Dabahibeel	...	100 „	25 „	25%
4. Duaragaon	...	100 „	...	...
5. Nimanagar	...	20 „	19 „	95%

424 Bighas 89 Bighas

Grand Total ... 1921 Bighas 509 Bighas

(c)—Yes.

(d)—As the loans were issued through Co-operative Societies, the matter of writing off will be considered according to the Rules of the Societies.

Proposal for requisition of land from grants of Tanganagaon tea estate in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) When a proposal of requisition of land from grants of Tanganagaon tea estate in Dibrugarh Subdivision was taken and what was the area of land in the proposal ?
- (b) What was the actual area of land requisitioned there in that year ?

- (c) What is the actual area of land settled so far with flood-affected and landless cultivators ?
- (d) What is the total area of the tea garden grants of this Tanganagaon tea estate and the area under tea ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the area of land de-requisitioned, is now under paddy cultivation, although it was de-requisitioned for the purpose of tea plantation on the request of the Tea Planter ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

14. (a)—A proposal for requisition of 3,024 bighas of land of Tanganagaon was taken up in the year 1953.

(b)—3,024 bighas of land was originally requisitioned, but 1,986 bighas were de-requisitioned on appeal. Subsequently the Deputy Commissioner de-requisitioned 400 bighas in 1959. Only 638 bighas are still retained under requisition.

(c)—No allotment has yet been made. Enquiries are being made by the local Officer to ascertain who of the 300 applicants are deserving of settlement of land in this area.

(d)—Total area of grant—3,233.69 acres.

Under tea— 729.47 acres.

(e)—The de-requisitioned area consists of 2,386 bighas included in various dags. A portion of the area of dag No.2 was under paddy grown by the tenants of the garden authorities. The rest of the de-requisitioned area is all high land and no paddy cultivation existed there.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): What was the reason of de-requisition of the major portion of the requisitioned land ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS Due to the last earthquake the topography of many places changed and many tea areas went under water. The tea gardens wanted expansion of the plantation and as these were high land suitable for tea plantation they were de-requisitioned.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: Whether it a fact that the flood affected people had to wait for more than 7 years to get land in this requisitioned grant ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: They did not wait for this land only. Of course for want of land they may have to wait.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: May I know why such a long time, about six to seven years, has been taken for allotting land to the flood affected people of this area ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I admit there has been delay. So, we have asked the Deputy Commissioner to do it immediately.

Reclamation of Jerengapathar area

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that 15,000 (fifteen thousand) bighas of land at Jerengapathar were reclaimed from Jerenga Reclamation Scheme ?

(b) Whether there are 15,000 bighas of land at Jerengapathar of Sibsagar Subdivision ?

(c) Whether Jerengapathar was reclaimed or even now it is under water regularly due to non-completion of the project ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

15. (a)—It is not a fact.

(b)—No. The present area of Jerengapathar P. G. R. is 3,033 B. 0 K. 14 L. only.

(c)—Jerengapathar area was not reclaimed and a considerable part of it remains under water.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : যোৱা চেপ্টেম্বৰ মাহত হিন্দুস্তান স্কেটাৰ্ভে চিলঙৰ পৰা এটা বাতৰি দিছিল যে জেবেঙা পথাৰ পুণৰ সংস্কাৰ (Reclamation) হৈ গল আৰু তাত ৪ লাখ টকা খৰচ কৰা হৈছে আৰু ফলত অধিক শস্য উৎপন্ন হৈছে। সেই কথা মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে জানেনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : ভূমি পুণৰ সংস্কাৰ (Land Reclamation) বেভিনিউৱে নকৰে। সেই কাৰণে খৰবটো মোৰ নজৰলৈ অহা নাই।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : চাব, Embankment Minister আছে নহয়, তেখেতৰ নজৰলৈ আহিছে নেকি ? নহলে Publicity Director এ নিশ্চয় মিনিষ্টাৰক এই বাতৰি দেখুৱাইছে।

Shri HARESWAR DAS : এই বিষয়টো মোৰ দৃষ্টি গোচৰ হোৱা মনত নপৰে। কাগজ দেখিলেহে কব পাৰিম।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : চাব, খৰবটোৱে আমাৰ Grow More Food ত প্ৰতিক্ৰিয়া নকৰিব নে ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Food) : I am not answering a question on demands. Neither I have seen the papers.

Inclusion of the Forest villages under Panchayats

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Forest villagers of Panidehing, Deroi and Avoipur Reserves have complained for inclusion of the Forest villages under Panchayats ?
- (b) Whether Government propose to consider the proposal and if not, why not ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied :

16. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The proposal is now under consideration.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : চাব, পঞ্চায়ত আইন খন কোন মাহৰ পৰা অসমত প্ৰযোজ্য হব আৰু কোন তাৰিখৰ পৰা হব ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : পঞ্চায়ত আইন খন impose কৰা হৈ গৈছে।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : কৰা হৈছে যদিও পইছা একো দিয়া নাই, কেতিয়াৰ পৰা দিয়া হব সেইটো কথাহে সুধিছো।

Shri HARESWAR DAS : The hon. Chief Minister may reply.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : ফৰেষ্ট ভিলেজৰ সকল পঞ্চায়তৰ অন্তৰ্ভুক্ত কৰাটোৰ উপৰিও তেওঁলোকৰ কিছুমান আপত্তি আছে। এই বিষয়ে যোৱাৰ বাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ৰ ভাষণত এই বিষয়ে উল্লেখ কৰা কথা খিনি এই সদনৰ সদস্য সকলে জানে। বৰ্তমান সকলো কথা বিবেচনা কৰি ফৰেষ্ট ভিলেজৰ সকলৰ আপত্তি যিমানদূৰ পৰা যায় দূৰ কৰা হব।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : ফৰেষ্ট ভিলেজৰ সকলৰ welfare সম্পৰ্কে বিবেচনা কৰা হোৱা নাই।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The whole matter is under consideration of the Government. That is the reply.

Regarding Salkocha Inspection Bungalow in the Dhubri Subdivision

Maulavi JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware that there are no furniture to sit for more than one person in Salkocha Inspection Bungalow in the Dhubri Subdivision ?

- (b) Whether Government will take immediate steps to remove the difficulties by having all kinds of furniture in the said Inspection Bungalow ?
- (c) Whether Government have received reports to the effect that the Chaukidar does not remain in Inspection Bungalow at night and his house being about a furlong off ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that the travelling public find difficulties to stay in the Inspection Bungalow as the Chaukidar is not really available there at night ?
- (e) Whether Government will be pleased to take proper steps so that difficulties may not happen in future in the said Inspection Bungalow ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied :

17. (a)—This Inspection Bungalow has got two rooms with the following furniture—

1. Chair	...	...	...	2 Nos.
2. Table	...	...	...	2 Nos.
3. Bedstead	...	...	...	2 Nos.
4. Looking glass	...	...	...	2 Nos.
6. Wooden pegs	...	...	...	4 Nos.

(b)—This matter is being considered.

(c)—No reports from any quarter have been received to this effect.

(d)—No such complaint or information has been received from travelling public about such difficulties and there is no remarks to this effect in the Visitor's Book.

(e)—Yes.

Cattle tract on Sarkari land on the boundary of Tinkuria village and Madhubari of Phukanbari Tea Estate

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*18. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to enquire and state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there was a cattle tract, on a Sarkari land (Dag No.53) on the boundary

- of Tinkuria village and Madhubari of Phukanbari Tea Estate in Kheremia Mouza, Dibrugarh ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that this was the only way for the villages of Tinkuria village to go to Chabua-Tangakhat Road ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the proprietor of Phukanbari Tea Estate encroached upon this tract and made a drain of 8' x 6' and made it impossible for the villagers to come out of the village and made the drain risky for cattle ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the public have been complaining about this to the Sub-Deputy Collector, Naharkatiya circle but no action has yet been taken ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to evict the encroacher and realise compensation for the damage caused to the tract ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

*18. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No, there is another private path belonging to the Phukanbari Tea Estate and the villagers also use the same.

(c)—The proprietor of the Phukanbari Tea Estate encroached upon a portion of the tract and made a drain lengthwise. The people of the locality and the cattle of the villages could, however, come out of the villages along the tract without risk in spite of the drain.

(d)—Complaints were received and due actions were taken by the local Revenue Officers. It is not a fact that no action has been taken.

(e)—The encroachment has been removed. The question of eviction does not arise. The Tea Estate has been directed to fill up the drain at their own cost.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether it is a fact that the Sub-Deputy Collector concerned could not take action on the public complaint till the time when the questioner gave notice of this question for discussion in Assembly ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I cannot give these dates but the question of compensation does not arise as the tea Planter was asked to fill up the drain.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: What about the compensation ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): The question of realizing compensation does not arise.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): The tea planter has not filled up the drain as yet.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: They should do it. If they had not done it, they should be asked to do it immediately.

