

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ASSAM BULLION

DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Dated the 20th March, 1973

Vol.—1

No.—2

Contents

	Pages
1. Questions	1
2. Adjournment motion by Shri Dulal Chandra Barua ...	50
3. Calling Attention under Rules 54 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in A. L. A.	53
4. Presentation of—	
(a) Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1972-73 ...	55
(b) Vote—on—Account	55
5. Introduction of Government Bills	62
(1) The Agricultural Farming Corporation Bill, 1973	
(2) The Indian Electricity (Assam Amendment) Bill, 1973	
(3) The Tinsukia and Dibrugarh Electric Supply undertakings (Acquisition) Bill, 1973	
(4) The Assam Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1973	
(5) The Assam Legislative Assembly Members' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1973	
(6) The Assam Finance Bill, 1973	
6. Presentation of the Select Committee Report on the Assam State Housing Board Bill, 1972	64
7. Motion for extension of time for submission of Reports Relating to—	64
(a) the complaint against the Director, Public Instruction and Chairman, Secretary and Members of the State Madrasa Board, Assam.	
(b) the complaint against Shri Gakul Pathak, Editor, Printer and Publisher "Amar Desh"	
8. Presentation of Reports of the Committee of Privileges	64
9. Debates on Governor's Address	65

**Proceedings of the Fourth Session of the Assam Legislative
Assembly assembled after the Fifth General Election
under Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitution
of India**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Dispur, Gauhati at 10 A.M. on Tuesday, the 20th March, 1973. /

PRESENT

Shri R. C. Barooah, B. L., Speaker in the Chair, 11 (eleven) Ministers, 3 (three) Ministers of State and 83 (Eighty three) Members.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(To which oral replies were given)

Date : 20th March, 1973

Re: Mileage allowance to Ministers

Shri BALABHADRA DAS asked :

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA
SINHA (Chief Minister)** replied :

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

- (a) Whether the Government is aware that the mileage granted to the Hon'ble Ministers is inadequate in view of the increase of the price of petroleum and Petroleum products ?
- (b) Whether Government propose to increase the present rate of mileage to 50 paise per kilometer ?
- (c) If so, when ?

1. (a)—The question of revision of mileage allowance due to rise in price of P. O. L. in respect of all categories of Government officers and Ministers, State Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Speaker and Deputy Speaker is receiving the attention of Government.

(b)—This matter is now under consideration of Government.

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

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN: Sir, may I know what is the present rate of mileage per K. M. for a Minister travelling in the State Car ?

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister) : Those details are not with me now.

Shri GIASUDDIN AHMED : Sir, May I know what is the intention of the hon. member behind asking this question ? Why he should be so eager ? Is there any prospect of his inclusion in the council of Minister ?

Shri BALABHADRA DAS : The hon'ble member cannot ask this question to the Minister.

Shri PUSPADHAR CHALIHA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether these rules will be applicable in case of M. L. As. also.

Shri SARAT GHANDRA SINHA Chief Minister : When revised this may be applicable to the hon. members also if so provided.

Srimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI : In the last Budget session the mode of drawing of T. A. by the Private Secretaries to Ministers was raised and a statement to that effect is to be given. Now, may I know whether the Private Secretaries will be allowed to draw the same T. A. as they are drawing now ?

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister) : This is a new question.

Srimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI : In the last budget session also this question was put. We want to know whether this aspect was considered by the Government or not ?

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister) : This is not within the limit of this question, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : This is a new question.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : The Government is considering the question of enhancement of the rate of T. A. of the Ministers, Deputy Minister, Speaker, Deputy Speaker and other officers. May I know what is the basis of such consideration ?

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister) : The basis is the rise of price of petrol.

Shri Md. UMARUDDIN : As far as I know the present rate of T. A. is 35p., 40 p. per K. M. and as an Ambassador car runs about 7 K. M. per litre of petrol, the total cost on mileage comes to Rs. 2.80 p or so. Is it not a net profit of about Re. 1 per K. M. and will continue to allow a Minister to earn profit in T. A. when T. A. is in principle, not a source of profit.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister) : It is not meant to derive profit out of it. It is meant for the convenience of the Ministers.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Whether Government will consider the necessity of regularising the procedure guiding the travelling allowance of the Ministers.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister) : The Government did not decide it. It may be considered by the Government.

Re: **Exemption of Amusement Tax for the film "Chor" in Assam**

Shri GAURISANKAR BHAT-TACHARYYA asked :

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA
(Chief Minister,) replied :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that recently the film "CHOR" was exempted from payment of Amusement Tax in Assam? 2.(a)—No.
- (b) Whether it is a fact that a deal is in the offing with the distributors of the film "PARICHAY" for such exemption from payment of Amusement Tax in Assam? (b)—No.
- (c) What are the special reasons for patronage of such non-too-educative films distributed in Assam by resourceful distributors from out side Assam? (c)—Does not arise.
- (d) Whether the Government is aware of the gossip in the Film Distribution circles that exemption from Amusement Tax in Assam can easily be purchased on very easy terms? (d)—No.

Shri MANEBENDRA NATH SARMA: Whether the Government has given exemption to the films, 'Aman' and 'Upkar' ?

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA, (Chief Minister): That is a different question.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Whether Government has got any standing order to give exemption to any films ?

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): This was discussed in the last Assembly Session also. The policy of the Government is this: Generally the exemption is given to pictures produced in Assam but, so far as the pictures coming from outside is concerned the Government of India recommended to us 4 categories of films, namely (1) National best feature films (2) National second best feature films (3) The best features films of National Integration and (4) The best feature films in Regional Language. Besides, the films produced in Assam in Assamese, we have decided to extend these facilities.

Re: **Appointment of Government Pleader**

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI asked :

Shri SYED AHMED ALI
(Minister, Law) replied :

*3. Will the Minister, Law be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government attention has been drawn to a news-letter published in *Assam Tribune* on the 13th May, 1972 by a few Advocates of Gauhati in connection with the appointment of Government Pleader at Gauhati ?

3. (a) and (b)—The Hon'ble Member's attention is invited to the reply given to Starred Question No. 726 of the Budget Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly, 1972 and also to reply to Starred Question No. 80 of the September Session of the Assembly 1972.

(b) If so, whether it is a fact that as per the advocates' opinion favouritism was shown to a particular person in this matter.

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: May I ask from the Minister in-charge whether it is a fact that one of the senior advocates in Gauhati was appointed by the Government on the expiry of the terms of the previous incumbent in the year 1972 and whether it is a fact that the said appointment was again cancelled in the month of April thereby allowing the old incumbent to continue ?

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister, Law): Yes it is a fact. The appointment was withdrawn because it was found to be irregular.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: May I know from the Minister what was the irregularity ?

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister Law): According to Assam Law Manual Rules, the Government pleaders are appointed on the recommendation of Deputy Commissioner who in consultation with the District and Session Judge is to submit a panel of names of pleaders. That was not done and therefore it is irregular.

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: By when he was appointed ?

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister Law): He was appointed by the Government but afterwards it was withdrawn as there was irregularity ?

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Who committed that irregularity ?

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister Law): I have already said that the appointment was not in order and therefore it was subsequently revised and regularised.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Why the regular procedure was not followed ? Why the old man who allowed to continue ? Is it not favouritism ?

Shri SARAT CHADRA SINHA (Chief Minister): That was not favouritism. Only to regularise the appointment the Deputy Commissioner was asked to submit his recommendations. He recommended the renewal of the existing incumbent. The District Judge submitted four names including the name of Shri Bhairab Sarma. But as the Deputy Commissioner did not recommend the name of Shri Bhairab Sarma, he was again asked to submit fresh names of Pleaders, and on receipt of this the appointment was regularised. But unfortunately, while submitting his name, the Deputy Commissioner also submitted a penal of names of pleaders, and in that list the name of Shri Bhairab Sarma did not appear.

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: This appointment was cancelled in the month of April, and the appointment was made in the month of February. But this Government had not even the elementary courtesy to admit that we have done such and such a mistake, but they asked the Government to recommend a fresh name, and that old gentleman who was recommended by the Deputy Commissioner is a relative of one of the Ministers? Is it not favouritism, Sir?

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister Law): It is not a fact, Sir.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: In view of what the Hon. Minister has stated that at first the Deputy Commissioner did not recommend his name, but subsequently on being asked to submit fresh name, he recommended the name of this person, may we not take it that the Deputy Commissioner was compelled to make his subsequent recommendation? Is this the proper method of appointment?

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister, Law): Sir, at the first instance the Deputy Commissioner recommended the existing Government Pleader. But the District and Sessions Judge directly sent, which he should not have done, 4 names including the name of Shri Bhairab Sarma. That is why the irregularity. According to the rule, it was the business of the Deputy Commissioner to submit the names of a penal of pleaders in consultation with the District and Sessions Judge.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Whether the District and Sessions Judge was also asked to recommend the names of pleaders for such appointment? Sir, there is something fishy about the whole business, I would request the Hon. Minister to place before the House all the documents and papers relevant to this appointment together with the recommendations regarding the appointment of the earlier one as well as of the latter one.

Shri SAYED AHMED ALI (Minister Law,): I propose to reply to this to-morrow.

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: The first thing Sir, the recommendation should have come from the Deputy Commissioner, but this gentleman was appointed without the recommendation of the Deputy Commissioner as the Government Pleader of the Gauhati Bar. Now the Minister has come forward with the plea that it was a mistake on the part of the District Judge who had recommended his

name. But if the Government did not ask for, why did the District and Sessions Judge submit his name? We therefore want that all the relevant documents relating to this appointment be placed before the House.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Hon. Minister has agreed to give the reply tomorrow.

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister, Law):—I will give the information tomorrow. I will place the documents before the House tomorrow.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA:—On a point of order, Sir, is the Hon. Minister entitled to criticise the action of the District and Sessions Judge on the floor of the House?

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister, Law):—Sir, I did not criticise the District and Sessions Judge; I was simply pointing out the Rule.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA:—The Hon. Minister stated that the District and Sessions Judge did not act according to the Rule. That is the criticism.

Mr. SPEAKER:—What the Hon. Minister stated was that he did not submit the names according to the rule.

Shri BALABHADRA DAS:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it not a fact that only judicial act of a Judge is not open to criticism and there is no bar to criticise his administrative action?

Mr. SPEAKER:—He is speaking of the Rule as it stands now.

Yes,—Mr. Goswami,

শ্রীৰবীন গোস্বামী : ন্যায় পালিকা আৰু কাৰ্য পালিকা পৃথককৰণৰ পিচত নিয়োগৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ন্যায় পালিকাৰ ওপৰত বেছি গুৰুত্ব দিয়া হ'ব নে, কাৰ্য পালিকাৰ ওপৰত বেছি গুৰুত্ব দিয়া হ'ব ?

শ্রীচৈয়দ আহম্মদ আলি : নিয়ম মতে কৰা হ'ব।

Re : দৰং জিলাৰ মূঠ জনসংখ্যা

শ্রীলক্ষ্মী কান্ত শইকীয়াই সর্ধিছে :

শ্রীপৰমানন্দ গগৈ (ৰাজহ মন্ত্রী)য়ে উত্তৰ দিছে :

* ৪। মাননীয় ৰাজহ বিভাগৰ মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে অনূগ্রহ কৰি জনাবনে—

(ক) দৰং জিলাৰ মূঠ জনসংখ্যা কিমান ?
(মহকুমা হিচাবত দেখুৱাব)

৪। (ক)—দৰং জিলাৰ মূঠ জনসংখ্যা সোতৰ লাখ তেঁত্ৰিশ হাজাৰ তিনিশ এঘাৰ জন। ইয়াৰ ভিতৰত মহকুমা হিচাবত—
১। তেজপুৰ মহকুমাত=৮,৯৯,৬৯৪ জন
আৰু
২। মঙ্গলদৈ মহকুমাত=৮,৩৩,৬১৭ জন।

(খ) দৰং জিলাৰ মূঠ মাটি কালিৰ আয়তন কিমান ? (মহকুমা হিচাবত দেখুৱাব)

(খ)—দৰং জিলাৰ মূঠ মাটি কালি =৮,১৩৭,৭৪৮৫৮ (স্কেয়াৰ কিলোমিটাৰ) মহকুমা হিচাবত—

১। তেজপুৰ মহকুমাৰ মাটি কালিৰ মূঠ আয়তন ৪,৮৫১,০৫১২৭ (স্কেয়াৰ কিলোমিটাৰ) আৰু
২। মঙ্গলদৈ মহকুমাৰ মাটি কালিৰ মূঠ আয়তন=৩,২৮৬,৬৯৭৩১ (স্কেয়াৰ কিলোমিটাৰ)

(গ) দৰং জিলাৰ পশ্চিম সীমাৰ পৰা অৰ্থাত বৰনদীৰ পৰা সদৰ ঠাইলৈ দূৰত্ব কিমান ?

(গ)— দৰং জিলাৰ পশ্চিম সীমাৰ পৰা অৰ্থাত বৰনদীৰ পৰা সদৰ ঠাই তেজপুৰলৈ মূঠ দূৰত্ব ১৩৯ কিলোমিটাৰ।

শ্রীলক্ষ্মী কান্ত শইকীয়া : মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে উত্তৰত কৈছে যে দৰং জিলাৰ পশ্চিম সীমাৰ পৰা তেজপুৰলৈ ১৩৯ কিলোমিটাৰ। মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে অনূগ্রহ কৰি জনাবনে যে জন সাধাৰণে ইমান দূৰৰ পৰা সদৰ ঠাইলৈ যোগাযোগ কৰাৰ অসুবিধালৈ চাই মঙ্গলদৈক জিলালৈ বৃপান্তৰ কৰাৰ কথা চৰকাৰে চিন্তা কৰিছে নে ?

শ্রীপৰমানন্দ গগৈ (ৰাজহ মন্ত্রী) : চৰকাৰে সেই বিষয়ে চিন্তা কৰা নাই।

শ্রীদেবেন বৰা : দূৰত্বলৈ চাই জিলা কৰাৰ কিবা ব্যৱস্থা আছে নেকি ?

শ্রীপৰমানন্দ গগৈ (ৰাজহ মন্ত্রী) : তেনে ব্যৱস্থা আমি দেখা পোৱা নাই।

শ্রীদুলাল চন্দ্ৰ বৰুৱা : মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ৰ পৰা এটা কথা জানিব বিচাৰিছো চৰকাৰৰ ঘোষিত নীতি হিচাবে বৰ্তমানৰ জিলা আৰু মহকুমা বিলাকৰ পূৰণ গঠনৰ এটা সিদ্ধান্ত গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে। সেই সিদ্ধান্ত অনুসৰি চৰকাৰে কি ব্যৱস্থা লৈছে আৰু যদি লোৱা হোৱা নাই কিয় লোৱা হোৱা নাই ?

শ্রীপৰমানন্দ গগৈ (বাজহ মন্ত্রী) : বৰ্তমান চৰকাৰৰ ভেলে সিদ্ধান্ত নাই, যদি আগত আছিল কব নোৱাৰো।

শ্রীদুলাল চন্দ্ৰ বৰুৱা : এতিয়াৰ চৰকাৰ আৰু আগৰ চৰকাৰ বেলেগ নহয়। চৰকাৰৰ ঘোষিত নীতি অনুসাবে জন সংখ্যাৰ ভিত্তিত, যাতায়তৰ ভিত্তিত আৰু অৰ্থনৈতিক পৰিসৰৰ ভিত্তিত মহকুমা আৰু জিলা বিলাক পুনৰ গঠন কৰাৰ সিদ্ধান্ত কৰিছিল। গতিকে এতিয়া চৰকাৰৰ ফালৰ পৰা কি ব্যৱস্থা লোৱা হৈছে আৰু যদি হোৱা নাই কিয় নোৱা হোৱা নাই ?

শ্রীপৰমানন্দ গগৈ (বাজহ মন্ত্রী) : এইটো চৰকাৰৰ এতিয়াও বিবেচনাধীন হৈ আছে। ১৩৯ কিলোমিটাৰ বৃদ্ধি কৈছে, এইটো একেবাৰে পশ্চিম সীমাৰ পৰা মঙ্গলদৈৰ পৰা নহবও পাৰে।

শ্রীদুলাল চন্দ্ৰ বৰুৱা : মই দৰুৱৰ কথা কোৱা নাই। ইয়াৰ লগতে এটা আনন্দ-সামাজিক প্ৰশ্নৰ কথাহে কৈছো। ইতিপূৰ্বেৰ চৰকাৰে এটা নীতি ঘোষণা কৰিছিল আৰু সেই নীতি অনুসৰি চৰকাৰে ইতিমধ্যে লক্ষীমপুৰ, মৰিগাওঁ আদি জিলা সংগঠন কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লৈছে। সেই সময়ৰ মধ্য মন্ত্রী শ্রীচৌধুৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই এই সদনৰ মজিয়াতে ঘোষণা কৰিছিল যে সামাজিক, অৰ্থনৈতিক, লোক সংখ্যা আৰু দৰুৱ আদিৰ ভিত্তিত অসমৰ জিলা বিলাকৰ পুনৰ গঠন কৰা হব। আৰু সেই ভিত্তিতেই মঙ্গলদৈ মহকুমাৰ কথাও বিবেচনা কৰা হৈছে নে নাই ?

শ্রীপৰমানন্দ গগৈ (বাজহ মন্ত্রী) : গোটেই ৰাজ্য সামৰি লৈ এই প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰ দিয়াটো কঠিন হব। বৰ্তমান প্ৰশ্ন হৈছে দৰং জিলা মঙ্গলদৈ মহকুমাত পৰে।

শ্রীৰমেশ চহৰীয়া : মঙ্গলদৈৰ বিষয়ে কি বিবেচনা কৰিছে ?

শ্রীপৰমানন্দ গগৈ (বাজহ মন্ত্রী) : এই কথাটো নথিপত্ৰ চাইহে মই সৰিষেশ কৰ পাৰিম।

Md. Umaruddin:—This is a matter which refers to General Administration and not to the Revenue Department.

Shri Paramananda Gogoi, (Minister, Revenue) সেইটো উত্তৰ এতিয়া নিদিয়া ভাল হবলৈ কি ?

Shri Charan Narzari—What is the extent of area covered by the tribal belts and blocks in the Darrang District ?

Shri PARAMANANDA GOGOI (Minister, Revenue)—I am sorry, this information is not with me.

Re : Assam Spun Silk Mill

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI asked :

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries) replied :

* 5 Will the Minister, Industry be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Assam Spun Silk Mill has exported spun silk to the tune of Rs. 13 lakhs to Japan earning considerable foreign exchange ?

5. (a) —The Assam Spun Silk Mills Ltd., Jagiroad have released Spun Silk yarn of different counts, mostly Eri valued at Rs. 15.55 lakhs for exporting to Japan, and additional goods valued at Rs. 4.88 lakhs are being made ready for despatch during 1972-73.

(b) Whether the spun silk of Jagiroad Spun Silk Mill is being utilised inside Assam?

(b)—Only a negligible quantity of Spun Silk yarns used inside Assam.

(c) If so, what is the market potentialities of this silk in Assam and outside Assam?

(c)—Efforts are being made by the Mills to supply yarn to the most important Silk Centres of Assam; but, due to the traditional preference of Assamese weavers for filature and reeled Silk mostly from Mysore, not much headway has been made There, are however great market potentiality for Muga and Mulberry spun silk yarn in India, as almost all the products of the Mills are being sold outside Assam.

