

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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 A. M. on Monday, the 26th March, 1962.

P R E S E N T

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury, B.L., Speaker in the Chair ten Ministers, three Deputy Ministers two Ministers of States and seventy-seven Members.

Oath or Affirmation by Members

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there any hon. Member who has not taken Oath ?

Then the following Members were sworn in—

1. Shri Manik Chandra Das.
- 2 Shri Mathius Tudu.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

**Re: Failure of Government in tackling the Small-pox epidemic
in Dibrugarh**

Mr. SPEAKER : I have received notice of two identical adjournment motions—one from Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami and the other one from Shri Dulal Chandra Barua. The motion came up the day before yesterday and the Chairman was pleased to defer discussion on the motion till today because the Hon'ble Minister in-charge of Medical had been to Dibrugarh to study matters at first hand. He has now returned and he will make a statement before I decide whether I shall allow the adjournment motion or not.

Shri BAIDYANATH MUKHERJEE (Minister, Medical) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, before this adjournment motion was tabled and came to my notice, I decided to go to Dibrugarh to see for myself what steps were taken to prevent further spread of the disease which took considerable toll of human lives. We are all extremely sorry that so many human lives were lost but what I could understand after discussing matters there with the Civil Surgeon, the District authority, the Municipal Chairman and Vice-Chairman and other Commissioners and the Principal of Medical College and other doctors, was that at the beginning the whole thing was kept secret. Nobody brought it to the notice of the Medical Department and naturally the disease spread among the tea garden areas where it first originated. In the Municipal areas, when it was brought to the notice of the Public Health Department, they extended their helping hand; Lymphs were supplied for vaccination to check further spread of the disease.

Mr. SPEAKER : Information from whom ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MUKHERJEE (Minister, Medical) : From the affected areas. In the Municipal areas, Sir, as you know, the rule is that there is a register of births and deaths. After death it was registered at the beginning practically in all cases that the deaths were due to chicken-pox. So far as chicken-pox is concerned, vaccination is of no use ; but so far as small pox is concerned, it can be prevented by vaccination. Now, I should mention here that the area which I visited yesterday inside the town there are slums and they are very filthy and dirty, unless something is done soon other diseases may also appear. Now, so far as this particular disease is concerned at first in most cases they were reported to be chicken-pox cases.

Mr. SPEAKER : What steps have been taken to remove these slums ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MUKHERJEE : It is of course, the Municipality's affair. I had a talk with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and other Commissioners. They are in need of funds. They said that it was not possible for them to keep all these areas perfectly clean with their resources. So, they approached me whether any grant could be made available to help them in this connection.

Now, Sir, at the time of discussion I told them, my esteemed friend Mr. Ramesh Chandra Barua who is the representative of that area in this House, was also present, that we should take up the matter for our future course of action here in consultation with the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government, Finance Minister and Chief Minister. But that is a thing which we should have done past. At present I shall give an idea why the Municipality or the Medical Department could not stop the spread of this particular disease.

I have already mentioned that there is a tendency not to say anything about this disease outside at the beginning. When vaccination was started these people refused to be vaccinated, might be due to superstition. In some cases the people said that they would be laid up with fever for three or four days and that would affect their work. Various kinds of objections were raised by them. However, effective steps have been taken now. The area has been notified as an epidemic area and it is compulsory for everyone to be vaccinated. The number of vaccinators has been increased. Not only that, I had also a talk with the Principal of the Medical College who was kind enough to agree to lend his students for this work. Normally there are vaccinators and some supervisors. I suggested that if vaccination was done by the students, the question of supervision would not arise. He readily agreed. Then there are other difficulties, Sir. If we send a vaccinator to a particular area from, say, 9 to 4, many persons may not be available in their houses. Therefore it has been decided that there will be three batches of vaccinators. One batch will go early in the morning before persons leave their houses for their work and they will be vaccinated then. Then another batch will go during day time to vaccinate those who normally remain in their houses. Then a third batch will go in the evening to see if any one was left out during early morning and day time and to vaccinate such persons. Further, a policeman will accompany each group of vaccinators so that if any one refuses to be vaccinated that case would be reported to the Magistrate. According to the notification that was in existence and which has been renewed

now, such persons will be brought before the Magistrate and in cases any one still refuses to be vaccinated he will be fined upto Rs.50.

Then Sir, all the incoming and outgoing buses are being checked and any person found unprotected is vaccinated. Similar steps are also being taken in the railway station with a view to vaccinate all unprotected passengers coming into or going out of Dibrugarh town. Out of a population of about 60,000 in Dibrugarh town. I learnt about 48,000 have been vaccinated. So far as the rural area is concerned, 1,93,616 persons have been vaccinated till 24th, that is, day before yesterday. I also suggested that the Deputy Commissioner should ask the Presidents of Gaon Panchayats to keep a careful watch and whenever any case comes to the latter's notice they should immediately bring it to the notice of the proper authorities for necessary action. So, Sir, all possible steps have been taken to check the spread of the disease.

So far as other districts are concerned, on my way I met the Chairman of the Nowgong Municipal Board and the Deputy Commissioner. I also met the Chairman of the Jorhat Municipal Board. They told me that they had already taken necessary steps. At Nowgong they have also taken the help of the N. C. G. It is expected that within a fortnight the municipal areas would be vaccinated. So far as the Kamrup district is concerned, it has already been notified as an epidemic area. There also effective steps will be taken according to the existing law.

As I have already said, Sir, it is a matter of deep regret that so many of our kith and kin have died of this disease, but from the records that were supplied to me in the presence of the Municipal Commissioners at Dibrugarh, I found that all these deaths were not due to small-pox. There were some cases of deaths from chicken-pox also. Normally chicken-pox is not a fatal disease. In case of children it may be fatal sometimes. So far as the aged persons are concerned, it all depends on how they behave. I was told that there were heavy rains for some days and I was told by the Civil Surgeon that many of the persons affected by the chicken-pox exposed themselves to the rain and eventually died of complications developing from the exposure. It will, therefore, be seen, Sir, that all possible steps have been taken. Of course, the hon. Members will get a chance to discuss this subject further in course of the debate on the Governor's Address and the Budget discussion as my esteemed friend the Finance Minister also referred to it in his Budget speech. I can, however, assure the hon. Members that all that is possible has done. If any further suggestions are given by the hon. Members they will certainly be considered.

Mr. SPEAKER : When was the first death reported ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Medical Minister): In Dibrugarh town some time in December, Sir.

In course of the last 3 or 4 days one case was detected in the Dibrugarh town area. I went and saw the patient myself. He was removed to the segregation ward which has been recently built by the municipal authorities there. The disease has already been checked. There may be one or two sporadic cases here and there. These may be due to the negligence of the persons concerned because, as I said, they do not want to be vaccinated for several reasons mentioned by me earlier. However, I also suggested that some of the members of

the Mahila Samity of Dibrugarh town should be taken with the vaccinators so that they can go along with them and persuade the female members of the town and convince them how vaccination can save human life. After hearing my statement, I hope hon. Member will not move his motion. The hon. Members will get an opportunity again in course of the debates on the Governors Address and the Finance Minister's Budget Speech.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Golaghat) : On a point of order, Sir. May I know from the Hon'ble Minister what is the total number of deaths due to small-pox or chicken-pox in the Dibrugarh Town ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MUKHERJEE (Minister, Medical) : In the rural area, cases of small-pox attack are 142, death 35 and cured 107. In Dibrugarh town, cases of attack of small-pox are 24, death 8, and under treatment at present 16. At Tinsukia, cases of small-pox attack are 12 and death 4, under treatment 8. There were altogether 177 cases of small-pox attack out of which 107 were cured and 47 died. Cases of chicken-pox in the Dibrugarh town-attack 187, death 50, under treatment at present 17. At Tinsukia attack 83, death 20. Uptil now, the total number of persons vaccinated in rural areas is 1,93,616 and the vaccination is still going on. In Dibrugarh town alone, total number of vaccinations performed is 48,000 and at Tinsukia about 23,060.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri) : Mr. Speaker, Sir. Normally death does not occur from small-pox or chicken pox on such a high rate. Here, death rate seems to be very high. Should it be understood whether high rate of death is due to small-pox or chicken-pox being a specially virulent type as could not be effectively checked by the preventive and curative measures employed ?

Mr. SPEAKER : At this stage, I do not like that hon. Members should make further statement in this connection.

Shri MOTI RAM BORA (Nowgong) : Sir, the first case of the disease was reported in December 1961. May I know from the Hon'ble Minister, when the inoculation was undertaken ?

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : The Hon'ble Minister in his statement just said that the first case of the disease was reported in December, 1961. But I know from another Government statement that Government came to know about this disease in August 1961. May know what action has been taken by the Government in this respect ?

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : Whether the Hon'ble Minister is aware that the vaccination lymphs are not working well?

Shri BAIDYANATH MUKHERJEE (Minister, Medical) : There might be one or two stray cases throughout the year. So far as the lymph is concerned, this is the first time, I have heard that lymphs manufactured in our State are not effective. They are supposed to be the most effective. If there is any case where it is not working properly and if it is brought to my notice I may make enquiry about it. Uptil now I have heard no such complaint that due to bad vaccination people had to suffer from this disease. In my statement I have already

mentioned that generally the case of chicken-pox is not fatal. But afterwards due to complication it may turn fatal. There were two cases where it became fatal to children. So far as the adults are concerned, they are not fatal, if there is no other complication. So far as casualty reports of Dibrugarh are concerned, these are received from the Municipality. So whatever cases have occurred, they were registered in the Municipal record.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) : After hearing the Minister-in-charge, Medical, I want to get some clarification from him.

Shri DEV KANTA BAROOAH (Minister, Education, etc.) : Will it not be convenient if one question is put at a time so that the Minister can reply one by one.

Mr. SPEAKER : In order to economise the time of the House, I have allowed more than one question to be put.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI : I listened to the speech of the Medical Minister. This reminds me of a meeting held by the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong, where Block Development Officers and Sub-Deputy Collectors also took part and there was a discussion on small-pox epidemic. It was stated in the meeting by some officers that there was want of officers, want of lymph and want of vaccinators. What I want to know from the Minister is that when he look so much trouble to go to Dibrugarh himself, we presume, he was not satisfied with the report of the Public Health Department officers of Dibrugarh, now, who is responsible for so many deaths in Dibrugarh Subdivision? We have a good number of officers for preventing this disease which are seasonal diseases. Their duties are to check the villages and find out if there was any outbreak of this disease and to devise means and to take steps to prevent the occurrence of small-pox every year. May I know what steps these officers took when winter season was over and summer was coming? Every year we get report of deaths from small-pox epidemics and cholera epidemics. How long these things will continue?

Mr. SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister has made a statement on the Adjournment Motions tabled by Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami and Shri Dulal Chandra Barua. He has given in his statement the steps Government have taken to prevent this disease. From the Press Note which has been given to me by Shri Dulal Chandra Barua, it is apparent that the epidemic started in August last year in Jalia near Anandabari Tea Estate. Then the epidemic spread to Tinsukia, from Tinsukia it migrated to Santibari of Dibrugarh in December 6 last. From this life history of the epidemic in Dibrugarh it is certain that the matter is not of recent occurrence. At the same time as the Government have taken sufficient steps to prevent the disease which is evident from the statement made by the Minister in-charge of Medical, who rushed to Dibrugarh to study things at first hand and who has given all the facts necessary in this connection and which I am prepared to accept. I hold that Government have taken all steps possible to prevent the epidemic and as such a matter in which Government have taken action already cannot form the subject matter of an adjournment motion.

There is a ruling in support of this decision by my illustrious predecessors in 1938. I am in full conformity with it. The hon. Members who have tabled these motions would have been better advised to give notice of an ordinary motion or a resolution to discuss this matter in the floor of this House. As the hon. Members, both of them are new to the House, for their future guidance I want to say that only in extreme cases where no other avenues are open for having a discussion of a matter of great public importance adjournment motions can be tabled to get an opportunity to discuss such matters. A matter which is continuous since August last does not come under the purview of an adjournment motion. At the same time, I want to emphasise on the Hon'ble Minister that small-pox is a preventive disease and in the 'Third Five Year Plan more than rupees two crores have been earmarked to eradicate the disease altogether; so it does not behove well on the part of the Government that so many people fell victims of this disease when the Third Five Year Plan is in progress. I hope, in future Public Health Department will depend on their own sources instead of depending on information of the Municipal Commissioners, Panchayat members or on the victims of such an epidemic for taking preventive steps.

The Adjournment Motions are therefore ruled out of order.

Now, we take up item No.1, discussion, if any, on Votes on Account.

Discussion on Votes on Account

Shri FAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Votes on Account placed before the House, is not in accordance with the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of this House. The Rule 150 says:—

“A motion for vote on account shall state the total sum required, and the various amounts needed for each department or service or item of expenditure which compose that sum shall be stated in schedule appended to the motion”.

Sir, here in the vote on account motion we have got the total amount. We are also get the various amounts needed in this department. Here we are only given the grant number and amount. In every grant we can see, Sir, there are so many items and so many departments. Let us take for example one grant. Here, you will see in Grant No.9, General Administration, in the vote on account only the number and the heads of the account has been given but there are so many items, the items of emolument of Ministers, emolument of Governor, his Secretary's staff, staff of the Governor, Chief Minister and Secretariat staff of the Chief Minister, staff of the Secretary, Local Fund Audit, establishment of District Administration and Board of Revenue, Public Service Commission, Director of Land Records and so forth. There are so many items in this head and under this head there are also accounts given for each of the departments separately, which we can also discuss separately and also there are so many Departments in these heads. For example, it can be seen here the head of the Establishment of the Ministers and Governor, Relief and Rehabilitation Department, Civil Secretariat, Passport and Visa Department and District Administration and so on and so forth. So, Sir, according to Rule 150 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly,

we are to get them separately. But that has not been given to us. So this has not been done in accordance with the rules of this Assembly and it should be withdrawn and the Hon'ble Finance Minister may bring the Votes on Account according to rules. Another point, Sir.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Are you raising a point of order? I thought you are speaking on the motion.

Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): Sir, first I am raising a point of order, then I shall speak on the motion. The motion is not in order and I want to hear from the Finance Minister.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is rather difficult for me to understand what the hon. Member is driving at? Sir, if you will be pleased to look at Rule 150, you will find under Sub-Clause (1) of that Rule, that "a motion for vote on account shall state the total sum required, and the various amounts needed for each department....." Now, Sir, the statements which we have placed before this august House were on the basis of which we shall come forward for vote on account show that the requirements of Rule 150 have been complied with, that is to say, that we have stated the various amounts needed for each department and also the total sum required. These are the two requirements which have been fulfilled under this Rule. Sir, you will also be able to see from these statements that we have given the amounts for the whole year and the amount needed by each department for three months. All the requirements of this rule have been complied with. I do not see how a point of order can arise when the relevant Rule has been followed.

Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): Here only the Grant No.9 and the head of expenditure, *i.e.*, 19.—General Administration has been given and other main items are in the main budget. But the main budget is not coming up before the House.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Do you mean to say that each grant for each Department should be stated separately?

Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED: Yes, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then there is no ground for a point of order.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Nowgong): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take this early opportunity of congratulating the Finance Minister of our State for presentation of the budget before the House. It is a nice and lucid statement of the economic situation of our State and my thanks, Sir, are due to the Finance Minister for his lucid attempt to give a review of the economic and social trends of our State and for his taking the House into confidence on some very important matters.

Sir, the Finance Minister has very elaborately dealt with the Award of the Finance Commission. He has placed all necessary facts before us, as to what endeavours were undertaken by our Government and how our case was presented before the Finance Commission and how we have achieved some amount of success in this matter. I am very happy to know that the attempts made by our Government in placing the special case of Assam have met with, though not with full success, at least partial success. Our attempts have not been disappointing and the awards of the Finance Commission

have, to a certain extent, satisfied our aspirations, I feel we have got some amount of justice in comparison to other States. So far as this State is concerned, we are a bit more fortunate than some others, in the Award of the Finance Commission and therefore, Sir, my thanks are due to our Government in this regard. I hope our Government will still insist on the Central Government for meeting our case in respect of those items in which we have not secured with full satisfactions from the Finance Commission. Sir, the speech of the Finance Minister, though lucid, though illuminating in several respects, is a very brief one, and necessarily it would be a brief one because he is not dealing with the budget for the whole year. But still, Sir, the speech of the Finance Minister suffers, in my opinion, from certain defects, the defects of omission. In my last speech on the address of the Governor, I had the unpleasant and unfortunate duty of placing those omissions before the House in the hope that those omissions may be rectified by our Government. On this occasion also, Sir, I have the same unpleasant and unfortunate function in pointing out some of the omissions which appear very vital to me, on some very important matters and in the hope that we will get fuller information from the Finance Minister when he would make his reply. With this end in view, I am coming to these omissions which appear to me very important and very relevant. Let us take the royalty dispute first. It is not unknown to the hon. Members of this House that the dispute is going on between this Government and the Central Government on the royalty on oil. It has been reported in the papers that some sort of dispute is going on about the royalty on oil between the Central Government and the Government of Assam. This dispute on royalty is a very important matter; it has very important connection with the financial and economic situation of the State. Sir, I expect that this House should get some sort of information from the Finance Minister while giving his reply on this very important matter, namely, the dispute on royalty on oil. The Finance Minister, the Chief Minister and the Minister-in-charge of Industries had gone to Delhi to negotiate with the Government of India on matter of this dispute. Recently only we came to know about this thing in the paper. But nothing has come out of the lips of the Finance Minister. We came to know about this dispute from the paper but we do not actually know what the dispute is about, how it has started, what is the present position of the dispute, what is our case, what is the case of the Government of India and at what stage the matter stands now and whether we are likely to get any satisfaction from the dispute that is going on between the two authorities—between the Government of India and the Government of Assam. We do not know whether the negotiation will terminate in our favour or not. Sir, these things are very important and very pertinent and have bearing on the financial and economic condition of our State. So we expected that our Finance Minister would take the House into his confidence in such vital matters. Sir, the negotiation may not succeed and may not turn in our favour and it may take a turn for the worse and therefore, it was all the more necessary that the Finance Minister should have taken this House into his confidence. Moreover, in a dispute of this kind that is going on between the Government of India and the Assam Government I feel that the hands of our Government should be strengthened and the hands of our Government will be strengthened only if the Finance Minister can have the support of this House and if the entire State is behind him. If we are all unanimous about this dispute then the Government of India will feel that the entire State is dissatisfied and so some justice is to be done to the State of Assam. Therefore, it is all the more necessary that the House should have been taken into confidence in this very important matter. But unfortunately for us the Finance Minister has not given us his mind and we

do not know the present state of affairs. I hope the Finance Minister will not misunderstand us and will try to take the House into confidence by placing all the cards that he has before us. With this end in view I have brought this omission to the notice of the Finance Minister and the Members of the House.

The second omission refers to a very important matter and that pertains to a matter connected with the very vital problem of our State, i.e., the problem of growing indiscipline among the students of our State. Only in the last year what we saw? We saw the extreme lawlessness amongst the students community in Assam. Our respected Chief Minister was subjected to a rough behaviour by a large section of students in front of the University. Then after sometime the students behaved very badly with their Professors and with the Persons in-charge of the University. These were exhibitions of extreme lawlessness, extreme rowdiness and extreme form of disrespect to persons deserving of respects is developing among the students in Assam. I expected something tangible from the Finance Minister about this matter. I want to know what the Government is contemplating to do and what steps Government have taken or proposes to take to tackle this problem. I expected some indication about this from the speech of the Finance Minister but unfortunately for us there is no mention about it in his speech. We only know Sir, that a University Commission is being appointed but the purview and terms of reference of the Commission are very limited. That Commission may not serve the purpose that we have in mind because of the limitations of power. Therefore, how the Government proposes to tackle this important subject is not known to us being not mentioned in the speech of the Finance Minister. An important subject like education has been dealt with in a small paragraph. We have got permanent staff in the Education Department and they should have supplied the materials to the Finance Minister about this important matter. I am sorry to say that even such important matter which is a life and death matter to our country, has not attracted the attention of the Finance Minister. That is omission number two.