(Starred question No.19 standing in the name of Shri Hareswar Goswami was not put and answered as the hon. Member was absent.)

Encroachment by Proprietor of Beheating Tea Estate upon waste land in Barpathar Konwargaon in Jamira Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that waste land at Dag Nos. 702 and 703 in Barpathar Konwargaon in Jamira Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision has been encroached by the Proprietor of Beheating Tea Estate ?
- (b) When this Indian Tea Planter occupied or encroached these lands ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that the public have been complaining against the activities of this Planter since 4th January 1954 ?
- (d) If so, when eviction of this encroacher will be made ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

20. (a)—It is not a fact.
 (b)—Does not arise.
 (c)—A section of the people complained against the Tea Planter. On enquiry the allegations were found baseless.
 (d)—There has been no encroachment and the question of eviction does not arise.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: Whether it is a fact that Dag Nos.702 and 703 of that village are under the occupation of the tea planter ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It is not a fact and the question of encroachment does not arise.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your question is whether there has been encroachment by the tea planter upon a particular dag of land.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): These are not waste lands.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether it is a fact that the tea planter occupied this land without permission and subsequently Government regularised it.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The reply is already there.

(Starred question No.21 standing in the name of Shri Hareswar Goswami was not put and answered as the hon. Member was absent.)

Anomalies in the Survey of lands of the tenants in Zamindari area of the Goalpara District

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked:

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware that there is a very large number of anomalies in the recent survey of the lands of the tenants in Zamindari area of the Goalpara District ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that no Estate Official of the Zamindars were taken during the time of survey of these lands ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that tenants were not informed individually to be present at the time of survey ?
- (d) Whether Government have received any representation about the matter ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that it has become very difficult for a large number of tenants to file objection on account of their poor condition ?
- (f) Whether Government with a view to give them relief propose to receive objection petitions without any costs ?
- (g) In view of a very large number of anomalies and objections, whether Government will consider to make all corrections on the spot and in presence of the tenants ?
- (h) Whether Government after investigation will take proper steps for wilful and negligent action of the Surveyors concerned and bring them to book ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

22. (a)—Large number of objection petitions have been received by the Revenue and Settlement Officer against the preliminary records prepared.

(b)—No, it is not a fact.

(c)—Wide publicity and general notices were given to the villagers and notices published in Kacharies, etc. Individual notices at the time of survey are not provided under the Rules and as such they were not issued.

(d) & (e)—Difficulties of poor people in filing objections on payment of Court fees have been represented.

(f)—This is not possible, but orders were issued to realise the minimum of cost.

(g)—All objections against draft publications are being disposed of by the Assistant Revenue Officers at Dehi Katchari Centres after hearing the parties and holding spot enquiries where necessary in presence of parties.

(h)—Action will be taken if specific cases of wilful and negligent actions are brought to notice.

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): Are Government aware that instructions have been issued that along with Process with Fee of As.8 further cost of travelling of the Peons for serving the Process by Railway and boats are also to be charged ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: After November, Sir, it is not charged.

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED: When the Process fee is already charged, may I know, Sir, why this extra amount is charged from the petitioners ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Because it is chargeable under the rules.

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED: But why railway fares are charged ?—it is not covered under the rules.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: No, railway fares are not chargeable. But in case any specific cases of railway fares being charged are brought to my notice, I shall make necessary enquiries.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): Considering the fact that a very large number of anomalies have taken place, almost cent percent, whether Government propose to consider resurveying of the lands ? Is it not a fact that many deputation have been made for the lands ? These on occasion and resurveying was prayed for.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: That is not possible, Sir. Different Centres have been opened, time has been extended and minimum court fee has been charged. Even after that the people affected do not take advantage of this and do not file objection petition, then Sir, there is no remedy.

**Regarding sinking down of the two spans of the
Sampara bridge in Ghilamara Subdivision of
North Lakhimpur**

Shri MAHANANDA BORA (North-Lakhimpur) asked:

*23. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether any enquiry was made regarding the sinking down of two spans of the Sampara Bridge in Ghilamara Subdivision of North Lakhimpur ?
- (b) When the enquiry was held and what was the result ?
- (c) If the reply to (b) above is in the negative, why no enquiry is held ?
- (d) What step has been taken against the person found responsible for this ?
- (e) What was the expenditure in reconstructing this sunk portion of the bridge ?
- (f) Whether the expenditure in constructing the bridge will be realised from the persons at fault ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied :

23. (a)—Yes, enquiry was made.

(b)—Enquiry was made in April 1958. The Contractor and the Mohorir were found guilty. The Mohorir has been removed from service and the registration of the Contractor has been cancelled.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—As in (b) above.

(e)—Total expenditure incurred in reconstructing the sunk portion of the bridge departmentally is Rs.6,668.65 nP. including the 25 per cent Departmental supervision charges.

(f)—Yes, the expenditure incurred in reconstructing the sunk portion of the bridge departmentally has been realised from the Contractor's final bill.

Shri MAHANANDA BORA : এই বিষয়টোত অকল মহৰীজনেই দায়ী আছিল নে, আৰু কোনোবা কোনোবা দায়ী আছিল ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI : এইটোত Subdivisiona Officer ও লিপ্ত আছে। কিয়নো তদন্তাধীন হৈ আছে।

Regarding Schemes for the Welfare of the Backward Classes

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) asked:

*24. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the State of Assam formulated any scheme as per directives contained in paragraph 3(d) of the Ministry of Home Affairs' letter No.23/21/57-SCT.II, dated 15th May 1958 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Government of Assam could not avail of the Central assistance for the benefit of the "Other Backward Classes" ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that there are as many as 26/28 "Other Backward Classes" in Assam and if so, what is the reason for the Government of Assam's failure to submit the scheme concerning the welfare of the said classes ?
- (d) Whether any scheme has been submitted to the Central Government by the Government of Assam for the period 1958-59 and 1959-60 ?
- (e) Whether such scheme/schemes cover the groups as mentioned under paragraph 3(d) of Home Ministry's letter No.23/21/57-SCT.II, dated 15th May 1958 ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

24. (a)—The Home Ministry's letter referred to by the Honourable Member did not contain any directive for taking up any scheme for the welfare of the other Backward Classes but laid down the general procedure for release of Central assistance to finance the Scheme for the welfare of the Backward Classes as incorporated in the last year's Annual Plan under Art.275 of the Constitution and the Removal of Untouchability Programme and approved by the Planning Commission and Home Ministry.

Each year the Annual Plan containing Schemes as incorporated in the approved State's Second Five-Year Plan, drawn up within the overall ceiling fixed for the Second Five-Year

Plan Programme for the Welfare of the Backward Classes, requires the prior approval of the Planning Commission and the Home Ministry before it can be implemented. As there was no separate and specific programme for the Welfare of the other Backward Classes incorporated in the approved State's Second Five-Year Plan, there was no scope to include any specific schemes for the benefit of the other Backward Classes in any of the Annual Plans for the Welfare of the Backward Classes so far.

(b)—No. As a matter of fact there has so far been no indication from the Government of India that any Central assistance will be available, if a specific programme for the welfare of the other Backward Classes is taken up by the State Government. This year, however, the Home Ministry has authorised the State Government to take up a scheme for water supply in the villages predominantly inhabited by the other Backward Classes as a Centrally sponsored scheme within a plan ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh of which an amount of Rs.50,000 has been released this year to initiate the scheme.

(c)—Twenty-three Communities have so far been recognised provisionally as other Backward Classes in the State. The Government of India have not so far made available any Central assistance to the State Government to take up any specific programme for the Welfare of the other Backward Classes except the Water Supply Scheme sanctioned as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme as stated in the reply to Question (b) above and the State Government have also recently submitted for approval, of the Home Ministry a two-year welfare and development programme for the benefit of the other Backward Classes at a total Plan outlay of Rs.10,86,180 of which it is proposed to spend Rs.5,05,400 during the current financial year and the balance during the next year if approved by the Government of India. Hence the question of failure of the State Government to submit schemes for the Welfare of the other Backward Classes does not arise.

(d)—No. Barring the water supply scheme sanctioned as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and the schemes mentioned in (c) above no specific schemes for the welfare of the other Backward Classes was submitted to the Government of India prior to 1959-60.

(e)—Does not arise.

†**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHRYYA (Gauhati)**: With regard to reply (e) Sir, will the Minister be pleased to state what are the 23 provisionally accepted Backward Classes and what is the population involved?

†**Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T. A. D.)**: It will not be possible for me to give the population figure but I can read out the name of the communities. They are—

1. Ahom, 2. Baria, 3. Baroi, 4. Chutiya, 5. Ganok in Cachar only 6. Kumar, 7. Kupadhar, 8. Mahisya Das, 9. Manipuri 10. Moran and Mataks, 11. Napit, 12. Nepali (i.e. Thapa, Gurung Lama, Magar, Newar, Lohar, Damai, Gaine, Rai; Chetri, Limbu and Sarki, i.e. Cobblar). 13. Mukhi, 14. Rajbanshi or Koch, 15. Saloi, 16. Sudum Das or Dey, 17. Sut 18. Tanripal 19. Tea Garden Tribes, 20. Teli, 21. Yo-gi (Nath), 22. Scheduled Castes converted to Christianity, 23. Sikh Scheduled Castes.