Smti. RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI:—The Minister has stated that only a negligible quantity of products of the Assam Spun Silk Mill is utilised in Assam. But it is a fact that many middlemen from Mysore are making lots of money. Whether Government has examined as to why the products of the Assam Spun Silk Mill are not being utilised inside the State?

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries): Our weavers prefer the traditional way of weaving and they are inclined to use filature and reeled silk which has a better lustre.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Whether the Assam Spun Silk Mill has any agent inside the territory of Assam?

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries):—If the Hon'ble Member means the agents who purchase from the mill and sell it outside, I have not the names of the agents with me now, but if he means agents who purchase from the Spun Silk Mill for utilisation inside Assam, I think there is none. But small quantities of the products of the Spun Silk Mill are used inside Assam.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA:—Whether the mill has exported the yarn to Japan directly or through some agents?

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries):—This export deal was made on the recommendation of the Central Silk Board. The export was actually affected through two exporters M/s. Madaulal & Company and other.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARJYA:—Whether these companies have been given the agency for purchase of yarn from the Spun Silk Mill for the State of Mysore also?

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries):—So far my information goes the same procedure is followed by the Mysore Government also.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA:—Let me clarify the question.

There two exporters of Bombay have not only been given the agency for purchasing the products of the Assam Spun Silk Mill for export to Japan and outside, but also these business have been given the agency for purchase of yarn from the Spun Silk Mill for the State of Mysore also, that is they will procure the yarn here and sell it to Mysore State.

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries):—My information does not indicate that, My information is that the export deal was arranged at the recommendation of the Central Silk Board which is an autonomous body looking after the interests of silk manufacturers of the country. Whether these two houses have been given the monopoly for the State of Mysore, I shall have to enquire and let you know.

Shri JALALUDDIN AHMED : May I know from the Minister whether there is any scheme with our Government to start another such mill in the State of Assam?

Mr. Speaker—This is a new question.

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries):—Government will be pleased to have another mill if there is enough of raw materials.

Shri ATUL SAIKIA:—অতীততে এই মিলটোৱে এখন শাল এই সূতা স্বাধীভাৱে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰাৰ কাৰণে কিৰিছিল। এতিয়া সেই শালখন কি হল মই মহোদয়ে জনাবনে?

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries):—Sir, the Spun silk yarn produced in Jagiroad Mill is being given a trial to be a used in our looms and to that end the Assam Textile Institute at Gauhati has sponsored a research and design centre and they are trying on it. About the point raised by the hon. questioner that there is some imbalance in the machinery at the Mill, the Mill management has already taken steps to remove that imbalance by purchasing new machineries and these are in the process of coming. After this adjustment is made, the experiment which the hon. Member want to know will be successful.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN:—Was this particular spun sil mill established in Assam with a view to export yarn to outside or with a view to utilising the yarn in Assam as an important silk producing State? If so what steps have been taken to popularise the use of yarn produced by this Mill inside the State through new technology?

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries):—Both the objectives are welcomed but at the initial stage this mill was established to give better marketing facilities to the cocoon producer. Now our endeavour should be to utilise the yarn inside our State and with that end in view we are trying to see whether this yarn can be mixed with some synthetic yarn and used inside the State.

Shreemati TARULATA BORA—May I know what effective steps the Government have taken to increase the production of raw materials?

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries)—Government is very eager to increase the production of Fri., Muga and Malbari silk yarn and to that end we have taken expansion programme.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA—Instead of giving monopoly of silk products from this mill to certain companies why Government could not make arrangements through our own Marketing Corporation for export of such commodities?

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Industries)—I fully agree with the sentiment of the hon Member. Government has already asked the management of the mill to set up its own marketing agency. But I have not agreed to the point that monopoly has been given to two big business houses and I have promised that I will look into it.

শ্রীমতী বৈশ্বকী দেৱী বৰকটকী : মই এটা কথা সোধিব খুজিছো এই স্পান মিলটো কৰাৰ উদ্দেশ্য আছিল শিপিণী সকলক মহীশূৰ আৰু বেনাবসাৰ চৰা দামৰ এড়ী মৃগা সূতা কিনাৰ পৰা বেহাই দি কম দামত সূতা দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা। সেই উদ্দেশ্যৰ পৰিপ্ৰেক্ষিতত স্পান মিলৰ এই কৰ্তব্যত ব্যৰ্থ হৈছে। দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে এই মিলৰ উৎপাদন এটা ন্যস্ত স্বার্থৰ ভিতৰত সোমাই পৰিছে। মই মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ পৰা জানিব বিচাৰিছো মদন লাল চৌহান লালৰ পৰা এই মিলটো উদ্ধাৰ কৰি শিপিণী সকলক কম দামত সূতা পাব পৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব নে ?

শ্রীমহম্মদ ইদ্রিচ (উদ্যোগ মন্ত্রী) : প্রশ্নটো বহল আকাৰৰ। মদন লাল চৌহান ইয়াৰ কৰজা ৰাখিছো বদলি কোৱা নাই। এইটো কথা ঠিক যে এই স্পান মিলত যি সূতা তৈয়াৰ কৰা হয় সেই সূতা আমাৰ অসমৰ শিপিণী সকলে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰাৰ যোগ্যতা হোৱা হলে এটা আনন্দৰ কথা আছিল। মই আগেয়ে কৈছো ইয়াৰ টেকনিকেল ডিফিকাল্টি আছে। ইয়াৰ সূতা বিলাক সুক্ষ্ম আৰু উজ্বল বঙৰ নোহোৱাৰ বাবে শোৱালকুচিৰ শিপিণী সকলে মহীশূৰৰ সূতা ব্যৱহাৰ কৰে।

শ্রীজগদীশ দাস : মই কওঁ এই মিলৰ সূতাৰ দামৰ বাবে শিপিণী সকলে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰিব পৰা নাই।
(উত্তৰ নাই)

শ্রীকবীৰ চন্দ্ৰ ৰায় প্ৰধানী : কেঁচা মাল যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণৰ আহেনে নাহে ?

শ্রীমহম্মদ ইদ্রিচ (উদ্যোগ মন্ত্রী) : আমি আৱশ্যকীয় পৰিমাণৰ এড়ী মৃগাৰ কোকন পাইছো।

শ্রীকবীৰ চন্দ্ৰ ৰায় প্ৰধানী : এই কেঁচা মাল বিলাক কেনেকৈ সংগ্ৰহ কৰা হয় ?
শ্রীমহম্মদ ইদ্রিচ (উদ্যোগ মন্ত্রী) : মাল বাবে স্থায়ী কিছুমান মানহৰ এজেন্সী আছে। ক'পাৰেটিভ বিলাকত যোগান ধৰে।

Re: History of Freedom Fighters of Assam

Shri LAKSHMI KANTA SAIKI
asked :

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

(a) Whether the proposed "History of Freedom Fighters of Assam" has been completed?

(b) If so, whether copies are available in the market?

(c) If not, what is the present position?

(d) Which Department is preparing the "History"?

(e) Whether there is any separate "Cell" for this purpose?

(f) If so, the number of staff engaged for it?

(g) What is the total amount allotted for the whole scheme and the expenditure so far made?

Shri HARENDRA NATH
TALUKDAR (Minister in-charge
of Education) replied :

6. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise in view of above.

(c)—Collection of materials for preparation of the History of Freedom movement is in progress. And appointment of Editor for H. F. M. is in process for expediting preparation and compilation of the volume.

(d)—The office of the Editor-in-Chief under the Education Department of the Government of Assam.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—(1) Editor H.F.M. (Gazetted) whose appointment is under process.

(2) One compiler (Gazetted).

(3) One L.D.A.-Cum-Typist.

(4) One Peon.

(g)—The expenditure is met out of the allotment under Revision of District Gazetteers.

The total expenditure incurred till date is Rs.51,839.60 P.

Shri LAKSHMI KANTA SAIKI:— May I know from the hon. Minister how many years will be needed to complete the history?

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Minister, Education):—

It cannot be said now because the work is in progress.

শ্রীঅতুল শইকীয়া : এই বৰপঞ্জী লিখা আৰম্ভ হয় কেতিয়াৰ পৰা ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ : ১৯৬১ চনত আৰম্ভ হয়।

শ্রীকবীৰ চন্দ্ৰ বায় প্ৰধানী : বেকবাৰ্ড ক্লাছৰ মানুহ ফ্ৰিডম ফাইটাৰৰ লিষ্টত নামেই উঠা নাই।

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ : মেটেৰিয়েল কালেকচন কৰি আছে।

শ্রীকবীৰ চন্দ্ৰ বায় প্ৰধানী : বেকবাৰ্ড ক্লাছৰ মানুহ জেইলত সোমাইছিল কিন্তু লিষ্টত নাম নাই।

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ : তেনেকুৱা কথা থাকিলে নিশ্চয় চাম।

Shri PROMODE CHANDRA GOGOI:—May I know from the hon. Minister whether any definite guideline was issued for selection of freedom fighters, and if so, what are those guidelines ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ : এইটো নতুন প্ৰশ্ন।

শ্রীনগেন বৰুৱা : সম্পাদকজন কি গৱাগৱৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি নিয়োগ কৰা হয় ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ : অভিজ্ঞতা থকা লোক নিয়োগ কৰিবৰ কাৰণে ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে।

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA:—Whether any principle has been adopted ?

Shr. SARAT CHANDRA SINHA, (Chief Minister):—This question is which the Political Department and definite guide lines have been issued

Mr. SPEAKER—You may put a separate question.

শ্রীনগেন বৰুৱা : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, স্বাধীনতা যুদ্ধত জৰিত থকা সাহিত্যিক সকলৰ মাজৰ পৰাই এই সম্পাদকজন নিৰ্বাচন কৰাৰ কথা বিবেচনা কৰিবনে ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী) : সেইটো বিবেচনা কৰা হব।

Re: Appointment of Lecturer in Cotton College

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA asked:

*7. Will the Minister, in-charge, Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that an ordinary Second Class M. Sc. has been appointed as a Lecturer in Anthropology in the Cotton College, Gauhati in preference to a candidate who was first Class first in M.Sc. as well as B.Sc. ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the vacancy was caused by terminating the service of a Lady-Lecturer ?

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Minister, Education) replied:

7. (a)—The post was filled up from the select list of A. P. S. C. The question of preferential treatment therefore does not arise.

(b) The services of the lady teacher had to be terminated as she handed over and proceeded for higher study without formal permission from the Government.

শ্রীগোবীশঙ্কৰ ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এইটো কথা সঁচানেকি যে, শ্রীমতী মঞ্জৰ গোস্বামী নামৰ মহিলা গৰাকীক যি গৰাকী শিক্ষয়িত্ৰীয়ে ৩ বছৰ কাল এই কাম কৰি আহিছে তেখেতক কোনো জাননী নিদিয়াকৈ আৰু কোনো কাৰণ দৰ্শোৱাৰ সৰ্ববিধা নিদিয়াকৈ কামৰ পৰা আঁতৰাই নীলাচল কাকতৰ মালিক শ্রীমদ্বিনন্দ নাৰায়ণ দত্ত বৰুৱাৰ ভনীয়েক শ্রীমতী বন্দনা দত্ত বৰুৱাক এই কামত নিয়োগ কৰিছে একমাত্ৰ বাজ-নৈতিক সৰ্ববিধাবাদৰ কাৰণে, এইটো কথা সঁচানে ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী) : এইটো কথা সঁচা নহয়।

শ্রীগোবীশঙ্কৰ ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য : এই নিয়োগৰ পিচতেই শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰীক 'নীলাচল' কাকতে দহই পৃষ্ঠা ব্যাপি সাক্ষাতকাৰ লিখি তেখেতক প্ৰশস্তি দিছে, এইটো কথা সঁচা নেকি ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী) : এইটো কথা সঁচা নহয়। মই নিয়োগ কৰাৰ কাৰণেই এইবিলাক লিখা নাই।

শ্রীগোবীশঙ্কৰ ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই কামৰ কাৰণে শ্রীদিলীপ কুমাৰ মেধি, বি, এচ, চিত ফাৰ্ট ক্লাছ, এম, এচ, চিত শতকৰা ৬৬ নম্বৰ পোৱা, আৰু শ্রীবিৰিণ্ড মেধিক এই কাম নিদি বন্দনা দত্তক এই কাম দিয়া হৈছে। আৰু মন্ত্ৰীজনে উদ্ধত ভাবে কৈছে যে মই খৰ্চি হৈ দিছো।

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী) : মই কৈছো যে এ, পি, এ, চিৰ ৰিকমেন্ডেচন মতে এই কামত নিয়োগ কৰা হৈছে।

শ্রীদুলাল চন্দ্ৰ বৰুৱা : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এ, পি, এ, চিৰ লিষ্টখন আমাৰ আগত দাঙি ধৰিব নেকি ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী) : এই লিষ্ট পিচত দাঙি ধৰা হ'ব।

শ্রীদুলাল চন্দ্ৰ বৰুৱা : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, জাৰ্জি এ পি, এ, চিৰ নাম লৈ আমাৰ এই মন্ত্ৰী সত্তাই কিয় দৰ্শনাত্মিক আশ্ৰয় দিছে জনাব নেকি ? কাৰণ মেধিয়েহে প্ৰথম নামৰেচন পাইছে।

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী) : এইটো কথা মই পাচত দাঙি ধৰিম।

শ্রীপ্ৰবীৰ কামাৰ শৰ্মা : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ফাৰ্ট নামিনজনক যে দিয়া নাই এই কথাটো কেবিনেটত গৈছিল নে নাই ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী) : এইটো কেবিনেটত যোৱাৰ কথা নাই।

Sbri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Leaving a side the candidates having brilliant results, how this lady was appointed on the plea of A. P. S. C. nomination ? We want the entire list ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (মন্ত্ৰী) : এইটো কথা সদনত দাঙি ধৰিম।

শ্রীদুলাল চন্দ্ৰ বৰুৱা : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এ-পি-এ-চিয়ে মৰ্ত্ত কিমান জন মানৱক ৰিকমেন্ডেচন দিছে জনাবনে ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰ (শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী) : সেই সকলোবোৰ পিচত দাঙি ধৰিম।

Re: Post of Principal, Jorhat Engineering College

Sri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA asked:

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Minister, Education) replied:

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that the post of the Principal, Jorhat Engineering College tell vacant as early as 1966 ?

8. (a)—Yes

(b) Whether it is a fact that the post of the Principal has not yet been filled up and that a Professor has been allowed to hold charge thereof ?

(b)—Yes.

(c) Whether the Government will fill up the regular vacancy without any further delay ?

(c)—Yes.

(d) Whether Government is aware of the criticism that the post is kept vacant because somebody is in the contemplation of the Government but he has not yet become duly qualified for the same ?

(d)—Government is not aware of it.

শ্রীগোবী শংকৰ ভট্টাচাৰ্য্যঃ—অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, যদি চৰকাৰে কেৱল নিজৰ মনোমত মানৱ বিচাৰি নোপোৱাৰ কাৰণেই কামটো ১৯৬৬ চনৰ পৰা খালি কৰি ৰাখিছে সেইটো নাজানো। কিন্তু, কিয় আজি পৰ্য্যন্ত এই কামটোত মানৱ লোৱা হোৱা নাই ?

শ্রীহৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ তালুকদাৰঃ—মন্ত্ৰী এইখিনিতে মই অলপ কব লাগিব। ১৯৬০ চনত শ্রীপি, চি. দত্তক কামটোক বোচিচত দিয়া হৈছিল, কিন্তু ১৯৬৬ চনতে তেওঁৰ মৃত্যু হোৱাৰ কাৰণে শ্রীআৰ, জে, ঠাকুৰৰ মেকানিকেল ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰক দিয়া হল। ১৯৬৬ চনতে এই পদটো এডভাৰটাইজ কৰা হল আৰু শ্রীশৰৎ বৰদৱাক চিলেক্ট কৰা হল। ১৯৬৭ চনত অৰ্ডাৰ ইচু কৰা হল। ইতিমধ্যে তেওঁ ডিবেষ্টৰ হল আৰু যি প্ৰিন্সিপেলৰ চার্জত আছিল তেওঁক চার্জ হেণ্ড অৰ্ডাৰ কৰি গঢ়ি গল। ১৯৬৭ চনত চলিহাক চার্জ দিয়া হল, যিজন বৰ্তমানও আছে। ১৯৬৮ চনত এ, পি, এ, চিত এডভাৰটাইজ কৰি ১৯৬৯ চনত হৰেন বৰদৱাক নামিনেত কৰিলে। চলিহাই হাইকৰ্ট কৰিলে। ইতিমধ্যে হৰেন বৰদৱাক ১৯৭১ চনত প্ৰিন্সিপেল কৰা হল। ১৯৭২ চনৰ ডিচেম্বৰত এই পদটো পুনৰ এডভাৰটাইজ কৰা হল। বৰ্তমানলৈ হিষ্ট্ৰী এইখিনিয়েই।

Rs: Recommendation of the Central Border Roads Development Board

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI asked:

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN
(Minister, Public Works Department) replied:

*9. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Central Border Roads Development Board has recommended three roads in Assam to be included in its future programme?

9. (a)—Yes. Three Roads have been tentatively selected by B. R. D. B. for inclusion in their programme in the near future.

(b) If so, which are those roads?

(b)—They are—

(1)—North Salmara to Amingaon *via* Barpeta Hajo etc. with a link from Hajo to Nalbari (93 miles).

(2)—Improvement of Deboka-Lanka Lumding, (58.47 K. M.) (Nilbazar, Bhalukmari, Lanka Udali).

(3)—Further improvement of Kalain Silchar Road *via* Rani with a bridge, over Barak (19 miles).

(c) What is the progress made till to-date to take up the work for these roads by the Board?

(c)—The projects are yet to be sanctioned. In the mean time Survey Estimates and Rough estimates have been called for from the concerned officers.

Shri Mahammad UMARUDDIN: On what basis these three roads in the three districts have been selected leaving the other districts?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN, (Minister P.W.D.): Not only these three roads but other roads were also recommended to the Central Border Roads Development Board but because of the fact that these three roads were sanctioned earlier and as such these have been selected by the Border Roads Development Board. The question of taking up other roads are under examination.

Shri Md. UMARUDDIN: My point is, what are the grounds of priority on which these three roads have been taken up and what part the State Government played in this matter?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN, (Minister P. W. D.): The roads which are taken are considered to be vital and which the Government of Assam cannot construct are recommended to the Central Government for their examination. If they consider these feasible and of necessity, they take up the roads.

Shri Md. UMARUDDIN: My point is not that. Whether the Government views were expressed on the basis of priority and did the recommendation of the State Government influence the views of the Central Border Road Organisation ?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN, (Minister, P. W. D.): The Government of Assam recommended these three roads to the Central Border Roads Development Board, they examined the feasibility immediately and accepted these three roads. Other roads recommended by the Government of Assam are being examined by them.

Shri Md. UMARUDDIN: What are the remaining roads under consideration ?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P. W. D.): I have not got the information with me.

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: All these roads are very vital roads no doubt but may I know from the Hon'ble Minister what are the total estimated cost for these roads to be taken up by the Central Border Road Development Board ?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister P.W. D.): No estimate has yet been made. The work will be taken up by the Border Board Organisation.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: On what basis, did the Government of Assam approved these roads without any Plans and Estimates.

