

CONTENTS

ASSAM
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

FIFTH SESSION
VOLUME II
NO. 29

Dated, the 19th Jnly, 1973

	Page
1: Obituary References	1-8
2. Adjournment	8

DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY, 1973

Thursday, July 1973

The House met at ten of the Clock in the Assembly Chamber, Dispur, with Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

Mr. Speaker— Under rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly I hereby direct that the Question Hour be suspended to-day:

Obituary References

* Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha, (Chief Minister)—Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot express in words how deeply overwhelmed with grief we have been at the sad death of our esteemed colleague Shri Joy Bhadra Hagjer. Sir, our sorrow becomes still deeper when we remember the crucial moment when he was taken ill at the closing of the Question Hour yesterday. He was about to make his statement clarifying certain points in regard to the 'Replies'. Sir, at that moment he was taken ill and then our friends had to remove him from his seat to outside the Assembly House. Before leaving the seat he just pointed out with his hand to the statement that was on the table in his front and could utter to his friend Mr. Tanti "the statement" meaning that he had to make a statement and that was on the table. He could not make it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, subsequently Shri Syed Ahmed Ali, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs read out the statement on his behalf. Just on the eve of his leaving the House, when he was seriously ill, he was not forgetful of his duty, he was even at the crucial moment thinking about his

* Speech not corrected.

statement that he had to make. Sir, we remember the days we were working together for establishment of our relations between the hills and plains.

He was a devoted worker and in many critical hours we found how calmly and ably he could provide solutions to many complicated problems particularly with the problems relating to Hills and more particularly, relating to the North Cachar Hills and Mikir Hills. Sir, he was respected by all of us. He was respected and loved not only by the Members of this House, but was equally loved and respected by all with whom he had the occasion to come in contact, particularly, the Hills people. He was a very popular figure, we still remember when he started answering a question in the House, he started with a smile and finished the answer with a smile. He had great qualities of head and heart and he worked for the welfare of the people of the entire Assam, more particularly for the people living in the Hills. He was a bridge between the Hills and the plains. As a Minister, as a Member of this Legislature and as a leader of the Hills people his contribution for the maintenance of integrity of the state of Assam and particularly, for keeping the North Cachar Hills and Mikir Hills within Assam will be ever remembered by the people of Assam. We have been poorer to-day at his death. This House, the Cabinet and the country have lost a devoted social worker, a great parliamentarian and a politician. Particularly at a time when we have been trying our best to bring about social change of our economic condition in the state, his help was very much needed. But then frail human being as

we are, we cannot prevent what the Providence wills. We can only follow the spirit of devotion and sincerity with which he worked amongst ourselves particularly in the Hills, and we hope that though he is no more to-day with us his spirit will continue to guide both the people of the plains and the people of the Hills and it will be quite possible for us to work for the integration of the State and bring about economic progress of the country. If we follow his example that will be the best way of remembering him and showing respect to the departed soul. Sir, on my behalf, on behalf of the members of the Cabinet and on behalf of the people of Assam I convey my heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Hagjer and other members of the bereaved family.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya : Mr. Speaker Sir, when the heart is full words are full. To-day we are meeting in an atmosphere when words fail. Not only I mourn the death of our great friend Shri Hagjer, I envy his death, the way he died in harness, Particularly the last words,--the very last word which he could utter is just a lesson to all of us. I was told by my friend Shri Tanti who was near Shri Hagjer that the last words that he uttered was not 'God', not 'Bhagaban' or 'Allaah' or 'Khuda' but the 'Statement'. That statement mean, he was ready with a statement to be given to this House, that is to say, to the people through the honourable House. That was his allegiadce, that was his devotion and that was his 'God' and that was the last word that he uttered 'the Statement', that is to say, the duty, the mendate of the people. To this he was awake and alive to the

last moment. I wish we can emulate the same spirit, the same devotion. Sir, I had the fortune of knowing Shri Hagjer not only since 1952 when we came together into the House but even earlier from the year 1935 as follow student of the same college. He was a brilliant student and yet he was the mildont, the most modest of the friends I know. His modesty often went to the extreme point, almost to a fault, and this modesty was also seen by the members of the House in the House. He was always smiling, brief, precise and to the point and over everything else he had a fine sublime sense of humour. He was a man who disarmed everybody by his sweet smiles.