Then Sir, I want to bring some other small but important matters to the notice of the Government. Sir, it is known to all the hon. Members of this House that we had a language riot last year and as a result of the riot some officers were placed under suspension and proceedings were started against them. These proceedings are still continuing and are not being terminated. I do not understand why Government should take so much time in terminating these proceedings and why these proceedings are still continuing. I bring this matter to the notice of the Government with the hope that Government will take prompt and effective steps to terminate these proceedings. In my opinion there is absolutely no reason why there should be such inordinate delay in terminating these proceedings.

Then, Sir, there is a complaint often mentioned both in press and platform that there has been unnecessary multiplication of offices and unnecessary duplication of work, resulting in a huge wastage of public money. I feel Sir, that this is a matter which should attract early attention of the Government. I do not know Sir, not being connected with the Government, that there has really been multiplication of offices and unnecessary duplication of work, but the public opinion is that there has been multiplication of offices and duplication work which can be avoided if there is effective co-ordination between the different departments. Sir, it is freely said

It is freely said, Sir, that we are not getting our money's worth. The amount of money that we are spending on our officers should have some proportion with the amount of work that we are getting. But it is freely said in almost all quarters that we are actually not getting our money's worth. This is an important matter which I bring to the notice of the Government in the hope that Government will see to it, if anything can be done. How an effective co-ordination may be made in the different departments—how unnecessary multiplication and duplication of work can be avoided, is a serious matter deserving of prompt attention.

Then another thing and I finish—that is, Sir, with regard to the acute discontent among certain sections of our officers—the third grade and fourth grade officers. It is said that they are not adequately paid, the wages that are given to them are not commensurate with the work that is taken from them. It is said that the wages are not sufficient for them to meet both ends and they can hardly afford to make a bare living. This is a matter which has given rise to serious discontent amongst these sections of officers and this matter deserves special consideration by the Government and if possible some relief should be given to those third and fourth grade employees at an early date.

Sir, our Finance Minister has given us to understand that we have not been able to impose the Carriage Tax on account of some parties going to the High Court and as such the hands of the Government are tied up. Actually I sympathise with the Finance Minister on this issue. Can I suggest one thing to him? It may take a long time for us to have that tax re-introduced but in the meantime can we not double the Agricultural Income-Tax to make up the loss? This is a thing which the Finance will be pleased to examine and I feel we can by doubling the Agricultural Income-Tax make up our losses sustained in other respects.

With these observations and again congratulating the Finance Minister for presentation of his budget speech and for enabling us to know several important matters relating to the economic and social position of our country, I resume my seat. Thank you, Sir.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, after going through the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister, it appears to me at first to be misleading. On the cover page, we find that it is a Budget Speech made on the year 1962-63. But when we go in, we find that this speech is relating to the Votes on Accounts for the first quarter of 1962-63, that is from April to June. It is a bit confusing because the Finance Minister while placing his Budget and making his speech too, Sir, has dwelt upon the entire budget for the year 1962-63 but we find that he has delivered his speech only relating to so far of the budget concerning the first quarter. Sir, it is very difficult for me to understand how we can take it as the Budget Speech for the whole year, that is 1962-63. So I say it is a bit confusing.

Now, coming to the details inside, we find that our Finance Minister has omitted some very important items. He has not stated anything with regard to the paper pulp factory. From a news which appeared in the Assam Tribune, dated 17th March 1962, we find that this paper pulp mill

is not going to be established due to certain difficulties. I am reading out the contents of the news which appeared on the 17th March, the news being dated 14th March:—

“PAPER PULP PROJECT”

No Hope of Implementation.

Silchar, March 14.—Considerable concern is expressed in knowledgeable circles here over the fate of the proposed paper pulp project of the Assam Pulp Mills at Manacherra in the Hailakandi Subdivision.

According to information current here the project is on the verge of abandonment due to myopic hitch between the managing agents Messrs Balmer Lawrie & Co., Ltd., and State Government in the Industries Department”.

Sir, this is a very important piece of news for us because we have seen in different Development Plans that this paper pulp mill was made a capital by this Government. Now this proposal was before this Government for about the last three years. In 1962 when we are meeting here to hear from the Finance Minister about the different Developmental works, strangely enough, we find that this paper pulp mill has disappeared entirely from his report. He has dwelt upon also on Gas Turbine. It is known to us that delay in execution of establishing the Gas Turbine at Namrup is causing the whole Upper Assam to suffer from want of power. We see in paper and we hear from our friends about the failure of electricity in Upper Assam and Government gave us the hope that as soon as this Gas Turbine is established at Nahorkatiya, the whole of Upper Assam will be illuminated with lights. But we have seen in newspapers also that there were some transactions between some Companies and the State Electricity Board and then for some reasons this failed and the Secretary of the Board has been summoned to Delhi to have discussion over this matter. The Indian Supply Mission in America has made some adverse comments on the transaction of this Board is having with one Company Westings House. We learnt also that it is widely published in some important papers of India. There are Sir, two companies who submitted tenders for supplying machineries for this proposed Thermal Plant, but our Electricity Board took into consideration only the tender of Westing House. This is not a matter to be neglected because it concerned a huge amount to the extent of Rs.5 crores. It was published in the Assam Tribune of March, 23. Assam Sir, is a poor province, if some departments play with public exchequer take things like this how are we going to be developed. There are criminal wastages of money in every department. If we look into the Audit Report of 1961, it gives us a very dismal picture of the financial condition of our State. One really finds very difficult to relish it. The Audit Report speaks of criminal misappropriations and criminal wastages in the different departments of the Government but Government is remaining silent, they are not speaking a single word about it. So Sir, while giving the Budget Speech, we expect the Finance Minister to place before us the entire picture what we gain, what we lose, what we are going to gain and what we are going to lose. If we have lost anything, how we have lost it. If we have wasted anything, who is responsible for all these wastage. Sir, these things are very important specially in an underdeveloped State like Assam. Sir, with regard to the gas turbine, I will read out a few points which I have jotted down from all India newspaper sometime back. There is no adequate competition in respect of this tender and there are only two parties who have quoted for the equipment required. The stakes involved are fairly large. There have been price negotiations with one party alone and there is some change in price in respect of Westinghouse. As negotiations over and above the extent

required for technical clarifications have been conducted by the indentor he should accept full responsibility and place orders. There is no point in dividing responsibility at this stage.

This is quoted from a letter addressed to the Secretary, Electricity Board by the Secretary, Ministry of Water, House and Supply, Government of India. Now Sir, this is the state of affair about the highly talked Thermal Plant. Sir, about the other projects, I am not going to deal with all points one by one now but I propose to deal with all these things in the debates on the Governor's Address. Sir, there is another point about which our Finance Minister has remained silent. I got a copy of the annual report of the Apex Marketing Society. This Society is facing a loss of a huge amount to the extent of more than 2 lakhs. This Apex Marketing Society whose annual general meeting was held at Gauhati and when I casually went through the report, these things were there. Sir, we have much to depend on the success of these Apex Marketing Societies and when there are such anomalies, Government should go into the details. I therefore, suggest that Government should appoint a Commission to make a thorough enquiry into the affairs of the Apex Marketing Society. About the working of the Apex Marketing Society, the Finance Minister is silent. I do not presume but I am constrained to express that our Finance Minister is always silent where they are not successful and the Finance Minister is eloquent where they are going to be successful. It is generally seen that the Finance Minister is always silent in so many other things where they are not successful. Our Finance Minister has also referred to the relief given to the language riot victims but here also I find that the state of affair is very sad. Those Bengali friends, some of them lost everything they earned in their lives but the reliefs given to them were very inadequate. Here also I find that the Finance Minister is very half hearted. I suggest that a proper enquiry should be made into the actual loss suffered by these unfortunate people. Those fortunate ones whose petitions or applications were enquired into and when the enquiries were completed, the relief or loan was granted piece-meal. Some persons were granted to the extent of Rs.10,000 and now 2 years have passed, out of Rs.10,000 the victims had not even received Rs.2,000. These are the state of things going on. If the victim is not to get any relief, his petition should be rejected outright, but when Government gives him hope that he will get his loan for rehabilitation, why his loan should not be sanctioned at the moment when his first payment was paid, why it should drag down and why that man is left hanging on hopes. Sir, on the whole I do not want to take much time of the House. We will have scope to speak of these things in the debates on the Governor's Address. Sir, this spirit of making piece-meal budget should be discouraged. We have enough time soon after the elections, when we could prepare the Budget, when we could summon the Assembly and when we could make the Budget Speech, why this very session could not be converted into a full Budget Session so that the entire statement of income and expenditure could be thrashed out. So I feel that this method of dealing with budget in piece-meal should be discouraged and I really cannot approve this ideal.

Sir, with these words I am constrained to feel that our Finance Minister is very very half-hearted and he did not go into details. He has failed to point out about the failure in some of the most important development works of the State and I am very much pained to see this sort of things. I hope our Ministers on that side will discourage this sort of things in future and we will be taken into confidence and reveal the success as well as the failure equally and seek our advice in the vital matters of our State.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ বিত্তমন্ত্রী য়ে এই বছৰত ৬৬ কোটিৰ অলপ বেচি টকাৰ বাজেট ডাঙি ধৰিছে আৰু তাৰ ভিতৰত প্ৰথম তিনি মাহৰ নিমিত্তে ১৬ কোটি টকাৰ মঞ্জুৰী বিচাৰিছে। সদস্যসকলে বছৰি চৰকাৰী ব্যয়ৰ কাৰণে টকা মঞ্জুৰ কৰি আছে—এই টকা চৰকাৰে সংগ্ৰহ কৰিব পাঁচ বছৰীয়া পৰিকল্পনাৰ যোগেদি কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ পৰা আৰু কৰ কাটলৰ যোগেদি। অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ পৰা কৰ-কাটল সদায় জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত ঘূৰি ঘূৰি আহি পৰে। গতিকে চৰকাৰী ধন আমাৰ দুখীয়া জনসাধাৰণৰ জেপৰ টকা। কৰ সংগ্ৰহৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত লক্ষ্য কৰা উচিত মানুহৰ আধিক্য অৱস্থা। কৰ কাটল দিবপৰা অৱস্থাপনু লোকৰ পৰা কৰ লব লাগে আৰু যি সকলৰ অৱস্থা সংকতাপনু সেই সকলক কৰব হেচা পাতলই দি উদ্ধাৰলৈ সদায় সুবিধা দিয়া প্ৰয়োজন। কিন্তু দেখিবলৈ পাইছোঁ দৰিদ্ৰ জনসাধাৰণক বেহাই দিয়া হোৱা নাই বৰঞ্চ কৰব হেচা ক্ৰমে বঢ়াই দিয়া হৈছে। পঞ্চায়ত ৰাজ প্ৰৱৰ্ত্তন কৰিবলৈ গৈ দৰিদ্ৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত কৰব বোজা জাপি দিয়া হৈছে। শাসন বস্ত্ৰ পৰিচালনাৰ বাবে টকাৰ দৰকাৰ। কিন্তু সেই অৰ্থ দুখীয়াৰ পৰা সংগ্ৰহ নকৰি অৱস্থাপনু জনৰ পৰা কৰিব লাগে। কিন্তু এই চৰকাৰে ধনীৰ ওপৰত কৰব বোজা জাপি নিদিয়ৈ। চৰকাৰী হিচাব মতে চাহ-বাগিচাত এক বিঘা মাটিৰ আয় হয় ২১৫।০ অনা আৰু এক বঘা শালী খেতি মাটিৰ আয় হয় মাত্ৰ ২০ টকা। কিন্তু চাহ বাগিচাৰ এবিধা মাটিৰ খাজনা মাত্ৰ বাৰ অনা, ইফালে খেতিৰ মাটিৰ এবিধাৰ খাজনা ১।০ অনা। ইয়াৰ পৰাই বুজাত সহজ হয়—এই চৰকাৰৰ দৰিদ্ৰ শ্ৰেণীৰ প্ৰতি মমতা কিমান!

চৰকাৰী ব্যয়ৰ বিষয়েও দুই এটা কথা উনুকিয়াবলৈ বাধ্য হলো। এই বিষয়ে অলপ আগতে বিৰোধী দলৰ শ্ৰীগোস্বামী দেৱেও কিছু উল্লেখ কৰিছে। ১৯৬১ চনৰ অদিত বিপট দেখিলে দুঃখ লাগে। হাতীৰ মহলৰ কাৰণে উচ্চ ডাক দিওঁতা জনক মহল নিদিলে—পালে যি জনে নিয়া ডাক দিছিল। চৰকাৰৰ এই কাৰ্য্যই দুৰ্নীতিৰ পৰিচয় দিয়া নাইনে?

যোগান বিভাগে কি যোগান ধৰিছে কব নোৱাৰে। চেনী ভেজাল, চিনপাট পাবলৈ নাই। শিৱসাগৰ মহকুমাত ২৫ টা মৌজাৰ কাৰণে এবাৰ চিনপাট দিছিল মাত্ৰ ১৮ বালিল। এবাৰ যোগান বিভাগে জহা চাউল কিনিলে প্ৰায় ৮০০ মোণ; কিন্তু পিচত সেইবোৰ নিচেই তল খাপৰ কিবা চাউল, জহা নহয় চৰকাৰে জহাবুলি অন্য চাউল কিনিলে। ইয়াত চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰায় ৪ হেজাৰ টকা লোকচান হ'ল। জহা চাউল চিনি নাপায়—ই কি চৰকাৰ?

এটা ধানকলে ১০০ শ যোন ধান চৰকাৰৰ গুদামত জমা দি ৫০০ মোণ ধানৰ দাম নিলে ১৯৫৮ চনৰ ১৪ এপ্ৰিলত। মিলক ৫০০ শ মোণৰ দাম দিলে কিন্তু ধান পালে এশ মোণহে। চৰকাৰৰ ইয়াতো লোকচান হল ৪,৪৫০ টকা।

কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ কাৰবাক বেকলৈ পঠাইছিল টকা ভঙাবৰ কাৰণে ১৯৫৯ চনৰ ৬ এপ্ৰিলত। তেওঁ টকা ভঙাই পলাল। তাতো প্ৰায় ৪,০৫৫ টকাৰ ঘাটখালে চৰকাৰে।

৪৩ পৃষ্ঠাৰ পৰা কৈছোঁ—

“On the 30th November, 1960, the total number of objections outstanding upto the end of March, 1960, in the books of the Audit Office and thier money value were 37,440 and Rs. 12,36,51,583 respectively. Some of these date as far back as 1944-45 and include such important types of objections as (a) want of detailed countersigned contingent bills sub-vouchers and actual payees' receipts; (b) want of sanction of the competent authority.....”

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Barbaruah give the gist only.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):

ভাওচাৰ বহিদ নোহোৱাকৈ টকা ১৯৪৫ চনৰ পৰা খৰচ কৰি আছে, কৰ কাটিলৰ যোগেদি দৰিদ্ৰলোকক চেপি নিয়া টকাৰো অপব্যয় হয় কংগ্ৰেছ চৰকাৰৰ হাতত। চৰকাৰৰ দৰিদ্ৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত কৰ বঢ়োৱাৰ আন এটা দৃষ্টান্ত—কৃষকৰ খাজনা বৃদ্ধি ১৯৩৬ চনৰ “খাজনা আৰু নতুন জোখ আইন”ৰ নিৰ্দেশ অনুসৰি—খাজনা বৃদ্ধিৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত চৰকাৰে লক্ষ্য কৰা নাই। প্ৰথম কথা হৈছে উপাৰ্জনৰ খৰচলৈ লক্ষ্য কৰা। মই কও চৰকাৰে এহাল গৰু লৈ ১২ বিঘা মান মাটিত খেতি কৰি চাওক এক অনা মান লাভ কৰিব পাৰে নে? চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰত্যেক ধন কাৰ্মে লোকচান খাইছে। চৰকাৰৰ কাৰ্মৰ গৰু মৰিছে — গাখীৰ কমি গৈছে। যদি লাভ কৰিব পাৰে—সেই এক অনাকে লগাওক—খাজনা বুলি— ১।২ বিঘাত। কথা দ্বিতীয় হৈছে কৃষিজাত বস্তৰ মূল্যলৈ লক্ষ্য কৰা। কৃষিজাত বস্তৰ দাম পাব গৈছে। ধানৰ দাম বাঢ়িবলৈ নিদিলে। ‘ষ্টেট ট্ৰিডিং অনুসন্ধান কমিতিয়ে’ অসমত ধানৰ দাম ১২ টকা হৰ লাগে বুলি মন্তব্য প্ৰকাশ কৰিছিল কিন্তু চৰকাৰে ধানৰ দাম ১০ টকাৰ ওপৰ হৰলৈ নিদিলে।— কিন্তু শিল্পজাত বস্তৰ মূল্য ক্ৰমাৎ বৃদ্ধি পাইছে। সামান্য চৰাই মাৰ্কা টানৰ পেকেটৰ দাম ১০ অনাৰ পৰা ৫০/ অনা লৈ বাঢ়ি গৈছে। সেই দৰে কাপোৰ, সুতা, কাগজ, চেনী, তেল আৰু অন্যান্য সকলো মাৰ্বতীয় লাগতিয়াল বস্তৰ দাম বাঢ়ি গৈছে। কৃষিজাত বস্তৰ মূল্য নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিছে কিন্তু চৰকাৰে শিল্পজাত বস্তৰ মূল্য একমাত্ৰ ধনীক শ্ৰেণীৰ স্বাৰ্থৰ বাবেই নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰা নাই। খাজনা বৃদ্ধিৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত খেতিয়কৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা মাটিৰ মূল্য আদিলৈ চাবলৈ কৈছে—উক্ত আইনে। কিন্তু চৰকাৰে তালৈও খাজনা বৃদ্ধিৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত চোৱা নাই।

শাসন ক্ষেত্ৰত কি হৈছে সকলোৰে জ্ঞাত। এই শাসন ওপৰে গধূৰ হৈ পৰিছে। আমাৰ মন্ত্ৰী ইতিমধ্যে বাঢ়িলেই। আকৌ এতিয়া ৰাজ্য-মন্ত্ৰী নামৰ ২ জন মন্ত্ৰী আহি অসম সোমাল। লাহে লাহে ওপৰৰ দৰমাহাৰ খৰচ বৃদ্ধি হৈছে। কিন্তু ইফালে স্কুল ভাঙি গৈছে। নিৰ্মাণৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰৰ পয়চা নাই। বাস্তা মাটি মেৰামতিৰ কাৰণে অৰ্থ নাই পঞ্চবাৰ্ষিক পৰিকল্পনাৰ কাৰণে টকা নাই কিন্তু ইফালে টকা অনাহকত মন্ত্ৰী বৃদ্ধি কৰি খৰচ কৰি আছে। এলাউস, দৰমাহাৰ কাৰণে কিন্তু পয়ছা ওলায়।

