

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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 1-30 P.M. on Friday, the 9th March, 1956.

P R E S E N T

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha, B.L., Speaker, in the Chair, the nine Ministers, the two Deputy Ministers, one Parliamentary Secretary and sixty-seven Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Kala-azar Hospital at Tura

Shri AARAN SANGMA asked :

2. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical Department, be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that the thatched buildings of Kala-azar Hospital at Tura are in worn-out and dilapidated condition and that none of the five buildings are fit for keeping the patients, specially in rainy season, due to serious leakage ?
- (b) If so, why Government has over-looked in taking necessary action to that effect ?
- (c) What effective measures are going to be undertaken to remedy this ?

(d) Whether any person in authority visited this hospital during the year 1954-55 and noticed or made a note of the deplorable condition of the buildings ?

(e) If so, what remark was made by him ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister) replied :

2. (a)—Yes, the buildings of the Tura Kala-azar Hospital were in worn-out and dilapidated condition.

(b)—Government have already sanctioned to the improvement of the buildings by Public Works Department at a cost of Rs.40,900 during this financial year.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Yes. Shri O. K. Das, Minister-in-charge, Education, etc., Assam paid a visit to the Tura Kala-azar Hospital on 13th May 1955.

(e)—A copy of the remarks made is placed on the table.

Copy of Inspection remarks made by Shri Omeo Kumar Das, Minister of Education, etc., on 13th May 1955 on Kala-azar Hospital, Tura.

I was glad to visit Kala-azar Hospital at Tura on the 13th May 1955, Civil Surgeon showed me round. There were 18 patients in all including two women.

The buildings are old and I understand Director of Health Services is making enquiries about construction of new buildings.

Discussion on Governor's address

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the motion moved by my Friend, Shri Bimala Kanta Bora on the address of the Governor and also opposing the amendment moved by my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, who only criticised without offering any constructive criticism on the policy of the Government, I now want to speak generally a few words on the address of the Governor. Sir, here I find the Governor has very emphatically echoed the voice of not only of the public in general in the State but also of the views of the Government as well and also the Assam Provincial Congress Committee Resolutions recently passed in their meetings and also in the recent Rashtriya Sanmilon regarding the formation of a consolidated Assam State. Here Sir, in the Governor's speech, page 1—it is said—“It is my Government's clear opinion in the interest of National security and unity of India, that the entire region of the north-east of East Pakistan needs an integrated administration from various points of view and should ultimately form one administratively homogeneous unit so that it can be developed as a self-sufficient economic zone under a plan.” Sir, the Governor has given emphasis on the point of “economic zone” and he wants to form a better economic zone under this plan. But on this point, Sir, I humbly submit that it is not administrative efficiency from the economic point of view that will make and bring about this unity, the unity of the Hills people as people of the Indian nation, and the unity of these people with the neighbouring Assamese nation. Sir, to effect the unity, I believe there are other things also which we should take note of. In this connection, Sir, I wrote a letter some 2 or 3 years back to the Governor on this very point and the Governor has been very kind enough to reply very sympathetically on my suggestion. With your permission, Sir, I want to read.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Please don't read.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Whatever the Governor has stated in his letter the opinions given therein are his personal views, and cannot be discussed in this House. The Governor being the Constitutional head has stated the Government's policies in his speech which only can be discussed on the floor of the House.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: Sir, I can offer some suggestions regarding the policy itself, otherwise it will be of no use discussing the matter that has been found in the address of the Governor and we have also our right to offer our suggestions.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Will you please take your seat ?

The Governor's personal opinions are not to be brought and discussed before the House. If it is a Government's policy we may discuss it.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: Sir, it is my considered opinion that it is not only administrative efficiency that will bring about this merger question of the hills regions. North-East Frontier Agency is already within the boundary of Assam as stated in the Constitution, but it is stated that for the present that area will be administered by the Centre so that gradually that area may be merged with Assam. What is this merger ? It is not only a geographical or political merger question, it is a merger with so many other things.

Mr. SPEAKER: You will have a chance to discuss this.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: This merger question will not be only a physical or geographical merger. Geographically North-East Frontier Agency is already within the boundary of Assam. This is a question of merging this area economically and culturally and all other things. In that way only we can bring better reapproachment between the Hills and the Plains people. Sir, I take it in that line and if that be the objective of the Constitution then nothing can be more desirable than the reapproachment between the Hills and the Plains people culturally, socially and economically. Therefore, Sir, all along it is my firm conviction that the Hills people may know the culture of the plains people and the Plains people may know the culture of the Hills people and in that way only better understanding will prevail between the Hills and the Plains people, and to that end in view I suggest that Assamese language should be introduced in the hills as an optional subject and the hills language be introduced in the plains districts.....