He was one of the finest gentleman I have met. He has met his death in the way he took his philosophy of life. Sir, my memory goes back to a day of 1952 when we were sitting together in the lounge of Earle Sanatorium at Shillong. There we were discussing the philosophy and in the course of our talkes the question of death also came. Mr. Hagjer said well 'Mr. Bhattacharyya' what is the effect of death? Dea'd is only a stage of life and he recited a portion from Gita :—

देहिनोऽस्मिन् यथा देहे कोमावन् यौवनं जव ।

तथा देहान्तरं प्राप्ति— शीवःस्तत्र न मूहति ॥

Sir, I didnt know till that day that Hagjer was also so much in the knowledge of the highest philosophy of this Country. I know him to be a student of English literature but I didnt know him to be a man of such sublimity and. as a matter of fact, from that day onwards my friendship almost transforms into roverence with this silent and modest man. It is, therefore, no wonder that

the man get his death as he dreamt the death, for he took the death only a stage of life. Sir, at the time of last breathing he could remember only one thing, i. e., the 'statment' which he was to make. We express our grief and deep-condolences to the members of the bereaved family. Sir, everybody goes and everybody comes here with a mission and when the mission is over or sometimes even in the midst of the mission death snaps away the life and takes to another stage. Let us take a pledge that the mission of love and friendship, the mission of living together, the mission of live and lot live be our future strive and that will be a proper homage to the departed soul. With these words, sir, I on behalf of myself as well as the Hon'ble Members of this side of the House associate with the feelings expressed by the Leader of the House.

শ্রীসোণেশ্বৰ বৰা :— মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, যোৱা কালি বিধান সভা চলি থকা সময়ত আমাৰ মাজৰ পৰাই অতি নম্ৰ, অমায়িক, সবল স্বভাৱৰ এগৰাকী সতীৰ্থক হেৰুৱালো। ৰাজনীতিজ্ঞ এজন লোকৰ কাৰণে ৰাজসভাৰ মাজতে মৃত্যুক সাৱটি লবলৈ পোৱাটো এটা গৌৰৱৰে কথা বুলি মই ভাবো। আমি সকলোৱে যেতিয়া এদিন মৰিমেট গতিকৈ এখেতৰ যি মৰণ সেই মৰণত তেখেতৰ ইহকাল আৰু পৰকাল গৌৰৱতেই আছে বুলি মই ভাবো। এই ৰাজনীতিজ্ঞ নেতাজনৰ আদৰ্শ বৰ্ত্তমান সময়ত অসমৰ পৰ্ব্বত-ভৈয়ামৰ সম্প্ৰীতি সংহতি আৰু ঐক্যৰ মাজত তেখেতৰ যি বৰঙনি আছিল সেই বৰঙনিৰ প্ৰতি আমি স্মৰণ কৰা নিশ্চয় কৰ্তব্য আছে। মই আশা বাখিছো, ভৱৰা বাখিছো তেখেতৰ অবিহনে তেখেতৰ এই বৰঙনিৰ প্ৰতি আমি স্মৰণ কৰিম আৰু সমগ্ৰ অসমৰ পৰ্ব্বত-ভৈয়ামৰ ঐক্য আৰু সংহতি বক্ষা কৰিবলৈ তেখেতৰ আদৰ্শৰে অনুপ্ৰাণিত হম। এই সবল প্ৰাণৰ অমায়িক লোকজনৰ আত্মাই অমৰ স্থান লাভ কৰিছে, যাতে তেখেতৰ অমৰ আত্মাই চিৰশাস্তি পায় তাকে ভগৱানৰ ওচৰত প্ৰাৰ্থনা জনাইছো, তেখেতৰ শোকসন্তপ্ত পৰিয়াললৈ সমবেদনা