পুলিচ বিভাগৰ কথা কি কম! চাবু নগা বিদ্রোহীয়ে ১১ মাৰ্চৰ তাৰিখেই উত্তৰ কাছাৰৰ কাপ্ৰে গাওঁ আক্ৰমণ কৰা হ’ব বুলি সতৰ্ক কৰি দিছিল। তথাপিহে চৰকাৰৰ পুলিচ বিভাগে উক্ত গাওঁ বন্ধা কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে। কিমান পাকিস্তানী মানুহ অসমত সোমাই আছে তাৰ হিচাব নাই। এইবিলাক ইচ্ছা কৰিয়েই একো নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ হোৱা নাই। পুলিচে কেৱল ৰাইজৰ মাজত শস্ত্ৰাস সৃষ্টি কৰাতে ব্যস্ত। সোনাৰিত বিপ্লবী কমিউনিষ্টৰ নিৰ্বাচনী অফিচত পুলিছেৰ বঞ্জিত বৰপ্ৰজাৰীৰ ছবি বিছাৰি যথেষ্ট শস্ত্ৰসা সৃষ্টি কৰিছিল। ভোটাবক ভয় খুৱাইছিল। পুলিছে বন্দুক লৈ দুখীয়া মানুহক উচ্ছেদ কৰিছে। কিন্তু ইফালে গাৰোপাহাৰৰ ‘পাখাৰিয়া’ ৰিজাৰ্ড পাকী-স্থানীয়ে বে-দৰ্শল কৰিছে। পুলিছে একো কৰিব পৰা নাই কেৱল ঘৰৰ দৰিদ্ৰ খেতিয়কৰ ওপৰত বীৰহ দেখুৱাত পাতকিত। গতিকে পুলিছে য’ত বীৰহ দেখুৱাব লাগে তাত বীৰহ নেদেখুৱাই কেৱল দুখীয়া মানুহ কেজঠৰ ওপৰত বীৰহ দেখুৱাটোকে তেওঁলোকে কাম বুলি ভাবে।

জন স্বাস্থ্যৰ বা **Public Health** ৰ কথা কি কম। জনসাধাৰণৰ স্বাস্থ্য ভাগি গৈছে। খাদ্য বস্ত সকলো ভেজাল হৈ পৰিছে। বসন্ত ৰোগত আজিৰ দিনতো মানুহ মৰিছে এই ৰোগত চিকিৎসাৰ অভাৱত মানুহ মৰাটো কম দুঃখৰ কথা নহয়—বসন্ত ৰোগত মানুহ মৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে ই অতি পৰিতাপৰ কথা। চিকিৎসাৰ কাৰণে হস্পিটাল বিলাক আছে। স্বাস্থ্যমন্ত্ৰী আছে। নানাধৰণৰ চিকিৎসক সকলে বিষয় বাব লৈ আছে কিন্তু মানুহ বেমাৰত পৰিলে ৰচাব নোৱাৰে। কুৰ্ঠ

বেমাৰ আদিৰ পৰা উদ্ধাৰ কৰাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নাই। হস্পিটালৰ সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি যিমানেই কৰিছে অসমত বেমাৰ বৃদ্ধিও পাই আহিছে। নিৰ্বাৰণৰ কোনো স্ত্ৰ-ব্যৱস্থাই হোৱা নাই।

কৃষি বিভাগৰ কৰ্ত্তব্য হ'ল কৃষিৰ উন্নতি কৰা। ইয়াকে কৰিবলৈ মানবকমে সাহায্য কৰিব লাগে। কিন্তু সাহায্য কৰাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থাই নাই।

দুটা এটা ক্ষুদ্ৰ জনসিঞ্চন আচনিৰ বাহিৰে খেতিৰ অন্য কোনো আচনি কৃত কাৰ্য্য হোৱা নাই। বতৰ ভাল হলেহে খেতি ভাল হ'ব নহলে নিৰুপায়। আজিৰ দিনত পানীৰ কাৰণেও ভগবানৰ--আল্লাৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰিব লগা হৈছে।

যি দুই এটা মঠাউৰি দুই এঠাইতে বন্ধা হয় সিও বছৰে বছৰে ভাঙে। আজি চৰকাৰে কৰ নোৱাৰে যে কোনোবা বছৰ মঠাউৰি ভঙা নাই। এনে এটা বছৰ আছে নে যি বছৰ বান পানীত মানুহ আক্ৰান্ত হোৱা নাই?

চৰকাৰে মনত ৰাখিব লাগে যে কৃষিৰ উন্নতি কৰিবলৈ মাটিহীন খেতিয়কক মাটি দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

Mr. SPEAKER: বৰবৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াক আৰু কিমান সময় লাগিব?

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BRRBARUAH (Amguri):

আৰু ৫ মিনিট মান লাগিব চাব।

আজি পুৰণি পদ্ধতি এৰি নতুন যন্ত্ৰ পাতিৰ সহায়েৰে খেতিৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। নহলে খেতিৰ উন্নতি হ'ব নোৱাৰে। বৈজ্ঞানিক পদ্ধতিৰে ট্ৰেক্টৰৰ সহায়েৰে খেতি কৰাৰ দিন আহিল।

তাৰ পিচত খেতিয়কে খেতিৰ শস্যৰ প্ৰকৃত মূল্য যাতে পায় তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে আৰু খেতিৰ শস্যৰ মূল্য আগতে ঘোষণা কৰিলেহে খেতিৰ কাৰণে খেতিয়কে উৎসাহ পাব। এনেধৰণৰ বহুতো বিভাগ আছে যেনে, ফৰেষ্ট বিভাগ। এই সকলোবিলাক কৰ লগা হলে বহুতো সময় লাগিব।

কিন্তু এটা কথা স্পষ্টকৈ যে আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ কাম নাই বা কোনো কাৰ্য্যকৰা আচনি নাই—কিয়নো বছৰে বছৰে টকা খৰচ কৰিব নোৱাৰি ফিৰাই দিছে। গতিকে টকা দিলে কি হ'ব?

যোৱা বছৰ ৫ কোটি টকা উভতি গৈছে। Loans and Advances আদি যেন আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ দিয়াৰ ঠাই নাই। তাৰ শিতানৰ ১৪ লাখ টক ফিৰি গৈছে। অভাবগ্ৰস্ত মানুহক দিয়া নহ'ল? কিয় টকা থকা স্বত্বেও দিয়া নহল, সেইটো চৰকাৰে হে ক'ব পাৰে। কোনোৱে য'ৰ বান্ধিবলৈ টকা বিচাৰি দৰ্খাস্ত দিও টকা নাপায়। টকা ফিৰি গ'ল। ভিখাৰীলোক বিচাৰি নাপালে, টকা উভতি গ'ল ৪৪ হাজাৰ। বৃত্তি দিবলৈ ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী বিচাৰি নাপালে, টকা উভতি গ'ল। এতিয় ৩ মাহৰ ভিতৰত এনে ধৰণে কেনেকৈ ১৬ কোটি টকা খৰচ কৰিব? কৰবাত পানীত হে পৰিব!

এই ক্ষেত্ৰত মই চৰকাৰক দাবী কৰো যাতে গৰীব ৰাইজৰ কষ্টোপজ্জিত ধন অৰাবতে খৰচ নহয়।

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Hon'ble. Speaker, Sir, I am a new man in this Assembly. I do not know whether I shall be able to exhibit my observations properly or not. First, I am going to point out the defects in the Finance Minister's Speech. In this respect, Sir, I want to associate myself with hon. Member Shri Motiram Bora who has spoken about the royalty of oil. So far I understand, Sir, the defect is not with the Government of India, but it is with Government of Assam. Sir, for the information of the House, I would like to say that one responsible officer from the Government of Assam is representing the Government in the Board of Directors of the Oil Refinery. Sir, may I know what are the duties of that responsible officer representing the Government of Assam? His duty is to represent the actual affairs of the State and information of troubles and requirements of Assam. If he gets anything about Royalty and other he had to report these things to the Government of India or to Government of Assam. In this respect he totally failed to do so.

(A voice—it is not so, it is not so.)

At the same time the Finance Minister did not mention how many people have been employed in the Gauhati Oil Refinery. He did not mention how many local talents have been in other projects also. My point is, Sir, in the Budget Speech given by the Finance Minister, there should be the details of all these things, but it is lacking. Another point, Sir, I am speaking from my own experience, that our Government has not apprised of the actual facts to Central Government. When I met our Prime Minister last, he told me that "I am the Prime Minister of India, it is not possible for me to know all the requirements and troubles of a particular State unless they are represented to me. You should go to your Government and ask them to mention the actual requirements." Sir, Government totally failed to apprise of the actual facts and figures requirements of this backward State.

Another point, Sir, in the Budget Speech, one important item has been omitted and that is the Bhogdoi Bridge in Jorhat Town. Since the British regime it remains as it is. The traffic on this bridge, being the only national highway in the south bank is too huge. But it is now at the verge of collapse. I do not know when the reconstruction of this bridge is going to be taken up.

Another particular point I want to state is that I am pained to see and observe the statement given by our hon. Friend, Mr Bora, about students' unrest. Sir, I know and I claim to know, about which we have apprised the Chief Minister and the Education Minister and other leaders about the actual requirements of our brothers and sisters of the students community, but I am very sorry to say that no response has been forthcoming to our appeals from them. When we approach them for bread, instead of bread we get stone and for this reason we suffer from bullets, we suffer in jails and we are suffering from many other things. Is it not an independent country? If it is an independent country, there should be security of our life. Has not the Sacred Constitution of India granted us security of life. When there is no security of life can it be called an independent State? So may of our student brothers sacrificed their lives in police firing. With my folded hands I would request you Sir, and the hon. Members of the House, to remove the student's discontent by giving them bread. They want provision

of bread and butter, they want to go ahead with brother and sister students of other States in India. I mentioned about this to the Finance Minister that when we went to meet the Prime Minister of India, he told us that he likes people and students of Assam and he was charmed with their behaviour but he was sorry that our students have not been able to compete with others. I told him we are not backward because, we are not having merits but because of the fact that we do not get sufficient opportunity. When our brothers and sisters are suffering, our leaders, who are in the helm of affairs who are our guardians, who are like our fathers, in spite of our appeals instead of meeting our requirements, they pay deaf ears I would appeal to you, Sir, and the Members of this House to fulfil their desire, to fulfil the desire of our brothers and sisters for their proper development and to give them the real life what Bapuji said an honourable era instead of throwing the students into the state of metamorphosis. Sir, there is always an accusation when we go for demanding employment to respective authorities, that we are having provincialism with us. Mind it, Sir, our Bapuji told us that if we want to serve our county, we should first serve our family, then we should serve our village and then our country. Now, our duty is to make our State self-sufficient and only then we can look for others. Our people do not get employment just on the plea that we are not technically trained and so, so many people are pouring into our State from outside and filling up the jobs. What our guardians and fathers in the helm of affairs are doing? What is the provision they are making for their wards and children, do they want us to eat stones instead of bread and they want us to be beggars in our own State? I appeal to you all, instead of criticising others, we should criticise ourselves first. We must face the difficulties ourselves. Our students want to lead a new life. Therefore, it is the duty of our fathers here to meet their requirements. It is not the duty of our fathers to give stones instead of bread. You know, Sir, the red blood has not yet wiped out from the Cotton College Hostel. What measures Government are going to take for these? What measures our fathers are going to take on the atrocities of the police? I want to know from the Chief Minister as our father having his sacred duty towards his sons and daughters what action he is taking to remove their grievances, to give them sufficient food, sufficient accommodation, etc. Are they in the Government only to blame the student-community with this plea or that plea? Is it justified for a learned father to sacrifice his sons for his selfish ends? I want to know what measure Government is going to take to save their children? The Government should know that there is discontentment prevailing amongst the students as there is no security of life. In my speech in the Governor's address, I shall discuss in details giving some suggestions to the honble Chief Minister though I know that he does not want to hear the versions of young people.

Now, Sir, let us come to another most important point, *i. e.*, the reference made by our esteemed hon. Member, Shri Bora, about the affairs of the University, but nobody tried to understand the voice of the young people. I can say boldly, I told to the Prime Minister that the student-community of Assam is a most peaceful community in India. They know how to conduct themselves, they know to regard their leaders, they know to respect people, they know their responsibilities. They are well disciplined. If you have seen indiscipline it is not among the students of Assam but with our leaders.

Again, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House that before criticising others one should know how to criticise himself first. Regarding Police administration, I want to point out, Sir that it is practically a top heavy organisation, they are having so many officers. But if somebody wants really to re-organise Police administration, it should be done from the bottom and not from the top. A start should be made from the Police constables. But nobody is looking after the betterment of the constables, the A. S. Is and the S. Is inspite of the fact that these people are on duty for 24 hours. They are not getting any facility at all. That is why instead of spending lakhs and lakhs of money in some other establishments, their pay should be increased. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members to this aspect of the matter that if we want to have efficient police administration, Government should first satisfy the low-paid Government servants. It is not a question of only spending in the name of police re-organisation because I know clearly when the Ayub Khan of Assam, that is the former I. G. P. did not find any place he was put in charge of that special work as police re-organisation came only after the last disturbances. Therefore, this police Department to which I want to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Chief Minister is not meant to kill boys and girls mercilessly. It is meant to protect them and co-operate with them, to win the hearts of the people, to work in collaboration with them. There should not be a police Raj, we want Swaraj.

Another thing which I want to point out is the Secretariat Establishment. You will see Sir, the Secretariat high officials are already self-sufficient. But recently they have got another scale in the shape of charge allowance and there is only one officer who refused the same allowance. His version was that instead of having that amount it should be distributed to the low-paid Government servants. Now, as has been told by my esteemed friend, Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah, the administration is only on papers and not in actual practice. Therefore my point is if we want to improve the administrative machinery, we should try to improve the lot of the low paid Government servants. This I am speaking from my experience as I was a Lower Division Assistant in the Directorate of Agriculture. If we want to increase the efficiency of the administration; we should have to re-organise right from the 4th Grade Government servants upto the high officers, *i.e.*, Under Secretaries and Secretaries. I also want to draw the attention of the House to another point. So many prized posts have been created for the Assistants in the Secretariat while there is no scope for the people serving in the Heads of Departments, thus Government is spending a lot of money in the name of Secretariat administration. While I was the humble General Secretary of the Shillong Ministerial Officers Association, we came to an agreement with the Chief Minister and there was something to be done for the betterment of the 3rd and 4th Grade Government servants but uptil now nothing has been done, and Government is not going to take up the issue for the implementation of that agreement.

Another point, Sir, is with regard to the district Ministerial staff whose cases have been neglected so far. Their grievances should also be considered properly if we want to have the efficient machinery in the districts. I am afraid there may be more uprisings if we do not look into these matters immediately.

Regarding pay scales, Sir, I would request the Chief Minister to set up another pay Committee so that the Pay Committee can satisfy the people by giving them increased pay to combat the present soaring price level.

Sir, regarding education, I would like to say that in the name of education so much amount of money has been spent. But I should say that education itself has not been progressing in the proper way. Sir, if we want to show progress in education we should start reorganisation from the bottom *i. e.* right from the L. P. School teachers whose fate is always miserable and Government is treating them like slaves. The whole education system becomes defective when the root is defective. The L. P. School teachers are not in a position to develop because they are half-starved and half naked and they are not in a position to devote their whole energy or giving better education to the children. So many Pay Committees have been set up, but no change in improvement of their pay scale. No improvement in the pay of the Aided High School teachers, the Aided College teachers. Therefore, this time when the Pay Committee will be set up, these matters should be considered seriously. The pay scales of the College and Aided School teachers should also be considered. There should be provision for pension for them also.

In the month of May last when I approached the Hon'ble Chief Minister at Jorhat, I referred to one thing. There is a reckless development in the establishment of schools. I do not know what action has been taken. The schools we are having now should be equipped properly, and if possible, Government should take up Higher Secondary Schools. I think Government is aware of the fact that there is only one Government College which is not sufficient to cater to the needs of the students. Therefore, my suggestion is that in all district headquarters there should be a Government College. I want to refer to the condition of J. B. College. J. B. College is the oldest Aided College in Assam, but there is no sufficient staff, no sufficient accommodation, and so is the situation in respect of facilities and other things. Government should not consider that I am speaking from the consideration that I am a representative of that constituency. But I am only suggesting that in every district headquarters there should be Government College. I want to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Chief Minister to give requisition of Deputy Commissioners bungalow for J. B. College. I think Government will take up that matter also and the J. B. College should be developed properly. Other Colleges also like the G. C. College, Silchar, Dhubri College, Darrang College, Kanoi College, etc., should also be taken up by Government for their proper development. Therefore, if Government take up the Aided Colleges then our education would go in a proper way.

Another thing, is that, Sir, though I have not found it in the Finance Minister's speech, I have heard that the Dergaon Sugar Mill is not functioning properly. The Officer-in-charge there have spoiled two parts and as a result the Mill is not functioning properly. I bring this matter to the notice of the Government, so that Government may take steps in this direction.

Then Sir, we have a Co-operative Department and we have heard that many Co-operative farms have been formed. Of these there are many bogus Co-operative farms remaining idle and formed to avoid land ceiling. I do not know whether these Co-operatives are functioning successfully and the people are benefited by them or not. Government should make an enquiry of the whole affairs and land of these bogus Co-operative Societies should be made available to the tillers.

Sir, we have a Fishery Department and there are so many beautiful tanks under this Department but these tanks are without fish and the people are raising hue and cry about this. I draw the attention of the Government to this important matter. Sir, if we want to develop ourselves we

must have good diet and fish is a very important diet for us. Therefore, Sir, Government should give special attention to this matter. We do not want tanks without fish and so this state of affairs should not continue any longer.

Another thing Sir, I want to say about the Agriculture Department, I was an employee of that Department and so I know about this Department. What is the progress of that Department? The progress is nil and it is only in paper,

Then Sir, we have a Veterinary Department and this Department, has established many farms but unfortunately these farms are giving no benefit to the people and these are in a deteriorating condition. We do not want the farms in name only, they should be of some use to the public.

Regarding another thing I want to have some information from the Finance Minister as I am a bit ignorant about this thing. I want to know whether it is a fact that the Government is going to increase the revenue. There is a hue and cry about this matter amongst the public. Sir, in Assam the per capita income is the lowest whereas the cost of living is the highest. So, the people do not want to pay more in the name of revenue. Government should look into this matter.

Regarding the agricultural loan, Sir, some bogus Co-operative farms of which I have already stated are getting loans but in practice they are not doing anything. The deserving cases are not getting any loan. I know the cases of two deserving Co-operative farms in my own constituency. These are Sarusarai and Hatigor. These farms are not getting any implements from the Government. My suggestion is this that the bogus farms should be stopped and in their place the deserving farms should get loans from Government. Our cultivators are not getting proper facilities by way of fertilizers and modern equipments from the Government. Sir, almost 90 per cent of our people are agriculturists and therefore, if we want to develop our State we must try to improve the conditions of these people. In other countries people are trying to go to the moon but we have not been able to improve the method of cultivations. I shall speak about this matter in details while speaking on the Governor's address. But here I must say that unless the condition of these people are improved it is useless to speak about the development of our State. I also spoke to the Prime Minister that here our development is only in paper but not in actual practice. Therefore, we want improvement in the actual fields too.

Then Sir, regarding the Industries Department, I am told that this Department is not functioning well. This Department undertook certain schemes but they have not yet been implemented. For example, industrial estates were to be established at Golaghat, Sibsagar and Makum but no action has yet been taken in that direction and I have heard that about 11 lakhs of rupees are going to be surrendered for non-implementation of the scheme. Therefore, Sir, I want to observe here that unless our industries are properly developed we cannot expect to solve the problem of unemployment in our State.