†**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj)**: Is it a fact that our Government is passive in spite of the earnestness of the Central Government in the matter of implementation of these schemes?

†**Capt WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA**: It is not a fact, Sir.

***Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)**: Whether it is fact that no provision was made by the State Government for taking up schemes for the welfare of the other Backward Classes in the 2nd Five Year Plan?

†**Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA**: Sir, I have already stated that no specific schemes for the welfare of the other Backward Classes was submitted to the Government of India prior to 1959-60. We have recently submitted to the Government of India a scheme of about Rs. 10 lakhs to be spent during two years. This scheme was discussed by the Advisory Council of the other Backward Classes and also by a Cabinet Committee and the scheme is still under examination of the Government of India.

†**Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla)**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Special scholarships numbering about 150 for students of other Backward Classes have been distributed, this year?

†**Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA**: It has not yet been distributed but distribution will be done very soon.

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**: Whether this sum of Rs. 10 lakhs for welfare of other Backward Classes will be met from the State Revenue or from the Central Revenue?

†**Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA**: In the first instance, we are requesting the Government of India to take up these schemes as centrally sponsored scheme. If it is taken up by them, it is well and good, but in case it is not taken up as a centrally sponsored scheme, then we will have to see if the expenditure can be met from the over-all saving of the State Government.

†**Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla)**: Is it not a fact that in view of no provision made in the Second Five Year Plan for a specific programme for the the development of other Backward Classes, the Statutory Board recommended to the Government a sum round about a crore of rupees for a specific programme for the remaining two years ?

†**Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T. A. D.)**: I have already stated, Sir, that the Department is considering the question of increasing the amount and this was discussed and recommended by the Tribal Advisory Council that the amount be substantially raised. I cannot say exactly whether the amount will come up to one crore of rupees. Rs.21,00,000 has been provided for the next year as against Rs. 5,00,000 enunciated by the Government and for the subsequent year Rs.26,00,000 has been provided for.

†**Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA**: As the Centre has not allotted any money for the welfare of the backward classes as no scheme was submitted by the State Government, will the Government be pleased to make a provision from the State revenue for the welfare of the other backward classes for the coming two years ?

†**Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T.A.D.)**: We are waiting for the reply from the Government of India. We have got to examine whether the scheme can be included in the Second Plan.

†**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)**: May I make the position clear in regard to this matter ? This matter was discussed by the Planning Commission when I was in Delhi and it was decided that all such expenditure will be included in the Plan budget. But it will be the responsibility of the State Government and for this purpose no extra amount will be provided for by the Central Government, and on the recommendation of the Advisory Council certain expenditures have been provided for in the next year's plan. When that is done, it will be made available to the members to discuss. The Central Government is not going to provide for those items separately.

†**Dr. RAM PRASAD CHOUBEY (Lakhipur)**: What are the castes that come under Tea Garden Tribes ?

†**Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA**: The Tea Garden Tribes are Gondas, Mundas, Khonds, Oraons Santhals, Sevaras and Pans.

Managing Director of the Assam Co-operative Apex Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) asked:

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

- (a) Who is the present Managing Director of the Assam Co-operative Apex Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd. ?

- (b) When he was appointed to this post?
- (c) Who is the present Managing Director of the Assam Co-operative Apex Marketing Society, Ltd. ?
- (d) When he was appointed to this post ?

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

25. (a)—The post of Managing Director of the Assam Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank Ltd., is at present vacant. Shri A. M. Tayab, a senior Assistant Registrar, specially trained in the Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank has been placed in-charge of the Bank.

(b)—Shri M. A. Tayab took over his charge in July 1959.

(c)—There is no such post as Managing Director of Assam Co-operative Apex Marketing Society.

(d)—Does not arise.

Recommendations for amendment of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) asked:

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

- (a) Whether Government has taken into consideration the proposals enunciated by the Tribal Advisory Board appointed by the Government with regard to the recommendations for amendment of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India ?
- (b) Whether Government has decided to accept these recommendations :
- (c) Whether Government has ascertained if the Tribal Union has decided to give up the demand for a Separate Hills State if the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India is amended according to the recommendations of the Tribal Advisory Board ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied :

26. (a)—Yes. The proposals are being examined by Government.

(b)—The recommendations are still under consideration.

(c)—No.

Proposal for shifting of some Departmental Headquarters from Shillong to Gauhati

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati)
asked :

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

(a) Whether the Government is aware that due to the negative attitude of the District Council Authorities it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Government offices, Government employees and the non-Khasi people in general to get land for their accommodation at and around Shillong ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that with the expansion of welfare and developmental works of the Government more and more people have found it necessary to have accommodation in the Capital ?

(c) Whether in view of all facts and circumstances Government propose to shift some of the Departmental Headquarters like Education, Medical and Public Health, Agriculture, Co-operation, Rural Development, etc., to Gauhati.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied :

27. (a)—No. The United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council has framed its own Rules for the purpose. Transfer of land within the jurisdiction of the Council is made under the provisions of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District (Transfer of Land) Act, 1953 and Government is not aware of the negative attitude of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council in this regard.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—There is no immediate proposal for shifting any Departmental Headquarters to Gauhati but Government appreciate the need of dispersal of some of the offices from Shillong.

Land allotted to Sreemanta Sankardev Cultural Centre at Shillong

Shri NILMONEY BARTHAHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

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

- (a) How many bighas of land have lately been allotted to Sreemanta Sankardev Cultural Centre at Shillong.
- (b) Whether all the areas of land have been utilised for the purpose for which the allotment was made ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that a hall and a stage have been constructed by an individual on the lands belonging to the Cultural Centre ?
- (d) If so, whether the said hall and the stage have been formally handed over to the Centre as donation ?
- (e) If so, whether it was done by a gift deed?
- (f) If not whether Government propose to obtain explanation from the authorities of the Centre for allowing the individual to construct the said hall and the stage without obtaining permission from Government for sub-allotting the land by the Centre ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

28. (a)—An area of 5.58 acres were allotted to the Sreemanta Sankardev Cultural Centre, Shillong.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes, the hall and the stage have been handed over to the Cultural Centre as a trust property.

(e)—The hall and the stage are a trust property conveyed by Shrimati Sunity Das to the Sreemanta Sankardev Cultural Centre by a deed of trust.

(f)—Does not arise in view of reply to (d).

(Starred question Nos.29 and 30 standing in the names of Shri Hiralal Patwari and Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury respectively were not put and answered as the hon. Members were absent ?

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Constitution of a Board for awarding stipend of scholarships to Hills Tribals and other Backward classes students

U JORMANIK SYIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

1. Will the Minister, Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether a Board for awarding stipend of scholarships to Hills Tribals and other backward classes students has since been constituted?
- (b) If so, how were those members selected and by whom?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that not a single Khasi Member has been included in the Board?
- (d) What are the requisite qualifications which a student should possess to be eligible for such scholarships?
- (e) What are the criteria or guiding principles for awarding scholarships to various applicants?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

1. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The members are selected by the Government. They are:—

1. Minister, Tribal Areas Department (*ex-officio*) Chairman.
2. Secretary, Education Department or his representative (*ex-officio*) Member.
3. Director of Public Instruction (*ex-officio*) Member.
4. Secretary, Finance Department or his representative (*ex-officio*) Member.
5. Secretary, Tribal Areas Department or his representative (*ex-officio*) Member.

6. Shri Chatra Singh Teron, M.L.A., Member.
7. Shri Baikuntha Nath Das, M.L.A., Member.
8. Shri Ram Nath Das, M.L.A., Member.
9. Shri Mohikanta Das, M.L.A., Member.
10. Principal, Cotton College, Gauhati (*ex-officio*) Member.
11. Principal, R. K. Handique, Girl's College, Gauhati, Member.
12. Principal, St. Anthony's College, Shillong, Member.
13. Regional Assistant Commissioner, for S. C., S. T., Shillong (*ex-officio*), Member.
14. Assistant Director of Public Instructions for Art. 275 Development Programmes, Assam (*ex-officio*), Secretary.

(c)—Yes. The selection of Members is based not on the consideration that every tribe should be represented but that there should be one member representing the Scheduled Tribes of the Autonomous Districts, one for the Scheduled Tribes, Plains Districts, one for the Scheduled Castes and one for the other Backward Classes in addition to the official members who are members by virtue of their office.

(d)—The qualifications are stated in the Regulation issued by the Government of India, a copy of which is placed on the Library Table.

(e)—The Board principles to be observed by the State Government in the administration of the Scholarship Scheme are also contained in the Regulation mentioned in the reply to the preceding question No.—(d). The State Government is also to follow such other instructions as may be issued from time to time by the Ministry of Education in this regard.