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN, (Minister P. W. D.): The Government of Assam only give a rough guideline to the Government of India saying that these are the vital roads and are necessary to be taken up. They make an enquiry and then say that these are to be taken up by the Border Roads Organisation and sent details.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Is the Government aware of the fact that due to non-submission of project-report no amount is being sanctioned by the Central Government this year.

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister P. W. D.): It is not for non-submission of project report, The Border Roads organisation has recommended these roads and the Government of India has asked for rough estimates on the basis of which the Government will take up the work.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Is not it a fact that all the other States have taken their due share except this poor State, because of the hopelessness and callousness on the part of the administration ? Is the Government aware of the fact that due to non-submission of final project report to the Government of India they are not going to sanction a single paise.

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P.W.D.): It is not a fact. Rather the Government of Assam is being treated better than the other States. The Government of India recommended these three roads which are being

ne by the Government of Assam as an agency of the Border Roads organisation. But the Government of Assam could not provide funds because the financial stringency and the Government of India has given an advance which has not been done for any other State.

Shri ROMESH MOHAN KOULI: May I know whether the district of Lakhimpur is within the purview of the Border Road construction and if so, what is the priority that has been given to that district? Is not it a fact that that area is a flood ravaged area and importance have to be given to that District. And even inspite of the fact that Central Government has repeatedly assured for border roads here why no estimates has been submitted?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P.W.D.): District wise answer difficult to be given. But Regarding Lakhimpur District Government of Assam definitely considers it as one of the most backward on the State.

Shri GIASUDDIN AHMED: What are the criteria to decide whether a road is border road and whether the roads mentioned are actual-border roads?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P.W.D.): All roads, in Assam can termed border roads because we are a border state and we have communication with so many states.

Re : Allotment of fund to P. W. D. Officers

Shri GIRIN CHOUDHURY
asked :

10. Will the Minister, P. W. D. & B.) be pleased to state—

a) Whether it is a fact that the P. W.D. Officers have not been provided with funds even to bear the expenses of petrol and maintenance of their vehicle for going out on tour for inspection of the progress of work?

b) If so, what is the necessity of keeping so many officers on the pay roll, if they are not allowed to do their field works.

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN
[Minister of P. W. D. (R & B)]
replied :

10. (a)—No. The Officers have been allotted some funds under T. A. and Contingency (maintenance of Vehicle) but not adequate to meet their full demand due to paucity of fund.

(b)—In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

Shri GIRIN CHAUDHURY: Will the state of things continue? if so, for how long?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister P. W. D.): I already said it has improved.

Shri GIRIN CHAUDHURY: When?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN It has already improved.

Re : Bridge over Gumi Cutting

Shrimati SATYABATI GOSWAMI asked :

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)) replied :

*11. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) The exact amount of money spent for the construction of the bridge over the Gumi-cutting in Chayagaon Constituency.

11. (a)—The exact amount of money spent is Rs. 1,08,677-00.

(b) Whether it is a fact that the bridge has been washed away during the recent flood just after four months of its completion ?

(b)—Yes, a part of the bridge was washed away.

(c) If so, whether the Government would make a thorough enquiry into it ?

(c)—A high Power Committee constituted *vide* Government notification No. PLA. 424/72/2, dated 9th August 1972 to go into the lapses on the part of the defaulting Officers.

(d) If so, when ?

(d)—August 1972.

(e) What steps Government propose to take against these Officers responsible for their negligence ?

(e)—The Report of the Committee is still awaited.

Shrimati SATYABATI GOSWAMI: Is it not a fact that an expert senior Officer of the department had given a feasibility report against the construction of the bridge on the particular spot ; and if so, why the bridge was constructed there ?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P. W. D.): To start with there was objection by an officer of the department that unless the embankment of the Brahmaputra is constructed the bridge will not stand and if there is a breach in the embankment the bridge will be washed away. But still then when the embankment was closed on public pressure and for public utility this bridge was constructed.

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: In spite of the feasibility report by a Senior officer that a bridge at that spot would be washed away why the Government has taken a decision to have the bridge over Gumi Cutting. May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether there was political pressure in this matter ?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P. W. D.): There was no political pressure but there was a necessity of a bridge at that spot and that is why that bridge was constructed.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: What was the estimated cost ?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P.W.D.): The estimated cost was Rs.2,08,400.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Whether the amount has been spent ?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P. W. D.) Yes.

শ্রীমানবেন্দ্র শৰ্মা : কয়জনৰ বিপৰ্ট দিবৰ কাৰণে কিমান দিন সময় দিছে।

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister P. W. .): That is not with me.

শ্রীমতী বেণুকা দেবী বৰকটকী : এই কামৰ দায়িত্বত থকা একজিকিউটিভ ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰ জনে এজন স্থানীয় ঠিকাদাৰৰ লগত লগ লাগি বিভাগীয় উচ্চ পদস্থ কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে নাকচ কৰা স্বত্বেও বাজনৈতিক প্ৰবোচনাত উদগনি দি প্ৰজেক্টৰ কাম হাতত লয় আৰু সেই ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰজনৰ দোষত চাৰি মাহৰ ভিতৰতে দলং ভাঙি গল যদিও সেই একজিকিউটিভ ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰজনৰ ওপৰত কোনো শাস্তিমূলক ব্যৱস্থা নলৈ বৰং তেওঁক প্ৰমোচন দিয়াৰ কথাটো সঁচা নেকি ?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN (Minister, P. W. D.): Responsibility has not been fixed as yet.

Srimati SATYABATI GOSWAMI: I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister how could it get the administrative sanction of the Government?

Dr. LUTFUR RAHMAN: When the proposal goes, a rough estimate is made, Government examines it and then administrative approval is given.

UNDISPOSED STARRED QUESTION OF 20TH MARCH, 1973.

Re: Institution of Enquiry Committee on the purchase of two boats for the Fishery Department

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI asked :

Shri UPENDRA DAS (Minister, Fisheries) replied :

*12. Will the Minister, Fishery be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the State Government has instituted an enquiry Committee to go into the alleged lapses on the part of certain officials in purchasing two boats for the Fishery Department ?

12.(a)—Yes.

(b) If so, who are the Members of the Committee?

(b)—The names of the members of the Committee are given below:—

- (1) Shri P. Sharma, Chief Engineer (Plains), P. W. D. (R. & B.) Assam, Gauhati ... Chairman.
- (2) Shri J. C. Deka, Superintending Engineer, (Mechanical Circle, Gauhati.....) ...Member.
- (3) Shri H. C. Gogoi, Joint Director of Agriculture (Engg.) Assam, Gauhati... .. Member.
- (4) Shri L. K. Das, Deputy Secretary to the Government of Assam, Finance Department. Member.
- (5) Shri S. R. Paul Chaudhury, Under-Secretary to the Government of Assam Veterinary (Fishery) Department.....) ...Member and Convenor.

(c) What are the terms of reference of the Enquiry Committee?

(c)—The terms of reference given below :—

- (1) To enquire into the whole State of affairs relating to the construction of two mechanised boats for the Fishery Department for exploratory fishing in the Brahmaputra River.
- (2) To find out person/persons responsible for making the running payment to the contractor and for non-Commissioning of the two boats resulting in a huge loss to Government and for other lapses, if any.
- (2)(a)—To ascertain if any certificate from the Director, Inland Water Transport, Assam, Gauhati was obtained by the Director of Fisheries, Assam, Gauhati certifying by former that the two mechanised boats were fit to be Commissioned by the Fishery Department.
- (3) The Committee shall submit its report on or before the 28th February 1973.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question hour is over.

Adjournment Motion

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Before moving the adjournment motion, I would like to point out here that we have got a slip of paper in our table, which is written in Assamese. May I know from the Hon'ble Chief Minister whether the Government are in the know of things that some of the Press workers are going on strike ?

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): It has come to our notice.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, the matter which I have raised in the House to discuss through an adjournment motion is definite matter of urgent public importance. It has fulfilled all the conditions under rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly and is free from almost all the restrictions that have been laid under Rule 57. It is a specific matter of urgent public importance and of recent occurrence. Here under Rule 57 it has been stated ; not more than one such motion shall be made at the same sitting". Sir, I have made only one such motion. The Rule 57 states "not more than one matter can be discussed on the same motion, and the motion must be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence", Sir, this is a specific matter and of recent occurrence. The Rule 57 also states; "the motion must not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session". Sir we did not have any other occasion to discuss such matter in this session. The Rule 57 also states ; "the motion must not anticipate—a matter which has been previously appointed for consideration, or with reference to which a notice of motion has been previously given, regard being had to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time" Sir, this is the first time that we have brought this matter to the notice of the House, as we considered that it is vitally concerned with the future economic development of the State

The Rule 57 further states—"the motion must not deal with a matter on which a resolution could not be moved". Sir, we could not even move a resolution on this matter. The rule 57 also states—"the motion shall not deal with any matter which is under adjudication by a Court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India". Sir, this motion is free from this restriction also. The Rule 57 also lays down "the motion shall not raise a question of privilege". Sir, this is free from this restriction too. The Rule 57 further lays down—"that it must not relate to a matter, which is not primarily the concern of the Government of Assam." Sir, this provision of this Rule may bring about certain controversy. As per Rule's Parliamentary Practice, it has been stated that ;" the matter can never be the subject matter for discussion through an adjournment motion when this is a matter of Corporation". This question may come in here, because the subject matter which I have raised in the House to discuss through the adjournment motion and pleading for the admissibility of the same is about the conduct of the Assam State Electricity Board. But, Sir

the question is—the sudden cut in the supply of electricity by the Board has created an extraordinary situation through out the State, and almost all the industries have been closed down and this has told upon the economic and industrial development of the State. Now, if the Government take the plea that this is a matter which relates to the Board, and therefore, as per Kaul's Parliamentary practice this can never come under the purview of discussion through any adjournment motion, then, it cannot be accepted because in my motion I have stated about that situation arising out of the sudden cut of power by the Assam State Electricity Board. I do not mean the Electricity Board affairs; I mean the situation arising out of this. Sir, the Government is directly concerned about the industry and the industrial development of the State. Almost all the industries in and around the Gauhati city have been closed down for want of adequate power supply, and even this has affected the members of the House as we could not study anything in our respective hostels. Therefore, it has got direct connection and the Government is primarily responsible for this, and I feel that the motion has fulfilled all the conditions laid down under the Rules, and when it is free from all the restrictions laid down in the Rules, this is a fit case to be discussed through the adjournment motion. The situation is of such an extraordinary nature that an immediate intervention of the House is necessary. It may be such that it may affect the entire economy of the State. Therefore, I think that though this matter has little connecton with the Assam State Electricity Board, the Government is primarily concerned with the economic and industrial development of this State when this has affected the economy of the State very badly. The State Government is primarily concerned with this subject and I believe that I could convince this is a fit case to be discussed through adjournment motion and I hope you will kindly allow us to discuss this through adjournment motion, so that the House can take up the matter immediately and find out a solution assuring that there can be no further dislocation in the power supply and there cannot be any such situation.

Shrimati RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: Mr. Speaker, Sri while supporting the admissibility the adjournment motion moved by friend, Shri Dulal Ch. Barua I would like to say this is not only the problem for a few industries but this problem has created a problem for which the entire economy of our State is at stake. Second thing is thousands of people will be unemployed because of this power scarcity. In spite of our repeated request to the Government for thermal power, uptill now, the Government has kept us in the dark about what action they have taken about the thermal power. They are only depending on hydel power. In the supply of Hydel power, where the Assam Government has no jurisdiction, if tomorrow the Meghalaya Government refuse to give us the electricity and if they want to supply only to the national grid, then Assam will be starving for the electricity. This is an important subject and we want to know what action they have taken in the matter. The Government should take this House into confidence and the matter should be dicussed giving top priority.

MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister Power): Sir, about the admissibility of the motion, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs will give the reply.

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister, Parliamentary Affairs): h
 Sir, it is a case which causes our concern but it is not a fit case for discussion through adjournment motion. Mr. Barua has admitted in course of his moving the adjournment motion that the Government is ultimately responsible but not immediately responsible. He had also quoted rulings. According to the ruling, adjournment motion cannot be allowed for which there is another authority who is immediately responsible and the immediate responsible authority in this case is the Assam State Electricity Board.

I admit that the Government has got ultimate responsibility. But at present the Government has got limited responsibility in the State Electricity Board and moreover, Sir, this is an ordinary day-to-day administrative matter. So, this cannot be allowed as an adjournment motion. However I request the Hon. Minister, Industries, to collect all the information and give a statement on this point either tomorrow or day after tomorrow.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, on the point which the Law Minister has stated, I want to make a submission. The Law Minister has stated that there cannot be an Adjournment Motion on a subject on which the Government has no administrative authority. May I correct it as immediate administrative authority? Now, we are to examine that aspect. The second aspect I want the House to examine is whether this House has any authority? These are the two aspects on which I would like to request you to consider. So far as the Government's immediate authority is concerned, it can, if it likes exercise under two legislations one is the Indian Electricity Act of 1910 and the other is the Electricity Supply Act of 1948. The Government has direct, immediate and effective control and authority. It can issue a direction whenever the Government consider such directive is essential in the public interest. Therefore, the authority is there. Whether Government likes to exercise it or not is a different matter. So far as the authority of the Government is concerned, that very much exists there, and that is enjoined by the law itself. One thing that I want to submit is that whether this Legislature has any direct control over the affairs of the State Electricity Board? As it is very well known to this House and to the world outside, this Assam State Electricity Board is run with the money provided by the tax payers of Assam. It has already taken from the people of Assam more than 70 crores of rupees and so far as the budget of the State Electricity Board is concerned (Financial Statement of Account) this is to be placed on the floor of the House and so far as the working report of the State Electricity Board is concerned, that also is to be placed on the floor of the House. Therefore, Sir, this House has got the direct control over the finance of the State Electricity Board both through its budget and through its annual statement of expenditure. Therefore, Sir, so far as the law is concerned there is absolutely no bar for this House to consider the matter. Furthermore, as you know, Sir, this House had demanded that there should be an Enquiry Commission to enquire into the affairs of the State Electricity Board and on the demand of this House the Government was pleased to appoint such a Commission under the Chairmanship of Mr. Barua. I was also a member and the report of the Commission has had to be placed on the floor of the House. So, this is a matter on which the House also exercise its authority in the past. Therefore, the House has the authority. Thereafter even in order to see how far the

report of that Commission can be implemented, this House appointed another Committee to examine the implementation of the report of the enquiry Commission. So, this and on the working of the State Electricity Board, the Minister is to give an explanation on the floor of the House. Therefore, let the Government give a statement or let you allow a discussion on the Adjournment Motion that is a different matter. But one thing I want to make clear is that let the Minister not deprive the House of the authority that it has been exercising and I think shall have to exercise.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in addition to what has been stated by my Hon'ble Friend regarding the adjournment motion, I want to discuss the situation arising out of sudden and drastic power out cut by Assam State Electricity Board, Sir, due to this power cut almost all the Industrial Units of Assam, more particularly, in and around Gauhati, are badly affected. Therefore, this needs immediate intervene of the House. Sir, it is a fit case to be discussed by the House and the Government has got direct responsibility also to see that economic growth of the industry is not inhibited. Sir, as you know, closing down of such Industrial units will raise serious problems because many people will be thrown out of employment. Therefore, Sir, I beg to submit that the Adjournment Motion may be allowed. The rule also permits as much.

Mr. SPEAKER: Alright the ruling is reserved. Now, Item No.2
CALLING ATTENTION.

Shri PRABIN KUMAR CHAUDHURY: Sir, under Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly I beg to call the attention of the Chief Minister to the news item appearing in the "Assam Tribune", dated 27th February 1973, under the caption "Purkayastha dig at Cabinet colleagues".

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): Sir, my attention has been drawn to the news item published in "Assam Tribune" of February 27, 1973 under the caption "Purkayastha's dig at the Cabinet colleagues".

The matter is now under my serious consideration.

So far inquiry into the happenings in Assam is concerned Government have constituted four Commissions of Inquiries and an Administrative Inquiry in connection with the last disturbances. The particulars are as follows:—

1. In consultation with the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court and with the approval of the Home Ministry and the President of India, Shri Justice M. C. Pathak was appointed to constitute a Commission of Inquiry under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952. The notification was issued on 20th January 1973.

2. An Administrative Inquiry by a Committee headed by Shri S. M. L. Bhatnagar was notified on 25th January 1973.

3. The scope of the Pathak Commission was extended and the said Commission was entrusted with the inquiry leading to the death of

Dr. Manish Das at Borkpara T. E. Dibrugarh on 14th October 1972 and also to inquire into the death of a number of persons in the Golaghat Subdivision between 27th and 31st October 1973.

4. A Commission was constituted with Shri S. Haque, District Judge, Nowgong, to inquire into two cases.

5. One more Commission was constituted with Shri B. L. Hansaria, District Judge, Dhubri to inquire into certain incidents that took place in and around Dhubri town during October and November 1972.

6. On March 10, 1973, a notification was issued constituting a Commission of Inquiry with Shri G. N. Borah, Presiding Officer, Industrial Tribunal, Dibrugarh, to inquire into two cases of 2 deaths at the Telpani Block under Dibrugarh Police Station and also into the case of death of Shri Promode Bora of Nigam village under Joypur Police Station in Dibrugarh District.

It may be mentioned that the Governor in his address to the Assam Legislative Assembly on 16th March 1973 referred to as follows:—

“It is hoped that the results of these enquiries will throw new light on incidents that took place during the disturbances and enable my Government to take effective steps to prevent recurrence of such events”.

Since the policy of the Government has been enunciated in the Governor's address in regard to these enquiries, there may not be any apprehension from any corner that the Government are not serious about these enquiries”.

Shri GIASUDDIN AHMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I seek a clarification from the Hon'ble Chief Minister, I am afraid, perhaps I could not follow the statement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. I am sure, the statement has no relevance to the calling attention and what is actually published in the paper. The news item reads as follows:—

“Purkayastha's dig at Cabinet Collegues”, Luming, February, 26— Shri Mohitosh Purkayastha, Assam's Minister for Supply, has charged some of his colleagues in the Council of Ministers with being directly or indirectly involved in language disturbances in Assam, reports P. T. I.

Addressing the open session of the two day convention of linguistic and ethnic minorities here yesterday Shri Purkayastha who is a Cabinet rank Minister, said “the Bhatnagar Committee appointed by my Government to inquire into the administrative lapses during he language disturbances cannot do its job properly. Not only one police and civil officials but even some of my own colleagues in he Council of Ministers were also directly or indirectly involved in he diturbances. How can Shri Bhatnagar, who is an officer of the Government of Assam then make the inquiry properly ?

Shri Purkayastha demanded a full-fledged inquiry by the Supreme Court Judge into the happenings in Assam and alleged involvement of the administration”.