Then, Sir, I will speak something about the Jail. Our Government was pleased to put me into Jail under P. D. Act. (*The bell rang*). I have a bitter experience about the jails. The money that is spent under this head

is spent for the officers there and not for the convicts. The convicts do not get proper food and shelter. There is no proper medical facilities for the convicts. After my release from Jail I referred the matters to the Minister-in-charge of Jail. The convicts cannot also complain about these matters and if they lodge any complaint they are punished by the Jailors. Therefore, Sir, these defects should be considered and a committee be formed to enquire into whole affair.

Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বর্তমান আমার বিত্ত মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ৰ ভাষণত মই এটা কথা শুনিবলৈ ইচ্ছা কৰিছিলোঁ। কিন্তু সেইটো কথা শুনা নাই। পৰাধীন অৱস্থাত আমাৰ দেশখন শিক্ষা বিষয়ত পিচ পৰি আছিল। আমাৰ ভিতৰত বহুতো অতিকৈ পিচ পৰি থকা জ্ঞাত আছিল, তেওঁলোকক আচুতীয়া সুবিধা দি আগবঢ়াই আনিবলৈ তেওঁলোকক তপশীলভুক্ত কৰিলে। অকল সেয়ে নহয়, তেওঁলোকক আন আন কিছুমান সুবিধা দিবলৈকো আচনি লোৱা হৈছে। আজি ১৪।১৫ বছৰ হল, সেই সুবিধা দিয়েই আছে তাত আমাৰ আপত্তি নাই কিন্তু বৰ্ণ জাতি বিলাকৰ কাৰণে কোনো বিশেষ সুবিধা থকাটো বেজাৰৰ কথা।

ফলত এটা কথা দেখিবলৈ পাও যে আমি পিচপৰি থকা জাতিক আগবঢ়াই উন্নত জাতিৰ সমান কৰাৰ পৰিবৰ্তে উন্নত সকলক অভাৱৰ তাৰনাত পেলাই তেওঁলোককহে পিচ পেলাই সমান কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰা হৈছে। ইয়াৰ পৰা আমাৰ দেশৰ উন্নতি হোৱাৰ পৰিবৰ্তে অবনতিহে হৈছে যেন লাগে।

আমি যিসকল লোক পিচপৰি থকা বুলি ধৰিছিলো তাৰ বহুতো এতিয়া নানা-প্ৰকাৰে আগৰ উন্নত লোকৰ তুলনাটো বহু আগবাঢ়িছে। আৰু তাৰ ভিতৰৰ এটা শ্ৰেণী এতিয়াও পিচ পৰি আছে আৰু সেইটো সদায় থাকিব। কিয়নো তেওঁলোকৰ নামত সুবিধা লৈছে তাৰে ধনী, উন্নত শ্ৰেণীটোৱে। আনফালে, যাক আমি উচ্চ বুলি ধৰিছিলো তেওঁলোক, যেনে বামুন সকল আজি ক্ৰমে পিচপাৰ আহিছে। তেওঁলোকে কোনো সুবিধা নাপায়। লৰা-ছোৱালী বিলাকে পঢ়িব নোৱাৰে এনে এটা পদ্ধতি বৰ বেয়াৰ ফালে যোৱা বুলি বিবেচনা হয়। এক শ্ৰেণীৰ কম বৃদ্ধিৰ লৰা-ছোৱালীয়ে স্কুলত নানা সুবিধা পাইছে আৰু কিছুমান বুদ্ধমান লৰা-ছোৱালী বামুন গোসাই, কালতা, মুচলমান বুলি সকলো সুবিধাৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত হৈছে।—তেওঁলোকে কোনো সুবিধা নাপায়। তেওঁলোকে বামুন বা উচ্চ শ্ৰেণীৰ কাৰণে তপশীলভুক্ত হ'ব নোৱাৰে কিছুমান বামুন ঘৰত ভাত বান্ধি ঠাকুৰ নাম পাইছে।

আজি আমি দেখিছো, তপশীলভুক্ত লৰা-ছোৱালী বহুতো ডেপুটি কমিশনাৰ, সৰ-ডেপুটি আদিও হৈছে। বহুতো নানা কাৰণৰ কৰি ধনীও হৈছে—অথচ সেইসকলৰ লৰা-ছোৱালী আকৌ তপশীলভুক্ত হৈ আচুতীয়া সুবিধাও লৈ আছে।

(Voice) অনুসূচীত কিমান Deputy Commissioner আৰু [Sub-Deputy Collector হৈছে?]

কিয় শাহেৰৰ বড়া আদি। মই তপশীল ভুক্ত বুলি সকলোকে অন্তর্ভুক্ত কৰিছোঁ।

গতিকে কিছুমান তপশীলভুক্ত ধনীলোকে সুবিধা পাইছে আৰু বামুণ বা আন জাতি বিলাকে সদায় পিচপৰি গৈছে। মোৰ বোধৰে আমাৰ চৰকাৰী ধনৰ অপব্যয় হৈছে।

Mr. SPEAKER: You know the provisions of the Constitution regarding the special privileges given to the Scheduled Casts and Tribes. You may speak that the same kind of privileges should be extended to the people of other communities who are poor and who cannot maintain themselves, educate their children properly and such other things.

Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari): সংবিধানে যি সুবিধা দিছে তাত মোৰ আপত্তি নাই। কিন্তু তেওঁলোকক সুবিধা দিয়াৰ লগে লগে উক্ত শ্ৰেণীৰ যিবিলাক বুদ্ধিমান লৰা-ছোৱালী আছে তেওঁলোককো Special বৃত্তি দিব লাগে।

এনে এটা কথা মাননীয় বিত্তমন্ত্ৰীৰ ভাষণত আমি বিচাৰিছিলো কিন্তু সেইটো নাই কাৰণে দুঃখ পাইছো।

Assam Public Service Commissionৰ নিয়ম মতে তিনিজন মেম্বৰ থাকিব লাগে। কিন্তু আজিও দুটা মেম্বৰেবে চলি আছে। (Voice—তিনিটা লাগে ব'লি ক'ত আছে?) পুৰণি Rule ত আছে। বহুত সময়তে দুটা মেম্বৰেবে অসুবিধা হয়। চৰকাৰে যাতে এই তৃতীয় মেম্বৰটো সোনকালে লয় তাৰ কাৰণে অনুৰোধ জনালো।

তাৰ পিচত যিবিলাক কৰ্মচাৰীক ভাষা আন্দোলনৰ আলম লৈ উপযুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ নকৰা বুলি Suspend কৰি থলে তাৰ বিচাৰ আজিও নোহোৱাটো বৰ দুখৰ কথা। ফলত তেওঁলোকক যদি Reinstate কৰিব লগা হয়, তেন্তে গোটেইখিনি দৰমহা দিব লাগিব—অৰ্থাৎ কাম নকৰি ঘৰত বহি দৰমহা পাব। এইটো ৰাজহুৱা ধনৰ এটা অপব্যয়। গতিকে তেওঁলোকৰ সোনকালে বিচাৰ কৰি এটা ব্যৱস্থা সোনকালে কৰিব লাগে। আৰু সেই সময়ত আমাৰ বহুত কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে নিজৰ জীৱন বিপন্ন কৰিও কাম কৰিছে। মোৰ বোধেৰে বেয়া কাম কৰা কাৰণে যদি কিছুমান অফিচাৰক শাস্তি দিয়া হয় তেন্তে ভাল কাম কৰা সকলক পুৰস্কৃত কৰিব লাগে। তেতিয়া হলেহে সেইসকলে আকৌ ভাল কাম কৰিবলৈ উৎসাহ পাব।

আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলক কৃষি কামত সাহায্য দিয়া কথা আমি দেখা নাপাও। আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ কিছুমান ঠাইত কৃষি ঋণ বুলি ১০।২০ টকা দিয়া হৈছে। এই টকাৰ কাৰণে তেওঁলোকে বহু বাৰ মহকুমা নগৰলৈ আহি পইচা খৰছ কৰিব লগা হৈছে তেওঁলোকৰ এনেয়ে অৱস্থা বেয়া। আকৌ কিছুমান ঠাইত খেতি নষ্ট হৈছে। তাৰ পিচত তেওঁলোকৰ বাচিবৰ উপায় আছেনৈ নাই তাৰ চিন্তা নকৰি ১০ টকাৰ লগতে সদ যোগ কৰি হয়তো ১৫ টকা কৰি তেওঁলোকৰ যি দুটা ঘাট-নাতি আছে তাকো জ্বোক কৰ আনিছে আৰু ঋণে সহায় কৰক চাৰি সৰ্বশ্ৰান্তি কৰিছে। গতিকে তেওঁলোকক কৃষি বিভাগৰ পৰা যি ১০।১৫ টকা ঋণ দিছে সেইটো মাফ কৰি দিব লাগে নোৱাৰিলে অন্ততঃ তাৰ স্তৰটোকে বাদ দি মূলটো লব লাগে। এই বিভাগৰ কিছুমান কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে সেই গৰীব লোকসকলক বৰ জুলুম কৰিছে। তাক যেন চৰকাৰে বন্ধ কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰে। তদন্ত কৰি অন্ততঃ দৰ্শীয়া লোকৰ ঋণ মাফ দিব লাগে।

শিক্ষাৰ বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে আচনি লৈছে। ইয়াতে মন কৰিব লাগিব যে অতিকৈ ভতৰুৱা ঠাইত ৰাইজে যি বিলাক স্কুল আৰম্ভ কৰিছে, সেই স্কুল বিলাক চৰকাৰে প্ৰথমতে লব লাগে। আমাৰ ভতপূৰ্ব বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী শ্ৰীমতি বৰা ডাঙৰীয়াৰ ধৰ্ম সন্থনীৰ ভাষণ এটা দিবলৈ কোৱাত তেখেতে কৈছিল যে মই লাগিলে বাগবৰ মৌজালৈ যাব পালো কিন্তু ধৰ্ম বিষয়ে ভাষণ দিব নোৱাৰো। গতিকে বাগবৰ মৌজা এনে এখন ঠাই।

গতিকে মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যাতে বাগবৰৰ নিচিনা তিতৰুৱা ঠাইত ৰাইজে যিবিলাক অনুষ্ঠান খুলিছে, সেইবিলাক লবলৈ চৰকাৰে শিবেচনা কৰে। দুখৰ বিষয় তাৰে অনুষ্ঠানবোৰে কোনো দৃষ্টিয়েই চৰকাৰৰ পৰা পোৱা নাই।

Various Legislature Committees

Mr. SPEAKER: I have some announcements to make.

Under Assembly Rule 223, I constitute the Business Advisory Committee consisting of the following hon. Members:—

- (1) Minister, Finance.
- (2) Minister, Parliamentary Affairs.
- (3) Chief Whip, Government Party.
- (4) The Leader of the Opposition (now vacant).
- (5) The Leader of the P. S. P. Block, and
- (6) The Deputy Speaker (when elected).

Under the Rules, the Speaker is the Chairman of the Committee and the Secretary of the Assam Legislative Assembly will be the Secretary of the Committee. Three Members shall form a quorum.

FORMATION OF VARIOUS LEGISLATURE COMMITTEES

I shall now announce the names of the Members of the various Committees of this House.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

(Under Rule 239)

1. Shri Mahammad Idris	...	...	...	Chairman.
2. Dr. Homeswar Deb Choudhury	...	...	...	Member.
3. Shri Bishnu Lal Upadhyaya	...	...	...	"
4. Shri Narendra Nath Sarma	..	..	...	"
5. Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee	...	...	...	"

COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES

(Under Rule 246)

1. Mr. Deputy Speaker	...	...	...	Chairman.
2. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed	...	...	...	Member.
3. Shri Baidyanath Mookherjee	...	...	...	"
4. Shri Gaurisankar Roy	...	..	..	"
5. Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwalla	..	...	...	"
6. Shri Ram Prasad Das	...	...	...	"
7. Shri R. Thanhlira	...	...	...	"

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

(Under Rule 251)

1. Shri Akshoy Kumar Das	...	...	..	Chairman.
2. Shri Biswadev Sarma ..	...	...	...	Member.
3. Shri Mohi Kanta Das	...	..	...	"
4. Shri Pabin Sarma	...	...	...	"
5. Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah	...	...	..	"
6. Shri Nanda Kishore Sinha	...	...	..	"
7. Shri Mahammad Umaruddin	...	...	...	"

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

(Under Rule 275)

1. Shri Ram Nath Das	...	...	..	Chairman.
2. Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha	...	...	...	Member.
3. Shri Khagendra Nath Nath	..	...	...	"
4. Shri Madhusudan Das	...	..	...	"
5. Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah	...	..	..	"
6. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami	...	...	...	"
7. Shri Hakim Chandra Rabha	...	...	...	"

RULES COMMITTEE

(Under Rules 259)

1. Mr. Speaker	..	...	...	Chairman.
2. Shri Ajit Narayan Deb	...	...	...	Member.
3. Shri Bazlul Basit	..	...	...	"
4. Shri B. B. Lyngdoh	...	...	...	"
5. Shri Molia Tanti	...	..	...	"
6. Dr. Ram Prasad Choubey		...	...	"
7. Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami		...	...	"
8. Shri Shriman Prafulla Goswami		...	..	"
9. Shri Rathindra Nath Sen	...	...	...	"

HOUSE COMMITTEE

(Under Rule 312)

1. Shri Shriman Prafulla Goswami	...	...	...	Chairman.
2. Shri Khagendra Nath Nath	...	...	..	Member.
3. Shrimati Padma Kumari Gohain	...	...	...	"
4. Shri Mahadev Das	...	..	...	"
5. Shri Zahirul Islam	...	...	...	"
6. Shri Tankeswar Chetia	...	...	..	"

Debates on Votes on Account will continue after lunch.

Adjournment

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

*(After Lunch)***Announcement by the Speaker : Regarding modification
of Programme**

Mr. SPEAKER : Under Rule 230 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I hereby report to the House that a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held in my Chamber today at 12-30 P.M. According to the Advice of the Business Advisory Committee, the following modification of the Programme has been made:—

1. In addition to the existing business fixed for Tuesday, the 27th March, 1962, the following new Government Bills will be introduced on that day :—

(i) The Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1962; and

(ii) the Industrial Disputes (Assam Amendment) Bill, 1962. These Bills will be considered and passed on the 31st March, 1962.

2. There will be sitting of the Assembly on Wednesday, the 28th March, 1962 when the following Government business will be transacted:—

(i) Introduction of the Assam Finance Bill, 1962.

The Second and the Third readings of this bill will be taken up on the 31st March, 1962.

(ii) Debate on Governor's address.

(iii) Discussion on a Resolution tabled by a Private Member disapproving the Goalpara Tenancy (Emergency Provisions) Ordinance, 1961 for which time will be devoted for half an hour from 4 P.M.

3. On Thursday, the 29th March, 1962 the House will sit from 9 A.M. to 11-30 A.M. and will adjourn for the rest of the day in honour of the memory of the great Khasi martyr, U Tirot Sing.

4. The session will terminate on Saturday, the 31st March, 1962 on which day, if necessary, the House will sit one hour more beyond the usual sitting hour.

5. Election of Members to various Government Boards and Committees and the Gauhati University Court will take place in the subsequent session for which notice will be issued to hon. Members in due course.

Shri HOMESWAR DEV CHOUDHURY (Patachar-kuchi): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় বিত্ত-মন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই এই সদনত বিধন তিনি মাহৰ কাৰণে বাজেট দাঙি ধৰি ভাষণ দিলে সেই সম্পৰ্কত মই অলপ কম। আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াক অসমৰ গাঁৱে ভূঞা ভালকৈ চিনি পায় আৰু তেখেতে কলা আৰু কৃষ্টি বিকাশৰ কাৰণে বহুতো কামকৰি আহিছে। কলা আৰু কৃষ্টিৰ বিকাশৰ কাৰণে অসমৰ কৃষ্টি কেন্দ্ৰবিলাকৰ পৰিপূষ্টিৰ কাৰণে তেখেতৰ এই তিনি মাহীয়া বাজেটত টকা ধৰা নাই। আমাৰ ডেকা নৰাবিলাকে খেলধেমালি কৰিবৰ কাৰণে, খেলাৰ পথাৰ আৰু আৱশ্যকীয় খেলৰ ঘৰ আদি বন্ধাৰ কাৰণে যি টকা সহায় কৰিছে, সি অতি কম আৰু বহুতো ঠাইত মাটি আৰু টকাৰ অভাৱত সেইবিলাক খুলিব পৰা নাই আৰু তাৰ ফলত চৰকাৰী গ্ৰাণ্টেটা পোৱা নাই। তাৰোপৰি কোনো কোনো ঠাইত গাঁৱৰ মানুহে কিছু টকা সংগ্ৰহ কৰিও মাটিৰ যোগাৰ কৰিব পৰা নাই আৰু আনহাতে চৰকাৰৰ পৰাও সাহায্য পোৱা নাই। ইয়াৰ ফলত এই মানুহবিলাকে তোলা পয়চাবিলাক অপব্যয় হৈছে। সেই কাৰণে মই এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰো যেন ইয়াৰ কাৰণে খেল পাথৰৰ মাটি আৰু অৰ্থ সাহায্য কৰে। খেল পথাৰৰ মাটিৰ কাৰণে, পাঠাচাৰকছি, পাঠশালা আদি ঠাইৰ পৰা চৰকাৰলৈ লিখা হৈছিল, কামত কি হৈছে কব নোৱাৰো।

‘কলা আৰু কৃষ্টি বিকাশৰ পথত এটা কথা আছে— An animal is known by its skin and a society is known by its culture. আমাৰ দেশৰ কলা আৰু কৃষ্টিৰ উৎকৰ্ষ সাধন আৰু তাৰ বিকাশে প্ৰদেশৰ বাহিৰত আমাৰ দেশৰ অতীত আৰু বৰ্তমানৰ গৌৰৱ অটুত ৰাখিব। কিন্তু আমি কি দেখিছো? নতুন দিনীত আমাৰ ৰাজ্য প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব কৰা পাটিয়ে কি দেখুৱাইছে? ৩০ পদুনাথ গোহাঁই বৰুৱাৰ ‘ঘোঁৰা চহীচ’ নাম দি লিখা একাকি কথাটো মোৰ মনত পৰিছে। তেওঁ লিখিছিল ‘ঘোঁৰাৰ বেগত মই বেগী নাম পাওঁ’, পৰৰ বৰ্ণন্যা পিন্ধি গোঁৰৰ বঢ়াওঁ’। ঠিক তেনেকৈয়ে এই বিলাকৰ প্ৰদৰ্শন হৈছে। পৰৰ বৰ্ণন্যা পিন্ধি গোঁৰৰ বঢ়াইছোঁ। যেতিয়া মণিপুৰ অসমৰ ভিতৰত আছিল—সকলো বাদ দি প্ৰাধান্য লভিছিল মণিপুৰী নাচ আৰু গানে। অসমত অসমীয়া মানুহৰ যি কৃষ্টি আৰু সভ্যতা, তাক প্ৰদৰ্শন কৰাৰ চেষ্টা মুঠেই কৰা নাই। এতিয়া মণিপুৰ অসমৰ বাহিৰত। সেই কাৰণে তাৰ পৰবৰ্তী কালছোৱাত এই উচ্চ পৰ্য্যায়ৰ প্ৰদৰ্শন বিলাকত—প্ৰাধান্য লাভ কৰিলে নগা পাহাৰৰ কৃষ্টি—নগা নাচ, নগা সাজ-সজ্জা আৰু নগা পাহাৰৰ যতি-জো আদিয়ে। সেইবিলাকে এখন ৰাজ্যৰ প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব কৰাৰ ফলত, বাহিৰৰ মানুহে হয়তে ভাবিছে, যে অসমীয়াৰ কলা আৰু কৃষ্টি এয়েই। তাৰ পিচত নগা পাহাৰ জিলা ‘নগা লেঙ’ত পৰিণত হ'ল আৰু অসমৰ বাহিৰ ওলাল। এতিয়া যাতে অকল বাকী পাহাৰী জিলা কেইখনৰ কৃষ্টিয়েই আমাক প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব নকৰে তাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে দৃষ্টি ৰাখি, অসমীয়া বিহনাচ, বিহ গীত আদি প্ৰদৰ্শনৰ চেষ্টা কৰিব লাগে। আমাৰ শঙ্কৰী কলা, শঙ্কৰী নাচ, বিহ নাচ, ডুবী নাচ আদি আছে। এই সম্পৰ্কত যিবিলাক কলা কেন্দ্ৰ বা অনুষ্ঠান আছে সেইবিলাকত, প্ৰয়োজন অনুসৰি চৰকাৰী অৰ্থ সাহায্য দি টনকিয়াল কৰি তুলিব লাগে। কলা কৃষ্টিৰ অক্ষুব্ধ সম্পদ অসমত আছে। কাছাৰ জিলাৰ অধিবাসী সকলৰ মাজতো তেনে নৃত্য-গীত আছে যদিও তেওঁলোকৰ বহুতে নিজক বঙালী বুলি পৰিগণিত কৰে। এওলোক বঙালী হলেও বঙ্গ দেশৰ কৃষ্টিৰ লগত এওঁলোকৰ কৃষ্টি বেলেগ। এইবিলাকো দেখুৱাবৰ প্ৰচেষ্টা কৰিব লাগে।