Mr. SPEAKER: What do you mean ? Is it not imposing the Assamese language on the Hills people ?

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: Sir, it is not imposing. I say that Assamese language should be introduced in the hills regions as an optional subject.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Don't impose please.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: I am not using the word imposing, I am using the word optional. If optional is considered as imposing, I have nothing to say. I say optio-

nal, so that the Hills people may learn Assamese language with profit and we also learn the Hills language with profit. In this way, Sir, there will be a gradual unity among the Hills and the Plains people. This is the best step we are to take. Sir, I believe more in cultural unity than in political unity.

Political unity is an insignificant part of the nation's life, all other things, Sir, we have unfortunately forgotten to remember. That is what I say. At the present moment when the Hills people want to learn Assamese as an optional subject, there should be no bar to that. What is our experience? Even the Congress High Command, Shri Dhebar, the other day at Kohima when he wanted to speak in Hindi, was asked to speak either in Assamese or in English. This shows the Hills people are not averse to learn Assamese and Assamese is the *lingua franca* of our Hills people except in Khasi and Lushai Hills. I can say without fear of contradiction and if anybody challenges me I am ready to take it that all the Hills people except the Khasis and Lushais take Assamese as the *lingua franca* for the purpose of communicating their ideas between different tribes and different villages. They express their ideas only through Assamese and this language has been in existence in the hills ever since the time of King Gadadhor Singha. Nobody can deny this history and for that reason, with all humility and with all emphasis I can command I say that sooner the North-East Frontier is brought within the orbit of Assam Administration it will be better not only for Assam and North-East Frontier Agency, but for the whole of India. Then and then only there will be one united Hill and Plain State which will be a bulwark against any outward aggression.

Next, speaking of floods it is a fact that recently earthquake and flood have done the greatest havoc to the State both economically and otherwise. Therefore the attention of the Governor has been drawn to that and we are thankful to him for telling us what has been done on this very important question. The only point I should like to raise is that for the last 7 or 8 years, I believe, a party of the Government of India, Survey Department was possibly doing all the hydrological survey and other things to ascertain how far the tributaries of the Brahmaputra could be controlled and I am informed that they have already submitted their report to the Government of India and it is possibly to the knowledge of our Government of Assam also. Whatever

it may be, I am informed that they find that it is quite possible to control scientifically some of these rivers and if that is done, the havoc done by the Brahmaputra might be less and less.

Mr. SPEAKER : What are the rivers ?

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN : I met the party and they mentioned Kopili, Na-Dehing and some other rivers. I think if these rivers can be controlled that will not only save us from these flood havoc but will also bless us with many other things. For example, electricity might be generated as well as lands might be irrigated.

Mr. SPEAKER : What will be the cost?

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN : I am not concerned with the cost, I am concerned with the result. As I stated above, for the last 7 or 8 years all these havocs have been created by the Brahmaputra but no such big project has been taken even in the Five-Year Plan of the State of Assam. I should say that it is an unfortunate thing and we must with one voice press the Government of India to take up some of the schemes at any cost. That is what I feel and I feel it because we are paying our quota more than what can be demanded by the Centre. Practically, all the benefits from tea, oil, coal, etc. which should have otherwise come to us are going to the Centre before our eyes. This unjust and inequitable practice should not continue any longer; there must be a principle of distribution of profits.

Mr. SPEAKER : You have got the Finance Commission to distribute profits.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN : They have distributed but we are not benefited.

Mr. SPEAKER : It is a Tribunal and it cannot do anything unjust.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN : But they are not doing us justice in the distribution; because the money which should have come to us is going to the Centre.

Therefore, we have every right to put forward our demand for more benefits. If any present rules stand in the way they might be changed but we cannot suffer for want

of certain procedure or for the existence of certain rules which stand in the way of our getting more. We only suggest that these rules should be changed to our advantage because we are going to build up not only a socialistic pattern of society but, as the Congress has this time used the word, also a socialist structure to that end. To that end, we must put our heads together and think seriously and tell frankly what we need to develop a Socialist State. By every reason logic is on our side, sentiment is on our side and economy is on our side. Therefore we must get some funds so that these schemes could be put into execution in order to help us to establish a Socialist State in Assam.