The statement made by the Chief Minister has hardly any relevance to the news actually published.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this has relevance, as referred to Shri Purkayastha who made certain remarks about the institution of inquiry by the Supreme Court Judge. Therefore, I want to make it clear about the steps that Government have taken. So far as Mr. Purkayastha's remarks in this matter, particularly accusation against the Cabinet Colleague is concerned I have already said that this matter is seriously under my consideration.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, I want to raise a point for clarification. In what way this Cabinet is functioning and how a Cabinet member can speak against the Government particularly against his own cabinet. Now he is absent and I think he has not informed the Chief Minister and the Hon'ble Speaker too. Did he inform you Sir? Intentionally he is absent. Under Rule, if any Minister remains absent he is to inform the Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: Under Rule 54 there shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): I have already told this august House that the matter is seriously under my consideration and unless the matter is decided by me, it is not proper for me to say anything about this at this stage.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, Considering the convention, the Chief Minister should resign and reconstitute his ministry as one of his Ministers is behaving against his own Government. By remaining absent without any information, is it not dishonour to the Cabinet. I think, the Chief Minister did not receive any communication and Shri Purkayastha is wilfully remaining absent. He should be asked to resign if he continues to behave in this way.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): Sir, it is my option to take action and the matter is seriously under my consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: I close the matter here. Now item 3.

Presentation of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1972-73

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): Sir, I beg to present the Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1972-73.

Presentation of Vote on Accounts for the first quarter of the Financial year 1973-74.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): I beg to present the vote on Accounts for the first quarter of the financial year 1973-74.

Shri PREMADHAR BORA: Sir, what is the extra-ordinary situation that has led to place the 'Vote' on Accounts instead of budget ?

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, on a Point of Order. The other day also I tried to raise it but you were please to allow the Governor to address the House. I am raising the Point of Order to day. I am referring to Rule 139 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly. Here Rule 139 says, "The Annual Financial Statement or the statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the State in respect of every financial year (hereinafter referred to as "the Budget") shall be presented to the Assembly (on the first working day in the month of March on which Assembly sits)." Now, in our State the Financial year starts from the 1st of April and ends with 31st March. Last year we did not get the Annual Financial statement in proper time. It was said at that time that though Mrs. Indira Gandhi had nominated Assam's Chief Minister some time back yet the formalities of a General Election had to wait for some time and immediately after the General Election the new Government that was formed could not have sufficient time to assess the problems and possibilities of Assam's finances and therefore a hang-over of the past that is to say a routine presentation of 3 months expenditure had to be placed in the form of vote on accounts—thereby elected representatives of the people could not get the opportunity that was enjoined on it by law and the Constitution to give their considered views and suggestions as to what should be the health of the Assam's finances. Even year before that when Shri M. M. Chaudhury was formally (installed as the Chief Minister of Assam though informally) he had been functioning for sometimes past also pleaded; because formally his ministry at that time was a new one and he was not in a position to place regular budget. I am purposely mentioning the names of these two friends of mine; because so far as we are concerned we see the Congress Government as one, and a continuity. Whether 'X' is replaced by 'Y' or 'Z' by 'A' is of little consequence on us. Somebody may be a Chief Minister today the next day he may be a Chairman of a Commission, or may be a Governor of another State but yet the Congress Government continue. Somebody may be a Governor of a State to day and the next day he may be appointed as a Minister of Union and still on another date he may be the General Adviser of some Ministry, but that does not mean anything different to us. We have been seeing that this Government under this on that plea very flimsy plea have been depriving the Legislators of the rights to examine the annual budget as a whole. If it comes piecemeal, if it comes as a part or on instalment or as a hang-overs definitely we cannot have a comprehensive study of the matter. It is why our rule provides that the Annual Financial statement should be presented as a whole. I am aware that the Constitution of India also provides for exigency for special circumstances. If there be any emergent situation or if there be any extraordinary situation where the Government cannot normally function and when the Government cannot give its mind in the Finances of the State then there is the provision for vote on accounts. But we have not been told by any body from any quarter that there was an emergent situation, for which the complete budget could not be placed. On the contrary, some of

our colleagues had approached the Governor saying that there is an extraordinary situation and hence a session of the Legislature should be convened but it was not done. The Governor in his Address several times used the words 'My Government' but could not find any abnormal situation in his Government. Therefore, there cannot be any such plea that there was abnormalcy or there was any special exigency or that there was any emergency and on the other hand it is not only our duty or right but also our duty to have the Budget and study it if we are to be worthy of our Salt so far as our undertakings to electorates are concerned. There is some whisper in the air that the blame is sought to be thrown on Pay Commission, that the Pay commission has not yet submitted its reports. The Government has given the time limit upto 31st March, 1973 to submit the report in its normal course. When the Government has given the direction that the Commission is free to submit the report by 31st March, the Government cannot say now at the beginning of March that they are not in a position to present the annual financial statement because the Pay Commission might give certain recommendations. Moreover, if the Government really have any respect towards the Pay Commission the Government ought to have sent the representatives of the Government namely, Chief Secretary and the Finance Commissioner to attend regularly the Sessions of the Pay Commission. In the last several months so many Commissioners have come and gone but they seldom participated in the discussion of the Commission and therefore if the Commission has not been able to submit the report it is entirely due to the negligence towards the Commission. I think, I am not divulging any secret. I urge upon the Government to be more responsible. The Government should not engage their officers elsewhere and take the plea of non-functioning of the Commission. That is not very proper ; because it will be actually not doing any justice to the people wherefrom the mandates come and yet greater overwhelming mandate may come which may overthrow the mandate which was given only yesterday. The ultimate authority is not the House. The ultimate authority is the people and this House is only the representative of the people. So long as this House does not reflect the wishes and aspirations of the people this House will not be rising upto the level that it ought to. Therefore, we feel it extremely constrained to say that non-presentation of the budget is not only a violation of Rule 139 of our own Rules but it is a direct afront on the face of popular democracy and peoples' wishes and aspirations. I, therefore, on behalf of this side of the House lodge my strong protest against the irresponsible conduct of the Government and I want you, Sir, to give a ruling as to whether the conduct of the Government has been proper or not ; because you represent the House and through you the people's wish is reflected, whether the people's wishes are really represented by us.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: In addition to what my leader has stated, I want to submit one thing. On the first day of the Assembly when we objected to the address of the Governor we pointed out that it has become a chronic habit with the Government to bring in such kind of unrealistic demands. They have of course, a big majority and with the brute majority alone they can carry things out. Shri S. C. Sinha, our Chief Minister, has pleaded to the people to act more democratically than before. We expected many more things from him. But by putting blame on some other factors, without examining his own position, without examining the deficiency in the

administration he has come forward with a proposal of 'Vote on Accounts' which is most undemocratic, unconventional and unconstitutional, may immoral too. My leader was perfectly correct when he made some observations regarding the functioning of the Pay Commission. The Government under the leadership of the present Chief Minister has shown scanty respect to the House. The Government does not want to give priority in the matter of the House Committees. Rather in many ways they are obstructing the smooth functioning of the House Committees. Some may put the plea of shifting the capital. But in fact the capital is not shifting only we are shifting and still the capital is functioning from Shillong. As a result you know, what a tremendous amount is being spent daily for T. A. and D. A. on the galaxy of I. A. S. officers. Unless the executive is allowed to function, the legislature cannot function. As per Rule 139 if there is some extraordinary circumstances, if there is some sort of an unforeseen situation then only the question of bringing in 'Vote of Accounts' can come. In addition to our own Assembly Rules the Assam Financial Rules also does not allow the Government to come forward again and again with "Vote of Accounts". Of course, there are provisions, but they are to be used very cautiously. But this Government with its brute majority are misutilising the provisions of the constitution. This Government on one hand is advocating democracy and socialism but on the other they are depriving the people of their legitimate rights. Now the Finance Commission is coming and we are to give memorandum before the Finance Commission. May I know from the Chief Minister, who is also in-charge of Finance, as to what basis on which the Government is going to get facts and figures of the actual financial position of the State.

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister for Parliamentary Affairs): Whether the Hon'ble Member is speaking on a point of order or he is speaking against the presentation of the budget ?

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: I am speaking on both (*Laughter*). Instead of laughing, the Government ought to have felt ashamed to show such kind of attitude. This Government have violated the Rules. The Minister in-charge of Parliamentary Affairs is a senior member and he knows the rules and regulations. I do not know whether he is ignorant about it. I think not. He knows the financial rules. The Chief Minister could not point out under which rule 'Vote on Account' can be placed before the House (A Voice—Rule 150).

The constitutional provision also does not permit the Government to indulge in the chronic habit of submitting 'Vote on Accounts'. Therefore, we vehemently object to this proposal. The Chief Minister ought to have examined the provisions. I know, he is new in the Finance Ministry. We have been dealing with Finance for so many years, yet we do not understand the cliques of the Finance Department. They do not give proper briefing to the Government and these people are generally expert in twisting matters and our Finance Minister who is also the Chief Minister is dancing at their tune. This is not the dancing place; this is the House of the people and we must be allowed to know the financial position of the State, and also the financial involvement the m projects- roposed to be taken p. ut the Government

has failed to do so and therefore we consider it sa unconstitutional unjust and immoral too.

শ্রীবদন চন্দ্র জালদুদাৰ : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এখন সম্পূৰ্ণ বাজেট চৰকাৰে বছৰেকৰ মূৰত সদনত দাঙি ধৰাটো অকল এটা কণ্ডবাই নহয়, বাধ্যতামূলকও। অসম বিধান সভাৰ কাৰ্য পৰিচালনা বিধিৰ ১৩৯ ত এইটো এনে ধৰণে দিয়া আছে— “বাৰ্ষিক বিত্তীয় বিবৃতি বা প্ৰত্যেক বিত্তীয় বছৰৰ বাবে ৰাজ্যৰ প্ৰাককালিত আয় আৰু ব্যয়ৰ বিবৃতি (ইয়াৰ পিচত বাজেট হিচাবে উল্লেখিত হব) সভাত উপস্থাপিত কৰিব।” অকল এইবাবেই নহয়, প্ৰত্যেক বিত্তীয় বছৰতে এই ধৰণৰ বাজেট দাঙি ধৰাটো আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ এটা গতানুগতিক নীতিত পৰিণত হৈছে। কেতিয়াও এখন সম্পূৰ্ণ বাজেট তেখেত সকলে দাঙি ধৰিব নোৱাৰে। যোৱা বেলিও আমি এখন সম্পূৰ্ণ বাজেট নেপালো আৰু এইবাবে নিবৰ্তাচনৰ পিচত এটা নতুন চৰকাৰ হোৱাৰ অজুহাতত সম্পূৰ্ণ বাজেট নিদি ‘ভোট অৱ একাউন্টছ’ দাঙি ধৰিছিল। কিন্তু এইবাৰ চৰকাৰে এখন সম্পূৰ্ণ বাজেট দিব নোৱাৰাটো সঁচাকৈয়ে এটা আচৰিত কথা। ইয়াত মধ্য মন্ত্ৰীয়ে যিটো বিবৃতি দিছে যে, ‘পে-কমিচনৰ বিপট’ অহাৰ পিচত হয়তো আকৌ নতুন বাজেট আহিব পাৰে আৰু সেই কাৰণেহে এতিয়া সম্পূৰ্ণ বাজেট আনিব নোৱাৰিলে। এইটো এটা অতি তৰল যুক্তি। কাৰণ এনে ধৰণৰ ‘পে-কমিটি’ অহাৰ পিচতো পৰিপূৰক মঞ্জুৰী দিব পৰাৰ সন্নিবিধ আছে। বিত্তীয় বছৰৰ আৰম্ভণিতে ৰাজ্যখনৰ বিত্তীয় পৰিস্থিতিটো জনাৰ প্ৰত্যেকজন নাগৰিকৰে আৰু এই বিধান সভাৰ প্ৰত্যেকজন সদস্যৰে জনাৰ অধিকাৰ আছে। ইয়াৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত কৰাটো অকল এটা দুখজনক কথাই নহয়, এইটোৰ দ্বাৰা জনসাধাৰণ আৰু আমাৰ সদস্য সকলক তেওঁলোকৰ মৌলিক অধিকাৰৰ পৰাও বঞ্চিত কৰা হৈছে। গতিকে মই দীঘলীয়াকৈ কব খোজা নাই, মাত্ৰ ইয়াকেহে কব খুজিছো যে, চৰকাৰে এনে ধৰণৰ ‘ভোট অৱ একাউন্টছ’ দিয়াৰ কোনো অধিকাৰ নাই। বৰং বিধান সভাৰ প্ৰক্ৰিয়া আৰু কাৰ্য পৰিচালনা বিধিৰ ১৩৯ ধাৰাটো উপলব্ধি কৰা হৈছে। গতিকে এই বিধি অমান্য কৰা আৰু বিধান সভাৰ সদস্য সকলক তেওঁলোকৰ মৌলিক অধিকাৰৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত কৰাৰ কাৰণে মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীভট্টাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াই দাঙি ধৰা প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰি আপোনাৰ পৰা এটা সন্মতিক্ৰম বিচাৰিছো।

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that I have not been able to appreciate the points of view expressed by my hon. friends from the opposition. Sir, I am presenting this vote on account not out of rules. It is within the rules and I am presenting it under Rule 150. Sir, I am quite conscious of Rule 139 and according to that rule the Budget will be presented. We shall have to place the Budget and we shall do it, not in parts, but in full, but that Budget is not presented to-day; it will be presented to this august House in a future date. Now, to cover the gap upto the date on which the Budget will be presented, we want a vote on account and that is provided in the rule and according to that, I am presenting it to-day. Therefore, it is not irregular. As a matter of fact, in this House “vote on the account” was placed under similar circumstances. The circumstance may not be the same but these are similar. It is the convention in this House and we have been doing it. Now, the circumstances under which we are placing the vote on accounts have been stated in my brief statement. It is not that we are presenting the vote on account, because of the difficulties arising out of shifting of capital, nor has it any thing to do with our attitude towards socialism or capitalism. It is the financial condition of the State which has compelled us to

present the vote on account to this House. Sir, you know the financial crisis through which we are passing. The loan burden is increasing and therefore under the circumstances we cannot present a realistic Budget now to the House. We may present a Budget to-day, but tomorrow we may have to change it and the result will be that it will not be a realistic Budget. Therefore, during this period we want firmly to ascertain our position and present a realistic Budget in this House later on. It is not that we are blaming the Pay Commission. We are not finding fault with the Pay Commission. The Pay Commission has taken its own time and pains to study the problems and we expect that the Commission will present its report soon. Once the report is presented, we will have to take into consideration the recommendations of the Commission without these recommendations if we present our Budget to-day it will not be a realistic Budget. I may reiterate that we are not blaming the Pay Commission but I am stating the circumstances under which we are placed. It is not irregular to present 'vote on account' This 'vote on accounts' in the circumstances is a necessity.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Members in the opposition have raised this point of order and the substances of their point of order is that the Government ought not to have come with a vote on account, and they ought to have come with a regular Budget. So far as I remember a vote of account was placed in 1971 due to Midterm poll in 1972 also because the general election being just completed a vote of account was placed. Again this has been repeated this year, and therefore, that there will be some grievances on this score, is understandable. I do not say that Government cannot place the vote on account but I feel that Government should see that in future they do not do so. (Applause from the Opposition). Article 202 of the Constitution says "The Governor shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before the House or Houses of the Legislature of the State a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the State for that year in this Part referred to as the "annual financial statement". Article 206 deals with vote on accounts. It says "Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this Chapter, the Legislative Assembly of a State shall have power—

(a) To make any grant in advance in respect of the estimated expenditure for a part of any financial year pending the completion of the procedure prescribed in article 203 for the voting of such grant and the passing of the law in accordance with the provisions of article 204 in relation to that expenditure" Our rule 150 also entitles the Government to present 'vote on account'. Rule 139 says that the annual financial statement or the statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the State in respect of every financial year should be presented to the Assembly. Previously it was obligatory to present it on the first working day in the month of March on which the Assembly sits but now the rule has been modified. Therefore, I do not find any force in the point of order and I rule it out. (Applause from the Congress benches). I now allow the Chief Minister to read his statement.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA, [(Chief Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to present the Estimates of expenditure for the first quarter of the financial year 1973-74 for a Vote on Account by the House,

Before presenting the Estimates, I would like to explain briefly to the Hon'ble House why the Government are not submitting the Annual Financial statement for the whole year in this Session. The Report of the Assam Pay Commission has not yet been submitted to Government. As the impact of the Pay revision will affect the expenditure figures for 1973-74, it is not possible for the Government to present a realistic estimate of expenditure for the next financial year to the Hon'ble House till the Report of the Pay Commission is considered and decision taken thereon.

As the Hon'ble Members are aware, while presenting the Central Budget to Parliament, the Union Finance Minister stated that the report of the Third Pay Commission had not yet been received and on receipt of the report and subsequent to whatever decision might be taken on those recommendations supplementary Grants to the extent required would be taken. The Government of India are in a happy position in this regard for they have sufficient scope for meeting the additional requirements either by mobilising additional resources or by taking recourse to deficit financing. So far as the Government of Assam are concerned, the scope for raising additional resources is extremely limited and the State Government cannot take recourse to deficit financing as the Reserve Bank will not allow the State Government to take overdraft, as a result, the State Government will have to depend on the Government of India for necessary financial assistance to meet the impact of pay revision. To the extent that such assistance is not forthcoming from the Government of India, we may be compelled to meet the additional requirements by reducing our contribution to the Annual plan. It will be obvious, therefore, that till the position is clarified, it is not possible for the Government even to present a realistic Annual plan Budget for 1973-74.

Considering all these factors the State Government have decided that instead of presenting an unrealistic Budget to the Hon'ble House at this stage, it would be more appropriate to obtain a Vote on Account during this Session and present a realistic Budget in the next Session to enable the Hon'ble Members to participate usefully in the discussion on the Budget estimate.

Before concluding this statement, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the Hon'ble Members of this House and particularly to the Hon'ble Speaker and the Chairman and Members of the House Committee for the valuable co-operation and encouragement extended by them in making it possible to hold this Session of the Assembly at Dispur.

With these few words, Sir, I hereby place the Estimates of Expenditure for the first quarter of the next financial year before the Hon'ble House for consideration and approval. The advance asked for has been calculated on an *ad-hoc* basis to cover the obligatory expenditure for the first quarter of the next financial year.

Introduction of Government Bills

Shri UPENDRA DAS (Minister Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg Leave of the House to introduce the Assam Agricultural Farming Corporation Bill, 1973.

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

(Voice—yes)

The leave is granted.

Shri UPENDRA DAS (Minister Agriculture): Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Agricultural Farming Corporation Bill, 1973.

(The Secretary read out the title of the Bill introduced)

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS., (Minister, Industries): Sir., I beg leave of the House to introduce the Indian Electricity (Assam Amendment) Bill, 1973.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the Hon'ble Minister leave of the House to introduce the Bill ? (Voice—Yes)
The leave is granted.

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS. (Minister, Industries): Sir, I beg to introduce the Indian Electricity (Assam Amendment) Bill, 1973.

(The Secretary read out the title of the Bill introduced)

Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Tinsukia and Dibrugarh Electric Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill, 1973.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the Hon'ble Minister leave of the House to introduce the Bill ? (Voice—Yes)
The leave is granted.

Shri MAHAMMAD IDRIS. (Minister, Industries): Sir, I beg to introduce the Tinsukisa and Dibrugarh Electric Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill, 1973.

(The Secretary read out the title of the Bill introduced)

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1973.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, there is a point of order. I quote Rule 74.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is introduction only.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: The Chief Minister has distributed the portfolio to a particular Minister and unless the Chief Minister is authorised by the particular Minister he cannot

introduce the Bill standing in the name of that Minister. The Bill is standing in the name of Shri M. Purkayastha, Minister in-charge of Excise and the Chief Minister, unless he is authorised by the Minister in-charge of the Bill cannot introduce the Bill

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot entertain the point of order raised by Mr. Barua. The Rule 74 relates to consideration of the Bill. You can raise the point of order at that stage. I rule out the point of order.