U JORMANIK SYIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]
May I know since when the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas has become the Chairman of the Board?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T.A.D.): Since the constitution of the Board?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): May I know whether members mentioned in item No. 11 and 12 are official Members?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: No, they are non-official members.

Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): What is the criterion of selection? How these two Principals of the two colleges acquired representative character?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T. A. D.): We want to be guided by the heads of the educational institutions with regard to award of scholarships because they know about the students' difficulties. In fact complaints have been received that for non-receipt of scholarships in time students have been put to difficulty. In view of this we thought it would be desirable to associate the heads of institutions in the award of scholarships so that we might get their advice.

Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA: May I know whether any amount has been earmarked for the students belonging to other backward classes?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: We have referred the matter to the Government of India. According to the rule all the students belonging to the scheduled tribes are entitled awarded of scholarship first and thereafter the scheduled caste students are to be awarded scholarships. After distributing the scholarships to these two classes students if any money is left then the remainder will be distributed to eligible backward classes students.

U JORMANIK SIEM [Nongpho (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: May I know whether every applicant will get scholarship?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: Every eligible student will get scholarship.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla): What is the total amount of grant made by the Government of India for this purpose?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: I do not exactly remember the amount but I think we have received about Rs. 13 lakhs. This is of course subject to correction.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: Whether it is a fact that after meeting the demand of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes very little or no money will be left for other backward classes?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: We have referred the matter to the Government of India whether some amount can be earmarked for the other backward classes.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur): Whether any amount will made available by the Government of India?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: The amount sanctioned by the Government of India is on the basis of the students population.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj): How many sittings of the Board were held so far?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) : We have held meeting only once and on the 9th of this month we shall be sitting again for the examination of applications for award of new scholarships.

Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : How many applications have been received from the other backward classes upto 10th November ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : The applications will be put up to the Board on the 9th of December and therefore I am not in a position to say the exact number of applications received.

Number of Multi-Purpose Schools and Higher Secondary Schools started in Assam

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

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

(a) The number of Multi-Purpose Schools already started in Assam ?

(b) The number of Higher Secondary Schools already started in Assam ?

(c) The names of those Schools district-wise ?

Shri RADHIKARAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied :

2. (a)—19.

(b)—14.

(c)—A list is placed on the Library table.

(Please see Library Register No. S. 129)

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh)** : In view of the fact that the rural areas have a lesser scope for higher education, will Government consider the question of converting the rural High Schools into Higher Secondary Schools ?

***Shri RADHIKARAM DAS** : We are converting most of these schools into higher Secondary Schools. First of all we want to convert the Government High Schools in the town areas and we will then go to the rural areas.

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)**: In view of the fact that the three years Degree Course will be introduced in most of the Universities as well as in the Gauhati University, how long will Government take to convert these schools into a Three Year Degree College?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education)**: That will take a long time.

***Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)**: Whether it is a fact that secondary High Schools have been converted into higher Secondary Schools in towns where there is an existence of college?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS**: Yes. There are some High Schools which have been converted into higher Secondary High Schools where there are colleges.

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI**: Will Government press upon the Central Government to provide some fund so that High Schools can be converted into Secondary High Schools or multi-purpose schools or three years Degree Course?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS**: That will be done in the Third Five Year Plan.

Scale of pay of the Staff of the Dewan Manikchand Estate, Karimganj

Shri BISHWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi) asked:

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

- (a) What is the scale of pay of the staff of the Dewan Manikchand Estate, Karimganj which is under the Court of ward?
- (b) What is the pay scale of the Naib of the Bidyanagar Tea Estate which is also under the management of the Court of Ward?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Manager of the said Estate as well as the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar have recommended revision of pay, scales of staff employed under the Court of Ward?

- (d) Whether Government have considered their case and if so, what is the revised scale of pay ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

3. (a)—A statement is placed on the Library table.

(b)—Rupees 80 per month (fixed).

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The matter is under consideration.

Regarding the post of Tracer in the office of the Public Health Engineer, Jorhat

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUAH (Katonigaon) asked :

4. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that one Shri Kumud Ranjan Saha was appointed in the office of the Public Health Engineer, Jorhat recently ?
- (b) If so, what is the post and how many candidates appeared in the interview for it ?
- (c) What is the minimum qualification required to fill up the said post ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that last date of submitting the application was 25th July 1959 and Shri Saha applied on 31st July 1959 ?
- (e) If so, why his application was considered ?
- (f) Whether he has got any special qualification ?
- (g) Whether there was any candidate who is educationally more qualified than Shri Saha ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied:

4. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The post is of a Tracer. Seven candidate appeared for interview and written test.

(c)—Matriculate with experience as tracer either in Government Department or private Firms.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—His case was considered as he had some special technical qualification in addition to the minimum qualification.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Yes.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon): In reply to (4) (e) it is stated that he had some special technical qualification, may I know what are those technical qualifications?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): He has passed the mechanical draftsmanship in Second Division from the Industrial Training Institute, Jorhat. He has also completed the practical training for 6 months under M/S Consulting Engineer and Co., Jorhat.

Number of Government Subsidised Dispensaries in Cachar and Upgrade of Udarband Subsidised Dispensaries

Shri TAJAMUL ALI BARLASKAR (Udarband) asked :

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

(a) The number of Government Subsidised Dispensaries in Cachar?

(b) Whether the Minister-in-charge will refer to his reply given to the unstarred question Nos. 134 (d) and (c) asked by the Questioner during Budget Session 1959 on the 23rd March, 1959 and upgrade the Udarband Subsidised Dispensary immediately and open a maternity centre attached to the said dispensary as a special case without waiting for the opening of the Udarband-Jaypur Development Block?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

5. (a)—16 (sixteen) Government Subsidised Dispensaries.

(b)—The question of taking over the Udarband Subsidised Dispensary will be considered when it is decided by the Government to take over all the Subsidised Dispensaries in the State.

The question of opening a Maternity Centre also will be duly considered when Government decide to open new maternity centres.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRODHANI (Golakganj) : When is it expected that Government will take over the Subsidised Dispensaries ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister Medical) : The hon. Member is aware that we have decided to take over all the Local Board dispensaries and after this contemplate to take over some of the Subsidised Dispensaries.

Regarding Transfer of Government Officers and Employees from one Station to another

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Aimguri) asked :

6. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any uniform principle is followed for transfer of Government officers and employees from one station to another ?

(b) If so, what is that ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that some are transferred within a limited time--sometimes within a day or two ; and some remain in the same station for more than a decade or two ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

6. (a) & (b)—There is no hard and fast principle for transfer of Government servants. Transfers are effected according to needs of public service.

(c)—No. According to exigencies the period of stay may vary but it is always considered that officers are neither transferred too rapidly nor are they allowed to stay in the same station too long.

Rules in fixing the Rent of the Houses rented by Government at Shillong

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH NATH (Goalpara) asked :

7. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) The rules in fixing the rent of the houses rented by Government at Shillong ?

(b) Whether Government have rented houses for Government offices and also for Offices at Shillong at a rent more than the rent as per rules ?

(c)—If so, from whom and at what rent?

(d)—Whether Government propose to reduce the rent of those houses to bring the rent as per rule?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

7. (a)—Rents are fixed according to the provisions of the Assam Urban Areas Rent Control Act, 1955 (Assam Act III of 1956).

(b)—No.

(c) & (d)—Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Repairing of damaged Ring Wells and Tube Wells of North Kamrup

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government are aware that all the sources and drinking water supply, namely, tube wells, wells and tanks of entire Uparbarbhag Mauza, 36 villages of Khota Mauza, 21 villages of Dalyam Mauza, parts of Kshetri Dharpur of Bahjani Mauza Dharpur, Batahgilal, Nalide Deba Mauza of Nalbari Circle, parts of Pachim Barbhag Mauza, Kambahoura, Pub Baurbhag and Pacchimbourigog Mauza—as of Rangiya circle, Ramidya, Hajo Mauza and parts of three other Mauzas and Hajo circle are heavily damaged by floods?

(b) If so, what is the extent and assessment of damage and source of water supply in the above mentioned flooded area, mauza by mauza?

(c) Whether the Medical Minister and the Director of Health Services on their visit to the flood affected villages of Nalbari on 6th July 1959 in a meeting of Nalbari Relief Committee expressed the intention of the Government to get all damaged water supply sources in the flood affected area repaired at the cost of Public Health Department immediately?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Public Health Engineering Department has taken up responsibility for repair of only those tube wells and wells which were sunk by Public Health Department directly under National Water Supply Scheme ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that the Panchayats and Local Boards which are practically defunct are financially unable to repair the sources of water supply in the flood affected area including the worst water pocket within Nalbari area ?
- (f) If so, how the unfit tube wells, wells and tanks sunk or excavated by Local Board, or Panchayats from "39.—Public Health" and "Government Water Supply" grants mostly falling outside National Water Supply Schemes are going to be repaired ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied:

8. (a)—Yes. A large number of Ring Wells and Tube Wells have been damaged in North Kamrup by the recent floods, but it cannot be said that all such installations have been damaged.