As regards food we have improved much. We are not a deficit State just now. It is to the credit of the Government and the policy they have followed to save us from all these troubles that we have been spared from a kind of a famine that stared at our face. But regarding the grow-more-food campaign, irrigation projects and few other schemes for which lot of his money has been spent, I may suggest that this money should be spent in a rational way, in an economic way. At present I can say without fear of contradiction that the money which has been spent on the Grow More Food campaign and other campaigns have not been very carefully and economically spent. I should like to suggest to the Government that a method should be found out so that there may not be waste of money in these campaigns.

Next, I like to say something about the displaced persons. Recently we have found that the higher authorities from the Centre have been satisfied with what has been done by our Government. There is no complaint about that. They rather extolled the Government by saying that the Assam Government has been doing as much as they can. But, Sir, there is another side of the picture. Off and on, in spite of our Government doing so much for these people, there has been severe criticism against the Government by a section of the Press. But I may tell them that we always treat these people with sympathy and consideration. When they first came here I myself in this very Assembly Hall clearly said, "if the Pakistan Government is not in a position to ensure the safety and security of the minority community they should shift that burden to us but the Pakistan Government should cede certain portion of their Pakistani land on the border of west Bengal where those minorities may be migrated and the Muslim population may be shifted to Dacca side". That

was my demand (*Loud Laughter*). That is not a question of laughter, it is a vital thing to us. You are quite safe in your own way but these evacuees must be placed somewhere so that they may not be always a burden to other people.

Why Pakistan should not part with a piece of land? They have not been able to protect our minorities, they have gone back upon their word, they have established an Islamic Republic and no other community can feel that it is their home land. Therefore, when they have established an Islamic Republic.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Phookan, you should not go on criticising another State. This is beyond our jurisdiction. You cannot speak above whether another State should cede a part of their territory or not. This is transgressing beyond our scope. You can only discuss whether the refugees have been properly treated or not.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: All right, Sir. At the present moment there are displaced persons in this State. They have been displaced by a political policy. But there are also other persons here, who have been displaced by the mighty Brahmaputra and other rivers and by the last great earthquake. These people should also be treated on equal basis with the other displaced persons so far as rehabilitation is concerned.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is one difficulty, Mr. Phookan, refugee rehabilitation is a Central responsibility and this Government acts according to the direction of the Centre. But the eroded people are the responsibility of the State Government. So, their case is different. With regard to refugees, we carry out the directions given by the Centre. We should feel sympathy for the refugees from East Pakistan and should do our best.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: In that case, I humbly suggest that our displaced persons should receive the same consideration in the hands of our Government. Our Government might say that the position of our people is not better and, therefore, we cannot accommodate any number of refugees, who may come from East Pakistan. Of course, we have sympathy for them.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Will you please take your seat? You are again straying away. This is also a matter for the Centre. They have, through their experts, investigated what

number we can absorb. They have accordingly fixed a quota which we should fulfil. Of course, I do not know much about it. The Chief Minister will reply to this.

Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN: But I have every right to speak on behalf of my people. There is no land for larger number of outsiders. This is my firm conviction. I have a duty to those whom I represent here and on behalf of them I have the right to say that unless the eroded people are rehabilitated no land should be given to outsiders.

Then, as regards industries, Sir, we have got no big industry. We shall not also be able to establish big industries during the Second Five Year Plan period. Therefore, we should think about complete ruralisation of our village side. Let the 20,000 villages of Assam be first organised to their fullest extent and then we can think about industries. Some industry here and some industry there will not benefit the people in the villages. Therefore, Sir, since we have not been able to establish regular industrial concerns in the First Plan period, I should suggest that during the Second Five Year Plan period the wiser and more prudent policy would be to concentrate on village intensively. The Government should take every village as a unit for rehabilitation and every village should be so built up that the Ram Rajya, of which we talk off and on, may be coming to our people sooner than we imagine. A patchwork of industries will not solve the problem of this State, which is called by everybody as a problem State. We always deem this as a problem State and we always plead our helplessness to solve our problems. At any rate, I have no capacity or authority to solve these problems, but I have got every right to say that the people will suffer if the power that be does not take precaution from now to build up the country from the bottom. When we have got no big industries, let us undertake ruralisation of all the villages. I myself feel that it is high time for thinking on those lines.