I put the question. Has the Chief Minister leave of the House to introduce the Bill? (*Voice—Yes*).

The leave is granted. Here is a message from the Governor which reads as follows:—

Raj Bhaban, Shillong, the 9th March, 1973: I recommend under Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1973 be introduced in the Assam Legislative Assembly—

Sd.:—Braj Kumar Nehru, Governor of Assam.”

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1973.

(The Secretary read out the title of the Bill introduced.)

Sri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Legislative Assembly Members' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1973.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the Chief Minister leave of the House to introduce the Bill? (*Voice—yes*) The leave is granted. Here is a message from the Governor which reads as follows:

“Raj Bhaban, Shillong the 9th March, 1973: I recommend under Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Legislative Assembly Members' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1973 be introduced in the Assam Legislative Assembly—
Sd- B. K. Nehru, Governor of Assam”.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA, (Chief Minister): Sir, beg to the introduce the Assam Legislative Assembly Members' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1973.

(The Secretary read out the title of the Bill introduced)

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINGHA, (Chief Minister)
Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Finance Bill, 1973.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the Chief Minister leave of the House to introduce the Bill? (*Voice—Yes*) The Leave is granted. Here is a message from the Governor which reads as follows:

“Raj Bhaban, Shillong, the 7th March, 1973. Under the provision of Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India, I, Braj

64 PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE [20th March
ON PRIVILEGES

Kumar Nehru, Governor of Assam, recommend the introduction in the Assam Legislative Assembly of the Assam Finance Bill, 1973
Sd./- B. K. Nehru, Governor of Assam”.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister): Sir
I beg to introduce the Assam Finance Bill, 1973.

(The Secretary read out the title of the Bill introduced.)

Presentation of the Report of the Select Committee

Shri SYED AHMED ALI (Minister, Law): Sir, I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Assam Housing Board Bill, 1972.

Shri GOLOK CHANDRA RAJBANSHI (Deputy Speaker): Sir,
I beg to move that this Assembly agrees to the extension of time till the 20th March, 1973 for submission of the Report of the Privileges Committee relating to the complaint against the Director Public Instruction and Chairman, Secretary and Members of the State Madrasa Board, Assam.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that this Assembly agrees to the extension of the time till the 20th March 1973 for submission of the Report of the Privileges Committee relating to the complaint against the Director, Public Instruction and Chairman, Secretary and Members of the State Madrasa Board Assam.

(The motion was adopted.)

Shri GOLOK CHANDRA RAJBANSHI (Deputy Speaker): I beg to move that this Assembly agrees to the extension of time till the 20th March 1973 for submission of the Report of the Privileges Committee relating to the complaint against Shri Gokul Pathak, Editor Printer, and Publisher, “Amar Desh”.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that this Assembly agrees to the extension of time till the 20th March 1973 for submission of the Report of the Privileges Committee relating to the complaint against Shri Gokul Pathak, Editor, Printer and Publisher, “AMAR DESH”.

(The motion was adopted)

Presentation of Report of the Committee on Privileges

Shri GOLOK CHANDRA RAJBANSHI (Deputy Speaker): Sir
I beg to present the fourteenth Report of the Committee of Privilege relating to complaint against the Director, Public Instructions and Chairman, Secretary and Members of the State Madrassa Board Assam.

Shri GOLOK CHANDRA RAJBANSHI (Deputy Speaker): Sir,
I beg to present the Fifteenth Report of the Committee of Privileges

relating to the complaint against Shri Gokul Pathak, Editor, Printee and Publisher "AMAR DESH".

Debate, on the Governor's Address

Mr. SPEAKER: Next item Debate on Governor's Address.
Mr. Handique.

Shri BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Chiming in with the Governor in his address delivered on 16th of March on the floor of this House, I too at the very outset, admire the glorious feat of the Government in making the seemingly impossible possible by shifting the capital from Shilliong to Dispur within the short span of 100 days.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair at this stage at 12:12hours

This is not only an achievement of P. W. D. and other associate departments but also an achievement of the young people associated with construction work who responded to this mighty big challenge in meeting the long cherished hopes and aspirations of the people of Assam. It is indeed a momentous occasion as the Governor calls it. Yes, in will go down in the history of Assam as a rare achievement and the posterity through generations will echo one exclamation. "They did it. They did it" Yes, Sir, they did it translating into reality the commitment of the Government made on the floor of the House on the 7th June, 1972.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Governor has rightly observed that the temporary capital at Dispur has vindicated the Government policy of employment. For the construction work has been mostly entrusted to young educated unemployed and, particularly to the unemployed engineers. All possible facilities by way of timely supply of scarce materials, regular payment of bills and others have been made available to them. In fact, it has become a test case. Now that Dispur experiment has been a success, Government rightly propose to extend this to other construction programme as far as practicable in future. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the matter of general employment as stated in the Governor's address, special schemes involving an expenditure of Rs. 72 lakhs of rupees were taken up during 1972-73 to tackle the problem of educated unemployed. These schemes provide for the setting up of Poultry, Dairy and Fodder farms and service units where the youths will be kept as under-Study till they gather adequate experience and these units are in a position to run profitably. It is also heartening to note that more such labour intensive schemes at an estimated cost of Rs.3 crores are in the offing. However, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a matter vitally connected with our proposed measures to fight unemployed. This is the attitude of the nationalised banks towards tackling the problem of unemployment in the State. Sir, the high hopes and assurances with which the banks were nationalised have now received a severe jolt in spite of their much talked about achievements which I consider as tall talk. Sir, unless something positive is done to make the banks participate in the life of the common people, I am afraid,

resentment will soon end up in disillusionment. The object of nationalisation was to promote repaid growth in agriculture, small industries and exports, to encourage new entrepreneurs and to develop all the backward areas. But, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, have we achieved this as yet? Even to day banks remain just a money lending institution and nothing beyond that. It is still more a deposit minded rather than credit minded. True, banks have a primary function to protect the legitimate interests of the depositors but it was made sufficiently clear both in the Parliament and outside that there was likely to be a major change in the credit policy of the nationalised banks. Thus purposive direction to credit was urged e.g., bank credit was to be used for productive purposes. But, Sir, even after nationalisation banks are more interested in security of their money than the welfare of the people. According to the directive principles Reserve Bank of India gave instructions to Banks to issue credit without security under the Reserve Bank of India guarantee schemes. But unfortunately in actual practice no credit is issued without any guarantee. In fact, banks demand additional security which has to be landed property. Thus to get credit one must provide this additional security to the extent of credit applied. So, the question arises whether it is the affluent section of society alone which is destined to enjoy the benefits of nationalisation. If so, the present role of the bank makes a mockery of all the hopes and promises held out when they were nationalised. There are even instances when nationalised banks have refused to accept the State Government guarantee of 15 per cent cost of the scheme. As a rule Banks can sanction credit to the extent of 75 per cent only. But the situation is more intriguing as according to the R. B. I. there should not be more than one guarantee against a particular credit. So, it presents a tough hurdle to the young entrepreneurs who are mostly educated unemployed to raise by themselves 25 per cent of the total cost. I cite one specific case in support of my observation. One Shri Guna Govinda Dutta who intends to establish a Type Foundry faces such a difficult situation. In his case the 25 per cent of total cost of the project is Rs.38,000 which he can hardly afford to collect. This is a good scheme but is being nipped in the bud because of the rigidities practiced by the banks. I can cite another instance. An educated unemployed youth Shri Bipul Chandra Dutta planned to start a card board industry under the name and style M/S Eastern Card Board Industry. This was registered on the 20th of February 1971. He was sent to Eastern Paper Mill for practical training sponsored by Industries Department. In the meantime he applied to N. S. I. C. for machineries on hire Purchase but he was refused. He then applied to the bank for finance; he was refused again. In the meantime, Calcutta firm M/S. Sheo Sankar Surendra Kumar Private Limited has come forward with the same project in a big way and have finance a machinery ready for the purpose. It is reported that Bank has advanced loan to the firm in the name of another organisation under the same firm. So, there is no difficulty for him in diverting the money to this project. Is it how the nationalised banks have served the cause of the educated unemployed. This is a test case for the Government. I would request the Government to probe into the matter. The criterion of qualifications and experience required to be possessed by the entrepreneurs is also ridiculous. Emphasis is being laid on working knowledge of the particular industry for which credit is sought. I would

accept the intention of the banks as genuine if this criterion applies to all. But in case of the big entrepreneurs, working knowledge is waived on the plea that he will employ experienced personnel. As there is the rub why Sir, then this discrimination? Besides, contrary to expectations as conceived under the lead bank scheme, the bank have failed to formulate and implement action oriented plans for intensive exploration of local potentials and possibilities. Thus the objective of nationalisation to accelerate the process of economic growth through increased sanction of credit to the needy entrepreneurs has receded from us. What I would suggest, Sir, steps should be taken to increase the State Government's control an effective control on the affairs of the nationalised banks. Otherwise all our pious hopes of using Bank credit for easing the acute unemployment situation and accelerating the industrial growth will be just a wash out.

In the field of industry, it is indeed heartening to note that the state is making some progress. The big project on hand have already been listed in the Governor's Address. Government however must admit that the performance of the Tea Corporation is rather slow considering the fact that it came into existence 2 years ago and, particularly considering the speed at which the tea gardens are being sold out. I raised this question in the last Budget Session of this House. Tea estates are being sold out pretty fast and unless the Corporation acts quickly, it will miss its mark and cannot expect to have the good gardens. In fact the vested interests are out on a determined bid to sabotage the Corporation. For they know the corporation is the first step towards nationalisation. So, the Government must be on guard against vested interests within and without. Idelay, the Corporation should prepare itself resourcewise and experiencewise to take up the management of tea gardens the moment they are nationalised and that time is not far off. With the 25th Amendment of the Constitution, I think nationalisation, atleast, from the point of view of compensation, will not be a difficult proposition. Moreover, Sir, a serious situation has developed in the tea industry where Government attention is required. Since independence, the foreign tea companies barring a few have not made any investment for improvement and maintenance of tea gardens. It is quite natural for them because they have already started plantations in East Africa and would not naturally like to see Indian tea being a rival to their tea grown in East Africa in the world market. But the Government has to look at it from the point of view of preservation and improvement of national wealth. Tea is a great national wealth and the second big foreign exchange earner.

Government cannot keep its eyes shut when this national wealth^h is subject to deliberate and wilful neglect. This is all the more reason why the Tea Corporation should act quickly. There is another serious factors which claims the attention of the Government. Tea industry has started falling into the hands of speculators I cite one case. A leading tea company of India, Jorhat Tea Company was bought over by a Canadian multi-millionaire, Mr. Fox who own a net work of commercial organisation all over the world. He is an international figure in the world of speculation. During the last four years since the company has come under his ownership, tea gardens were bought and sold in quick succession just to suit his speculative bid. For he is more interested in quick returns the promotion and prosperity of the Industry. Of late he has intended to close down the central office of

of the company located at Jorhat on the plea that the company had run into loss for the last 4 years. The closure, if it materialises, will throw 250 people out of job which will be a burden on the society. Sir, the company has been in existence for the last 113 years. And for the last 113 years this company has been exploiting the resources of our country. Can it now justify the close on the plea of having incurred loss only during the last 4 years? There is already deep resentment among the employees and workers of that tea company. The Labour Department has however taken steps within its limited scope. I hope the Government will intervene if the company presses the closure. In the meantime, I would also like to point out that much of the work of the Central office has been entrusted to a firm in Calcutta in order to fabricate this office is redundant. So, Sir, we have reason to believe that this report move of closure is motivated and is in collusion with vested interests outside Assam.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How long you will take ?

The House stands adjourned till 2 P. M.

Shri BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQU: Next Sir, I refer to the emphasis laid in the Governor's address on land reforms for co-ordinated economic development of the State. Government has already taken series of progressive measures for land reforms. The most radical measures are, however, the Land Ceiling (Amendment) Bill reducing the ceiling on agricultural holdings from 75 bighas to 50 bighas and the Bill to prescribe the ceiling on urban immovable property which has been referred to a Select Committee. I am happy to observe that Government has appreciated the urgency and importance of the land reform as an instrument of social change and social justice. In a country, where 70 per cent of the people are engaged in agriculture, land holds the key to the refashioning of society. So the battle for lowering of ceilings is only one aspect of a bigger battle for comprehensive land reforms. Land to the tiller is the basic principle on which the entire edifice of land reforms is to be based. A new form of absentee Landlordism has already developed. In Assam this absentee landlordism persists in the Adhiar system. All attempts supported by the Tenancy Act to give a fair deal to the Adhiars have so far failed. Adhiars are being forcefully evicted whenever they demand right of records. Government of Assam, however, have found an answer to this absentee Landlordism in Agricultural Farming Co-operations of landless tillers. This will also raise production and improve economic conditions of the farmers. This Farming Corporation with its emphasis on the interpretation of property as a means of account from landless people to landless tillers and shift of livelihood is a revolutionary concept. Four farming to Corporation have just been formed giving benefit to 1200 families and covering 10,000 bighas of land. I do understand the difficulties experienced by Government in acquiring land for Corporation. Wherever we go land is under occupation of encroachers. I don't mind if they are genuine landless peasant. But unfortunately very often they are not. But what is most disconcerting is that landlordism has developed among the encroachers who have grabbed whatever vacant Land is available. In Assam, particularly in Upper Assam, the sources of surplus land are the tea-gardens and lan

belonging to Charitable institutions and Satradhikars, known as Debottar land. A disquieting situation has already developed in the tea gardens. As there is inordinate delay on the part of the Government in taking over the excess land of the tea-gardens, many tea companies have got them occupied by interested people, so that land may continue to be in their control, though in an indirect manner. In many tea-gardens the owners have caused bad blood often resulting in clashes between sections of people over the possession of these excess lands. So, I would urge the Government to take over the excess land of the tea-gardens with immediate effect, if necessary by an ordinance unless it is done immediately, I am afraid, there will not be much land left for distribution among landless farmers. No time should be lost by way of verification. Government should take possession first and then start verification. The story of acquisition of Debottar land is even more dismal. Though there is an Act in force for acquiring such lands implementation is not effective at all. I cite one instance which clearly demonstrates that Government was not serious about acquiring Debottar Land. In 1961 a certain Satradhikar filed a suit against the Government. In 1965 Government won the case in a lower Court. Then the Satradhikar filed an appeal in the High Court and won it suit. As a result, the right of possession of that Satradhikar was established over 31,000 bighas of land. But it is a mystery why Government did not appeal to the Supreme Court. I am, however, confident that the present Government means business and will apply the Land Ceiling Act effectively, and if necessary, ruthlessly in acquiring the Debottar land and ends this Zamindary main tained in the name of spiritualism. Immediate steps should also be taken to record the rights of the Adhiars and to stall forceful eviction. Efforts are already under way to organize resistance on the part of the Adhiars. Congress will soon launch such a resistance movement in collaboration with other progressive forces. It is indeed a sad piece of irony that Naxalites killing a zamindar or a couple of jotedars hit the headlines, but we seldom keep track of the frequent murders of sharecroppers. in Bihar and other States at the hands of goonda-gangs of Land lords who are unwilling to give them their legal rights.

I caution the Government against any shillyshallying on implementation of the new land laws so that people might not lose confidence in parliamentary democracy and peaceful transformation. The writing on the wall is very clear. I hope Government will read it carefully. The concept of ceiling on urban property the demand for which was made at the Bombay Session of the congress in December, 1969 is even more revolutionary and will go a long way towards establishing socialism. For concentration of wealth will be severely sliced by this measure. There is a provision in our constitution that if two or more State Governments agreed to impose ceiling on urban property they must pass resolution and parliament will prepare a model Bill and circulate it to the other State Government. A comprehensive legislation for imposing ceiling on urban property is being worked out by Union Govt. Stating this in Rajya Sabha in May, 1972, the then Minister of State of Housing and Urban Development, Shri I.K.Gujral said that there was also a proposal to expand the coverage of ceiling to include total wealth. It is indeed gratifying to note that the Government of Assam

has joined the band of pioneer States in introducing such a radical piece of legislation. I would, however, like to punch it home to the Government that mere legislation, however radical it may be, is not enough. What is important is implementation which will be the real test of Government's sincerity about ushering in a new order of society. The Tenancy Act and the Act for acquiring lands belonging to charitable institutions, though not very radical, yet were actuated by progressive thinking on land reforms for economic betterment of the masses. Unfortunately how much success can we boast of even after years of their being in force? I am, however, happy to observe that the Governor has referred to the Government's intention to strengthen the Land Reforms machinery so as to ensure implementation on a time bound basis. Yes, implementation has to be time-bound and speedy. Otherwise it is vague and meaningless and the vested interests get a long handle to frustrate such measures by creating confusion and by other clandestine manipulation. Thus, Sir, delay will spell disaster; delay will deny justice; delay will defeat the very purpose of the policy.

In the field of cultural affairs, the decision of the Government in regard to the development and promotion of the film industry in the State, are in conformity with the views expressed by many Hon'ble members in the last Budget Session of the House. I congratulate the Government for respecting the wishes expressed on the floor of the House. And about contemplation of the Government to have a few cinema houses in the public sector, I am sure all will hail the idea. This is no doubt a prelude to the nationalisation of the exhibition. I would, however, caution the Government while granting the refund of Amusement taxes to the film producers. The purpose of such concessions is to encourage and help financially the local indigenous film makers. Film making in Assam is commercially prospective. So, of late, it has attracted big business from within and outside the State. Is there any justification in granting such concession in the form of exemption of the Amusement Taxes to such parties which make huge profits by sizable investment of their own? Government approach to the problem of film industry should be purely cultural and not commercial. So unless the earlier decision of the Government is amended soon Assam will be a paradise for big business from outside in film making. For Government contribution is in proportion to the sale proceeds which can be boosted up by heavy investment. This is quite a big attraction. I would like to suggest to the Government that two conditions be prefixed to such concessions while being extended to the local producers first, the film must be made in the Jyoti Chitran Film Studio; secondly, the local technicians—there are quite a number of qualified and experienced local technicians now must be employed. And facilities should be extended only to the professionals. Amateurism can never further the cause of art or any cause under the sun. The decision of the Government to create an Artistes Aid Fund in order to provide financial assistance and relief to ailing and otherwise needy artistes and their families is simply superb. I think such a fund should be created for the sportsmen too. At the moment there are ailing eminent sportsmen with glorious past like Shri Animesh Ganguly, Aswini Ragbanshi, to name a few only. It is the bounden duty of society and Government as well to look after them. I do appreciate also the Literary Pensions

at the rate of Rs.400 granted to eminent litteratures of the State for life. But here is a little bit of confusion. I draw the attention of the Government to the news items published in the *Assam Tribune* dated 11th July, 1969 and the *Assam Batori* dated 13th July 1969 wherein it was stated that pensioners were granted to five eminent writers by Government. But these writers never got pension. Nor all of them were included in the list of pensioners announced recently. I hope Government will look into the matter and take appropriate steps.