তাৰ পিচত, চৰকাৰৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা বিশেষকৈ গ্ৰামাঞ্চলত থকা ‘ৰঙ্গ মঞ্চ’ (Stage) বিলাকত আৰ্থিক সাহায্য দিয়া হোৱা নাই। ১৯৫৫-৫৬ চনত আগৰ বিত্তমন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই কিছুমান ঠাইত ‘ৰঙ্গ মঞ্চ’ বা তদুপৰ অনুষ্ঠানত অৰ্থ সাহায্য দিছিল। ৫৫-৫৬ চনত চাৰি পাঁচ খন অনুষ্ঠানত পাঁচ দুহ স্বাক্ষৰ দিছিল। সেই টকা আৰু ৰাইজৰ টকা লগ লগাই কিছু কাম কৰা হৈছে যদিও কোনো ঠাইত মঞ্চ কৰিছে—‘হল’ নাই, কোনো ঠাইত হল কৰিছে মঞ্চ নাই, কোনো ঠাইত দুয়োটাৰে প্ৰত্যেকটোৰ আৰু কাম হৈছে। তাৰ পিচত টকাৰ অভাৱত সেই আৰু কৰা কামবিলাক ডাঙি-ছিঙি নোহোৱা হৈ গৈছে।

টকাশিলাক অথবা নষ্ট হৈছে। সেই কাৰণে মই এই পৰামৰ্শ চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত আগ বঢ়াওয়ে, এই সম্পৰ্কত চৰকাৰে অন্ততঃ ৪০১৫০ হাজাৰ কৈ দিব পৰাকৈ টকা বাজেটত ধৰি, ইয়াৰ এটা 'এডভাইজৰী কমিটি' গঠন কৰক আৰু সেই কমিটিয়ে স্থানীয় ভাবে অনুসন্ধান কৰি যত বি টকাৰ প্ৰয়োজন সিমান খিনি টকা চৰকাৰে দিয়ক।

তাৰ পিচত, আৰু এটা কথা কব লগা আছে যে, কলা আৰু কৃষ্টি বিকাশৰ কাৰণে অলপতে, গুৱাহাটীত চৰকাৰে এটি নাটমহোৎসৱ পাতিছিল। এই উৎসৱৰ কাৰণে যি-বিলাক পাৰ্টী ক আহান কৰিছিল—সেই উপলক্ষে সেই পাৰ্টী বিলাকৰ খৰচৰ বাবে চৰকাৰী সাহায্য মাত্ৰ ১২ বাৰ হাজাৰ টকা দিছিল। যিবোৰ নাট্য সঙ্ঘই সেই উৎসৱত যোগদান কৰিছিল তেওঁলোকৰ খৰচৰ কাৰণে সেই টকা তাকৰ হল। ফলত সঙ্ঘবোৰ নিজৰ পৰা খৰচ কৰিব লগা হল। এই দৰে নিজৰ পৰা খৰচ কৰিব লগা হলে নাট্যসঙ্ঘবোৰে হয়টো ভৱিষ্যতে যোগদান নকৰিব। সেই কাৰণে চৰকাৰে এনে উৎসৱক যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণ। আৰ্থিক সাহায্য দিয়া দৰকাৰ যাতে সঙ্ঘবোৰে নিজৰ পৰা খৰচ কৰিব লগা নহয়।

আমি শিক্ষিত শ্ৰেণীৰ লোকসকলেহে ভাষাৰ কথা লৈ বিৰোধ ভাৱ পোষণ কৰো, কিন্তু গাঁৱৰ মানুহে সেইবোৰ একো নুবুজে। আমাৰ যুজৰ ফলত তেওঁলোকে বেচিকৈ ভোগে। বিশেষকৈ বিদেশত থকা সকলে ভোগে। সেই কাৰণে সেই মানুহেবোৰে নিজৰ দেশৰ বাহিৰত বহুত অসুবিধাত পৰে। যোৱা ভাষা আন্দোলনৰ সময়ত পশ্চিম বঙ্গৰ পৰা ৫১২ টা পৰিয়াল গুচি আহিব লগা হল। তেওঁলোকে পলাই অহাৰ যি বৰ্ণনা দিছিল শুনি বৰ দুঃখ লাগে। তেতিয়া মই বিত্তমন্ত্রী আৰু কামৰূপৰ উপায়ুক্তলৈ লিখিছিলো। উপায়ুক্তই খোৱা খৰচৰ বাবে কিছু সাহায্য দিছিল। তেওঁলোকৰ কিছুমান পশ্চিম বঙ্গলৈ উভতি গল হয়; কিন্তু আজি পৰ্য্যন্ত পশ্চিম বঙ্গ চৰকাৰৰ পৰা কোনো লাভা অথবা পুনৰবসতিৰ বাবে ঋণ পোৱা নাই। মোৰ বোম্বেৰে আমি কেনেকৈ বঙালী মানুহক পুনৰ বসতিৰ ঋণ দি সহায় কৰিছো, সেই দৰে আমাৰ ভগলীয়া সকলকো সহায় কৰিব লাগে। আমাৰ দেশৰ মানুহ বিদেশলৈ নাযায়, তয় কৰে। আমাৰ মানুহ অসমৰ বাহিৰলৈ গলে কেৱল উত্তৰ বঙ্গলৈ যায়। গতিকে যিবোৰ মানুহ গঙগোলৰ সময়ত গুচি আহি আকৌ গল সেই বোৰক যাতে পশ্চিম বঙ্গ চৰকাৰে সাহায্য দি পুনৰ বসতি কৰাত সহায় কৰে তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

আমাৰ চৰকাৰে বিশেষকৈ মেডিকেল বিষয়ত ভাল কাম কৰিছে। তিনিখন মেডিকেল কলেজ স্থাপন কৰি দেশৰ মঙ্গলৰ কাম কৰিছে। ১৯৬১ চনলৈকে অসমত ৰেজিষ্টাৰ্ড ডাক্তৰৰ সংখ্যা ৩৫০৫ জন। এতিয়া অসম মেডিকেল কলেজৰ পৰা বহুবি প্ৰায় ১২০ জন ডাক্তৰ ওলায় আৰু ১৯৬৫ পৰা এই তিনিখনৰ পৰা ৪৮০ জন ওলাব। ১৯৭২ চনত বিমান ডাক্তৰ ওলাব সেয়ে আমাক কুলাব ২ এতিয়া প্ৰায় চাৰি তিনি বা চাৰি হেজাৰ ডাক্তৰ থকা স্বত্বেও Subsidised Dispensary বোৰত ডাক্তৰ নাই। কাৰণ দৰমহা বৰ কম—মাত্ৰ ৮০ টকা। ইমান কম টকাত ডাক্তৰ এজন কেনেকৈ চলিব পাৰে? Indian Medical Association এ অসম চৰকাৰক কৈছিল এই subsidised dispensary বোৰ সোনকালে state dispensary কৰিব লাগে। কিন্তু আমাৰ চৰকাৰ নীৰব।

চৰকাৰে বাইজক প্ৰেৰণা দিব লাগে; আৰু তেতিয়া হে চৰকাৰৰ বহুত কামত সহায় হয়। কিন্তু চৰকাৰে বাইজক প্ৰেৰণা দিয়ক চাৰি—কেনেকৈ বাইজক প্ৰেৰণা ধ্বংস কৰিছে তাৰে এটি প্ৰমাণ দিওঁ। ১৯৬১ চনতে গবৰদল নামে গাওঁ এখনত বাইজে ডাক্তৰ খানাৰ ঘৰ দুৱাৰ সাজি থৈছে, ডাক্তৰ আৰু কম্পাউণ্ডাৰৰ ঘৰ-দুৱাৰ কৰি দিছে। কিন্তু চৰকাৰে সেই ডাক্তৰখানালৈ নাচালে। State dispensary কৰা দুৱাৰ কথা subsidised dispensary ও নকবিলে। ডাক্তৰ নোহোৱা ফলত ঘৰ-দুৱাৰ জহি-খহি গৈছে। যদি বাজক প্ৰেৰণা দিলেহেতেন তেন্তে ইয়াতকৈ ডাক্তৰ কাম হলহেতেন। তাৰ পৰা ৫ মাইলৰ ভিতৰত কোনো ডাক্তৰখানা নাই ইফালে।

আছে নগবাৰী ৭ মাইল, এফালে টিহ ৫ মাইল দূৰ আৰু উত্তৰে আছে বৰমা ৬ মাইল দূৰ। মই আশা কৰো চৰকাৰে বাইজৰ প্ৰেৰণাক খৰচ নকৰি ডাক্তৰখানাপন যেন চৰকাৰী কৰি লয়।

গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগৰ বিষয়ে সিদিনা শ্ৰীযুত শৰৎ চন্দ্ৰ গোস্বামী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছিল যে কংগ্ৰেছ এটা প্ৰস্তাব লৈছে যে road to every village—এইটো বৰ ভাল কথা। কংগ্ৰেছৰ প্ৰস্তাব মানে চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰস্তাব। কিন্তু শুনি আচৰিত হব কামৰূপ জিলাৰ আটাইতকৈ ডাঙৰ মৌজা হস্তিনাপুৰ আৰু এই মৌজাৰ ভিত্তৰত মাত্ৰ ৭ মাইল বাস্তা—ইমান ডাঙৰ এখন মৌজাত মাত্ৰ বাস্তা ইমানেই। চেকিব পৰা বৰভিঠালৈ মাত্ৰ ১১ মাইল। বাস্তাৰ অভাৱত বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই ইলেকচনৰ সময়ত চেকীৰ পৰা বৰভিঠালৈ যাব নোৱাৰিলে। কিছুমান গাঁওলৈ যোৱাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নাই। বাইজে এই বিষয়ে অনেক-বাৰ জনাইছিল কিন্তু এতিয়ালৈকে কোনো বাস্তা দিয়া নাই। গতিকে বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক অনুৰোধ জনালো যে তেখেতে যেন সেই মৌজাটোৰ প্ৰতি নজৰ দিয়ে। সেইখন আটাইতকৈ ডাঙৰ মৌজা সেই কাৰণে তাত বাস্তাৰ প্ৰয়োজন।

Supply বিভাগৰ কথা কওঁ। ইয়াৰ আগতে নগাৰৰ শ্ৰীযুত বৰা ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছিল multiplication of officers and duplication of service হৈছে বুলি কিন্তু উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে বোধ হয় তেখেতে কবলৈ বেয়া পালে। আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা ঢেকি ইনিচপেক্টৰ লৈছে। তেওঁলোকে গাঁৱে গাঁৱে গৈ ঢেকি খোৱা কেনেকৈ হব লাগে তাকে কৈ ফুৰে। কিন্তু গাঁৱৰ বৃষ্টি মানুহেও তেওঁক কৈ পঠায় “এইবিলাক তুমি আমাক কি শিকাবলৈ আহিছা—তুমি আমাৰ পৰা শিকি যোৱা”। গতিকে মই কওঁ যে এই ঢেকি ইনিচপেক্টৰৰ কোনো আৱশ্যক নাই। থিক তেনেকৈ স্কুলবিলাকতো attendant officer ৰ কোনো আৱশ্যক নাই। তেওঁলোকৰ বহুতে ইংৰাজীও নাজানে। শিক্ষাৰ বিষয়ে তেওঁলোকে একো নাজানে। তাতকৈ স্কুল এ, এস, আই, ডি, আই, বঢ়াই দিয়ক। এই attendant officer ৰ কোনো প্ৰয়োজন নাই। গতিকে বুজা যায় এনেকৈ চাকৰি বঢ়োৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থাটো মাত্ৰ কিছুমান কংগ্ৰেছী মানুহক চাকৰি দিয়াৰ কাৰণে কৰা হৈছে।

Embankment and Drainage সম্পৰ্কে কওঁ যে এই বিভাগে কোনো আচনি নালোৱাকৈ কাম কৰে। পাটাচাৰকুছি-কালদিয়া আৰু দেওজৰা নৈৰ সংযোগ স্থললৈ মাত্ৰ পূব পাৰত ওখকৈ মঠাউৰী দিছে। কিন্তু পশ্চিম পাৰত গাঁওৰ মানুহৰ বাহিৰেও স্কুল, ডাক্তৰ খানা, চাৰ্কেল অফিচ আদি আছে। গতিকে বানপানীৰ সময়ত পশ্চিম পাৰে পানীৰ হেচা পৰা স্বাভাৱিক। পশ্চিম পাৰেও মঠাউৰি ওখকৈ দিয়া উচিত। সেই কাৰণে কওঁ যে যেতিয়া নদীত মঠাউৰী দিব লগা হয় তেতিয়া যেন দুয়ো পাৰে মঠাউৰী দিয়ে। ঠিক সেই দৰে পাটাচাৰকুছিৰ দক্ষিণ ফালে ভালুকীলৈ থকা বাস্তা নদীৰ হেচাত ভাঙি গৈছে। মঠাউৰি বা বাস্তাৰ সুব্যৱস্থা আজিলৈ নহল। সেই কথা বাবে বাবে নিবেদন কৰা স্বত্বেও কোনো সফল ধৰা নাই।

ইমানকৈ কৈ সামৰণি মাৰিলোঁ।

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful for the budget speech tabled by hon'ble Finance Minister and would like to make the following observations in respect of transport. Sir, I like to submit to the hon'ble Finance Minister that supplementary budget has been sought for the transport but condition in most parts of the neglected Cachar District is terrible. It is beyond human conception. At present our only link with rest of Assam or rest of India is only through Hills Section rail link. During rainy season it is very uncertain for people to reach Lumding from the other part of Cachar District. It is also difficult for Mizo brethren and brethren living in North Cachar

Hills areas to keep communication with other parts of the State not to speak with others in the rest of India. The Jowai-Silchar Road, Sir, is in progress for the last several years but to no effect. It is unfortunate that lots of money have been spent from public exchequer but transport communication has not improved. This defence road—most useful and purposeful—linking the capital Shillong with the remote corners of the district of Cachar is yet not completed. I would submit to the hon. Members of this House and also the Finance Minister and the Minister-in-charge of the Department to kindly give serious heed to this and see that within this year at least broadening of the Jowai-Silchar Road and commencement of Bus Services is completed to the advantage of all of us. In this connection, I like to bring to the notice of our Government the recent decision of the railway authority. Very recently they have abolished the refreshment car system in the North-Bengal Express. People living in this State have got to reach the other part of West Bengal if they are to go to Delhi or elsewhere. North Bengal Express is the main connection for us all but by abolishing the refreshment system, crores and millions of people are put to extreme distress. I hope the Government will take up this matter with the railway authority.

In the budget speech of the Finance Minister, there is mention of grants for fishery. It is very unfortunate, Sir, that tons of money have been spent both by the Central and the State Governments but here fishery is out from the hands of the real fishermen. I would appeal to Government to look into it very seriously otherwise this gentleman-cum-fisherman business will drain all the public money. My esteemed friend, Mr. Dulal Ch. Barua has very reasonably referred to this matter. He has rightly said that fishery is there but there is no fish at all. I hope, Sir, our Government will make our fishermen community interested in taking to this business through co-operative system or otherwise and see that this fish business is developed in the State and that we are not supposed to depend upon East Bengal supply of fish.

Sir, thereafter, we find mention in the budget speech of the hon'ble Finance Minister about veterinary. I do not know what is the position in other parts of the State but as far as Cachar is concerned, the arrangement is too meagre and too poor. It is not well equipped and medicines are not always found and the physicians placed there are all not competent enough to deal with complicated cases. I hope our Government will look into that aspect and see that the veterinary system in the district of Cachar or other parts of the State is improved.

Sir, in the budget speech of our Finance Minister much stress has been given on panchayat system. It is unfortunate, Sir, that I have got to make a statement on the floor of the House saying that this panchayat system is absolutely corrupt. It is a corrupt den. Most unqualified persons, persons of no status, persons of no integrity are being appointed and elected to these panchayats and corruption is thus rampant. I hope Panchayat Department of the Government will take more interest because the Government is going to bring this country to Ramraj as was dreamt by the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi. If we want panchayats to improve, personnel should be beyond corruption and before grants are given serious precaution must be taken so that there is no more waste. It is very unfortunate, Sir, that most of the Panchayats, Gram Sabhas, etc., are found only in papers. They are not functioning properly. Hon'ble

Finance Minister has also mentioned in his Budget Speech that there are so many Panchayats, so many Blocks, etc., etc. We also appreciate that our Government is trying their best to bring up the villages to the level of the towns. But I request the Government to translate their plan into action uprooting corruptions.

With regard to the Compulsory Primary Education, Sir, I like to say that it is unfortunate that the system of Primary Education is still not up to the mark. There are about 100 Lower Primary Schools in my Constituency. They are being floated with the local people awaiting sanction of grants from the Government for years. I hope the Education Department will instruct the School Board authority to see that these schools may get grants immediately. Besides this, as my hon. friend from Badarpur Constituency, Maulana Abul Jalil Chowdhury has rightly mentioned that there were several Lower Primary Schools being damaged by storms long back, but they have not yet been repaired, though grants are there. I hope and request our Government to pay special heed to these important affairs and to instruct School Board authority accordingly.

Then, Sir, coming to the Engineering and Medical Colleges in our district, I like to say that there was a proposal for establishing a Regional Technological Institution in Cachar. Several months have passed still its site is not yet selected. As the Chief Minister and other Ministers are aware, Cachar will be the best selection for this purpose and this will fulfil long-cherished desire of the people of that neglected district as also the Mizos and North Cachar Hills brethren. Sir, regarding the question of Medical College, Cachar is of course favoured with one. But unfortunately, we have not seen it in Cachar as yet. It is opened at Gauhati. I hope Government will make necessary arrangements to shift it to its proper place without further delay so that the long-felt demand of the people is satisfied. This Medical College will not only be for the people of Cachar District, but it will serve the purpose of the people of Mizo as well as the North Cachar Hills Districts.

Sir, regarding water supply problem of the town of Karimganj, the border town, I like to say that population of the town is increasing leaps and bounds. It has now increased to 50,000 or so. Scarcity of water in this town is a continued state of affairs and unless the water system is improved immediately, condition of the people of the town will be horrible. I hope the hon. Minister will give serious consideration in this connection in the Third Five Year Plan.