Then, as regards the land policy, the less said the better. I know how the Adhiars Protection Act is working. It is not working for the benefit of those for whom it was enacted. I can cite hundreds of instances to illustrate my point. At any rate, I do not believe in intermediaries between the Government and the actual tiller of the soil. I have always maintained that the intermediaries should be wiped out. There should not be any patch-work in this matter. When we are abolishing the Zemindaries, when we are abolishing the big Rajas and

Maharajas, we must not allow any intermediary between the tiller of the soil and the Government. (*The bell rang*). Every village should be taken as unit for the purpose of land distribution and the Government should find out how much land the village has and how many families have to be supported. After utilising the land available, the surplus man-power should be diverted to small cottage industries and things of this kind. That will solve this problems. Otherwise, giving some land here and some land there will not do. That will only be throwing dust in the eyes of the people and will not solve the problem.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to support the amendment moved by my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya. Sir, it is a very important time. We are in a transition period, we have completed our First Five Year Plan and entering into the Second Plan. I would therefore first speak about the Government policies enunciated by the Governor in his Address regarding the Second Five-Year Plan. I say this is important because we have gathered much experience during the First Five-Year Plan period and our future plan should be chalked out in such a way that all the failures and shortfalls of the First Plan period should be checked. In the last part of his Address, the Governor said "Suffice it to say that significant advances have been made in all directions and all efforts have been steadfastly directed towards the stupendous task of creating a Welfare State free from disease, poverty, want and ignorance."

Now, I ask the Members of this House to pause for a while and to say what is the real state of affairs. How many rural dispensaries we have opened during the First Five Year Plan period and how many crores and lakhs of rupees have been spent for the amelioration of the sufferings by way of medical treatment of the rural areas?

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the number of our dispensaries?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: I have not the figure with me now. We know that we have incurred huge expenditure for the Assam Medical College. This is an investment for our future generation.

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister): Are you not getting doctors?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Yes, we may get in the future but for the present, what have you done for the medical treatment in our rural areas? Poverty is still rampant there. Price of commodities is almost the same, if not higher, while cost of living increased manifold. The mass people of the country are still in rags. Then, how can you say that there is remarkable improvement in the economic condition of our mass people? If you look round Assam, can you say that we are progressing towards socialistic pattern of society, which is the aim of our Government? The gulf of disparity of wealth is increasing between one section of the people and the other and this is more evident in the first Five Year Plan period. Glaring inequalities of wealth and of opportunity can never be reconciled with any ideas of Socialism. Luxury in one part is anti-social and dangerous by the side of the national poverty in another part. In saying so the Prime Minister made a frank admission that this gulf of economic development is being widened between prosperous and less prosperous States inside the country. There are prosperous States and less prosperous States, namely, States like, West Bengal, Bihar, U. P., Madras and Bombay are quite prosperous, and States like, Orissa and Assam are lagging behind—this the disparity which was in existence in 1950-51 has been aggravated during the first Five Year Plan period. This is the first point of disparity.

Secondly, Sir, let us come to individuals. Disparity in this sphere is also increasing. We have seen the *per capita* income of the country as a whole which has gone to 18 per cent, whereas the target was 11 per cent. Our Assam's *per capita* income has increased only by 5.5 per cent during the first plan period. Is it not a clear proof of big disparity compared with other regions of the country? Let us consider the disparity in and individual cases. There is little doubt that this disparity of wealth between one individual and another is increasing to a great extent, *e. g.*, redistribution of land is not working satisfactorily, it has taken a belated start.

Ratio between minimum and maximum salaries even in Government services presents a glaring contrast to that obtaining in the countries of the west. Is it not interesting to note that huge disparity exists even in Government services under a Government run by Congress who professed Rs. 500 as maximum pay?

Sir, the other day, Shri B. R. Bhagat, Deputy Finance Minister of the Government of India, while addressing a meeting organised by the backward Classes' Union of Delhi,

expressed the view that the development undertaken in the first Five-Year Plan had accentuated the social and economic inequalities. Many Central Ministers who were present in that meeting could not refute the view.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Where from the hon. Member has got that ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: This is from the proceedings of a meeting.

Shri Chintaman Deshmukh, Finance Minister wanted to side track the issue by saying that the provision made for the Backward Classes Community is not bad.

Thus we see that wealth during this plan period is being accumulated in the hands of a fortunate few, whereas, the poor section of the people are daily growing poorer.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Das, does this apply to this State also ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Certainly, our plan is based upon the Central Plan. It is the general disparity of individuals, in every State.

Mr. SPEAKER: What about this State ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Naturally, here the disparity will be bigger ; this is the case with our State also. I will be coming to that also.