জনাইছো আৰু তেখেতে এৰি থৈ যোৱা কাম বিশেষকৈ সংহতিৰ প্ৰতি অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ সজাগতা কামনা কৰিছো। পুনৰ বাৰ তেখেতৰ প্ৰতি মই মোৰ আৰু মোৰ দলৰ ফালৰ পৰা বিধান সভাৰ সতীৰ্থ বন্ধু সকলৰ পৰা শেষৰবাৰ শ্ৰদ্ধা জনাই মোৰ বক্তব্যৰ সামৰণি মাৰিছো।

শ্ৰীমৃগাল চন্দ্ৰ খাউণ্ড :— মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, হাগজেৰ ডাঙৰীয়াৰ মৃত্যুত শোক প্ৰকাশ কৰিবৰ কাৰণে আচলতে কৰ্মলৈ গলে ভাষা নাইকিয়া হৈ গ'ল। কালি সদন বহি থকা অৱস্থাত, সদন চলি থকা অৱস্থাত, তেখেতৰ মৃত্যু হোৱা কথাটো আমাৰ কাৰণে বিশ্বাস কৰাটো টান হৈ পৰিছিল। আৰু তেখেতৰ মৃত্যুত অকল এই সদনৰে নহয় আমাৰ ৰাজ্য খনৰ আমাৰ দেশ খনৰ এটা অপূৰণীয় ক্ষতি হয়। বিশেষকৈ হাগজেৰ ডাঙৰীয়াৰ মৃত্যু হল এনে এটা সন্ধিক্ষণত, এনে এটা ঐতিহাসিক সন্ধিক্ষণত, যি সময়ত তেখেতৰ ৰচনা হৈছে অতি বেছি প্ৰয়োজন হ'লহেঁতেন। তেখেত এটা পিচপৰা অঞ্চলৰ পৰা, এটা পিচপৰা সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ পৰা আহিছিল। আৰু তেখেত নিৰবিচ্ছিন্ন ভাবে এই পিচপৰা অঞ্চলৰ প্ৰতি, এই পিচপৰা সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ প্ৰতি যি একাগ্ৰতাৰে কাম কৰিছিল সেই সেৱাৰ কাৰণে তেওঁ অপ্ৰতিদ্বন্দী নেতা হিচাপে স্বীকৃতি লাভ কৰিছিল। আজি অসমৰ পৰ্বত আৰু ভৈয়ামৰ সংহতি আৰু ঐক্যৰ কথা আটাইতকৈ বেছি পৰিমাণে দেখিবলৈ পাওঁ যে তেখেত অসমৰ বিভিন্ন পিচপৰা অঞ্চলৰ, অসমৰ পিচপৰা সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক, সামাজিক, সাংস্কৃতিক প্ৰচেষ্টা আৰম্ভ কৰিছিল। আজি এই সকলোবোৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতে হাগজেৰ ডাঙৰীয়াৰ মৃত্যুত অপূৰণীয় ক্ষতি হ'ল। তেখেতে যিটো উদাহৰণ দেখুৱাই গ'ল, শেষ মূৰ্ত্তত কৰ্তব্যৰ প্ৰতি যি উদাহৰণ দেখুৱাই গ'ল, কৰ্তব্যৰ প্ৰতি যি একাগ্ৰতা, একনিষ্ঠতা দেখুৱাই গ'ল এইটো আমাৰ সকলোবোৰেই কাৰণে ভৱিষ্যতে উদাহৰণ হৈ থাকিব। আদৰ্শ হৈ থাকিব। যেতিয়া মই তেখেতৰ সংস্পৰ্শলৈ আহিছিলো তেতিয়া তেখেতক বুজিছিলো যে তেখেত এজন সৰল-সহজ, সত আৰু খোলা মনৰ অমায়িক মানুহ আছিল। প্ৰতিটো কথাতে, প্ৰতিটো প্ৰশ্নতে যিবিলাক কথা তেখেতৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰিছিলো তেতিয়াই অমায়িক হাঁহি মাৰি উৰাই দিছিল। তাৰ পিচত তেখেতৰ লগত বিৰোধিতা কৰা আমাৰ পক্ষে সামৰ্থ্য নাছিল। এই সদনত আমি সদায় দেখি আহিছো তেখেতে সঁচা প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰ দিওতে যিটো অমায়িক হাঁহি মাৰিছিল তেতিয়া আমি বিৰোধী দলৰ সদস্য হৈয়ো তেখেতক ব্যক্তিৰাস্ত