Regarding the question of planning the Urban areas, my friend from Hailakandi may speak about this. I only like to give more stress on the importance of bringing Hailakandi Town to a real township. It is the only Subdivisinal town in the District pictures worst than a rotten village. This should not be neglected and I hope and request Government to give serious attention to this matter in the Third Five Year Plan.

Now, Sir, coming to the question of supply of electricity to the Karimganj town, I should say that the existing system of electricity is functioning alright, but unfortunately the entire town is not covered. I hope Government will look into the matter and give proper attention to his direction.

Regarding Paper Pulp Mills, we have been hearing that it is going to be started in Badarpur area which was once the Constituency of our Chief Minister, but in the Governor's Address, we have seen that these mills are now in progress, but no one knows where it is in progress. I request the Finance Minister to apprise us of the real position.

Lastly, Sir, May God save Assam. Let not Third Five Year Plan end with the family planning of the highups of the State. Thank you, Sir.

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Dhekiajuli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while listening to the debate and in the course of discussion of the debate, I felt that I should participate in the debate and offer a few suggestions. I congratulate my friend, Finance Minister for mentioning in his Budget speech that grants-in-aid under Article 275 has been increased from Rs.375 lakhs to Rs. 525 lakhs annually. Besides this, another Rs.75 lakhs have been included annually for improvement of communication under this head. I thank him for mentioning this fact and I expect that the Tribal Welfare will.....

Shri FAKHRUDDIN AHMED (Minister, Finance): This amount is not under this head, Sir. The hon. Member has mistaken. He took it under Sub-Clause (d) which is not correct.

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS: I do not know whether it exactly comes under this grant or not. However, we expect that the tribal Welfare activities should receive greater attention now for solution of their problems. The tribal people of the Hills and of the Plains are suffering from the disease of leprosy. It is one of the most important problems of the tribal people. It is regrettable that Government has not taken any definite programme with regard to the control of this disease. The Ministry of Health, under the Government of India has formulated a policy with regard to the control of leprosy in consultation with the Advisory Council of Leprosy workers. This policy includes the training of social workers under medical men and to treat the patients in their own houses. Under the Control Scheme, they encourage hospitalisation only of complicated cases, whereas, simple cases are to be treated at home. That is why they had advised training of social workers in a great number, and we would have been happy if the Government had taken up any scheme for control of this disease in an effective manner. The voluntary agencies are working in the field. These voluntary agencies have been giving fairly good help by having institutions for control of this disease. What do we find this year? Grants to these agencies have been reduced, not by 10 or 15 or 30, but by about 90 per cent. These voluntary agencies, such as Srimanta Sankar Mission, Assam Seva Samity and Mikir Seva Kendra etc., have been working in this field. I know about these voluntary agencies, but there may be others too. I am concerned about the working of these agencies and I know how they are working and what measures, they are taking for control of this disease. As such, I feel anxious how these agencies will work this year with the reduced grants. They have already spent considerable amount of money in the treatment and control of this disease this year. That is why I approached the Finance Minister. I was under the impression that this increased grant under the same article 275 of the Constitution relates the Tribal Welfare Grant. If this

increased grant does not relate to Tribal Welfare activities, I would request our Finance Minister to find out ways and means for helping these institutions with bigger amount of grant, otherwise these voluntary agencies would be compelled to close their institutions. On the other hand, the social sense of the people in general have not developed to such a pitch to help the leprosy workers. The other day, I was pained to hear that leprosy patients were driven out from the Leper Asylum at Gauhati, not only that but they were assaulted in the streets of Gauhati and they had to come to our institution at Tetelia for shelter. That is why it is necessary that Government should encourage these voluntary agencies.

We find in Boko there a preventoria has been established by the Bharat Sevak Samaj, it is doing good work. On my way to Goalpara, I sometime visit this institution. Other institutions are also coming up to help in the control of leprosy. I want that the Government should help these institutions especially because in the 3rd 5 Year Plan it has been mentioned that there are large number of patients of leprosy in India and that Government should enforce their activities for control of leprosy.

Then coming to my next point, I am glad to say that my friend, the Finance Minister, has taken this House into confidence with regard to his difficulties that under the new law enacted by the Parliament, our Government would not be able to take advantage of the Brahmaputra Bridge in the matter of taxes on railway passenger fares. In spite of the Brahmaputra Bridge and other improvement in railway communications, railway income would certainly increase. But this would not help our State in increasing our income from this source but I have to request the Finance Minister to find out ways and means as to how we can expect substantial portion to this State under this grant.

He has also mentioned some other factors, but I do not like to take more time of this House. My friend, Mr. Motiram Bora, raised a point with regard to the oil exploration in Assam. I have been reading about this dispute between the State Government of Assam and the Government of India and I have been following the comments in the press. I notice in the columns of the Eastern Economist a comment that our Government was wrong in preventing exploration activities. That is why it is essentially necessary to take the House into confidence.

On the other hand, I find that in a recent statement made by our Chief Minister, on his way back from New Delhi to Gauhati that the dispute had been settled and Central Government could now carry on with their activities of oil exploration. But at the same time, he stated that Assam Government would face a loss of revenue to the extent of Rs.1.75 crores as far as I remember this is the figure and he was approaching the Government of India, especially, the Prime Minister as to what can be done with regard to this loss. I think, it is therefore essentially necessary to take the House into confidence to find out ways and means how to improve the resources of our State and how we can strengthen our case.

I do not like to take more time of the House. Thank you.

***Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard the speeches made by hon. Members of Opposition and by others. We expected some useful comments on the State finances of our State with particular reference to the special features of the budget and to hear as to how much we can improve our present financial resources in order to carry out developmental activities of the State. But unfortunately the hon. Members of the opposition have presented a story of grievances. In voting on grants Members are entitled to point out the duties of the Government whom they authorise to spend a large amount of money and Government is duty bound to explain why money is required to the satisfaction of the tax payers. It is no doubt true, but at the same time, there is obligation on the part of the Government as to how the present resources of the State of ours, a State as backward as ours, can be improved, and how best we can finance our developmental activities. The story of grievances reminds me of a famous remarks by a French Economist.

It says "Everyone wants to live at the expense of the State but they forget that the State lives at the expense of everyone". That must not be forgotten. No State can be run without taxes and the taxes have to be paid by the people. The question is how best the taxes can be expended to the benefit of the people. That is one of the main concern of this House. Now, Sir, before I proceed further, I will touch upon the main aspects of the budget estimates as presented before us. Now, I come to the receipt side of the budget which presents provisional figures. But, I want to indicate certain improvement on it. Now, in the revenue side there is an estimated receipt of 41.16 crores and out of this we are getting 18 crores from the allocations by the Central Government. Then we have to meet another Rs.2.19 crores and our share from the incom-tax comes to 21 crores, that is about 50 per cent come from outside resources and 50 per cent come by way of taxation from our people. Now, what are the resources? The resources are of two types, one is non-taxable resource and the other is the taxable resources. The non-taxable resources includes land revenue, royalty on timber, stamp duty, etc. and these have more or less become stable. The other taxes are sales-tax and taxes on commodities and from these taxes we get a share from the Central Government. But even then there is a complaint that the poorer section of the people have been taxed. I do not agree with that point of view. I will presently show that the poorer section of the people are not touched by this taxation. Now, you will find, Sir, that the poorer people, the people in the rural areas pay land revenue, that is about 2.93 crores and then stamp and Registration fees totally 83 lakhs. To this may be added another tax to the tune of Rs.9 lakhs, *i. e.*, a duty on the article consumed. Thus their contribution to the exchequer is not very much. It comes to 8 to 10 crores; it is something like 8 rupees per head. That is not very high.

Now, the basis of taxation for the purpose of development is to be determined on the national income. What is our share of the national income? It is something like 276 to 300 crores. Now, even if we take 10 per cent of the States national income as the basis of Taxation which is the minimum, the total internal resources of the State should be Rs.27 to 30 crores. Therefore, we cannot say that this Government has been taxing the poorer section of the people very heavily and much to their distress.

Secondly, Sir, Assam is a peculiar case. You cannot deny that it is a very backward State. This was demonstrated by the State of our national income. Our national income is at a very low figures. It is something like 276 rupees as against 300 rupees of the national average. In State like Punjab, West Bengal, it is more than 300. Already we are behind the national average by about 23 to 25 rupees. When other people of India have marched ahead in their social and economic life why should our State lag behind and why should our share of income-tax be less than the rest of India? Do we not know that the cost of living is going up and we get most of our things from outside and our production is very less? Therefore, there is need for more investment in all sectors, in the private sectors and in the public sector and in the industrial sectors and this development must be highly accelerated. It is not due to our fault but it is the fault of the Government but the pace of development must be accelerated. We must be prepared to take our State ahead in the field of development. We must make more sacrifices and must make up our minds to remove the grievances. We have to work with the people, with the Government in raising the tempo of production, in raising the tempo of development and resources. The minor defects here and there must be set aside and we must put our heads together to evolve ways and means as to how to augment the resources of the State and how to improve the Government machinery. These are matters for serious consideration.

Now, Sir, I do certainly share the anxieties of the Finance Minister to find more resources. He has dealt at length with the dispensations of the Finance Commission and he has indicated broadly the different sources under which the Finance Commission has made allocations. Even if we do, it will be of no use to make grievances out of the receipts of the Finance Commission. But there are certain factors to which we must pay attention. Now, we observed that last year was the year of stress and strain to the finances of the State. The figures went down to about 8 crores and the Government had to pull on with the funds of the Reserve Bank and some other resources. I would like to request the Finance Minister that such state of affairs should not be allowed to develop. The finances should not be brought to a dangerous state of affairs. That might be due to bad collection which brought about denundation of the resources of the State. But even then we must see that our receipt should increase and if there is any negligence on the part of the officers, this must be checked.

Then, Sir, I find that Mr. Das was right in pointing out that we have been badly hit by the reduction our share from the railway receipts and even though possibly our share was fixed on certain formula with 2.7 per cent. We expect that due to our development activities, due to industrial developments, the volume of Railway traffic is bound to increase in years to come. The traffic would increase in our State. More traffic and more goods would move and the railway receipts would go up and taxes would also go up. So we can get a higher share of revenue. The railway authorities can give us a lot of money. Therefore, Sir, our shares can be raised to some higher figure.

Now Sir, so far as the Article 270 and 271 are concerned, the Finance Commission is restricted by certain provisions under the Constitution of India. But so far as the Article 275(1) is concerned, it was in the discretion of the Finance Commission. Our State is a very very backward one and it is the accepted principle of the Government of India to remove the disparities in regional development. Our resources are inelastic and for that

should we suffer or should the Government of India come to our rescue with more resources so that we can break the present stagnation and go ahead? Therefore, I say Sir that this allocation of Rs.525 should have been at least 7 to 8 crores. I hope Sir, that although the Finance Commission's allocation is closed, our Government in their deliberation with the Planning Commission will try to get higher share to finance our developmental plans.

Next Sir, the Finance Minister has indicated that we are going to spend Rs.120 crores in the Third Five-Year Plan. I think it is 100 per cent more than the Second Plan allocation. It has also been indicated that we might get about Rs.80 crores for development in the central sector. But even then we should device our industrial policy in such a way that we can get more resources and can mobilise our internal resources so that our industrial development can go ahead and we can give benefit to our people.

As to the agricultural sector I do not think we have made any headway. I find that our food position is as before; it is far from encouraging. Now Sir, the Governor in his address has stated that in the field of food production the target has been fixed at 17.00 lakhs tons. In my opinion this is absolutely inadequate. In this connection I would refer to certain figures published by the Government at the time of preparation of the Third Five-Year Plan. It has been indicated that the total requirements of our State, both for consumption and for other purposes in 1960-61 would be 18.9 lakh tons against the actual production of 16.9 lakhs tons in the same year. In 1965-66, *i.e.*, at the end of the Third Plan period our total requirement has been placed at 21.00 lakh tons. How can that target be fixed, I have not been able to understand. It requires clarification. Either there is a mistake or that position we cannot accept because we are going to spend 8 to 10 crores of rupees in agricultural sector. Then what do we find after spending such a huge amount? During the last five years our production was 16.6 lakh tons to 16.9 lakh tons. After spending about 8 crores of rupees will our production be only 17.00 lakh tons? Then we will get just nothing after spending such a huge amount. This cannot be and so it requires clarification. I personally feel that our agricultural production target should be as high as 25 lakh tons. Unless we put higher figure and take steps to achieve that target it will not be possible for us to go ahead. In any case, at least it is the duty of the Department to try to attain self-sufficiency in food front. Our production of foodgrains during the last 15 years has been far from the actual requirement. Then again our agriculture is in a very bad position and we cannot go ahead unless we improve our agriculture. It has been stated that 10,000 field management committees have been constituted for assisting the execution of different agricultural schemes. I do not understand why then it is not possible to fix a higher target. Secondly, Sir, most of our people grow only one crop. If we want to improve our agricultural economy we must give the cultivators the necessary facilities so that they may grow cash crops and other raw materials for industries and thereby augment their income. Now, of all the cash crops in Assam jute is the most important crop. But what do we find in the case of jute production in the State during the last five years? It is in a stagnant position—the production is something like 11 lakh bails. Assam has got potentiality in the matter of jute production but unfortunately our jute production has not shown any improvement. A State like Bihar has increased its jute production to double in the course of 10 years. West Bengal is also going ahead.

In Assam high quality of jute is produced. So, Sir, steps should be taken to increase the jute production and necessary facilities should be given to the cultivators so that they can enhance the production of jute materially. Sir, at present we are importing jute from Pakistan for our industries. Pakistan has increased its jute production considerably. Therefore, since our climatic condition is favourable we should do whatever is possible to, augment the production of jute by taking suitable steps. If we really want to improve the lot of our cultivators they must be given proper facilities so that they can grow more jute and thereby increase their earning. It will not only improve the conditions of our cultivators but also it will enable us to improve our jute industry. Moreover, jute is a very important foreign exchange earner and it earns about 130 crores of rupees per year.

Therefore, Sir, I hope that the Minister-in-charge will take special steps and get more information about the agricultural economy of the State, about the industrial development plans and about the overall economy of the State. But we must go ahead with the Plan. We must be prepared for a little more sacrifice if sacrifice is necessary in order to meet our developmental requirements. I hope that in this task the opposition parties will render full support because I have seen that in the last General Election the campaign that was made was that the Government were taxing the poorer section of the people. But if they will very carefully study the Budget, they will find that the poorer people are not being taxed. Sooner this impression is removed, the people would come forward to participate in the developmental activities of the State.

Another point is that something should be done to mop up the capital gains which some people have been making by selling their lands in industrially developing areas where due to certain projects being taken the value of land has gone up very high. Take for instance, Gauhati. Fifteen years back there were agricultural lands around the town of Gauhati and the prices of such lands have gone very high. Now if for some reason, due to industrial development or for some other circumstances, if the price of these agricultural lands has gone up, it is only proper that by some laws, by some policies this extraordinary gains which the people have got by selling their land should be taxed for the benefit of the people of this State. In other areas also wherever we are having some developmental projects, the value of land is going up. Sir, something should be done to take part of this gain which morally and legally and economically the owner of the land is not entitled.

We should also explore all avenues of economy in running of the administration. Some of my Friends in the opposition benches have stressed upon the extravagance of the administration. Certainly we must tighten our control so that these wastages, these leakages of revenue are stopped.

Again, Sir, steps should be taken to improve the accounting of funds not only in the Government departments but also in the Panchayats and other institutions like High Schools where we hear that due to lack of periodical audit, funds are not properly utilised. I, therefore, say that our audit system must be improved and, if necessary, we must have more auditors so that they can go down and check the accounts of these institutions.

My last point is that we have not any machinery by which to evaluate the achievements made during the various plans. We set a target at the beginning of a Plan period saying that we are going to do such and such

things for which such and such allocations have been made. But after five years we do not look back and find out where and how much of the target were achieved and if not, why not? What is the reason for which there was a backlog. Therefore, Sir, Government will do well to set up a machinery which will evaluate the achievements of the Government in different fields, particularly in the field of developmental programme.

I do not like to take more time of the House and with these observations I conclude my remarks on the Budget discussion. Thank you, Sir.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাদের রাজ্যের শ্রদ্ধের অর্থ মন্ত্রী ইংরেজী ১৯৬২-৬৩ যে বাজেট আমাদের সম্মুখে তুলে ধরেছেন এবং আগামী তিন মাসের জন্য যে খরচের হিসাব দেখিয়েছেন, তাতে আপাত দৃষ্টিতে আমাদের আসাম রাজ্যের এক সুন্দর ছবি দেখা যায়। মাননীয় অর্থমন্ত্রী দেখিয়েছেন আমাদের বাজেট উন্নত বাজেট, ষাটটি বাজেট নয় কিন্তু উন্নত বাজেট হলেই যে উহা খুব ভাল বাজেট হয়েছে সে কথা বলা যায় না। আমাদের এই আসাম রাজ্যের সমস্যা বহুবিধ। এই সমস্যাগুলির সমাধান করা অত্যন্ত দুরূহ ব্যাপার এবং এই ব্যাপারে কেবল মাত্র নিজস্ব আয়ের উপর নির্ভর যদি করি, তা হলে আসামকে কোন দিনই আমরা সুখী, সমৃদ্ধিশালী আসাম রূপে দেখতে পাব না। আমরা অত্যন্ত কৃতজ্ঞ আমাদের মাননীয় সদস্য শ্রীযুক্ত মতি বরার নিকট। তাঁহার অভিজ্ঞতা সর্বজন স্বীকৃত। তিনি বলেছেন মাননীয় অর্থমন্ত্রীর বাজেট বক্তৃতায় রয়েলিটি ব্যাপারের উল্লেখ নেই। আমি তাঁহার সহিত একমত যে কেন্দ্রীয় সরকারের নিকট থেকে আমাদের আরও অর্থ আদায় করতে হবে, যদি কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার এই ব্যাপারে হস্ত প্রসারিত না করেন, তাহলে আমরা এক যোগে এই দাবীর পেছনে দাঁড়াব। অর্থ মন্ত্রী মহোদয় দেখবেন, এই সভার সমস্ত সদস্য এবং আসামের প্রত্যেকটি নরনারী এই দাবীর পশ্চাতে দাঁড়াবে এবং মাননীয় অর্থমন্ত্রীর পেছনে দাঁড়াবে।

আমি এখন মাননীয় অর্থমন্ত্রীর বাজেট বক্তৃতায় যে কয়েকটি বিশেষ গুরুত্বপূর্ণ কথা বাদ গিয়েছে সেই সম্পর্কে উল্লেখ করেছি।

প্রথমতঃ ১৯৬০ ইংরেজীর ভয়াবহ দুঃখজনক দাঙ্গা বিধ্বস্ত নর-নারীর পুনর্বাসনের কথা উল্লেখ নেই। আমি নতুন সদস্য আমার হস্ত তুলতে পারি, যদি তুলে হয় তবে তা সংশোধন করে নিবেন। আমি জানি এখনও বহু নর-নারী পুনর্বাসিত হননি। তাঁদের স্মৃষ্ট পুনর্বাসনের প্রয়োজন। এই সম্পর্কে একটা বিষয়ের প্রতি আমি মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়ের এবং সদস্যবর্গের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করি। ১৯৬০ ইংরেজীর দাঙ্গার সময় সহস্র সহস্র দাঙ্গা প্রপীড়িত নর-নারী কাছাড় জেলায় আশ্রয় গ্রহণ করেন, তাহাদের জন্য সাহায্য ও আশ্রয়ের ব্যবস্থা করা হয়। ঐ সময়ে আসামের দাঙ্গাবিধ্বস্ত কয়েকটি অনাথা পরিবারকে মেহেরপুর অনাথা আশ্রমে আশ্রয় দেওয়া হয়, কিন্তু কিছুদিন পর জানি না সরকারী কোন নির্দেশে এই সমস্ত পরিবারের ১১টি পরিবারকে আশ্রম হইতে বাহির করিয়া দেওয়া হয়। ফলে এই এগারটি পরিবার ভিক্ষাবৃত্তি জীবন যাপনের পথ হিসাবে বেছে নিয়েছে। অন্যান্য আমাদের মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্রী মহোদয় কিছু টাকা মঞ্জুর করেছেন, এই সমস্ত হতভাগ্য পরিবার গুলি কিছুদিন সাহায্য পেয়েছে। সাহায্য শেষ হওয়ার সঙ্গে সঙ্গে ঐ পরিবার গুলি দ্বারে দ্বারে ভিক্ষা করিতেছে। আমি জানি না ঐ পরিবারগুলিকে সাহায্য দেওয়ার পথে Technical কোন বাধা আছে কিনা কিন্তু Technical বাধা থাকিলেও মানবতার প্রণে তাহাদের সাহায্য দেওয়া প্রয়োজন। আমরা আসামকে একটা গণতান্ত্রিক ও সমাজ তান্ত্রিক প্রদেশ করিতে চাই—যদি মানুষ ভিক্ষাবৃত্তি অবলম্বন করে তবে কোথায় সেই সমাজতান্ত্রিক আদর্শ রইলো ?