It has been stated at page 21 of the Governor's Address that this Government envisaged an expenditure of Rs. 290.7 crores in preparation of the Second Five Year Plan, but the Government of India ultimately fixed it at Rs. 59.39 crores say Rs. 60 crores. This is a sad commentary. The estimated expenditure of Rs. 290.7 crores say, Rs. 300 crores, envisaged by our Government in order to achieve the barest minimum of our economic target. Please note the words. "barest minimum". It was meant to raise the *per capita* income and employment in the State to the necessary minimum by expecting to spend Rs. 290.7 crores. The result which would have been achieved by spending 300 crores would mean to meet the bare minimum, to improve the economic condition of our poorer section to some extent, but whereas, we have

been given only about 60 crores. Now, the question is if we get a bare minimum result by spending 300 crores we would be getting one-fifth of that bare minimum by spending 60 crores in the Second Plan. To fulfil the bare minimum as stated above we shall require 5 more plans, in other words, 25 years more to give our people a bare minimum economic holding. It is a purely mathematical calculation and in it there can not be any question from the other side of the House. What have we achieved in the first Five Year Plan, we will discuss later.

So it is fully clear that another Five Year Plan, *i. e.*, 25 years will be necessary to give the people of Assam the minimum requirement according to the figures supplied by the Government. Now, Sir, let us see. In the first Five Year Plan we have seen that the target has not been achieved. We have spent near about 23 crores of rupees with what result? Let it be judged by all the Members who are present here. I do not deny that Government have done some good works. Government has also spent a considerable amount in some good works and also they have made investment for future development of the country. But for the present nothing substantial has been done. We can only appreciate the work of Government so far as flood control measures are concerned. Of course there are no major schemes or River Valley schemes. I would now refer to rivetment work which has been done in Dibrugarh, has become successful. I must thank the Government for doing successfully good work in Dibrugarh and thereby saved a lot of trouble over there. And also, Sir, I have seen from personal experience that in major irrigation and some minor irrigation works, for example putting of *bunds*, etc., to check erosion here and there, some substantial works have been done by the Government. But the trouble is with regard to minor irrigation works which come under the Agriculture Department. I do not mean that the Public Works Department and E. & D. Department have not done good work in this regard. But what I mean is with regard to small irrigation work that comes within the Agriculture Department. The trouble here is that there is no supervision and no correct data. In some cases even false certificates are given—where the work actually cost 500 rupees, a certificate was given for 1,000 rupees and other such things. So Government.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Where do you find it?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Can you cite specific instances ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: I can give the instances, if required. What I want to suggest to Government is that they should tighten up the machinery so far as minor irrigation works are concerned.

Mr. SPEAKER: No, can you give specific instances of your charge ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Lack of supervision, trained personnel like overseers and such like things, is the trouble in this Department.

Now, Sir, let me come to food. It has been stated by the Governor in his Address that the food position is very good so far as our State is concerned. Sir, I cannot accept this statement as wholly correct that the prices of imported foodstuffs remain fairly stable. Sir, the position of Cachar district, the Lushai Hills and North Cachar and also part of Tripura—which does not come within our Province, is still very difficult. These places are entirely dependant for their supply of essential commodities in the market of Karimganj. But during the dry season the position of Karimganj market becomes very bad because we get our goods from Calcutta and 80 per cent of these goods generally come by steamer. During the dry season big steamers cannot ply on the rivers because they are dried up and only small barges could ply. So you can easily imagine, Sir, what quantity of food can be brought by these small barges. On the other hand only about 20 per cent of our goods can come *via* the Link Line,

Sir, I shall explain by facts and figures which I have taken from the Merchants Association of Karimganj how the prices of essential commodities are going up. This position has become a permanent feature for five to six months every year during winter gravity since last four or five years. Sir, you will realise the of the situation if we take the population into consideration. About 15 lakhs of population of the area.....

Mr. SPEAKER: What area ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Cachar, Lushai Hills and North Cachar.

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the population of Cachar ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: About 11 lakhs. So, Sir, about 15 lakhs of these population in that area were taxed heavily during these three or four years.

Mr. SPEAKER: Tax in freight you mean ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Yes, in everything, Sir, because when we have to pay heavily in prices for these essential commodities, it means indirect taxation and this position, as I have said, prevails for the most part of the year. I want to explain the position in detail so that Government will taken up the matter and help to ease the situation.

Now Sir, sugar—the usual price is from Rs. 30 to Rs. 31 per maund, it has gone up to Rs. 40. Salt from Rs. 8/4/- per bag it has gone up to Rs. 11 and it is still going up. As you know Sir, our merchants used to purchase salt from Calcutta in huge quantity, but they are not getting wagons to transport it which helps to the rise in price. Mustard oil—the usual price in the whole State is between 45 to 50 rupees per maund and now it has gone up to Rs.60, I am afraid it will still be going up. Regarding Atta, there is absolutely no stock, and flour the price is Rs. 24, but.....