(b)—So far as Public Health Engineering Department is concerned, only 110 nos. of Tube Wells in Rangiya circle and 50 nos. of tube wells in Hajo circle have been damaged by the floods. The estimated cost of repairs are—(1) Rangiya circle Rs.1,200 and Hajo circle Rs.500 approximately.

(c)—No such commitment was made in any meeting that repairs of all damages would be undertaken by the Public Health Department. The point is that it is the duty of every Department to do what it can to cope with the flood situation. The question of one Department undertaking all the work does not arise.

(d)—Yes. Public Health Engineering Organisation have already repaired about 100 nos. of Tube Wells in Rangiya circle and 40 nos. in Hajo circle. The rest will be completed within this month.

(e) & (f)—Town and Country Planning Department have two separate provisions for grant of Rural Water Supply Schemes during the current financial year. The Subdivision-wise allocations are distributed to the approved executing agencies such as Local Boards, Panchayats, Municipal Boards, Bharat Sevak Samaj, District Councils, as the case may be, in a meeting of the Subdivisional Development Board concerned. Some grants out of the above funds will be earmarked by Subdivisional Development Board concerned for the flood affected areas of the Nalbari area for repairing of tube wells or ring wells damaged by flood provided the conditions prescribed for sanction of these grants are fulfilled. It is for the affected people to approach the local Officer concerned through some recognised agencies for some grants at the proper time.

Granting of Gun License to Villagers of North Cachar Hills for Protection of Crops from being Damage by Wild Beasts

Shri HANDHON MOHAN HAPLANGBAR [North Cachar Hills (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes) asked :

9. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that the jhum crops and gardens of the hill villagers of the Autonomous District of North Cachar Hills are annually damaged by wild beasts and birds causing serious loss to the people ?
- (b) If so, why at present the State Government is imposing so much restriction in granting Arms licences to the villagers who are badly in need of guns for protection of their crops and domestic animals ?
- (c) On what basis and on what condition the licenses for breach loading and muzzle loading guns are being issued ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to make more liberal attitude in respect of issuing licences for at least muzzle loading guns to every house holder provided he is otherwise fit to hold a gun ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied :

9. (a)—Certain amount of damage of crops by beasts and birds is normal in respect of all the districts and Government have no information of any abnormal damage by beasts and birds in North Cachar Hills.

(b)—No undue restriction has been imposed for issuing Arms Licence.

(c)—Licence for M/L and B/L guns is granted for sports or for protection of crops and person in deserving cases on conditions prescribed under the Rules framed under the Indian Arms Act.

(d)—Instructions are already there for issue of licences for guns liberally to all suitable and desirable persons.

Establishment of Veterinary Dispensaries in Mauza Purbapar, Madartola, Patidarang and Barbansar in Kamalpur Circle

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)
asked :

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

(a) Whether there is any Veterinary Dispensary in the Mauzas Purbapar, Madartola, Patidarang and in Barbansar in Kamalpur Circle ?

(b) Whether there is any Veterinary facility whatsoever in these Mauzas ?

(c) What is the area of those Mauzas and what is the total Cattle population in this area ?

(c) Whether Government will take steps to establish Veterinary Dispensaries in these Mauzas within the period of the Second Five Year Plan ?

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

10. (a)—No.

(b)—Yes. There is Veterinary facility in these Mauzas.

(c)—The area and the Cattle population are shown below:—

Name of Mauzas	Area in sq. mile	Total Cattle population
1. Patidarang	27·154	11,000
2. Madartala	25·610	9,000
3. Pubpar	60·475	12,000
4. Barbongsar	30,516	9,500

(d)—Not at the moment.

Schemes of Government to finance the Co-operative Societies in the State

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

11. Will the Minister, Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) What are the Schemes of the Government to finance the Industrial Co-operative Societies (both small and middle size), Consumers' and Trading Co-operative Societies, Transport Co-operative Societies, Fishery Co-operative Societies, Weaving Co-operative Societies, etc., other than the Agriculture Co-operative Societies ?

(b) Whether Government will be pleased to arrange to finance to these Co-operative Societies by proper Co-operative Banking organisation ?

(c) If so, what is the scheme for this purpose ?

(d) When such scheme may be materialised ?

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

11. (a)—Industrial Co-operative Societies (both Small and Mediumsize) can be financed by the Co-operative Banks, the State Bank of India, the Assam Finance Corporation, the Small Scale Industries Institute and Government from their budget provision for loans to Industrial Co-operatives. There is no scheme for financing Consumers and Trading Co-operatives. But such Co-operatives can be financed and reliable ones are being financed by the Co-operative Banks in this State. Similarly, Transport and Fishery Co-operative Societies can be financed by the existing Co-operative Banks.

Weaving Co-operative Societies were financed by the Government from funds available from the Cess Fund placed at the disposal of the All-India Handloom Board and transferred to the State Handloom Board but this was stopped in 1958. Now the Reserve Bank of India has agreed to finance working capital to the Weavers' Societies of Nowgong and Darrang Districts through their respective District Co-operative Central Banks. The Handloom Board also provides grants-in-aid, subsidy loans, etc., to the Weavers' Co-operative Societies of the State. The Co-operative Banks are also financing Weaving Societies.

(b)—There is no bar to the financing of these Societies by Co-operative Banks.

(c)—No scheme is necessary.

(d)—Does not arise.

Number of different Co-operative Societies in the State

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

12. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Department be pleased to state—

(a) (i) The number of Agricultural Co-operative Societies.

(ii) The number of Weaving Co-operative Societies.

(iii) The number of Small Scale Industries Co-operative Societies.

(iv) The number of Medium Scale Industries Co-operative Societies.

- (v) The number of Trading Co-operative Societies.
- (vi) The number of Fishery Co-operative Societies.
- (vii) The number of Consumers' Co-operative Societies.
- (viii) The number of Banking Co-operative Societies.
- (ix) The Transport Co-operative Societies now in existence in Assam ?
- (b) What is the total number of Co-operative Societies now in existence in the State ? To be shown District-wise ?
- (c) The number of Co-operative Societies liquidated within the last five years ?

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

12. (a)—(i) 3,303.
 (ii) 1,020.
 (iii) & (iv) 333.
 (v) 564.
 (vi) 45.
 (vii) 576.
 (viii) 211.
 (ix) 4.

(b)—Lakhimpur	..	..	...	...	349
Sibsagar	...	...	..	...	722
Darrang ...	..	...	..	...	852
Nowgong	..	...	...	...	921
Kamrup	...	...	...	..	1203
Goalpara	...	...	...	...	651
Cachar ...	..	...	...	...	812
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	...	331
Mizo District	...	...	...	...	72
North Cachar and Mikir Hills	...	...	...	...	71
Garo Hills	...	..	..	...	201
			Total	...	6,185

(c)—712. Up to August, 1959.

Disease of epidemic form at Tengajan, Fulbari Village of Amguri Kharikatia Mauza, Jorhat

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

13. Will the Medical Minister be please to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that a disease broke out in an epidemic form in the month of June 1959 in which five men died and several fell ill at Tengajan, Fulbari village of Amgur Kharikatia Mauza, Jorhat ?
- (b) If so, what medical precaution has since been taken in the village ?
- (c) Why the villagers did not receive proper medical care inspite of timely intimation given to the Doctor of the Project Headquarter at Titabar ?
- (d) Who is at fault for non providing proper and timely medical care at the village ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

13. (a)—Yes, but the number of deaths were 4 only and not 5— out of a total attack of 5 (2 died of acute Bacillary Dysentery and 2 of Gastroenterities. The total number of attacks was 5 only, viz., 2 at Tengajan and 3 at Phulbari).

(b)—A total of 750 persons have been inoculated against cholera and 37 tanks have been disinfected. Since 22nd June, 1959 there has been no new case.

(c)—This is not quite correct as the first information was received on 17th June, 1959 afternoon by the Project Executive Officer and the Medical Officer-in-charge, Titabar-Amguri Project although the 1st case occurred on 9th June, 1959 and all deaths took place before 17th June, 1959. The Medical Staff attended the affected villages on 18th June 1959 in the morning and treated the only lying case remaining there and who has completely recovered later. Hence the medical attendance was prompt.

(d)—Does not arise.

Land under Boro Paddy cultivation in different districts of the State during 1959

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

- (a) How many bighas of land in different Districts of Assam were under Boro Paddy cultivation in the year 1959 ?
- (b) What is the total production of Boro Paddy in different Districts this year ?
- (c) What is the output of Boro Paddy this year in comparison with the output of Ahu and Sali last year ?