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়—আমাদের মাননীয় বিত্তমন্ত্রীর বাজেটে আমি আর একটি বিষয়ের কোন উল্লেখ লক্ষ্য করি নি। তা হলো উদ্বাস্ত পুনর্বাসন। উদ্বাস্ত পুনর্বাসনের জন্য আগামী বাজেটে কি কোন টাকা বরাদ্দ হয় নি?

মাননীয় সদস্য মহোদয়গণ জানেন দেশ বিভাগের পর বিশেষতঃ ১৯৫০ ইংরেজীতে পাকিস্তানে দাঙ্গা হান্ধামার পর আমাদের প্রদেশে বহু উদ্বাস্ত আগমন করেন। সরকারী হিসাব মতে একমাত্র কাছাড় জেলায় ১,৯১,৪৯৭ জন উদ্বাস্ত আগমন করেন। পরিবার সংখ্যা হলো ৩৭৩১৪। অবশ্য বে-সরকারী মতে এই সংখ্যা তিনগুণ হইবে। আমাদের সরকার এই সমস্ত উদ্বাস্ত পরিবারের পুনর্বাসনের স্তূর্ধ্ব ব্যবস্থা করার অঙ্গীকারে আবদ্ধ। যখন উদ্বাস্ত পুনর্বাসন অফিস বন্ধ করার কথা উঠে, তখন ১৯৫৯ ইংরেজীতে কেন্দ্রীয় পুনর্বাসন মন্ত্রী শ্রীখানা গৌহাটী আগমন করেন। গৌহাটী স্যাকট হাউসে তৎসময়ের এবং বর্তমানেরও মুখ্যমন্ত্রী উপস্থিত ছিলেন এবং আমরাও উপস্থিত ছিলাম। সেখানে শ্রীখানা এই আশ্বাস দেন যে পুনর্বাসন দপ্তর বন্ধ করার পূর্বে সমস্ত উদ্বাস্তের দ্রুত পুনর্বাসন শেষ করা হবে, এবং তজ্জন্য স্তূর্ধ্ব পরিকল্পনা দেওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করেন। আমি জানি বিগত আগষ্ট মাসে আমাদের মুখ্য মন্ত্রী ৯২ লক্ষ টাকার একটি পরিকল্পনা দেন—এর পরবর্ত্তী সময়ে ৩৭ লক্ষ টাকা খরচ হয়েছে—তা হলে বাকী টাকা খরচ করা এখনও বাকী। কিন্তু আমরা শুনে বিষ্মিত হচ্ছি যে, পুনর্বাসন দপ্তর আগামী ৩১শে মার্চের পর বন্ধ করে দেওয়া হচ্ছে। পশ্চিম বঙ্গের মুখ্য মন্ত্রী ডাঃ বিধান চন্দ্র রায় বলেছেন—কেন্দ্রীয় গভর্নমেন্ট পুনর্বাসন দপ্তর বন্ধ করার সিদ্ধান্ত নেওয়ার পূর্বে তাঁহার মত নেওয়া হয় নি। আমরা জানতে চাই—আসামে পুনর্বাসন দপ্তর বন্ধ করার পূর্বে আমাদের মুখ্য মন্ত্রীকে জিজ্ঞাসা করা হয়েছে কি না? এই ভাবে পুনর্বাসন দপ্তর বন্ধ করে দিলে যে কয়েক লক্ষ উদ্বাস্ত আসামের সমাজে ভেসে বেড়াবেন তাতে এক বিরাট অর্থনৈতিক বিপর্যয় দেখা দিবে। স্মরণ্য ঐ দিকে চিন্তা করেও এই সমস্ত উদ্বাস্ত পুনর্বাসনের স্তূর্ধ্ব পরিকল্পনা নিতে হবে।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়—এই উদ্বাস্তের আর একটি পরিকল্পনার প্রতি আপনার দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করি। ১৯৫০ ইংরেজীতে যখন লক্ষ লক্ষ উদ্বাস্ত এসে সমস্ত স্কুল কলেজে আশ্রয় গ্রহণ করে—তখন সেই সমস্ত শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান থেকে উদ্বাস্তদের সরানোর জন্য I. T. A. পরিকল্পনা নামে একটি পরিকল্পনা করা হয়। সেই পরিকল্পনা অনুযায়ী ৩০০১ পরিবারকে কাছাড়ের ৮৮ টা বাগানে প্রেরণ করা হয়। বনে জঙ্গলে অনেক লোক সাপ, বাঘ ইত্যাদি বন্য জন্তুর খাদ্যে পরিণত হয়। ঐ সময়ে I. T. A. বাগানের কর্তৃপক্ষের হাতে ২৩ লক্ষ টাকা I. T. A. পরিকল্পনার উদ্বাস্তদের স্তূর্ধ্ব পুনর্বাসনের জন্য দেওয়া হয়। পরবর্ত্তী সময়ে দেখা যায় ঐ অর্থ সম্পূর্ণ অপব্যয় হয়েছে—এই অপব্যয় সম্পর্কে তদন্ত হওয়া প্রয়োজন। যাই হোক ১৯৫৬ ইংরেজীতে যখন I. T. A. উদ্বাস্তদের জন্য গৃহ নির্মাণ ঋণ মঞ্জুর হয়—তখন দেখা যায় জমির উপর উদ্বাস্তদের কোন অধিকার নেই। স্মরণ্য ঐ টাকা ফেরত যায় এবং আজ পর্যন্ত I. T. A. উদ্বাস্তরা গৃহ নির্মাণ বাবত কোন ঋণ পায় নি। অতঃপর করিমগঞ্জের তদানীন্তন S. D. O. মিঃ কে কে, ফুকনকে একটি তদন্তের ভার দেওয়া হয় এবং শ্রী এ, সি, দাস, E. A. C দুইবার তদন্ত করেন। ঐ রিপোর্ট গুলির ভিত্তিতে উদ্বাস্তদের জমির উপর অধিকার অপর্ণের জন্য ১৯৫৯ ইংরেজীতে I. T. A. Branch নামে রিলিফ বিভাগের এক Branch খোলা হয়। ঐ বিভাগ বাগানের জমি একিউজিসন ও Requisition করার ব্যবস্থা আরম্ভ করেন ও বহুদূর অগ্রসর হন এবং তজ্জন্য সরকার—১০,৩৪,০০০ টাকা মঞ্জুর করেন। ঐ কাজ ১৯৬২ ইংরেজীর জুন মাসে শেষ হওয়ার কথা ছিল। ৮৮টা কলোনীর মধ্যে ৫৬টা কলোনার এতৎসম্পর্কিত কাজ শেষ হয়। উক্ত টাকার মধ্যে ৩,৫০,০০০ টাকার মত ইতিমধ্যে খরচ হয়েছে। কিন্তু হঠাৎ ২৮-২-৬২ ইংরেজী তারখে বিনা

নোটিশে ঐ সমস্ত কর্মচারী কর্মচ্যুত হয়েছেন এবং পুনর্বাসন অফিস ১লা এপ্রিল থেকে বন্ধ হওয়ার সঙ্গে সঙ্গে আরও প্রায় ২৫০ জন কর্মচারী বেকার হবেন। ১০।১২ বৎসর কাজ করার পর যদি একজন কর্মচারী বিনা দোষে কর্মচ্যুত হন, তা হলে তাঁহার অবস্থা বর্তমান অর্থনৈতিক সঙ্কটের দিনে কি হতে পারে। আশা করি মাননীয় সদস্য বগ তা অনুধাবন করতে পারবেন। এই সমস্ত কর্মচারীকে অন্য সরকারী বিভাগে কাজ দেওয়ার জন্য আমাদের মুখ্য সচিবের একটা লিখিত নির্দেশ আছে কিন্তু বিভাগীয় কর্তৃপক্ষ তাহা অগ্রাহ্য করেন। মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, Law makers রা যদি Law breakers হয়, তা হলে এই রাজ্য কি করে চলতে পারে, তা সহজে অনুমেয়।

তদপরি একমাত্র শিলচর সহরের পার্শ্ববর্তী এলাকায় প্রায় ৩০০ জন উদ্বাস্ত গৃহ নির্মাণের জন্য জমি বন্দোবস্ত করেছেন এবং সে জন্য মালীককে বহু টাকা অগ্রিম দিয়াছেন, আজ পুনর্বাসন বিভাগ যদি বন্ধ হয়ে যায় তবে এই সমস্ত পরিবার গৃহ নির্মাণের জন্য টাকা কোথায় পাবে এবং যে টাকা অগ্রিম জমির জন্য ব্যয়িত হয়েছে তা বাজেয়া হয়ে যাবে। পুনর্বাসন দপ্তর যদি বন্ধ করে দেওয়াই সিদ্ধান্ত হয়ে থাকে তবে অন্ততঃ অন্য দপ্তরের মারফতেও এই সমস্ত উদ্বাস্তদের পুনর্বাসনের ব্যবস্থা করতে হবে।

পুনর্বাসন দপ্তর T. B. রোগীদের জন্য ভাতা ও চিকিৎসার ব্যয় দিয়ে থাকেন। কিন্তু Medical দপ্তরের হাতে গত সেপ্টেম্বর মাসে উক্ত টাকা যাওয়ার ফলে তখন থেকে T. B. রোগীর সমস্ত ভাতা ইত্যাদি বন্ধ হয়ে আছে এবং ঐ টাকা না পেয়ে একটা উদ্বাস্ত T. B. রোগী শিলচর ফাটক বাজারে এসে বিনা চিকিৎসায় মারা গেছে। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, যদি আমাদের এই সমাজ তা। ক রাজ্যে বিনা চিকিৎসায় রোগী মরে—তা হলে আমরা সমাজ তাত্ত্বিক রাজ্য নিয়ে কি গর্ব বোধ করতে পারি? আমরা এই রাজ্যকে সুখী সমৃদ্ধিশালী রাজ্য করার জন্যে প্রতিজ্ঞা বদ্ধ। আমরা যদি সেই কাজে ব্যর্থ হই—তা হলে আমাদের এই বিধান সভায় আসা বৃথা। আমি আর একটা রোগীর কথা বলবো। কাটিগড়া এলাকার একজন T. B. রোগী সুরেশ দাস—চিকিৎসার জন্য রুরে রুরে হাসপাতালে কোন seat না পেয়ে কিছুদিন আগে বিনা চিকিৎসায় মৃত্যু বরণ করেছে। অখচ শিলচর সিভিল হাসপাতালে একটা T. B. Ward তৈরি হয়েছে কিন্তু ঐ Ward টি আজ পর্যন্ত খোলা হয় নি। আমি মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ের দৃষ্টি ঐ দিকে আকর্ষণ করি। ঐ Ward টি খোলা থাকলে এক জন হয়তঃ অকাল মৃত্যু থেকে বাচতে পারতো। কাছাড়ে প্রায় ২৫০ জন উদ্বাস্ত T. B. রোগী সরকারী খরচ পায়—কিন্তু গত সেপ্টেম্বর থেকে ঐ সাহায্য বন্ধ আছে। এই ব্যাপারে আমি মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করি। আমি আর একটা বিষয়ের প্রত্যুত মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়ের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করি। উদ্বাস্ত ছাত্রদের পুনর্বাসন দপ্তর থেকে যে সাহায্য দেওয়া হয়, যদিও বাৎসরিক পরীক্ষা ডিসেম্বরে শেষ হয়ে গিয়েছে—তথাপি আজ পর্যন্ত গত বৎসরের বইয়ের টাকা দেওয়া হয়নি। স্থায়ী দপ্তরের হাতে এই ভাবে কাজ চলিলে সাহায্য যে কাজে লাগবে না—তা সহজেই অনমেয়।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাদের অর্থমন্ত্রী যদিও শিক্ষকদের অবস্থার উন্নতি হয়েছে বলে উল্লেখ করিয়াছেন, তথাপি শিক্ষকদের অবস্থার বিশেষ উন্নতি হয়নি। আমাদের বহু শিক্ষক সরকারী আদেশে বয়সের জন্য চাকুরি থেকে বাধ্যতামূলক ভাবে অবসর নিয়েছেন। সারা জীবন শিক্ষকতা করে শেষ জীবনে তাদের কোন ব্যবস্থা না করে তাদের এই ভাবে বিদায় করা অন্যায় হয়েছে। আমি একজন শিক্ষকের নাম এখানে উল্লেখ করি। তার নাম শ্রী প্রমোদ চন্দ্র ভট্টাচার্য। তিনি সারা জীবন শিক্ষকতাই করেছেন।

বিগত ডিসেম্বর মাসে তিনি অবসর নিয়েছেন। তার বড়বড় মেয়ে, ঘরে অন্য কোনো উপার্জন কম কেহ নাই। অবসর গ্রহণ করার পর অর্থনৈতিক সঙ্কটের চাপে তিনি অস্থির হয়ে পড়েন। তার স্ত্রীও এই চিন্তায় সন্মুখ্য রোগে আক্রান্ত হ'ন। চিকিৎসার কোন ব্যবস্থা করার সঙ্গতি নেই—অবশ্য তারই এক আত্মীয় এগিয়ে আসায় চিকিৎসার ব্যবস্থা হয় তার স্ত্রী তথাপি মারা যান—তিনি এখনও শয্যাগত। আমাদের মুখ্যমন্ত্রীর নিকট যখন নিখিল আসাম সাহায্য প্রাপ্ত উচ্চ-ইংরাজী শিক্ষক সমিতির একটি প্রতিনিধি দল দেখা করেন তখন মুখ্যমন্ত্রী বলেছিলেন, যে সমস্ত শিক্ষক বাধ্যতা মূলক ভাবে অবসর গ্রহণ করেছেন তাদের বৃদ্ধ বয়সের একটি ব্যবস্থার জন্যে পরিকল্পনা সরকার গ্রহণ করেছেন। কিন্তু কখন পরিকল্পনা কার্যে রূপান্তরিত হবে?

স্যার, আমাদের প্রাথমিক শিক্ষার অবস্থাও মোটেই অশাপ্রদ নয়। বেসিক স্কুল ও স্কল বোর্ডের স্কুলের মধ্যে প্রাথমিক বিদ্যমান—পাঠ দানেও যেমন এই প্রাথমিক আবার শিক্ষকের বেতনের বেলায়ও তেমনি। বেসিক পাস শিক্ষক বেসিক স্কুলে যে বেতন পান স্কুল বোর্ডে সেই বেসিক পাস শিক্ষক সেই বেতন পান না। একই কাজের জন্য একই শিক্ষায় দুই রকম বেতন হবে কেন? এখনও চা বাগানের অন্তর্গত স্কুল বোর্ডের অধীনে আনা হয়নি যে জন্য প্রাথমিক শিক্ষার ব্যাপারেও যথেষ্ট আসামজস্য রেখেছে।

আর একটা বিষয়ের প্রতি আমি দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করি। ১৯৫২ ইংরাজীতে চা-বাগানে যে সঙ্কট দেখা দেয় ঐ সময় প্রায় ১০ হাজার চা শ্রমিক retrenched হয়—আজ পর্যন্ত তাদের কোন ব্যবস্থা হয় নি। বিনা চিকিৎসায় অনাহারে এই সমস্ত শ্রমিক মৃত্যু পথ যাত্রী। এই সমস্ত ছাটাই শ্রমিকদের অবস্থা উন্নতদের অবস্থা চাইতে ও শোচনীয়। এদের জন্যও স্তম্ভ পুনর্বাসন প্রয়োজন। আমি আশা করি আমাদের বিধান সভা এই সমস্ত বিষয়ের প্রতি যথাযথ দৃষ্টি দিবেন।

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati): Mr. Speaker Sir I congratulate the Finance Minister for introducing this budget for 3 months. I also congratulate him for improving the financial position of the State. Due to various reasons, in the last year the financial position of the State was not happy. This year it has improved to a great extent. I am really sorry to mention here that the Third Finance Commission also did not give justice to our State upto our expectation.

Sir, Assam produces Tea, Jute and Patrol; but yet Assam is unfortunately the backward State in India. I donot know when our financial position will be improved. However, I appeal to the Government particularly to the Chief Minister and the Finance Minister to endeavour their best to impress upon the Government of India so that Assam gets her legitimate share from the Centre with a view to increase the Development activities. Sir, during the British regime, Assam was neglected terribly and so I urge upon the Government to undertake development works both in the hills and plains so that Assam may stand equal to other sister States of India. Unless our resources are improved—that is to say unless the receipt side of our Budget is improved, I think a stage will be coming when our Finance Minister will be compelled to stop the development works. I therefore, urge upon the Government to press the Central Government to do justice to our State.

Sir, now I shall make a few observations regarding the Budget. In his Budget Speech, the Finance Minister has said: "it will be extremely difficult for the State Government to shoulder its growing responsibilities under the Third Plan and to meet the needs both of expanding administration and of increased developmental programming with this slender surplus". Again he has said: "To meet such expenditure as well as to cover the other aforesaid requirements, it will undoubtedly be necessary for the Government to raise additional resources during the next year." Sir, I do not know what the Finance Minister wants to mean by this. It will not be a wise thing on the part of the Government to impose additional tax—either direct or indirect and I hope the Finance Minister will not resort to this method.

Sir, I want to say a few words in connection with Electricity Board. Sir, in the Electricity Board there is only one Non-official member. More non-official members ought to be there. One hon. Member from the Opposition Bench pointed out about some anomaly in respect of certain expenditures. I however, draw the attention of the Minister, Industries to this point and I hope that he will look into the matter and set the thing right.

Sir, as regards industrialization of Assam, I say one thing. Industrialisation is necessary; not only necessary but it is an important factor for the progress of the country particularly for our State. No country can progress under the present situation without going in for industrialisation. Assam is terribly backward and it is practically an agricultural State. Our Government is trying its level best to set up some industries but in this respect I like to draw the attention of the Government and more particularly of the Industry Minister that before starting Industry, technical personnel are trained from the State so that their services could be utilised in those industries. I find that very little had been said about the Apex Marketing Society. It is a fact that co-operative marketing society is necessary to do away with the middle men. If we really desire to establish a society based on socialism there is no other way than to adopt co-operative system. But co-operative system having eye on profiteering motive, I think, will not give the expected result. So my humble submission is that special care should be taken so that this marketing society is run properly and efficiently. There may be some loop-holes and some defects but I am sure if the hon. Minister in-charge of Co-operative Department takes a bit special interest in those defects and loop-holes can be removed and the marketing society will be an efficient organisation which will serve the poor people and save them from exploitation of the middle men.