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Is this in your area ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: In the whole area which is dependent on Karimganj market because, as I have said, during the dry season goods are being carried by trucks from Karimganj. So, Sir, this abnormal rise in prices of essential commodities in this area is not an accident, it has become a permanent feature of our State. When some unforeseen calamity happens in the State like flood or of other natural calamities and thereby there is increase in prices of foodstuffs ; we would not consider it as serious but if in the absence of these causes, the same thing is prevailing every year since the last five or six years, it is a matter for serious thought. The Steamer Company is reluctant to do any improvement because it is a monopoly Company which is doing service on that line. The position of Steamer service in the Brahmaputra is different. It is not under a monopoly Company and river is navigable throughout the year.

Further it has been stated by the Governor in his Address that we are getting our goods through Pakistan by rail. Sir, you will be surprised to hear that the Governor

does not keep correct information about his State. With effect from 23rd January the booking of goods *via* Pakistan had been suddenly stopped by Pakistan Government and the position has again been reverted. The Steamer Company in dry season only carries 4 to 5 hundred maunds of goods in comparison 6 to 8 thousand maunds of goods everyday during the rainy season. Sir, you can well understand by this about the plight of our people and how can we satisfy ourselves with 4 to 5 hundred maunds in place of 6 to 8 thousand maunds everyday. I would, Sir, request the Government to take up this matter with the Pakistan authorities because it has become permanent feature in that area where 15 lakhs of our population are affected.

So far as sugar and salt are concerned, I am told by the Supply Minister that there is an *ad hoc* quota from the Central Pool Reserve at Gauhati and some supply will be made to Karimganj from Gauhati and some extra wagons for the merchants of that area will be placed so that they could bring particularly sugar, salt and oil, from Calcutta *via* Link which are the essential commodities for our people.

Sir, next I come to the Naga problem. It has been stated by the Governor in his Address that all peaceful means to solve the Naga problem had failed and Government has taken stern measures towards the Naga people. If we carefully look into the State of affairs in the Naga Hills, we will find that a reign of terror is going on in the Naga Hills District; in other words, miniature form of war is going on in the Naga Hills where the the Nagas are said to have been using deadly weapons and our Government also have been requisitioning Army for this purpose. I do not know what would be the ultimate result, but I would only like to quote few words as stated by the representative of the "Statesman" who visited the areas, sometime back probably within two or three months. He has visited North-East Frontier Agency, the Naga Hills District under the administration of the Assam Government. He is not an ordinary type of representative. He is the person who accompanied the Prime Minister of India in his Russian tour. He said that the administration of the Naga Hills District under the Assam Government is much inferior than in North-East Frontier Agency. How far it is true I do not know. But it is a report from a very responsible journalist not yet contradicted by our Government, as such I may take that as correct

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Sir, what happened in Parliament is not our look out. The report is an unauthorised one.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: But the fact remains the same that things are not going on well. Sir, what I would like to place before the Chief Minister is that he should not entirely depend on these third rate officers, but he should see things by himself.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Das, you please send that report to the Chief Minister if you get the report. You may place a copy of the report in the Library also.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Why, Sir? Does he not read Statesman? It is really a shame on our part that our Chief does not keep correct information. Regarding border problem, I want to speak a few words because I come from the border areas. Fortunately or unfortunately, Mr. Mookerjee was also there at the time of firing incident by Pakistanis in Bhangabazar area on the border. The fact is that there was incessant firing continued for two or three days.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it blank fire?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: I do not know whether it is blank fire. But so far I know a blank fire does not kill a man. There had been two deaths.

The firing was continued for two or three days when survey was going on in the disputed areas. The area is situated on the border. The Pakistanis fired at the time when it was about 5 to 5-30 p. m. in the evening. They killed some of our men. Somebody says they have killed two and others say they have killed three including one armed guard. I understand the difficulty of our Government in dealing with the Pakistan Government which is a foreign State. But still I hope that the Government will take special care as a panicky situation had already been created by this incident throughout the Karimganj border. The two Deputy Commissioners from Sylhet and Cachar respectively met together and discussed the matter and a declaration on cease fire was made. But I do not know how far this cease fire will be maintained. So we should be very careful if we want to save the people and

also to protect them from the border troubles, Sir, I do not like to say anything about merger of other areas with Assam at the present moment. We shall deal with it fully while we shall consider the Report of Government of India.