There is, however, an omission in the Governor's Address. This is about the development of sports. As I know, Government has been taking keen interest in promotion and development of sports in the States. Recently a Sports Workshop on State level was organised by Jorhat Club in collaboration with the Sports Council of Assam. Hon'ble Education Minister and Hon'ble State Minister, and a group of sports personalities participated in the discussion on various aspects of sports. I hope Government will take note of the important decisions made therein including the improvement of N. S. C. A. Stadium Jorhat and take steps to implement them. The concept of a Sports School a full fledged Secondary School with sports bias where boys and girls with aptitude for games and sports are demanded to be admitted deserves a fair trial. I hope Government will appreciate the important of sports in disciplining the life of the young people and turning out good citizens.

Before I conclude Sir, I refer to the formation and function of the Planning Board. For the first time attention has been given to a comprehensive Planning processed from the grass roots. Much tears have been shed in the past over Assam's backwardness in spite of her rich resources in plenty, her poor communication, her stagnation in industrial growth and her poor yield in agriculture in contrast to the Green Revolution boosting up agricultural production in the other States of the country. It is indeed a commendable step on the part of the Government particularly on the eve of the Fifth Five-year Plan which envisages growth with social justice, self-reliance, maximisation of employment and provision of social consumption needs particularly of the weaker section of the community. In absence of such an overall plan, we have a pathetic little in spite of our heavy expenditure in the past. So far our approach to the problems of the State was piecemeal. Problems were treated in isolation, out of context with the State or a region taken as a whole. Power, irrigation, agriculture, industry, embankment and drainage, roads all are water-tight compartments with no agency to coordinate. That is why there is no desired development in the plains as well as in the hills. For the past few years huge amount of money under Article 275 has been spent exclusively on the development of the hills areas. But has there been any development worth the name? Is there any master plan for overall development of a hill area even small in size? It is indeed a happy augury, particularly since planning is being processed at the Subdivisional level where the legislators are being associated. Probably Government wants to pass the buck to us, I hope Government will see to it that he benefits of various integrated projects such as irrigation, electrification, water-supply, flood protection, industrialisation are evenly distributed over the State and special attention is paid to uplift the backward areas so that the people of Assam no longer remain below the bread line.

In conclusion, I extend my most heart-felt thanks to the Governor for his realistic presentation of the performance of the Government since the prorogation of the House and a statement of what Government proposes to do for the year. The Governor gives an account of the agitation arising out of the medium controversy. He is, however, handicapped, as we are, in dwelling at length on the subject, as most of the incidents are at the moment being enquired into by judicial commissions and as such are subjudice. We anxiously await the report of the Commission to apprise ourselves of the circumstances leading to such incidents. Within this limited scope I can say this much that Government appreciates the grave importance of the issue, however, sensitive and explosive it may be. The order for judicial enquiry itself bears witness to the fact that how deeply Government is exercised and concerned over the serious implications of the issue and at the same time seized of public feelings in this regard. The appointment of the Committee to hold enquiries into administrative lapses, if any, in maintaining law and order, further demonstrates the fortitude and moral responsibility of Government to face facts and to grapple with the reality. I think we shall have more occasion and opportunity to discuss the matter in course of this session. On general performance, it is however, true that on many occasions Government's performance is not up to the mark. No Government can claim all-perfection. What is important is that Government has made an honest attempt which in itself has a meaningful purpose even though it does not attain the desired success. Often unforeseen forces stand in the way. As for instance, the decision of the Government to change the cropping pattern from Kharif to Rabi to avert flood damages is no doubt right and wise. And the emergency Rabi production programme which though sounds very ambitious was the result of this new thinking. And it is true that we have had only limited achievement in it. But we have to consider the factors, political and others including our limited resources, which stood in the way while launching this programme. In the field of education, too, there will be initially some difficulties and confusion while trying to evolve a new pattern of schooling to fit into the National Policy. We do not want our state to be in isolation. Sooner or later our schooling pattern has to fall in line with the all-India pattern. Everybody must admit that the introduction of work experience and vocational education in the schools and colleges is indeed commendable. Complaints about the 'Ivory Tower' approach to education is always in the air. So this new scheme will be a sort of 'down to earth' approach as the vocational stream of education and work experience is likely to provide firm base and practical grounding in the various subjects taught. Let us give it a try-out. The Governor has rightly said: A beginning has been made and we shall have to go a long way to achieve our goals-removal of poverty, achievement of self-reliance and setting up of socialist society. I conclude with oft-quoted lines from Robert Frost:

Woods are lovely, dark and deep
 But I have promises to keep
 And miles to go before I sleep
 And miles to go before I sleep

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, believe it or not the symbol of state capitalism has promised to us to set up a socialist society. But Sir, I will only say

কাকস্য চণ্ড যদি হেমদন্তা।

মাণিক্য খচিতৌ চবণোচতস্য।।

একৈকে পক্ষে যদি গজমদন্তা।

তথাপি কাকঃ ন চ বাজহংসঃ।।

I am giving a *liberal* English Translation :—

কাকস্য চণ্ড যদি হেমদন্তা।

even if the gill of the Crow is ornamented with Gold,

মাণিক্য খচিতৌ চবণো চ তস্য।।

even if its two feet are bedecked with emerald,

একৈকে পক্ষে যদি গজমদন্তা।

even if each of its wings is bestowed with Gajamukta pearl,

তথাপি কাকঃ ন চ বাজহংসঃ।

the Crow does not become a Swan.

Why socialism? The primary duty of any Civilised Government is to provide food for the people.

অন্নং ভবতি ভূতানি ।।

(Food is] the prop of life). But even in this primary duty, this Government has dismally failed.

Unless and until the productive forces changed and the inter-relation of the productive forces basically change, a white washing here or a glossing there does not bring in socialism. Promise of course there may be. Such promises were given by Musolini and was also given by Hitler. Hitler called his Nazi party as a purely a socialist party and yet we know what that socialism of Hitler was. There was slogan of one country, one party and one leader. I would ask the House to consider the possible consequences of the slogan of one party one country and one leader knowing full well what Hitler had brought. Sir, I am one with those who give more weight to one ounce of performance to one ton of promises. So far as promise are concerned, I admit that there has been such promises in abundances in the last 2 years. My freind Mr. Handique in his long one hour speech said about the flop that the so called nationalised commercial banks have brought to the common people. He will see man more flops if he really believed those promises, because these promises were made only to bluff the people and not to bring in an change.

Shri LAKHYADHAR DOLEY: Sir, on a point of order. On 16th March when the Governor made his address Mr. Bhattacharyya and his colleagues on the other side of the House marched out of the House in protest against the Governor's address on the ground that the Governor had no moral, legal or constitutional right to address the House. In other words they boycotted the House. Sir, I want to know whether Mr. Bhattacharyya who boycotted the House the other day had any moral, legal or constitutional right to participate in the debate on Governor's Address?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, do you think it to be a Point of Order?

(Voices:—They have been supplied with the copy of the Governor address and therefore they are participating in the debate.)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The point of Order is ruled out.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Anyway, it has given me a little amusement. I thank him for it. No, I shall speak only on a few matters. What is the fundamental thing for a citizen? It is the right to live and if one is to live he is to get food. Even in the scripture it is said *जनां भवति भुक्ति*. It is the food which is the prop of life. Let us see whether this Government has been able to make any progress in respect of improving production. Let me not say abolition of poverty. In the matter of producing more food and raising the number of those who are above starvation line. Can the Government give any figure to show that the number of people in the state living above starvation line has increased? Whether it is socialism or not, I shall say that the Government has made a good start if there is any reduction of poverty but the figures that I have in my possession, the statistics on which I am depending show that there has not been any reduction in the largescale poverty of our population. If they can disprove it I shall be the happiest man.

The second thing is that every man purchases things in the market and it is the responsibility of the Government to see that the price of different commodities essential for the day to day life of the people is within the reach of the people. Let us see what has been the trend in this regard. Sir, I am placing only a few examples with regard to the position of the price index. Let us see what is the position of the whole-sale price index. In the year 1961-62 if we take it as the base year, we find that during the last financial year, that is, 1972-73 the wholesale price index has risen by 15 per cent. The Reserve Bank of India which has given the index of consumers price index has shown that while in 1961-62 it was 100 by the base year, by October, 1972 it has gone to 254. In the previous year it was 169. In this one year so far 254. Then by a survey conducted by the Economic Times which has covered 25 big cities, it is seen that there has been in the one year a tremendous rise and it has gone up

near-about 300 per cent. Then even the Finance Minister of the Government of India has admitted on the floor of the Parliament I am quoting his words "bread prices have increased in the cities by 5 to 10 p. atta is dearer by 30 paise Maida is higher by 40 paise .

In our State the position is even worse. Again to quote from the Economic Times which has given the comparative figures of the last few weeks it has been seen that as against last years 221.9 of all India Assam's figure is 232. As against previous months All India figure of 251, Assam's corresponding figures is 261. As against last weeks All India figure of 254, Assam corresponding figure is 297. Thereafter could anybody have the check to say that they are going to usher in a welfare society by raising the prices everyday, every week, every month? If the administration claims that they are going to usher in a socialistic society, I think, there cannot be a greater hoax than this.

Then, Sir, this Congress Government is ruining the finances of the State of Assam. I am not making any offhand remark. I am quoting from the reply which was sent by the Chief Minister who happens to be the Finance Minister also to a question of mine placed last year. According to the Government's own admission the financial position from the year 1968 to the year 1970-71 is greatly deteriorating. Revenue receipt increased to a certain extent by 1969-70, but then the next year it fell. No only that . It fell much below the budget estimates which means that the Government cannot even estimate as to what it expects to get. From the estimated 111 crores of rupees it went down to 101 crores of rupees. On the other hand, so far as revenue expenditure is concerned, it has not been able to cut the coat according to the cloth. As against the estimated 110 crores, it spent 120 crores. The result has been that as the administration by this Congress Government continues in our State every year we are facing deficit in our budget. For example, from 13 crores and odd lakhs in 1966-67 by 1968-69 it went up to 21 crores 84 lakhs, and in 1970-71 it was nearabout 20 crores. In this way we have seen that for five consecutive years there has been budget deficit in this State, and the result has been that we have become borrowers, and our total loan during these five years has been 150 crores and 24 lakhs. For this we are to pay every year about 336 lakhs 79 thousands of rupees as interest alone. This has been the performance of this Government so far as the public finances are concerned. I now come to the question of the overwhelming majority of our people—the peasantry. This Government has not only deprived the peasantry of land and means but this Government is out to corrupt the people. I shall give only one instance. There was a great noise in the last autumn that about Rs.10 crores would be spent on Rabi crop campaign. I have not made any survey of the entire State but I have seen in my own area what is the performance. What some corrupt officers have done. In the last moment they have given certain amounts. Some 'A' comes and says he is 'P', then 'B' comes and says he is 'F' and then 'C' comes

and says he is 'Y'. In this way 'A' posing as 'P', 'B' posing as 'F' and 'C' posing as 'Y' manage to get the loan in collaboration with the corrupt officials. The reason is that when the question of realisation of the loan would come, no such man as 'A', 'B' and 'C' would be found. In this way a big chunk of the money has been taken away by fictitious persons and this too to the full knowledge of the corrupt officers. The result has been that of what has been the rabi crop last year it will not be even half this year though during the last year there was no such drum-beating of Rabi campaign. So far as wheat is concerned, I think the position is even worse; so far as mustard seeds are concerned less said the better. Some people have been corrupted and corrupt practices have been taught. In collaboration with corrupt Gaon Panchayat Presidents and some corrupt B. D. Os they manage to grab it for individual purpose. I had attended a meeting of one Anchalik Panchayat. Let me be very specific, Barigog Banbhag Anchalik Panchayat. On that day the Director of Panchayat also attended the meeting. In that meeting allegations were brought that the Secretary of a Gaon Panchayat and the President of that Gaon Panchayat grabbed the entire amount which was said to be given as seeds to the people and got false receipts. Then and there on our insistence the Director and myself went to the village about 10 miles away and we found it to be cent per cent correct. There the Director promised that these people would be suspended and serious action would be taken. A few days last when I enquired, the Director told me that he had written to the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup but then some reason or other he has not done it. On my insistence ultimately they were suspended, but later on I came to know that all the cases had been withdrawn because there were some sort of share in the pocket of the B.D.O. also, but I do not know anything about the Director. This is how corruptions are fostered.

In this last one year of your regime could you tell me how many peasants have been given land? What is the number of peasant families which were without land and which have been given and during the last one year? Can you give the number? Can you say that such and such area in such and such Subdivision has been given to the landless peasants? They say "we are going to make it in a planned manner." What is that planned manner? They say "we are going to start certain corporations. Sir, we know what is a corporation. Corporation is not a new thing. Corporation was there from the birth of capitalism. In order to avoid cut-throat competition the capitalists form syndicates, cartels, trusts and corporations. So, corporation is fundamentally, basically and historically capitalist concept. We know what is a corporation. We have seen State Transport Corporation, Assam Government Marketing Corporation and other corporations. What is the performance of these corporations? Nothing better than the Government Departments. Now so far as the Agricultural Production Corporations are concerned, what do we get? They say that some 3 or 4 farms have been organised uptill now. I am speaking subject to correction. I think it will not be more than 5 or 6 at

any rate, Sir, the problem is so colossal and acute that if only 5 or 6 corporations grow in six months then when shall we cover the entire State? Shri Handique was so eloquent in saying that Assam is one of those States which have made a mark in legislation so far as progressive legislations are concerned. So far as the passing of legislation is concerned, this legislature can boast that it will stand first in the whole of India. On what subject we have not passed legislation? The Adhjar Protection Act was passed and the result was that the adhiars became the victims. The Urban Areas Tenancy Act was passed and the result was that except a few big ones who have got permanent structures, the poor tenants were evicted. Then there was also the Ceiling Act which lowered the ceiling only on the statute book. Then recently the Temporary Settled Districts Tenancy Act was passed, and I do not know whether Government has information or not that there is a great deal of fight going on amongst the poor peasants themselves. They are selling their land and wives' ornaments and purchasing a pair of bullocks and the poor adhiars are being evicted. So the result has been that instead of giving land to the people, those who were producing something are being evicted on a large scale. Many have already started farms and in this way we have seen that there had been more eviction during the period than the number of peasants given land. This is the reality so far as my information goes. If my information is incomplete or wrong, I may be corrected.

Now, so far as implementation is concerned, our State will stand last. Sir, something was said about Debottar. Why go so far? Stand on the bank of the Brahmaputra at Kacharighat. Who is the owner of the vast sheet of water? Who has got the fishing right over that water? It is the one individual of Kamakhya who owns the fishing right and what is his claim? His claim is that he got it by a Badsahi grant. Some of his forefathers got it and he inherited it, and therefore he has the absolute fishing right over that portion of the Brahmaputra.

Not only that, many reforms including ceiling and other things were made and legislations passed. There were many objections and criticisms and this House appointed an Inquiry Committee headed by the Minister, Revenue himself. 23 charges were levelled against the then D. C., Kamrup and out of these 23 charges the Committee unanimously found him guilty on 22 charges. But what have they done? The Government has given him promotion after promotion and he is now adoring the Government as a full-fledged Secretary. This is how legislation is respected, this is how the findings of the Committees are respected, and this is how people are bluffed and hoodwinked. Not only that. What do we find in the realm of adhiars and others. It is said that so far as Adhi Conciliation Boards are concerned, these did not function or they did not deliver the goods, and therefore these were stopped and the adhiars were covered by the usual Law. But since then the adhiars have been evicted and not a single have got protection.

Sir, those who were getting temporary settlements, with regard to them we find that there has been two standards in the greater Gauhati area. It is said that in Greater Gauhati settlement of land has been barred but there are exceptions for Ministers and I am told that a Minister of the present cabinet and an hon. Member of this House have been given allotment of land at Gauhati of Sarkari land though it is said that Government has banned the settlement of land. First of all..... (in Sanskrit) Behave yourself properly and then give advise to others. When you are not clean, you cannot clean the society by raising a 'tamboo' in the Kacharighat, and that becomes a mockery. Youth alone will not deliver goods if this youth is not honest and efficient. We were young at one time and those who are young to day will not remain so for ever and the newer generation will come and call the bluff. So, be statesmen rather than politicians. The differences between statesmen and politicians is that the politicians think of the next election while the statesmen think of the next generation. Therefore, if you want to do good to the next generation then some concrete action is to be taken. So far as the Governor is concerned, he has said certain things in certain matters and I need not go into all these, but I shall ask a few salient questions. First of all education. Now, what right have you to make the little children guinea-pigs of your half digested education? You are experimenting on the life of the children; you have made different classes, some new class V., old class V, and new class VIII and old Class VIII and so on and you have taken unto your hands the production of text-books. The result is that you have been depriving the boys and girls of text-books. At least there was in one field, no blackmarket and that is in the matter of text-books. But as a result of the text-books corporation black market has become rampant in the matter of text-books also. (At this stage Mr. speaker occupied the chair of Mr. Deputy speaker vacated it) Because the Government has set up the Corporation which has taken unto its hands the monopoly in production of text-books. It has failed to produce the text books and the few that have been produced are being black-marketed because there is more demand than supply. I do not, however, blame the particular individuals. But the position is, as is said in our homely parlour "বদি নিমখ নাই, থেকেবা সিজোবা কিয়?"

If you cannot really produce why do you undertake. You could do it a year later. If we are to be in tune with the National Policy, it is very good. There is nothing wrong in it. But every time when a Minister comes, the national policy changes; with the piper the tune changes and the children are to dance to the tune of every change of Minister and the Ministry. That has been the fate of our children; that has been the fate of our education. In this State of ours, unfortunately the census figures we have got, show that only 28% of our people are bare literate and 72% is yet to be literate. The greatest emphasis ought to be on universal primary education instead of going of for experiment on various other things. There has been a great deal of movement as to what should be the medium of higher education. These are very important. But the most important of all important things is what about our masters who are feeding

us? We are here because of our poor at least 82% of whom are either below starvation line or in the line of starvation and illiteracy is rampant among them. Where there is a revolution for universal education? It appears that it is nobody's concern; every body is concerned with whether his son will be reading M. Sc or anything else in Assam or Bengali medium. The most important thing is the primary education. Here the rut is almost indescribable.

Next to education, the second thing is Agriculture. We have been told that there should be improved type of agriculture and if agriculture is to be improved and if it is to be done by the people, the most important thing is good seeds. Manure is also necessary. But above all the most important thing is water. Before this crash programme of Rs.10 crores programme was there at least in my constituency a year before the peasants used to get water free for raising the crop in autumn and winter. This year there has been levy on the water supply. Whether this has been a progressive measure or a regressive measure to deprive the people of their right to get water to produce food for the country?

Then with regard to seeds. How is it that the Government supplies a type of seed which does not germinate? Last year most of the seeds which was supplied had gone for consumption. There has been expenditure but result is not there.

Coming to the question of employment we find that in the State of ours unemployment problem has become very acute. It beggars description. But unemployment problem is not only in the urban areas; it is also existing and more acutely in the rural areas where the bulk of our population live. There must be some scheme for giving them employment. In this long address of the Governor we have seen nothing concrete as to how these people who are living in the villages who are unemployed, how they will be given employment. If Agricultural Farming Corporations are established they may not cover the entire State. After all they may be only few and may be able to cover only a small percentage of people. But even then, so far as the vast majority of people is concerned they remain completely neglected. Then it has been said that there has been some amount of re-thinking in the industrial development matter. But thinking will not do. There must be some concrete result. Here the Governor said "My Government's policy is to step up industrial production in a manner consistent with the generation of employment potential and utilisation of the same by the people of the State". After giving this general proposition what concrete things does he indicate? He speaks of Bongaigaon. We have been hearing of Bongaigaon for many years past. As a matter of fact so far as Bongaigaon is concerned it was the result of mass upsurge. Though there was promise for a full complex, up till now truly speaking nothing concrete has been done. Even the Bongaigaon affair, which the Minister Industries last year threw out promise to be a company by itself, it is now a company which will be a Branch of the

Indian Oil Co. whose head office will be at Delhi and the result will be that the appointment in the key posts will be made not only on the basis of qualification but also in consideration of experience in which case so far as our people are concerned, they will not get chance because they are not experienced and obviously they are not experienced.