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

Name of Districts	Area (in bighas)
14. (a)—1. Cachar	30,000
2. Goalpara	10,800
3. Kamrup	4,500
4. Darrang	1,500
5. Nowgong	21,000
6. Sibsagar	8,250
7. Lakhimpur	1,500
8. Mikir and N. C. Hills	600
9. Garo Hills	6,450

Total— 84,600 (bighas).

Name of Districts .	Production (in tons).
(b)—1. Cachar ...	5,357
2. Goalpara ...	1,928
3. Kamrup ...	804
4. Darrang ..	268
5. Nowgong ...	3,750
6. Sibsagar ...	1,473
7. Lakhimpur ...	268
8. Mikir and N. C. Hills ...	107
9. Garo Hills ...	1,152
Total—15,107 tons.	

(c)—Output of Boro Paddy in 1958-59 : 15,107 tons
output of Ahu and Sali Paddy in 1958-59 : 16,04,426 tons.

The required output of Boro Paddy of this year is not available.

Kaithalkuchi-Barama-Subankhata Road

Shri SURENDRA NATH DAS (Patacharkuchi) asked:

15. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

(a) When the Kaithalkuchi-Barama-Subankhata road was taken up by the P. W. D. ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that up to the 11th mile is completed upto Barbari ?

(c) What is the length of the road ?

(d) When the rest of the road will be completed ?

(e) Whether it will be completed within the Second Plan period ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R & B)] replied:

15. (a)—The road was taken over by P. W. D. during 1953 and work was started during 1954.

(b)—No. 18.5 miles of the road from Kaithalkuchi end was taken up and completed as per sanctioned estimate

(c)—The total length of the road is 22 miles.

(d) & (e)—The proposal for taking up the remaining length of the road was put up to the 6th meeting of the A. R. C. B. held on the 11th October, 1958 for consideration. But the Board did not select any scheme for taking up in the near future. However, as decided by the Board, the proposal has been sent to the Subdivisional Development Board for initial consideration and allocation of priority. The work will be taken up when it is recommended by them and funds are made available for the purpose.

Inspection and Supervision of rural areas by the staff of the Health Department

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) asked:

16. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there are arrangements for inspection and supervision in respect of rural areas by the staff of the Health Department?

(b) Whether routine supervision of sanitation is made in Urban areas of the State?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied:

16. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) : May I know from the Government whether they are aware that sanitation in some of the towns is not satisfactory and what steps have been taken regarding this ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) : I have no such information. The hon. Member may make a specific case and I will take it up.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA : The sanitation of Silchar town is not satisfactory.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : I will look into the matter.

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) : May I know from the Minister whether he saw the condition of Dhubri town, especially the old bazar area, while visiting Dhubri last time ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : Sanitation in some parts of the town is not satisfactory, particularly in the bazar area.

Registration of Barahibari Farming Co-operative in Dopdar Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked :

17. Will the Minister, Co-operative, be pleased to state—

- (a) Why Barahibari Farming Co-operative in Dopdar Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision, is not yet registered ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that it is about 2 years passed since it applied for registration ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that the participants have surrendered their entire paddy field and are producing principal crops even, on Co-operative basis ?
- (d) Whether Government will simplify the process of registration ?
- (e) Whether Government will register this Co-operative at an early date ?

18. Will the Minister, Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the organisation of Farming Co-operative is kept in abeyance, *vide* Circular No. CS.5/58/P/174, dated 13th April 1959 from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies ?

(b) If so, why and how long this will continue ?

(c) Whether Government is aware that this delay is detrimental to the growth of Co-operative Societies ?

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

17. (a)—Because the Society was not working and does not propose to work on Co-operative principles.

(b)—No. The actual period as it appears from the record available in this office is about 15 months.

(c)—They are cultivating no doubt but not on Co-operative principle.

(d)—Registration process is simple. It needs no change.

(e)—No. The society is formed of landholders and others who are agricultural labourers or people with insufficient lands. The owners of land will get 40 per cent of the gross produce of the land which unconscionable and irreconcilable to our policy of a Socialistic pattern of society. It is against the aim of our land reforms legislation.

18. (a)—No. The Circular was not aimed at stopping altogether registration of Farming Societies. The Registrar is the authority to register Co-operative Societies in the State. To see that no farming Co-operative were registered with undesirable persons, like encroachers on Government land, people with land above the proposed ceiling and non-cultivators, the Registrar issued instructions not to register Farming Societies without his approval. This was done also because of the reason that the Government policy regarding settlement of surplus reserve and Government waste lands with Co-operative Farming Societies was not finally decided upon and working instructions were lacking. Enunciation of Governments' policy and instructions for its implementations were made only on 3rd June, 1959, *vide* their Circular No.RSS.329/53/80 of that date.

Since then Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies have been instructed to register societies on the lines indicated in that Circular.

During the interim period also several societies were registered by the Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies after consulting the Registrar. The Registrar gave his approval when he was satisfied that the farms were of actual landless cultivators or actual cultivators, and the members were ready to work on Co-operative principles.

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

(c)—No. It was necessary to stop law breakers and undeserving persons from forming spurious Co-operative.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : Whether Government is aware that before the Circular No. RSS. 329/53/80, dated 3rd June, 1959 was issued, the Land Advisory Boards of different districts distributed lands to some people and Government is not willing to register the Co-operatives formed by the allottees ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Co-operation) : It is being said in the answer that "during the interim period also several societies were registered by the Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies after consulting the Registrar. The Registrar gave his approval when he was satisfied that the farms were of actual landless cultivators or actual cultivators, and the members were ready to work on Co-operative principles." Whether they would work on co-operative lines, that was the question and when authorities were satisfied they registered them.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH : The Deputy Co-operative Officer is empowered to scrutinise whether the people are really landless or not. My point is this : that before this Circular was issued, lands have been distributed to some people by the Land Advisory Board and the Deputy Co-operative Officer is not registering the Co-operatives formed by the allottees.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : I have not been able to follow what the hon. Member means. I do not know whether it is a question of registration being refused or delayed.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH : Yes, it is a question of refusal.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : There are two things. The Land Advisory Board settles land with many people, both co-operatives and non-co-operatives. There are many people out of them who are not forming co-operatives. It does not make obligatory on the part of a Co-operative Officer to register Co-operative Farms merely on the ground that land has been settled with some people by the Land Advisory Board. It cannot be said that the Land Advisory Board would not commit any mistake ; they might settle land with right or wrong people. Secondly, may be, Sir, that the people with whom land has been settled are not willing to form co-operatives or and have not the requisite back ground or qualifications to form Co-operatives.

Regarding Posting of Divisional Forest Officer at Tura

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH NATH (Goalpara) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware that according to works load the posting of a Divisional Forest Officer at Tura is not needed there now ?
- (b) If so, whether Government propose to transfer the Divisional Forest Officer from Tura to Goalpara at an early date?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied :

19. (a)—Yes. With the coming of the Forests of the acquired Zamindari Estates of Goalpara District under the Garo Hills Forest Division and the District Council exercising jurisdiction over all Forests except the Reserve Forest, Tura has ceased to be the convenient headquarters of the Division from administrative point of view.

(b)—The question of transferring the headquarters of the Divisional Forest Officer, Garo Hills Division from Tura to Goalpara has to await till better financial position.

Uttar Anchalik Bahumukhi Samabai Samitee (Charaimari) Co-operative Society

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

20. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Uttar Anchalik Bahumukhi Samabai Samitee (Charaimari) is a registered Co-operative Society?
- (b) If so, why loan has not been sanctioned to this Multipurpose Co-operative Society at Charaimari?

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

20. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No loan application was received from this society by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Assam.

**Kashijan Lower Primary School in Saikhowa Mauza
(Dibrugarh)**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Kashijan Lower Primary School in Saikwowa Mauza (Dibrugarh) was two teacher's school with an enrolment of about 70 students ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the vacancy of the second teacher was withdrawn with effect from 1st September, 1959 although there was no fall in enrolment ?
- (c) Whether any proper enquiry was made to justify the withdrawal of the 2nd teacher ?
- (d) Whether Government has received any complaint against the Circle Sub-Inspector who was alleged to have been acting whimsically in this respect ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to direct the Deputy Inspector of Schools to enquire personally and hear the public allegations ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

21. (a)—Yes, with an enrolment of 100 and average attendance of 31 students at present.

(b)—No, two teachers are working at present and the post of second teacher will have to be withdrawn if the average attendance does not improve.

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

Taken over of the Venture Lower Primary School in Siker Abor Village in Murkong Selek Transferred Area

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government or the School Board, Dibrugarh has lately received representations to take the Venture Lower Primary School in Siker Abor Village in Murkong Selek Transferred Area ?

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- (b) Whether Government are aware that the questioner referred to the case of the Lower Primary School in Abor Village to the Chief Minister on 19th December, 1958 pointing out that it was not taken over by the authorities although it was established in 1954 ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to take over this Venture Lower Primary School with immediate effect ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

22. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The School, *viz.*, Talem Sikor Abor Lower Primary School in Murkong Sellek Transferred Area has already been taken over by the M. P. C. D. Block Murkong Selek, Sadiya and being maintained.