With these few words, Sir, I support the Motion moved by my friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ এই সদনত মাননীয় ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ে, সিদিনা যি ভাষণ দিলে তাক মই সম্পূৰ্ণ সমৰ্থন কৰিছো আৰু তাৰ বাবে তেখেতক ধন্যবাদ জনাওঁ। ইয়াৰ লগতে এই প্ৰসঙ্গত শ্ৰীযুত বৰা ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো শলাগণি, প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিছে সেইটোৰ প্ৰতি আস্থা জ্ঞাপন কৰি আনহাতে বিৰোধী দলৰ পৰা ইয়াৰ ওপৰত তোলা নানা বৰকমৰ অবাস্তৱ বাদ প্ৰতিবাদ বিলাকৰ তীব্ৰ প্ৰতিবাদ কৰো। কাৰণ জনসাধাৰণৰ আস্থা আৰু সহানুভূতিৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি তেওঁবিলাকক প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব কৰিবলৈ আহি এই সদনৰ ভিতৰত এই বিলাক বাদানুবাদ বিৰোধীদলৰ পক্ষে শোভনীয় হলেও জনসাধাৰণৰ কাৰণে হিতকৰ হয়নে নহয়, দেশৰ বৃহত স্বৰ্থ বক্ষাৰ পথত মঙ্গল জনক হয়নে নহয় তাকেই মই ফঁহিয়াই দেখুৱাম, বিশেষকৈ শ্ৰীযুত ভটাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ শ্ৰীযুত বৰা ডাঙৰীয়াই অন্য মূল প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ ওপৰত আনিছে সেইটোৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি।

শ্ৰীযুত ভটাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াই তেওঁৰ সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰি বহুতো অপ্ৰাসঙ্গিক কথাৰ অবতাৰণা কৰিছে আৰু সেইবিলাক যদি প্ৰতিবাদ কৰা নহয় তেনেহলে অন্যায় কৰা হব।

প্ৰথমতে তেখেতে, দ্বিতীয় পঞ্চবাৰ্ষিকী পৰিকল্পনাত পাবলগীয়া টকাৰ পৰিমাণ কম হোৱা বা আৱশ্যকীয় পৰিমাণে আমি নাই পোৱা বুলি নানা প্ৰকাৰে নানা ভাবে ইতিকিঃ কৰি অসম চৰকাৰক শেংটো আৰু ফেচাটোৰ লগত তুলনা কৰিছে। তেখেতে এই কথা জনা উচিত যে, ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ পৰিকল্পনা আয়োগে এটা মূল নীতিৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰিছে ভাৰতৰ সকলো ৰাজ্যকে অৰ্থৰ যোগান ধৰিছে। সেই মূলনীতিৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি জনসংখ্যা অনুযায়ী আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ ভাগত যিটো অংশ পৰিছে সেইটো আমি পাইছো বুলি জানো। আজি তেখেতে বিহাৰ বঙ্গ আদি প্ৰদেশৰ লোক সংখ্যা যদি বিজাই চাই তেনেহলে আমাৰ লোক সংখ্যা অনুপাতে আমি বেচি টকা পাইছো। কিন্তু আমাৰ চৰকাৰে একো কৰিব পৰা নাই বুলি তেখেতে আমাৰ চৰকাৰক গৰিহণা দিছে। কিন্তু ভালকৈ ভাবি চালে তেখেতে নিজেই বুজি পাব ইয়াত চৰকাৰক গৰিহণা দিবৰ একো নাই।