It was the Hindusthan Paper Corporation which came forward with a helping hand. We hear of Ashok Paper Mill. But what progress has been made by them? The Jute Mill under the Co-operative Sector at Silghat is said to have shown the red signal- under the light of danger. Now, if the Government cannot help even one single mill to stand or thrive how can the Government expect that these raw materials in which we are one of the richest that these will be utilised in the interest of the State? So far as Paper and Pulp Mills are concerned, as I have already said, they are still on paper and not actually in field. So far as the Tea Gardens are concerned, my friend there pleaded that it should be better managed, that the class of vested interests should be deprived of their exploitation. All these are very good. Now, it is not enough to say that it should be done. Certain concrete measures should be taken. What do we find as a result of these concrete measures? It is said that some 2-3 uneconomic gardens which are dying have been taken up and they are now being run. Is it the function or promise of the Government to take up only these uneconomic or unhealthy or sick gardens and try somehow or other to bottle-feed them or to inject them to life? The real and purposeful thing would have been if the tea industry itself would have been nationalised. Because tea industry is the biggest industry of Assam and in that nationalisation big or medium or small-all would have come, the flourishing tea industry of Mr. Bejoy Krishna Handique also would have come and thus the good and the bad ones would be run in the same line in the interest of the State. Only taking up of the sick ones will not solve the problem. In doing so the Government will be acting as a baby seater. That is actually the position so far as the tea corporation is concerned. In regard to Mineral development and power the Governor has spoken a lot but so far as our power is concerned, this morning itself we had a little discussion about that and the Government spokesman himself admitted that it is a serious matter that we do not get electricity even here, not to speak of the industries. The point of view of employment or the point of view of production we find that there has been, within this last one year, only promises.

Then comes the question of Flood Control. Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission was formed and quite a lot of drawings has been done and ultimately we have been informed that one project at least is being considered, that is to say, the Pagladia control. what that control means? Does it include irrigation? Does it include generation of electricity? Not as yet. These are matters yet to be studied. These are matters on which papers are yet to be prepared and considerations could be made. All that has been done after so many years of study and so many crores of rupees of expenditure is that the Government of India has now realised that there is a river named Pagladia, that this river Paglada brings in floods and these floods, if possible, should be controlled. Is this all that was done? How many crores of rupees this B.F.C. has consumed in the last few years and how many

concrete things have been done? Last year certain fund was earmarked for certain very small things. For example, I tell you, there was one small thing a sluice gate at the confluence of two small rivers Ghogra and Nona. Money has flooded but things have not started. Last year there was some money earmarked for another thing, for opening the silted portion of Dosuti Mukh, a confluence of Barolia and Pagladia. But the money has not been spent, it has lapsed. Last year it was promised that there would be strengthening of embankment of both the right and the left bank of the river Nona. One bank has been partially strengthened and the other bank has been left untouched. The result is that if flood comes in the coming year, Shri Manabendra Sarma will possibly face the same music as I have been facing all these year. If both the banks are not raised water will flood either this on that bank. This is the way how our things go. I am not going for big things. Even in these small matters of implementation whether it concerns a few lakhs of rupees or a few thousands of rupees this is the purpose of the Government and yet the Government says that it will bring in socialism. Then Sir, the basic thing is the economic upliftment of the masses. How that upliftment may come? By raising their productivity. We have been seeing now a trend; that trend is that we are more concerned with the output, we are not so much concerned with the input. So far as labour productivity is concerned the basic thing for a nation is our national productivity, our labour productivity is going down every day. The reasons are multifarious and complex. One reason is that the people are under-fed and therefore physically weak. The second reason is that there is colossal illiteracy. Therefore, the people do not know that it is their duty in their own interest and in national interest and also that better technique can improve their labour productivity. The third thing is that there is, from the side of the Government, a great deal of, I should say, giving money for doing nothing. In the matter of giving those assistance Government does not see that these are for productive purposes. The result has been that while the people gets some money for doing nothing, they lose the urge for work. Therefore, any plan and programme that the Government proposes to make really healthy, effective and progressive shall have to see all these aspects, that is to say, increase in the productivity. It was a great opportunity for the present ruling party because they were so overwhelming in strength, if they would have taken up as a man that now that we are sure of our position, now that we are sure of our strength, we shall see that the national character is improved, we shall see that the national productivity is improved. We shall see that he who works only will eat and he who does not work shall not eat; everybody is given the opportunity to work. If that sort of mission with zeal would have been taken by the Government, may be, within a year or two there would have been a change in the country. Unfortunately, other things have taken place. The other day I had a talk with a big person of a particular bank. He said that they were in a great difficulty. I said, how? He said that year before last they went to the villages and tried to give the people some loans for productive purposes and some of them did utilise; most of them did not repay the loan but even then they could produce something and they were told that some of the people were paying.

This time, the Government have given them crores of rupees in the name of rabi campanig. The people did not go to the bank to take loan. The people are definitely not going to return; Government will not find these people whom they have given money. The result will be the bank facilities will not be there for our willing peasantry for years to come. In other works, the achievement of the government within one year has been that they have successfully bribed some section of people and they have successfully corrupted even a larger number. If there is any achievement of this government which they may claim within this year, that is the only achievement. Therefore I want to say that while discussing the address given by the Governor, this matter should be pondered over. With these few words, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

Shri GUNENDRA NATH PANDIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir in, support of the motion tabled by my friend, Shri B. K. Handique, I congratulate the Government for shifting the capital from Shillong to Dispur, the original name of which was Pragjyotishpur; and from Narakasur down to Sarat Sinha, there has been a transition, Rai Bahadur Kanak Lal Barua to Raj Mohan Nath. Stated that the Narakasur was the founder of Kalita dynasty; Mr. Sarat Sinha hailes from Koch Rajbangshi. So, the transition is not from Kalita dynasty to that of Koch Rajbongshi. But both of them have come from royal families and this transition is the transition of thousand years. I also congratulate the Engineers, Planners, employees and unemployed youths who served as contractors for having finished the stupendous task. If the speed and energy shown by these people would have been adopted by other officials of the government for other works of the government, then, the sufferings of the millions of the people would have been removed much earlier. So, this should be the manifestation of our courage and determination to solve the multiple problems of our common men. The Governor has assessed the performances of this government in his Address and many more developments, omissions and commissions has also been shown in the Address. There has been new hopes and new horizons for the people as a result of the revolutionary and dynamic economic policies adopted by the Government, though some people may think and criticise that these policies will not be successful. The policies so far persued have the bright possibilities in future, if the government and the government officials honestly devote themselves and strive for its achievement.

I do not want to beat about the bush. I want to point out some of the achievements and short-comings. The Governor has indicated in his Address that 786 cases of corruption have been registered for enquiry by the Anti-Corruption branch, and out of these, 117 cases have been disposed of and 99 cases could not be proved and substantiated and 17 cases have been recommended for departmental actions and 669 cases are pending. I have selected the subject of government money, while teeming millions of people are starving and half-starved. In spite of government's wishes and in spite of many government officers' wishes, some black-sheeps are still there in the society who loot government money. If this looting of government money continues unabated and some penal action is not taken by the government then this kind of looting would go on to the detriment of the

interest of the common people. According to the statistics laid down in the floor of the Parliament by Shri Mohan Dharia, 40% of our people (All-India basis) live in poverty. According to another statistics, 47.67% of our people live below in poverty in Assam. In our country, some section of people are living in pomp and grandeur, although their status and occupation do not commensurate with their known income, and on the other side, crores of our people are struggling for bare food. This is anachronism. If this anachronism is not removed ruthlessly by the government either by adopting any measures or with the help of the people, then, we shall have no moral right to explain to the teeming million of people that their poverty and misfortune will be removed soon. I personally know some cases. There are some news-paper cuttings.

If you permit me I can read those out. Instead of mentioning the department and the name of the people, I want to cite some examples as to how some departmental officers have got the opportunity to spend money disproportionate to their income. If I read out from the paper-cutting, then the magnitude of the problem can be realised.

সাময়িক ভাবে বিষয়া বৰ্খাস্ত
দৈনিক অসম (মাৰ্চ ১৫)

“নগাৰ”ৰ গড়কাপ্তানি বিভাগৰ (গৃহ আৰু পথ) চৰপাৰিষ্টেণ্ডিং ইঞ্জিনীয়াৰ শ্ৰীদুৰ্গেশ্বৰ তালুকদাৰক অসম চৰকাৰে সাময়িক ভাবে বৰ্খাস্ত কৰাৰ নিৰ্দেশ দিছে। তেওঁৰ উপাৰ্জনতকৈ বেছি সা-সম্পত্তি কৰাৰ অভিযোগত চৰকাৰে এই ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে। বিষয়াজনৰ বিৰুদ্ধে গ্ৰহণ কৰিব লগীয়া প্ৰয়োজনীয় ব্যৱস্থা অতি সোনকালে লোৱা হব।

এই খিনিতে উল্লেখ কৰিব পাৰি যে এই বিষয়াজনৰ ঘৰত অলপতে হৈ যোৱা চৰাৰিৰ সন্দৰ্ভত নগাৰৰ পদলিচে পাটনালৈ গৈ তাত চোবসহ ১ লাখ ৯ হাজাৰ ৩০০ টকা আৰু ২০ তোলা সোণ উদ্ধাৰ কৰে আৰু আচামীক নগাৰলৈ আনি নগাৰৰ জেলত ৰাখে। এই মানৱহৰ্মনে বিষয়াজনৰ ঘৰত লগৰা হিচাপে কাম কৰিছিল।

দৰুনীতি নিৰাৰণী বিভাগৰ প্ৰতিবেদন
দৈনিক অসম (মাৰ্চ ১০)

অসম চৰকাৰৰ দৰুনীতি নিৰাৰণী বিভাগে বান-নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ বিভাগৰ চৰপাৰিষ্টেণ্ডিং ইঞ্জিনীয়াৰ এজনৰ বিৰুদ্ধে উঠা অভিযোগ সম্পৰ্কে তদন্ত কৰি চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত দাখিল কৰা প্ৰতিবেদনত এই কথা উল্লেখ কৰা বুলি প্ৰকাশ যে তেওঁৰ ওচৰত থকা কেইবাডাৰা মাটি, কেইবাটাও ঘৰ, মটৰ আদি বিভিন্ন জনৰ নামত দেখুওৱা স্বত্বো প্ৰায় আশী হেজাৰ টকা অতিৰিক্ত উপাৰ্জন কৰাৰ প্ৰমাণ পোৱা গৈছে।

“The Assam Government has suspended former Police Superintendent of Nowgong District Mr. Bhupendra Singh for allegedly indulging in Corrupt practices, an official source said here to-day.

Disciplinary action had been taken against him, the source added Mr. Singh was till now holding a special post in the rank of Superintendent, Police at Gauhati.”

So, in every department, there are some black-sheeps. I know some personal cases. Most of the cases are reported to the Press. If these are allowed to go unchecked, then we cannot give any explanation to our people. It has been stated that 669 cases are pending for enquiry. When the enquiry will be made, then it will reveal the fact that about 500 cases are of such nature. Sir, in the Constitution of India, there are directive principles of State policies. Sir, the Governor, in his address admits disparity of income and amenities between our people. Sir, we know 47.67% rural population of Assam live below poverty level. 40% is all India level and it has been admitted by Shri Mohan Dharia in Lok Sabha, the other day. Sir, the directive principles of State policy provide that the "State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice, social, economic and political shall conform all the Institutions of the national life (Article 38)."

The Directive principle further declares that the State shall in particular direct its policy towards securing—

(b) that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good ;

(c) That the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment Article 39 (b) & (c). "And the Constitution specially enjoins "that State should apply these principles in making laws. (Article 37)."

Sir, if directive principles are to be honoured, then some serious and positive steps should be taken to curb the corrupt practices. I, therefore, in this august House, request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to refer those serious cases to the Central Bureau of Investigation. As you know, sir, the Assam Police is preoccupied and for them it will not be possible to deal these cases. The Governor has also mentioned that these people are so preoccupied in different activities that it becomes impossible for them to deal. We find the same organisation is also making an investigation against the Managing Director of Fertiliser Corporation of India who has given dowry to the tune of Rs. 5 lakhs for his daughter's marriage and also spent another 5 lakhs in connection with the said marriage. This was recently announced by the Minister of Petroleum & Chemicals Mr. Dev Kant Barooah. So, sir, if these are referred to C. B. I. then our people will be satisfied.

Sir, as regard the land-policy of the Government I would like to request the Revenue Minister to see that the policy adopted by the Government in 1970 to be followed. Sir, according to the policy of 1970 one Land Settlement Implementation Advisory Committee is to go into the details to prepare a comprehensive list of land-less people so that these landless agriculturists could get the land. Sir, Government has done a good thing by stopping individual settlement of land. Agricultural Farming Corporation is organised in Dibrugarh, Goalpara, Sibsagar, and Lakhimpur. It has so far covered 4 districts

only. Sir, according to the land policy resolution, Government undertook survey of landless persons in collaboration with the Panchayat. If I read out the figures of total landless persons, as on 1969, then it will come to—

Total landless person—6,22,295

Persons having no land—2,28,833

Persons having 5 bighas of land—2,85,894

Persons having 5 to 8 bighas of land—1,07,568

While allotting land to these landless people, on enquiry, it is recommended and proposed by the respective Advisory Boards of different districts. But it is observed that outsiders have encroached the land thoroughly and no eviction is done. Agricultural farming areas inducted in those areas, it is found, they are to wage a strong war for possession of the land. Therefore, Government should be prepared to evict those people. If these people are not evicted then these landless people will have no benefit of this revolutionary step. As for example, in Nowgong we always tried to suggest that land suggested by the Advisory Boards if encroached should be evicted and distributed amidst all the agriculturists immediately. It has a startling figure in distribution of land in Nowgong district—

Nakhati	18,000 acres
Teralanshu	15,000 acres
Kochari Barbil	8,000 bighas
Bhurbandha P. G. R.	9,000 bighas
Kopili Borpani	10,000 bighas
Hashpani	} 5,000 bighas
Anjungpani	
Sarishabari	
Moanari	5,000 bighas
Barma	...
Sutarmari Longso	4,000 bighas
Sariahtoli	3,000 bighas.

These lands were being allotted and subsequently encroached since 1952 till 1971 before introducing agricultural farming corporation and the Central scheme for agricultural labourers and some other cooperatives are given possession by ruthlessly throwing out the tillers some thousand bighas in Haspani, Anjungpani, Sarishabari, Sutarmari and Kopili and the rest of the land is encroached,

And 10 thousand refugees also have been rehabilitated by ruthlessly evicting the people. If these refugees can be rehabilitated what crime these people have committed for while they are evicted, while these unfortunate people are tilling the lands. These people are starving like anything and not getting land while the other people are encroaching the land from outside. May I know from the Hon'ble Revenue Ministry as to who started the movement, he will assure the House, will he propose to start agricultural farming corporation and these unfortunate people will be given possession? Then we shall be able to tell the people that these land are for the agriculturist that you are the tillers and you will have to till the land. If they are given land they will till. Some of these people have no houses, no drinking water, no blanket to sleep under during winter and some live in the river sides. What is their fate to-day 40-67% per cent of the people lives a beggar's life and there is a famine condition to-day. From different quarters relief money has been provided, but how this money can solve the problem.

Shri PREMODHAR BORA: Sir, I want to raise a point of clarification. Will Mr. Pandit clarify that actually the Government of Assam is giving settlement to 10 thousand people coming from outside the State?

Shri GUNEDRA NATH PANDIT: Sir, Mr. Santiranjana Das Gupta will be able to give the actual position, I have collected it from my own reading. The land allotted to these people are encroached, and Government make it a policy to allot 8 bighas to each family for cultivation and two or less for homestead purpose. So these human beings are human beings. If they are to be dealt with they will have to be dealt with at par. Still they are running after lawyers. But their fate is not yet decided. My earnest request is that Government will kindly look into the matter seriously because my observation is that we are diverting our minds for a better and newer and greater things. But I am constrained to say that these people are forgotten. This is the picture, I believe, through out the State. So a new drive should be made in Sanskrit People encroached be evicted with courage and determination? So, I request this August House to tackle this chronic problem, baffling problem, to save these mimic people, helpless people, protectionless people.

Regarding industrial policy, the Industries Minister himself is trying his best as I understand. The Governor's address also indicates that there are many more industrial complexes including 20 units of small scale industry are coming up. I agree with the people and welcome some complexes are going to be established and bigger complexes are coming up. I agree with Mr. Bhattacharyya that not only our efforts even with the peoples' upsurge the industrial complexes are coming. But what a sad thing is going on. If you enquire into, Sir, you will find 160 product items are reserved for Government Departments for purchase. could you believe Sir, that there are lots of entrepreneurs in Assam are starting the industries at great risk. But in spite of their repeated efforts, in spite of their frequent interviews with the Chief Minister and other Ministers their produce has not been purchased by the Government. May I cite an example, Sir? In Nowgong Industrial area one

Shri. Bhubaneswar Saikia is very much devoted to his works. But when he approached the Director, Assam Industrial Development Corporation for tender form it was not given to him. He has given a written complaint that all the tender forms have been supplied to Tinsukia Steelsworth and others. It is important to note that this man was brought forcibly by Mr. Mahammad Idris to start the industries there. And now his produce is not being purchased by Government. If the Department does not come forward to purchase these things then those young entrepreneurs will have to close down their units. I urge upon the Government that the forms are to be supplied otherwise there will be discouragement to new entrepreneurs coming in. Sir, If you want I may place the papers in respect of this case before you. These papers are with me and these includes various correspondence with different authorities. If the entrepreneurs are discouraged in this way then there will be no possibility of their coming forward. I know that there are good people in the Department who want to help these entrepreneurs and I do not blame them. They are trying their best to help these people. But there are hurdles, such as various banks and its formalities, Central Government and its bindings, and ultimately the thing becomes so complex that most of the entrepreneurs find it difficult to start an industry. Mr. Borgohain, I forgot his full name, his radio sets are not purchased by the Government for community centres. If this is the thing then how can we expect that the small industrialists should prosper. If such attitude is allowed to continue then he will have to close down his unit. Most of us come from the common people and if our difficulties are not viewed properly and if cottage industries which is the main source of our livelihood are not given full support then our economy is bound to deteriorate.