The Hon'ble Finance Minister expressed that programme for compulsory primary education has been drawn up. It is well and good but I like to draw his attention that those schools started by the villagers themselves have not yet been taken over by Government. Before starting compulsory primary education, all the venture schools should immediately be taken up by the Government otherwise it will be meaningless to start compulsory primary education programme keeping the venture schools without giving any aid whatsoever. In this respect, I like to draw his attention regarding giving grant for repairs of primary school buildings. There are many villages, more particularly in backward areas and tribal areas, where people are

extremely poor, cannot afford to pay anything for repairing or constructing school buildings or houses. These schools should be helped with the necessary funds for repairing and constructing their buildings.

Another thing I have not found in this speech is regarding increment of salary of the low paid employees of Government, *i.e.*, 4th and 3rd grade employees. Sir, cost of living in Assam is the highest in the country. An Lower Division Assistant drawing a sum of Rs.60 and a Peon drawing sum of Rs.30 or 32 per mensem cannot manage his family. No one in this world could imagine that a man with an earning of Rs.60 per mensem can manage a family of 5 members when the price of a seer of fish is at present not less than Rs.6 or Rs.7, price of a seer of potato is not less than annas 10 or 12 and price a seer of sugar is not less than Rs.1.50. Price of all these things, that is, sugar, fish and other necessary commodities has gone high. It is extremely difficult on the part of the low paid employees to manage his family with this meagre salary. My humble submission to the Government and more particularly to the Finance Minister on this matter is to see his way so that something is done to save them from the miseries now they are going through.

Next, I have not found any mention in his speech about how the price structure could be brought down. It is going up, and up and I do not know where it will reach. From my experience I can say that price structure of our daily necessary commodities is increasing year after year and I think during the third plan period it will go higher still. So my earnest request to the Government and more particularly to the Finance Minister is to find out some ways and means how this rising tempo of prices can be checked; it must be checked if the economic condition of the people is to be improved. Otherwise the people will groan under poverty and there will be, most probably, more dissatisfaction among the people, particularly among the lower income group.

Now, I come to medical aid. There is a medical college at Gauhati holding classes in the premises of the Ayurvedic College at Jhalukbari. I do not know what arrangement has been made for the construction of the Medical College Building. So far my information goes, probably land has not yet been acquired. The college is run at Jhalukbari and the students are kept at some distant place at Nabagraha. I do not know how the college is running. My humble submission to the Medical Minister and the Government is that immediate steps are taken for acquiring land and construction of building there. Sir, in this respect, I have to make another important observation, that is about a Cancer Hospital. The number of people suffering from cancer disease is most probably the highest in Assam. I am sorry that I have not found any mention how this disease could be checked or those unfortunate sufferers could be treated. No where here in the speech nor in the Governor's address this has been mentioned. My humble submission is that something must be done and a cancer hospital must immediately be started. I know there is a non-official Committee at Gauhati which has raised a few thousands of rupees for this purpose. Any how a cancer hospital should immediately be started, atleast immediate arrangement should be made for starting the hospital at Gauhati.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): There is already a provision in the Budget.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati)· But here it has not been mentioned. I am very glad to hear that. I congratulate the Medical Minister for making that provision.

Sir, I want to speak a few words regarding dispensaries in the villages. I come from a constituency of which 40 per cent of the population live in the rural areas. There in rural areas there is a Dispensary at Sonapur and another dispensary at Hahara within an area, length of which is about 30 miles. In the dispensary at Hahara there is no doctor. There is one dispensary at Nartap but nobody is also there, the door is locked up and there is nobody to open the door. No doctor, no compounder.

MR. SPEAKER : What about medicines ?

Shri DEVANDRA NATH SARMA : I do not know. I hope our Medical Minister will be kind enough to look into the matter before going to make big projects so that the small projects are implemented and the relief to the poor people is properly given.

I have found that the master plan of Gauhati has been published. I am sure the Government will take serious view about development of Gauhati because it is expanding leaps and bounds without any plan.

It was a town of 19,000 people in 1911, 31,000 people in 1931 and it is now a town of more than one lakh of people. Moreover, on account of location of the Oil Refinery location of the military base and development of other industries the vehicular traffic in this town has increased leaps and bounds. Something must be done immediately before it is too late. My friend Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha, the other day, mentioning about town planning said that Gauhati was made worse by plan settlement. In reality, it has converted Gauhati into an unplanned city. Road width is kept only 12 feet. There is no place—not a single bigha of land was kept for public purposes. At present, within the Municipality area, there is practically no Government land available. All land, whatever there was has already been settled. Now, Government should not settle land without caring for future development. I request the Government to acquire land for public purposes. Another point I like to mention in this connection is that there must be the drainage system in the city. Today mosquito menace has become a problem of Gauhati. The University is there, the High Court is there and there are Medical and Engineering Colleges and other Colleges. So unless the sanitation and hygienic condition of the city is improved, every body of Assam will suffer there is no doubt about it. So, my humble submission to the Government is that Government should take up the drainage and sewerage system of this city immediately.

I do not find any provision made for the rehabilitation of our youth in human value. This is one of the most important factors of life. One of my friend said that the students have no discipline. I am sorry, I cannot agree with him in this respect. It has become a fashion now a days to blame the students. But what we politicians and leaders are doing ? We say one thing and do another thing. We have not been able to give high noble ideals before them. We do not give them any opportunity too. Opportunities are few before them and the education we impart to them has no scope for the development of their moral and spiritual faculties. So it is very high time that we should do something for moral and spiritual development of our youths or student community and to our future generation. We must do something for the rehabilitation of youths in human values. I think the Hon'ble Finance Minister once more for introducing his Budget today. Thanking you Sir.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Members for their helpful discussion on this occasion. Sir, in the course of discussion, some of the hon. Members went to the extent of making some observations which are not relevant for our present purpose and they also brought a charge against me for making omission of such things in my budget speech. I would like, in this connection, to draw the attention of the hon. Members what I have said in my Budget Speech in paragraph 7, which reads as:—

“I should emphasise that I do not propose on this occasion to give any detailed resume of activities of the Government during the year or of the programmes to be undertaken during the next year. This is a task which would be better left over for the occasion when the final budget for 1962-63 is presented during the next session of the Assembly. I shall therefore only briefly touch on the main aspects of the developmental programmes implemented during the year and in the course of implementation at present.”

In view of the above statement, Sir, I think the hon. Members should have spared me and should not have levelled the charge that I have omitted or kept away from them some of the important matters.

Secondly, Sir, I had purposely made a statement towards the last part of paragraph 6 and I had hoped that hon. Members who would have occasion to speak during the discussion on Vote on Account would throw some light or would give such suggestions to Government and help in the difficult task augmenting resources for a number of developmental activities of our State. I particularly referred to the last part of the paragraph 6 wherein I have said, “I have already stated that it will be necessary to provide for more expenditure on non-plan heads as and when the projects and programmes in this regard are considered by the present Government. To meet such expenditure as well as to cover the other aforesaid requirements, it will undoubtedly be necessary for the Government to raise additional resources during the next year. The manner and the extent to which resources would require to be increased would have to be considered by the Government and would be incorporated in the estimates that would be resubmitted before this House in June next”. I had therefore, Sir, expected that hon. Members today would be able to give guidance to me and Government so that for the purpose of formulating our future course of action with regard to raising our resources we might have kept those considerations in view and we might have benefitted with such opinions as hon. Members would have been pleased to express. But I am disappointed as on the last occasion, this unhappy task and difficult task, left to me and my colleagues in the Cabinet because everyone who spoke was anxious that expenditure should be incurred in this way or that way, either for increasing the salaries of III or IV Grade employees or for other developmental activities, but no one has suggested as to how expenditures on these could be met, and whom we are to approach for raising the money.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati): We can approach the Central Government.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** We have been approaching the Central Government. The question which I am faced, the Central Government has to face the same question. They are also thinking of finding ways and means in order to raise their resources both to discharge their own responsibilities and duties and to help the States on developmental activities of those States. It is not the proper spirit that the entire responsibilities should be given on the Central Government and we should not do anything in this respect. I think this is an uncharitable approach. The Central Government would get the impression that we do not want to discharge our responsibilities and want to burden the Central Government with our responsibilities.

With these observations which I wish to comment the various valuable suggestions given by hon. Members, and I want to deal with some item which have been mentioned. It is neither possible within such a short time nor it is desirable on my part when the hon. Members will have full and further opportunity when the budget is placed before them in the ensuing Session to deal on various matters raised in course of the speeches of the hon. Members.

Sir, I am very grateful to my hon. Friend from Nowgong who brought before this House a number of items which are of importance so far as our State is concerned. He has expressed surprise of my not making any mention about the royalty dispute which has been going on between the Central Government and our Government for the past sometime. I have not undertaken to make observation for any other reason but as I would like the hon. Member to remember that I have purposely omitted a reference about this dispute in my speech because negotiations have entered a crucial stage and as soon as the Assembly Session is over my colleague, the Minister in-charge, Industries and myself have planned to go to Delhi for finalisation of the discussion on this problem. But the question has been raised and it would also not be proper for me to keep away certain facts from the knowledge of the hon. Members of this House and I would only place such facts which would remove the anxiety and concern of the hon. Members and help us in achieving the objects which we all have in common. I hope, hon. Members will bear me out that today when the State and Members of this House have placed us in such a responsible position it will be our duty to see that what is due to our State will not be lost and we should try to get as far as it is possible and as large as it is possible, and I know that in this effort we have the whole-hearted support not only of our hon. Members of this House but of also all people living in the State of Assam. As the hon. Members perhaps, already know that oil has been extracted in our State for more than 60 years. There were certain leases which were given to the Assam Oil Company by the Government of Assam, I mean the then British Government. Then, I think, sometime in 1935 or 1936 some of these leases were renewed and also some leases renewed in 1947/1948. I think, my friend, the hon. Member from Nowgong knows that under the terms of these leases the Assam Oil Company had to pay a royalty of 10 per cent. of the head value of the oil, or -/8/- annas per 40 imperial gallons whichever is higher, and these old leases are in existence even now. So far as these old leases are concerned which are with the Assam Oil Company, the terms of those leases cannot be changed either by me or my Government or by the Assam Oil Company to the detriment of any of these two parties and they have to pay royalty on the basis that had been agreed upon between the Assam Oil Company and the State Government.

*Speech not corrected.

Now, as the hon. Members are aware that this well-head value is a value which is a national value and was fixed up, I do not know, by what formula. But the well-head cost of the crude oil product at Oklahoma was taken. That was a free market. To that was added the cost of transport from Oklahoma to Digboi and on that basis the well-head cost was assessed and on that basis we were paid 10 per cent and we were getting on that calculation about Rs.10-8-0 per ton from the A. O. C. Now, after these leases were entered into with the A. O. C, some more leases had to be given to the B. O. C. in Naharkatiya and other areas and the extraction of which the Government of India have now become a partner. Some basis of payment of royalty was fixed but again some fresh agreements have been entered into by the Government of India and the B. O. C. under which unfortunately the formula for fixing the well-head value has been changed, and on account of this change the royalty which we got at the rate of Rs.10-8-0 per ton fell down to about Rs.4 per ton, that is to say nearly 6 rupees per ton. This matter was brought to our notice only recently when the Government had approached us for the purpose of granting exploration license in respect of new areas to the Oil India Limited. And after this matter was brought before us immediately we took it up that this question had to be settled so that the State Government may not suffer a loss. It is in this connection that negotiations at the highest level have been going on and we propose to have further talk with the Government of India in the early part of next month.

Sir, I shall not conceal anything from this House and when the occasion arises, when all these talks have been finalised, I shall place before this House the full picture so that the House can have an opportunity of discussing this matter threadbare, and we shall also place before this House, if for any reason negotiation fails or not to our expectation, all the further actions that should be taken in this respect. I would not agree with my Friend from Jorhat who, while supporting the hon. Friend from Nowgong was confusing between this question of royalty and what was happening at the Gauhati Refinery. While my Friend from Nowgong was clear about the Gauhati Refinery my Friend from Jorhat was confusing about the Gauhati Refinery when put the question he said that the Gauhati refinery is not doing well. This is the first time I have heard that the Gauhati Refinery is not doing well. From my report I find that the Gauhati Refinery was completed far ahead of time and it is functioning properly. I hope, Sir, that the hon. Member from Nowgong is satisfied with this information and would not press me for further information till after the matter has been discussed for a final settlement between the Government of India and ourselves.

Now, another important matter in respect of which my hon. Friend from Nowgong has raised is the question of loss of income on account of road carriage tax which has become the subject-matter of dispute now pending before the High Court. It is true that on account of this, the State Government has been deprived of the revenue of nearly 2.36 lakhs of rupees and the matter is now pending before the High Court. I am also to inform the hon. Member that after the last judgement was given by the Supreme Court when the case was decided against us by a majority decision, that decision has also become the subject-matter for further decision which has been pending in the Supreme Court for the last six months. And I have been anxiously awaiting the judgement in that case. Our State represented in that case. We have placed our point of view and as soon as the judgement is given I shall place before the House as to what action we

shall have to take. I have purposely excluded from making a reference to this matter and when the time comes, I shall place the matter before the House. My hon. Friend from Nowgong is making a suggestion that while we have lost an income from the road, we should try to make up by doubling the rates of the agricultural income-tax. One thing I would like to point out is that the tax on income from agricultural resources is not only paid by the tea gardens but is also paid by the agriculturists who have an income more than 3,000 rupees a year. Then there is also a number of difficulties. The tax is realised on receipts minus expenditure, that is the income or benefit which derived; it has to be proportionate to the income derived, and to day we cannot say that the rates should be doubled. I may inform the House that our rates of agricultural income-tax are higher than the rates imposed by the Central Government. So, it will be difficult for us to raise this income particularly when two years ago, as the hon. Member might remember, that higher rates have been raised by us. But we shall certainly keep the suggestion of the hon. Member in view and see to what extent there is possibility of increasing the rate. But I cannot accept the suggestion that is should be doubled. That question will have to be examined by us. Now, Sir, my Friend has given a very good suggestion that we should effect economy in our expenditure. We should also try to see whether we can avoid unnecessary multiplication of offices and duties. It is a good suggestion and we shall examine it. But one thing which I want to bring to the notice of this House is this that this suggestion is coupled with the danger of terminating the services of a number of persons. Supposing the Government is compelled to reduce the expenditure by doing away with the services of some people then I think the hon. Members will not come forward that these people should not be thrown away.

So far as the question of third and fourth grade employees are concerned, I would ask the hon. Members that they should be very hesitant in making such proposals which our finance are not in a position to bear. I would like to tell the hon. Members here that according to the census figure of the Assam Government employees upto 31st March, 1961, we have at present 64,154 employees under our Government. Out of this figure the employees who get below Rs.100 and Rs. 250 are about 60,000 and the number of those employees who get between Rs.250 to 500 is about 2,000. So the bulk of our employees is grade three and grade four and we are spending on them nearly 7 crores of rupees per year. Now, if we increase their salary by even Rs.1 it will require a huge amount. It is our intention to improve their condition but we cannot do so because of financial difficulties. We want to develop our resources and we must invest more money so that we may have more and more money in order to provide amenities to our employees and improve their status. Unless and until our resources are increased we cannot improve their lot because that will make our State bankrupt.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): What amount is spent on officers ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Yes, I will tell you that. The amount spent on the officers, who are getting above Rs.2,000 is Rs.3,60,000 and the officers, who are getting between Rs.1,500 to Rs.2,000, is Rs.3,15,000. We are spending much more money on the Grade III and Grade IV staff.

Now I would refer to some of the matters which have been mentioned by my friend Shri Goswami. He wanted to know about the Assam Pulp Gas Tribune. I may inform him that this project was started by M/S Balmer Lawree and Co., and the Financial Corporation, was to give a loan of Rs.3 crores. The Indian Financial Corporation, besides mortgage wanted a guarantee from the Managing Agent of the Co., but the Managing Agent refused to give the guarantee. So, the Indian Financial Corporation, refused to give the loan as they were unable to modify the guarantee clause. Therefore there was no dispute between the Company and the State Government. So, my friend is under a wrong impression that there was dispute between the Company and the State Government. The project has now been given to another company and I hope it will be started soon.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): I only referred to a news item.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): So, I want to tell the hon. Member that there was no dispute. Now the work has been given to the Wastling House after discussing the matter fully with the experts of the Central Water and Power Commission. The Wastling House's offer was lower by 30 lakhs, but it has been given in consultation with the Central Water and Power Commission which is the technical agent of the Central Government.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI: Is it a fact that the Central Government has rejected the entire project ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Goswami, you can interrupt a Member on two grounds. Firstly, on a point of order and secondly on a personal clarification. Otherwise you cannot interrupt a Speaker when he is on his feet.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Now, I would refer to the matter raised by my friend Shri Omeo Kumar Das. I entirely agree with him that in a social welfare state when we are doing all kinds of activities the assistance of the voluntary organisations should be taken, and the voluntary organisations should be consulted as far as possible by the Government. I am grateful to the voluntary organisations which have been working in our State for the very good work they have been doing. Shri Das was pleased to write a letter to me about the grants given to the Assam Seva Samity for leprosy and as soon as I got the letter I have taken up the matter with the Department concerned. I may inform him that last year some additional grants were given because that was the end of the Second Plan period and out of some savings some money was made available to that Samity. But this year, I may inform him, that for the purpose of leprosy we have given to this institution a sum of Rs. 25,000. Then again Rs.10,000 was sanctioned child to this institution for welfare and other works. Then another sum of Rs 10,000 is in the course of being sanctioned as soon as the Supplementary Demand is passed and they will receive Rs.10,000. So in all whole this institution has got Rs.45,000 in the course of the year. In view of the useful work done by this institution, we shall see, as far as possible, how we can help this institution to increase their grants in the course of the next financial year.

It is not possible for me to deal at length with all the suggestions which have been given but I am grateful to the very valuable suggestions which have come from my hon. Friend Dr. Choudhury from Patacharkuchi. It will be our endeavour to see how these sports and cultural activities in our State can get proper assistance and help from the Government. I would like to point out the only way in which we can aid Sports Associations is either for the purpose of developing playgrounds or stadia or for the purpose of imparting training to youngsters at the teen age or the college-going age and for that purpose Government have been providing nearly Rs. 2 lakhs. per year apart from such grants which we may get from the Government of India. Formerly not a single pie was allotted but now nearly Rs.2 lakhs has been provided in our Budget and I hope the hon. Members who are anxious to see that our youth get the fullest opportunity for development of sports and culture will see the playgrounds are some how acquired in the locality so that it may be possible for Sports Association to extend these benefit to rural areas and to areas which have not so far received any grant.

Then his suggestion with regard to art and culture that will be taken into consideration—we shall have opportunity and occasion to discuss later this item, perhaps in a Committee which will be disposing of these grants and I think that will be set up by the Minister-in-charge, Education, in the next session.

Sir, with these few observations I again thank the hon. Member for the very valuable suggestion and I wish that while they give these suggestions they could also have given me suggestions how increase the resources of the State but unfortunately that task is left for us.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Nowgong): I have given mine.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): And we shall do this unpleasant duty and place our proposal before the House when we meet in June next.

(Adjournment)

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 a.m. on Tuesday, the 27th March, 1962.

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