কবি তুলিব পৰা অৱস্থা নাছিল। মই মোৰ নিজৰ ফালৰ পৰা, মই মোৰ দল কমিনিষ্ট পাৰ্টীৰ সদস্য সকলৰ ফালৰ পৰা শ্ৰীযুত হাগজৰ আৰু তেখেতৰ পৰিয়াললৈ সকলোৰে গভীৰ সমবেদনা জনাইছো আৰু হাগজৰ ডাঙৰীয়াৰ আত্মাৰ চিৰ শান্তিৰ কাৰণে ভগৱানৰ ওচৰত প্ৰাৰ্থনা জনাইছো।

Mr. Speaker : I associate myself with the sentiments and sorrows expressed by the Leader of the House and other leaders of various groups on the demise of Shri Joy Bhadra Hagjer.

Shri Hagjer was born in 1914. He has the credit of becoming the first graduate with Honours in English in his Sub-division in the year 1938. Although he served for one year as Assistant Jailor he left that job and became a Maujadar to relieve his old father.

Shir Hagjer was arrested under the Defence of India Rules in December, 1942. After release he lost his job and Joined I. A. F. in Administrative Service in the year 1944. In 1947, he left that job He contested as an independent candidate and was elected to the Assam Legislative Assembly in 1952. He was also nominated as a member to the North Cachar Hills Autonomous District Council till his appointment as a Parliamentary Secretary of the Government of Assam. In 1956 he was appointed as a Deputy Minister. He was re-elected to the Assam Legislatie Assembly in 1962 and was appointed as Minister of Education in 1967. In 1972 General Election he was elected to the Assma Legislative Assembly and was appointed as the Minister Incharge of Live-stock and Veterinary, Jails ann Minority Affairs till his death.

Shri Hagjer was an embodiment of simplicity and he had a strong faith in Social Service. He associated

himself with various Social and Educational Organizations of the State. His amiable disposition, kind heartedness and good behaviour received great admiration and respect from all sections of the people.

To-day, Shri Hagjer is no more with us. This noted personality passed away at 12-15 hours on 18th July, 1973 in the Gauhati Medical College. In his death we lost a true patriot and a prominent leader. We offer our condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

I would now request the Hon'ble Members to rise in their seats for 2 minutes as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

(The members rose in their seats and observed 2 minutes silence).

I now propose to adjourn the House sine-die. Does it have the consent of the House (voices—Yes, yes.)

The House stands adjourned sine-die.

ADJOURNMENT

The House then rose at 10.30 A.m and stood adjourned sine-die.

Dispur:
The 19th July,
1973

Shri P. D Barua
Secretary
Assam Legislative Assembly

OFFICIAL REPORT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE FIFTH GENERAL ELECTIONS UNDER THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

Page

1-34

34-36

37-40

41

42-46

47

48—The Assembly met at 10 A.M. in the Assembly Chamber
at Dispur (Gauhati) In 29.11.73

48-70

70-72

PRESENT :

Shri Ramesh Ch. Baruah B. L. Speaker in the chair with 10 (ten)
Ministers, 2 (two) Ministers of State and 82 (eighty two) members