Sir, regarding the loans, staggering stories are there, Loans are not paid back. The Deptt. has started 2000 *bakijai* cases because of non-payment of loans taken by the people. I do not understand the reasons of their being unsuccessful when there are others who are thriving so well. The reason for such set back is lack of proper help to these people. Therefore, I request the Government to expedite the matter and take necessary steps so that our poor enthusiastic entrepreneurs can also thrive. The entrepreneurs coming from outside are doing very well. But our people are suffering I understand, some indigent people have not paid the money. I do not know why it is so. I think the Government should look into the case properly and take action. I think about 16 lakhs of rupees have been spent as loans. They are flourishing. Here I want to cite an example of Sualkuchi Silk Industry, and Hajo Brass Metal Industry. I would suggest that these two industries should be modernised. In the industrial units there the labourers who are ill paid.—a child is getting Rs. 1.60 per day. This is a labour problem. Mr. Gajen Tanti should visit the place and settle the affair. The outsider entrepreneurs are getting rebate and all sorts of subsidies for which they are thriving well, but our entrepreneurs and labourers some of them belong to minority community are not getting any help from the Government. It is a horrible sight if we see the condition of the minority people.

It is horrifying to see under what abject poverty most of them are living most of them are traditionally minority people. You will also be horrified to see that the Sualkuchi weavers have got no looms; weavers are not given anything; they are not given share of rebate

money. As far my information goes they start work at 7 A. M., works upto 12 noon, then get two hours recess and again work from 2 P. M. to 7 P.M. These co-operatives are provided with lakhs of rupees and they sell to the world the most luxurious cloth these weavers produce but they do not get the share of the huge profits. They do not even get share of the rebate money. Huge sums of money were advanced by Commercial Bank to these co-operatives, but this money is not being paid back. From all sources these co-operatives get money but these unfortunate weavers are living in abject poverty. I agree with our friend Shri Gourisankar Bhattacharyya though he has put in taunting and ridiculous manner but we are wedded to socialism and we see things from a different angle. These weavers make cloth to be worn by beautiful women, but not a single weaver has a piece to put on. So I request the Labour Minister, even the Chief Minister to go and see the abject poverty condition of these people. These people have no land, no medical facilities. Working the whole day an adult gets Rs. 4 and a child labour gets Rs.2.73. Generation after generation of these people are illiterate. This is another picture of a different world. This is the socialist world we are trying to build. We are trying to accelerate the happiness and contentment of humanity. These people are downtrodden trampled like anything. I, therefore, strongly urge that these two industries should be taken over by the Government. Similar is the condition of the Sarthebari Bell metal industry. This industry started with a hallowed memory. It was started by Kumar Bhaskar Barmah. This industry employs 5000 and odd people. This industry requires to be modernised. I have information that the workers conditions are the same as in Hajo and Sualkuchi. They are also to work from the dawn of the day till night. Their living condition is horrifying. They are like American Ghetos no facilities like water supply, sanitation. These people are deprived of the civilised life. In a socialist society these people are living in abject poverty. Their conditions should be ameliorated. So, I would request both the Industries Minister and the Labour Minister to go and see the conditions of these unfortunate people.

Regarding agriculture-rabi crops-my esteemed friend Shri Bhattacharyya cites a case from his constituency about the failure of rabi crops and about corruption. In my constituency, however, rabi crops campaign is successful. In different districts some offices and B. D. O.s are working honestly and are working hard. These officers mingle with the people and they work hard and have made the programme a success. Some omissions and commissions are always there. Due to the continuance of the language disturbance in some places rabi crops could not be made successful. In agriculture also there should be a masterplan for irrigation. If irrigation programme is not taken up in a planned manner touching all the needy people much progress cannot be expected. I, therefore, suggest that the entire State should be surveyed considering the genuine need without any political consideration. A master plan should be prepared so that these people may be benefited.

Regarding tourism, Kaziranga sanctuary has become the heaven of the land hungry people. Big chunks of land are being encroached upon by these land hungry people. May I, therefore, request the Revenue Minister to kindly see that these people who are encroaching on the sanctuary land are evicted. The other day when we visited Kaziranga we

saw houses inside the sanctuary itself and people are living alongside the animals. There is no distinction between man and animal in Kaziranga. Seeing this I had the temptation of getting down from the elephant to mingle with these animals. Sir, Kaziranga is a place of world attraction. We see Englishmen, Australians and others there and the world attention is focused on it. Therefore that should be kept in tact and the encroachers should be evicted.

Sir, regarding Sericulture and Weaving, this year in every block only one loom has been supplied and only one weaver has got it. Is it sufficient? Is it not funny? You know Sir, our weavers are the wives of the landless people and they supply 'Gamucha', 'Riha' and 'Mekhela' to emporia and extension centres for sale. But they are lacking in looms. I have been told by the Assistant Director of Cottage Industries that in one community block only one loom will be supplied and only one woman will get it. How do you select that woman? The other day the Assistant Director told me that in my block one loom is to be given and he has asked me to select one woman. I asked him, how do you do it without lottery? We should supply adequate number of looms to the weavers so that the weavers may stand on a sound footing. Sir, there is a weaving group and there six looms are supplied to six woman. So, more and more groups should be organised so that more families might get benefit. Sir, I will not be happy to that degree if Bongaigaon Petro-Chemical Complex becomes world famous but I will be happy if more and more weavers are supplied with looms and are benefitted. Our honorable Minister-in-charge of Weaving and Sericulture and the Minister of State, Weaving and Sericulture visited our district and many women approached them for looms. I am told that the weaving centres are running on subsidy and that no return is coming to Government for the benefit of the people. It is said that the Government is playing promotional role and if the promotional role is there, there is to be protective role also. But if no return comes then the entire programme has to be looked into afresh because Government cannot go on incurring loss. The endeavour of the Government should be to see that the weavers stand on their own legs with little Government assistance. If the Government can forego millions of Loan rupees from the big industrialists, why Government, cannot give more looms to the poor weavers whose economic standing is nil?

Sir, as you know, 70% of our village people have not got the minimum subsistence to live and this is my own assessment, and this matter should be looked into from the humanitarian point of view and this must be kept beyond the party barriers.

শ্রীসোনেশ্বৰ বৰা :- মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বিধান সভাৰ মজিয়াত ৰাজ্যপালে দিয়া ভাষণ মই নিজে শুননা নাছিলো যদিও তেখেতৰ যিখন কিতাপ সেইখন মই পঢ়ি চাইছো। গতানুগতিক ভাবে যোৱা কেইবছৰৰ দৰেই ৰাজ্যপাল ডাঙৰীয়াই এই বছৰো এখন ৰচনা পাঠ এই সদনত কৰিলে। মজলীয়া লৰাক চৰকাৰৰ বছেৰেকৰ খতিয়ানৰ ৰচনা এখন লিখিবলৈ কোৱা হলে বোধকৰো বোয়া লৰা এটায়ৈ এনেকুৱা এখন ৰচনা লিখিব পাৰিলেহেতেন। যিহেতু যোৱা কথা উপলব্ধ কৰি চোৱাৰ জ্ঞান চৰকাৰৰ নোলাল। সেই কাৰণে মই কব পাৰো যে শ্ৰেণীটোৰ আটাইতকৈ বোয়া লৰাটোয়েও

এইখিনি কথা লিখিব পাৰিলেহেতেন। যি হওক এইটো বৰ দৰ্খৰ কথা; যিটো কথা আমি আগতে আলোচনা কৰিছিলো। বছৰৰ পিচত বছৰ ধৰি এখন পূৰ্ণাঙ্গ বাজেট দাখিল নকৰাকৈ বছৰেকৰ প্ৰথম অধিবেশন পাতি বাজেটৰ নীতিৰ উল্লেখ কৰা হৈছে। বিশেষকৈ বাজেটৰ নিয়ম, নীতি, প্ৰয়োগ, সম্পৰ্কে পৱিত্ৰ সদনত আলোচনা কৰিবলৈ সৰ্ববিধা নোহোৱাটো কিমান গৰ্হীত বা অনাৱশ্যকীয় কথা হৈছে—সেইটো সদনে বা অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণে বিচাৰ কৰি চাব।

ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণত যিখিনি কথা জনা হৈছে সেই খিনিৰ ভিতৰত তেখেতে ডিচপদৰত ৰাজধানী অস্থায়ীভাৱে স্থানান্তৰিত কৰাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত যথেষ্ট বহলভাৱে ব্যাখ্যা কৰিছে। শিক্ষাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত যোৱা মাধ্যম আন্দোলনৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছে, বানপানী, ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ, অনাবৃষ্টি, পথ পৰিবহন আদিৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছে। সেইদৰে শিষ্ণু-বাণিজ্য, কৃষি, ভূমিনীতি আদি তেখেতৰ আলোচনাত আনিছে। কিন্তু প্ৰকৃততে ইয়াক ফ'হিয়াই চালে দেখা যায় যে চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰকৃত স্বৰূপটো তেখেতে লুকুৱাই ৰাখিছে আৰু অসমৰ বাহাজৰ আগত অসমৰ এটি নতুন চৰিত্ৰ দাঙি ধৰিবলৈ প্ৰয়াস পাইছে। তেখেতৰ ভাষণত উল্লেখ কৰা ৰাজধানী স্থানান্তৰৰ বিষয়ে অৱশ্যে মই নিজেই গোঁৱৰ কৰিম। কাৰণ এই বিষয়ত মোৰ নিজৰেই এটা প্ৰস্তাৱ বিধান সভাত গৰ্হীত হৈছিল, যি প্ৰস্তাৱত কোৱা হৈছিল অসমৰ ৰাজধানী তদন্তে চলিওৱা পৰা ভৈয়ামৰ এখন সড়ল ঠাইলৈ স্থানান্তৰ কৰিব লাগে। তথাপি অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ মত আছিল যে অসমৰ ৰাজধানীখন আনি এখন সড়ল ঠাইত পতা যাওঁক যিখন ঠাইত অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ ৰাজনৈতিক, অৰ্থনৈতিক আৰু সাংস্কৃতিৰ সকলোকে সমানে ভাগ দিব পাৰে।

দিছপদৰত অস্থায়ী অসমৰ ৰাজধানী স্থায়ী ভাবে পতিবলৈ প্ৰয়াস কৰা এই কেইদিন আমি লক্ষ্য কৰিছো। মই পদনৰ দাবী কৰিম—অসমৰ ঐক্য নিৰাপত্তা আৰু সংহতি যদি ৰক্ষা কৰিব লাগে, অসম যদি উন্নয়নৰ পথত আগবাঢ়ি যাব লাগে, আৰ্থিক ভাবে সামাজিক ভাবে আৰু ৰাজনৈতিক ভাবে যদি আগবাঢ়ি যাব লাগে, তেনেহলে অসমৰ ৰাজধানী অসমৰ সড়ল ঠাইত, মাজ ঠাই শিলঘাটলৈ নিব লাগে। অৱশ্যে এই বিষয়টো বিশেষজ্ঞ কমিটিৰ হাতত অৰ্পণ কৰিছে। মোৰ স্বজ্ঞানেৰে মই এইখিনি কথা আজি সদনৰ মজিয়াত কৈছো। বিশেষজ্ঞ কমিটিয়ে যদি ৰাজনৈতিক প্ৰভাৱেৰে প্ৰভাস্বিত নহয়—মোৰ দৃঢ় বিশ্বাস যে বিশেষজ্ঞ কমিটিয়ে শিলঘাটত ৰাজধানী পাতিবলৈ বায় দিব আৰু শিলঘাটৰ ফালে নিলে অসমৰ ঐক্য আৰু সংহতি ৰক্ষা পৰিব।

যোৱা বিশ্ব বিদ্যালয় শিক্ষাৰ মাধ্যম আন্দোলনত যি কেইটি প্ৰাণীয়ে জীৱন আহুতি দিলে সেই প্ৰাণী কেইটিৰ নাম ৰাজ্যপালৰ দায়লীয়া ৱচনাত উল্লেখ কৰাৰ আৱশ্যক আছিল যদি মই ভাবোঁ। সেই সকলৰ নাম উল্লেখ কৰাহে নালাগে সেই সম্পৰ্কে তদন্তৰ দোহাই দি অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণক জনাবলগীয়া বহু কথা নজনোৱাকৈ লুকুৱাই ৰখা হৈছে।

ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণৰ বিতৰ্কিত অংশ গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ গৈ মই নিশ্চয় সেই সন্তান সকলক স্মৰণ কৰিব লাগিব। লগতে মই এইখাৰ কথা জোৰ দি কব পাৰোঁ যে অসমত হৈ যোৱা শিক্ষাৰ মাধ্যম আন্দোলনে যি ব্যাপক আকাৰ ধাৰণ কৰিলে যাৰ ফলত পাঁচ অক্টোবৰ তাৰিখে খাৰুপেটীয়াত মজুমিল হুকুৰ আৰু সাত তাৰিখে হোজাইত অনিল বৰাক হত্যা কৰা হয়। তেনেকৈয়ে সৰুপথাৰত বলেন ৰাজখোৱাক আৰু নিগম গাঁৱত প্ৰমোদ বৰাক হত্যা কৰিলে। চাৰ প্ৰথমে মঙালীয়ে অসমীয়া লৰা হত্যা কৰিলে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই তদন্ত কমিটিক কোনো বিপদত পেলাবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰা নাই। মাত্ৰ পাবন সদনৰ মাজলাত আমি গ্ৰহণ কৰা প্ৰস্তাৱৰ সন্দৰ্ভত অসম জৱাৰ হৈ যোৱা আন্দোলনৰ কথা উল্লেখ নকৰিলে আমিও অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণক প্ৰভাৱণা কৰা হব। মই নিজে যোৱা ৯ অক্টোবৰ তাৰিখে বোঁদঅ' আৰু বাতাৰ কাকতৰ মাধ্যমেৰে মোৰ ব্যক্তিগত আৰু আমাৰ চাঁচয়োলষ্ট পাৰ্টিৰ ফালৰ পৰা প্ৰকাশ কৰাছিলো যে যোৱা ২৩ চেপ্তেম্বৰ তাৰিখে অসম বিধান সভাত গৃহীত প্ৰস্তাৱ তদন্তত উঠাই লব লাগে আৰু তাৰবাবে এখন জৰুৰী বিধান সভা আহ্বান কৰিব লাগে। সেই কাম হৈ নঠিল যদিও জনসাধাৰণৰ হেঁচাত অসম চৰকাৰ সৈমান হবলৈ বাধ্য হলগৈ। যি নহওক আকৌ দিল্লীৰ আকাশত এক নেজাল তৰাৰ আবিৰ্ভাৱ হৈছে।

Shri S. AHMED ALI, Minister, Law—Sir on a point of order. The hon'ble member has referred to the death of Shri Anil Bera and others during the last language disturbance. A Commission has been instituted to go into these things. Hence the matter is subjudice.

চৈয়দ আহমেদ আলি (মন্ত্ৰী, আইন ইত্যাদি) : মাননীয় সদস্য ডাঙৰীয়াই কবলৈ গৈছে যে এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো উঠাই নোলোৱাৰ কাৰণে সেই হত্যাকাণ্ড হবলৈ পালে।

শ্ৰীসোমেশ্বৰ বৰা : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, সেইটো জগতে বিচাৰ কৰিব। ল মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে কৈছে, ময়ো কৈছো। আজি তাৰ বিচাৰ কৰিব খোজা নাই, মই মাত্ৰ উনৰ্কিয়াই গৈছো। অসমত হৈ যোৱা আন্দোলনৰ তেজৰ চেকুৱা নৌশুদ্ধকাওঁতেই দিল্লীৰ ৰাজনীতিৰ আকাশত এক নতুন নেজাল তৰাই ভূমুকি মাৰিছে। সেই নেজাল তৰাই অসমৰ ভাষা সাহিত্যত অসমৰ আকাশে-বতাহে পদগৰবাৰ আলোড়নৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিব। আকৌ এনে এটা আন্দোলন হব পাৰে। ডিব্ৰুগড় অসম মেডিকেল কলেজৰ অধ্যক্ষ শ্ৰীমথুৰ ভট্টক খেদিব লাগে বৰ্দ্ধলি আন্দোলন আৰম্ভ হৈছেই। এই বিষয়টো বহলাই কবলৈ পিচত সময় পাম আৰু তেঁতয়াই বহলাই কম। কিন্তু এটা কথা হৈছে অসম চৰকাৰ আজি ব্যৰ্থ হৈছে। চৰকাৰৰ এই ব্যৰ্থতা আমি লক্ষ্য কৰাই ৰাখিবলৈ ভাল গোৱা নাই আৰু নাৰাখো।

ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণত তেখেতে খৰাং বতৰৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছে। এই সম্পৰ্কে মই এটা কথা সদনৰ গ্যাতাৰ্থে জনাব খুজিছো। খৰাং বতৰৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰোতে গোলাঘাটৰ সৰুপথাৰৰ কথা আৰু নগাওঁৰ কোনো কোনো অঞ্চলৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছে। আমাৰ চৰকাৰে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰক জনাই খৰাং বতৰৰ কথা জনাই দি কিমান খিনি টকা বা কিমান খিনি সন্নিবিধা আদায় কৰিব পাৰে সেইটোহে বিচাৰ্য্য বিষয়। অন্য বৃষ্টিৰ সাহায্য, দৰ্ভিক্ষ সাহায্য ইত্যাদিৰ বাবে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰক নজনোৱাৰ কথাহে মই কব খুজিছোঁ। কেন্দ্ৰীয় কৃষি মন্ত্ৰনালয়ৰ পৰা কৃষি উন্নয়ন, ক্ষুদ্ৰ জলসিঞ্চন আদি কাৰণত এই বছৰ অশ্ৰু প্ৰদেশত ৪৪ কোটি টকা, বিহাৰত ২৯ কোটি টকা মধ্য-প্ৰদেশত ৯'৩ কোটি টকাৰ বাজেট, মহাৰাষ্ট্ৰত ৮৫ টকা, মহীশূৰত ২২.৭, উৰীষ্যত ১২, উত্তৰ প্ৰদেশত ২৩ কোটি টকা দিয়া হৈছে। কিন্তু অসমে ৪ কোটি টকাহে পাইছে। অসমত যে খৰাং বতৰ হোৱা নাই, অনাবৃষ্টি হোৱা নাই আৰু অসমৰ কাৰণে যে টকাৰ আৱশ্যক নাই আৰু অসম যে নদন-বদন শস্য শ্যামলা হৈ উঠিছে সেইটো নহয়, আমাৰ চৰকাৰে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰক আমাৰ সমস্যাটো আজি বৰুজাই কব পৰা নাই কাৰণে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ ধন কেন্দ্ৰীয় কৃষি মন্ত্ৰী ফকৰুদ্দিন আলি চাহাবৰ পৰা আনিব পৰা নাই। ফলত অসমত জলসিঞ্চন ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব পৰা নাই।

ঠিক তেনেকৈ ভূমিৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত কি হৈছে? কেন্দ্ৰীয় বাজহ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই যোৱা ৭।৩।৭৩ তাৰিখে ৰাজ্য সভাৰ (৩৩০নংত) তাৰাকাঁচিহু প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰত এইয়াৰ কথা কৈছিল যে অসমত ৩ লাখ ৯৫ হেজাৰ একৰ বাহী মাটি পোৱা হৈছে। এই মাটিৰ কিবা বিতৰণ খেতিয়কৰ মৰত হৈছেনে?

মিঃ স্পীকাৰঃ আপুনি আৰু সময় লব নেকি?

Adjournment

Mr. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 10 A. M. tomorrow

The House then adjourned at 4-30 P. M. till 10 A. M. on Wednesday, the 21st March, 1973.

Dispur:
20-3-73.

Shri P. D. BARUA.
Secretary, Legislative Assembly,
Assam.