(c) This will receive consideration after normalisation of the Block along with other such schools.

Running of Mohon Bari Khonikar Lower Primary School at Mahanbari Hindugaon in Lahoal Mauza Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a Venture Lower Primary School known as Mohon Bari Khonikar Lower Primary at Mohanbari Hindugaon has been running in Lahoal Mauza, Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that there is no other Lower Primary School within a radius of 3 miles and the enrolment is over 40 ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the locality is inhabited by people of Backward communities ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to take over the School with restrospective effect from the 1st April, 1959 ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

23. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The matter is under consideration.

Payment of T. A. bills of Lower Primary School Teachers of Dibrugarh Subdivision for their work as Polling Officers in last General Election

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

24. Will the Minister in-charge of Elections be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that payment of T. A. bills of Lower Primary School Teachers of Dibrugarh Subdivision for their work as Polling Officers in last General Election is pending since the year 1957 ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the Primary Teachers' Association of Dibrugarh Subdivision adopted a resolution in the last general meeting held on 27th, 28th and 29th March, 1959 at Tinsukia regretting the abnormal delay of the Government in payment their Travelling Allowance Bills ?

(c) What are the difficulties of the Government in paying the T. A. bills of the Primary Teachers for their work in last general election ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister in-charge, Elections) replied :

24. (a)—Yes. 286 T. A. bills of the Lower Primary School Teachers of the Dibrugarh Subdivision in connection with the 2nd General Election, 1957 are still pending for final settlement,

(b)—Yes.

(c)—In spite of clear instructions that all T. A. bills in connection with the Second General Election, 1957 should be submitted within one month from the date of return of polling personnel from polling duties, the bills were submitted by the Secretary, School Board, Dibrugarh to the Deputy Commissioner concerned only on 23rd September 1959 and received from the School Board on 13th October 1959. The same were returned back on 23rd October 1959 for resubmission after rectification of defects pointed out by the Department. As the bills are over one year old, Finances sanction to the investigation of the claims and pre-audit of the bills will have to be obtained and the bills sent to the Accountant General, Assam for necessary pre-audit.

Construction of a Sub-jail at Barpeta

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

25. Will the Minister, Jail be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the construction of Sub-jail at Barpeta is progressing as assured by the Minister in-charge on the floor of the House ?
- (b) If not, whether the proposal for construction is dropped altogether ?
- (c) Whether a modest scheme has been considered by this time ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Jail) replied:

25. (a), (b) & (c)—The proposal for construction of the Barpeta Jail on the previous estimated cost has been dropped. Government have since decided to consider a modest scheme at a lesser cost. The Inspector General of Prisons, has been asked to obtain the plan and estimate of the project from Public Works Department and submit the same to Government as early as possible.

Bone-mill Factory at Barpeta

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

26. Will the Minister, Industries be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether any loan has lately been sanctioned to any person for establishing a bone-mill factory at Barpeta ?
 - (b) If so, to whom it was sanctioned and what was the amount ?
 - (c) Whether the amount has been utilised for the purpose ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries) replied:

26. (a)—No.
- (b) & (c)—does not arise.

**Recommendations of Assam Public Service
Commission for appointments of
Labour Inspectors**

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery) asked:

27. Will the Minister, Labour be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Assam Public Service Commission recommended certain candidates for appointments as Labour Inspectors in December, 1958, but their recommendations have not been given effect ?
 - (b) Whether recommendations of the Assam Public Service Commission are to be respected by the Government and appointments are to be offered according to Assam Public Service Commission nominations ?

- (c) If the reply to (a) above is in the affirmative what are the reasons for not filling the posts according to Assam Public Service Commission nominations ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :

27. (a) & (b)—One post of Labour Inspector was advertised in the year 1958 and a list of names recommended by the Assam Public Service Commission was obtained to make recruitments to the advertised post as well as to the subsequent vacancies which might be occurring in the year. The appointments to the above post as well as to the new vacancies have since been made from this list given by the Public Service Commission in order of the recommendations and according as the vacancies occurring in the year.

(c)—Does not arise.

Payment of bonus for the due years to the Tea Garden Labourers

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) asked:

28. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) Whether bonus for the due years has been declared for the Tea Garden Labourers ?

(b) If not, when it is going to be declared ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :

28. (a) & (b)—Bonus upto 1956 has been paid in terms of the Delhi Agreement. For the years 1957 onwards recently agreement has been reached in a meeting held in Calcutta on the 25th October 1959 between the representatives of Indian National Trade Union Congress and the Employers Association. According to Agreement stated above in the member gardens of Indian Tea Association and its branches in Assam, bonus in respects of 1957 shall be payable within three months after signature of the Agreement, in respect of 1958 within nine months of the signature of the Agreement and in respect of years subsequent

to 1958 if any, within twelve months of the payment of bonus on account of the previous year. In the member garden of Bharatiya Cha Parishad and Assam Tea Planters Association Bonus in respect of 1957 shall be payable not later than March 1960 and in respect of 1958 not later than March 1961.

Regarding Labourers in Tea Gardens of Assam

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) asked:

29. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the labourers are recruited from other States in Tea Gardens of Assam generally for a period of 3 years ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that these labourers are considered as emigrant labourers ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that these labourers are recorded as emigrant in all books of transactions in tea gardens ?
- (d) If the reply to (a) above be in the affirmative what are the measures undertaken by Government for the Education and Social Security of these labourers ?
- (e) What will be the medium of instruction for the labourers who are brought for 3 (three) years ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge for Labour) replied :

29. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Children of all workers including emigrant labourers are entitled to educational facilities as provided in the Plantation Labour Act, 1951 and the rules framed thereunder.

All workers also get the benefit of such social security measures as Provident Fund equally.

(e)—The medium of instruction is the language generally understood by the pupils in each locality.

Settlement of Country Liquor Shops in Mangaldai Subdivision

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Pcnery) asked:

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that Subdivisional Officer, Mangaldai has issued notice for settlement of Country Liquor Shops in Mangaldai Subdivision for the year 1960-61 ?

(b) Whether it is also a fact that he has invited objections if any by his Memo. No.III-2/59/39, dated 29th July 1959 ?

(c) If so, to whom this communication has been issued ?

(d) Whether the opinion of the M. L. As. of Subdivision has been taken ?

(e) Whether any letter for the purpose has been issued to them ?

(f) When the communication referred to in (b) above was actually issued to the Chairman, Mangaldai Local Board ?

(g) When the letter was actually received by the Chairman ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied:

30. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—To the Chairman, Local Board, Mangaldai and the Chairman, Municipal Board, Mangaldai.

(d) & (e)—No. There is no provision in the Excise Manual that M. L. As. should be consulted directly in such matter.

(f)—On the 29th July, 1959.

(g)—On the 31st July, 1959.

Construction of Public Works Department Subdivisional office at Pathsala

Shri MAHADEV DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes) asked:

31. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Why the P. W. D. Subdivisional office at Pathsala has not yet been constructed ?

(b) When Government is going to construct it ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (Roads and Buildings Wing)]: replied:

31. (a)—The land selected for construction of the buildings has not yet been made available.

(b)—The buildings will be constructed as soon as possession of land will be obtained.

Construction of bridges over the Beki, Bhalukadoba, Manas and Aie rivers

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

32. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R.& B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether bridges over the Beki, Bhalukadoba, Manas and Aie will be constructed ?

(b) If so, when ?

(c) Whether these rivers are intersecting the North Trunk Road ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R. & B.)] replied :

32. (a) & (b)—There is no such definite proposal at present.

(c)—Yes.

Assam Medical College at Dibrugarh

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) asked :

33. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government propose to improve the conveyance facilities in the Assam Medical College at Dibrugarh ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that the existing accommodation for escorts of patients in the said Medical College is insufficient?

(c) Whether Government have any idea of increasing the accommodation for indoor patients in the said Medical College?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical, Minister) replied:

33. (a)—The existing conveyance facilities in the Assam Medical College at Dibrugarh are quite enough. Further improvement to these facilities will be carried out, if and when necessity arises.

(b)—There is no such information.

(c)—Yes, the Government have given their utmost thought to increasing the accommodation for indoor patients in the hospital attached to the Assam Medical College. Accordingly, the increase is going on a planned basis.

Running of Maduri and Simaluguri Dispensaries without doctors

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

34. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Maduri Dispensary, Joktali Mauza and Simaluguri Dispensary of Sibsagar Subdivision are running at present without doctors and if so why?

(b) Whether Government will be pleased to provide these dispensaries with doctors at the earliest?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied:

34. (a)—There is already one Doctor working at Joktoli (Maduri) Dispensary.

The State Dispensary at Simaluguri is shifted to a new site, *viz.*, Tengapukuri converting Simaluguri into an out-centre. This out-centre is being run by the Assistant Surgeon I in-charge Nazira Dispensary twice a week.

(b)—Does not arise.

Condolence Motion on the deaths of Shri Pratap Chandra Sharma and Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I beg to make a reference to the sad demise of Shri Pratap Chandra Sharma, a leading Advocate of the Nowgong Bar. He passed away on the 11th October, 1959. Late Shri Sharma was a member of the Assam Legislative Assembly from 1952-57. He was born in Nowgong in the year 1901. He was educated in the Cotton College and Earle Law College Gauhati. He participated actively in the National Movement 1921 for which he had to suspend his studies for some time. He courted imprisonment in 1942. He was associated with several public institutions. He was the Chairman of the Nowgong Municipal Board. He was the Chairman of Governing Body of the Nowgong College and also the Chairman of the governing body of the Nowgong Dawson High School. He was a member of the Regional Transport Authority, Nowgong. He was the Secretary of the Nowgong Dramatic Association and he contributed much for this Association. He was also associated with the sports activities. He was the President of the Nowgong Football Association and the Treasurer of the Assam Football Association. Sir, in the death of Shri Sharma we have lost a public man of Assam whose contribution for the good of the people and also in this House. when he was a member, we will never forget. Sir, we are really very sorry for his demise which was rather most unexpected and we express our sincere condolence to his wife and other members of his family. I hope, Sir, the House will associate with me in expressing our profound sorrows at his demise.

Sir, I would also make a reference to the sad demise of Rev. James Joy Mohon Nichols Roy, a senior Member of this House, who passed away at his Shillong residence on the 1st of November, 1959 at the age of 75. Rev. Roy was born at Shella, Khasi Hills on the 12th June, 1884. He passed his B.A. examination from Duff College, Calcutta and while studying M.A. in Philosophy he left his studies to devote his life as a Missionary in the year 1904. He began to preach Christianity in the interior places of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and established his own Church "Church of God Society". He was then elected to Assam Legislative Council from the Shillong General Urban Constituency in 1921 and became the Minister for L. S.-G., Medical, Public Health and Excise in 1927-29. He then headed the Assam Opium Enquiry Committee in 1934. He was one of the staunch supporters of opium prohibition in Assam. In 1937-38 also, he was the Minister for L. S.-G., Medical and Public Health. From 1943 to 1945 Rev. Roy travelled widely in the U. S. A., Africa, Canada, Australia and Ceylon. After his return from abroad he became the Minister for P. W. D. Forest, Industries, Co-operatives, etc. On 1946. He was also elected a member of the Minority Advisory Committee of the Constituent Assembly and the Sub-Committee thereof for the Partially Excluded and Excluded Areas of Assam. In 1951 Rev. Roy was elected Deputy Leader of the Assam Congress Parliamentary Party. In the first General Election of 1952 Rev. Roy was again elected to the Assam Legislative Assembly and became Minister in-charge of Excise, Jail, Registration and Stamps. He continued as such till 1956 when he resigned from the Ministry. In the last General Election also he was elected a Member of this August House from the Cherra Constituency and continued as such till his death.

Rev. Roy was a true lover of peace and very popular among the common people; out of affection Khasi people called him "Bah Joy". An orator of superb calibre Rev. Roy was a true Missionary in his thinking as well as in action. In his death we have lost a veteran Parliamentarian, a patriot and noble soul. Assam cannot forget about the contribution Rev. Roy made in introducing prohibition of opium and liquor. Rev. Roy believed in the industrial development of Assam and therefore in his humble way he tried to set up industries in Assam. With this spirit he had the guts to establish the Fruit Canning Industry at a time when people of Assam could not dream of any such industry due to lack of transport facilities, dearth of technical personnel, etc.

This august House will very much miss the wise counsel this veteran Parliamentarian used to give in its deliberations. I hope the hon. Members will associate with me in expressing profound sorrow at this sad demise and to express sincere condolence to Mrs. Nichols-Roy and other members of the family.

I feel that it will be in the fitness of things to adjourn the House for the day as a mark of our respect to this very senior Member of this House.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati):** We on this side of the House fully associate ourselves with the feelings and sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House on the sad demise of Shri Pratap Chandra Sharma and Rev. J. J. M. Nichols Roy. Shri Sharma was a renowned member of the Bar, and he was a powerful debator in this House. He was a man who always kept his head cool and his heart stout, and he was a man of remarkable achievements in the sphere of social service, sports and other amusements in the State. We all have lost a great patriot and a great man in the death of Shri Sharma.

On the death of Rev. J. J. M. Nichols Roy, we have lost our seniormost colleague in this House. Rev. Roy will remain in our revered memory for many qualities of his head and heart and for various contributions to the public life of Assam and India. Among other things, he will be remembered as one of the architect of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India, as one of the ablest administrator in the State, as one of the most polished and dignified debators of this House, as one of the most staunch, diligent and ever-loved members of this House, and as the staunchest champion of prohibition, which became a reality in the State while he was the Minister-in-charge of Excise. He was an untiring champion for the causes of the sufferings of the border people of the United K. & J. Hills. We all sincerely condole his death and we express our full solidarity with the sentiments and feelings expressed by the Chief Minister.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): I also fully associate with the feelings and observations made by the Leader of the House here on the floor of the Assembly, at the death of Shri Pratap Chandra Sharma of Nowgong and Rev. Nichols Roy of Cherrapunji Constituency. Shri Sharma contributed much in 1942 movement in throwing off the shackles of foreign domination.

Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy whose seat was nearest to me in the House was a capable and a good parliamentarian. He could place the facts in such a way that he could draw the attention of the House, and he was a man of principle. He adhered to one principle and till his death he stuck to that way. I grieve at the death of these two great souls of Assam.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I associate myself in the obituary reference made by the Leader of the House and also other hon. Members regarding Shri Pratap Chandra Sharma. Shri Sharma was well-known for his social and political activities. He was a leading Advocate of the Nowgong Bar, and he passed away on the 11th October, 1959. He actively participated in the Indian National Movement and courted imprisonment in 1942. He was a Member of this Assembly from 1952 to 1957. His contributions to the deliberations of this House was immense and valuable and will be remembered by all for long. We pray the Al-mighty for peace and salvation of the departed soul.

So far as Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy is concerned, I also fully associate myself in the obituary reference made by the Leader of the House and the other hon. Members. Rev. Roy, a topmost political leader, revered religious head and a great patriot of this State, was dubbed enderingly as 'Father of the House and he passed away on the 1st November, 1959, at the ripe age of 75.

Rev. Roy was responsible for the active association of the Indian Christian Community with the great national organisation in its struggle against the foreign imperialistic regime in this country. He was strongly opposed to the grouping plan of the British Cabinet Mission Scheme for the solution of the Indian political deadlock due to the Congress *Versus* Muslim League controversy. He gave powerful support to Assam Congress leaders led by late Gopinath Bordoloi in their stand against 'grouping' and thus saved Assam from falling under Muslim League domination.

He was a great supporter of Gandhiji's movement for prohibition and as such was responsible for passing of the Assam Student's Smoking Act, Assam Temperance Act, Opium Smoking Act, Assam Liquor Prohibition Act, etc.

Rev. Roy was Assam's Minister for Local Self-Government and Public Health, Excise and Registration in 1927-29. Under the Provincial autonomy scheme of the 1935 Act, he was Minister for Local Self-Government, Medical and Public Health Department in 1937-38. Later he came to hold the portfolios for Public Works Department, Forest, Industry and Co-operative Societies in 1946-47. He was a Minister of Assam Government for several terms more right up to 1956. In the meantime, besides serving as a Minister he was also a member of the Constituent Assembly where in various position, on different Committees he actively contributed towards the work of framing a Constitution for Sovereign India. He saw to the bestowal of a large measure of local autonomy to the tribal districts of Assam. He was also a member of the A. I. C. C. in 1947-48. He was a much travelled man and had visited Singapore, Japan, China, U. S. A., Canada, Honolulu and U. K.

He was the founder and the head of the Church of God Society, Shillong, and wrote many religious books both in English and Khasi,

He succeeded in all the walks of his long and active life by dint of sincerity, devotion and hard work, and seldom got a defeat.

We pray the Almighty for peace and salvation of the great departed soul.

(Then the House adopted the following resolution):—

“This Assembly records its profound sorrow at the sudden demise of Late Shri Pratap Chandra Sharma on 11th October, 1959”.

(The House observed two minutes' silence as a mark of respect by standing up.)

The House also adopted another resolution as follows:—

“This Assembly records its profound sorrow at the demise of Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy, a sitting Member of the House and a great political and religious leader of Assam.”

(The House observed two minutes' silence as a mark of respect by standing up.)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This Assembly also resolves that as a mark of respect to the great departed soul the House do stand adjourned till 10 A. M. tomorrow.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A. M. on Tuesday, the 8th December, 1959.

R. N. BARUA,

Secretary, Assam Legislative
Assembly.