তাৰ পাচত শিল্প ক্ষেত্ৰতো চৰকাৰে একো কৰা নাই বুলি চৰকাৰক দোষাৰোপ কৰি নানা বৰকমে নিন্দা কৰিছে। কিন্তু তেখেতে ভাবি চাইছেনে যে বৃটিছৰ দিনত আমাৰ অসমত কি শিল্প আছিল, আৰু এতিয়া কি হৈছে? সেই সময়ত বোম্বাই, মাদ্ৰাজ, কলিকতা, আহমেদাবাদ আদিত শিল্পই বহুখিনি আগ বাঢ়ি আছিল। গতিকে যেতিয়া আন আন প্ৰদেশে ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ উৰা জাহাজ, বেলৰ ইঞ্জিন আদি কাৰখানাৰ কথা ভাবে তেতিয়া আমি ভাবিব লগিয়া হৈছে চেনিৰ কল, কাগজৰ কাৰখানা আৰু মৰাপাট বা কাপোৰৰ মিলৰ কথা আৰু তাকেই আমি কৰিবলৈ লৈছোঁ, এতিয়া গতিকে আন প্ৰদেশে যদি চিঞ্জি কাৰখানাৰ কথা ভাবে তেতিয়া আমি ভাবিব লগিয়া হয় ৰাস্তা বন্ধাৰ কথা। লোকে ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ শিল্পৰ কথা ভাবোতে আমি ভাবিব লাগে বৃহৎপুত্ৰৰ দলঙৰ কথা। আমাৰ কিছু দিনৰ আগতে এনেকুৱা সময়ো আছিল যে P. W. D ৰ মহাৰ কামৰ বাবে বাহিৰৰ পৰা মানুহ আনিব লগীয়া হৈছিল। আজি আমি যিবা

উন্নত প্রজেক্ট লৈছে। তাতে আমাৰ বিশেষজ্ঞ যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে দিব পৰা নাই। বাহিৰা বৈজ্ঞানিক বিশেষজ্ঞ আনিব লগিয়া হৈছে। কিন্তু ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াৰ নিচিনা মানুহে আকৌ ইফালেও দোষ ধৰে সিফালেও দোষ ধৰে। যদি কোৱা হয় যে বৈজ্ঞানিক বিশেষজ্ঞৰ অভাবত কাম লব পৰা নাই, তেতিয়া কব বাহিবৰ পৰা মানুহ অনাই নকৰে কিয়? আকৌ যদি বাহিবৰ পৰা আমেৰিকা জাৰ্মান বা বাৰ্শিয়াৰ পৰা মানুহ অনাই কিবা এটা কৰিব খুজিলে কব যে দেশখন বিদেশীক বিক্ৰী কৰিবলৈ ওলাইছে। গতিকে আমাৰ অসুবিধা বহুতেই আছে। টকা যদি সবহকৈ পালো হেতেন তেতিয়া বা কি হল হয় টকা খিনি কামত খটুৱাব নোৱাৰিলো—হেতেন কালত টকা পানীতহে পেলোৱা হলহেতেন। মানুহৰ অভাবত আৰু তেওঁলোকেই inflation হোৱা বুলি কলেহেতেন গতিকে যিহকে ইচ্ছা তাকে কোৱাৰ আগতে কথা বোৰ ভাবি চোৱা উচিত।

তেখেতে কৈছে যে মাটিহীন মানুহক মাটি দিব লাগে, আৰু তৎক্ষণাত্ দিব লাগে। চৰকাৰ ভগবান নহয় যে মাটি তৈয়াৰ কৰিব। মাটিৰো এটা limit আছে। মাটি সমস্যাটো অতি গুৰুতৰ সমস্যা, এই সমস্যা সমাধানত বহুতো বিবেচনা কৰিব লগিয়া আছে। এই কাম সুচিন্তিত ভাবে কৰিব লাগিব। তথাপিও চৰকাৰে মাটিহীন মানুহক মাটি নিদিয়াকৈতো থকা নাই। অকল কাকী ফৰেষ্টৰ পৰাই ১ লাখ বিঘাৰো বেচি মাটি দিয়া হৈছে। সেইদৰে 'Waste Land' ৰ পৰা এক লাখ ৫১ হাজাৰ বিঘা দিয়া হৈছে। সুৱন খাটা বিজাৰ্ভৰ পৰা ৯ হাজাৰ বিঘা মাটি দিয়া হৈছে। অ'ত ত'ত পৰিখকা মাটিৰ পৰাও পায় ৩৪ লাখ বিঘা মাটি বিতৰণ কৰা হৈছে। মোৰ ঘৰৰ ওচৰতে থকা সুৱনখাটা বিজাৰ্ভ, লক্ষীমপুৰৰ ফিলোবাৰী আদিতো যথেষ্ট মাটি বিতৰণ কৰিছে। মোটৰ ওপৰত যতে সুবিধা পাইছে ততে মাটি দিয়েই আছে। সেই কাৰণে ভাবি চাব লাগিব যে কেবল চৰকাৰক দোষাবোপ কৰিলেই দেখৰ কাম কৰা নহয়। (Voice শুনক ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য শুনক) তাৰ দ্বাৰা বাইজৰ অনিষ্ট কৰাহে হব। অৱশ্যে তেখেতে যেতিয়া শুনিলে যে গুৱাহাটীৰ উপনিৰ্বাচনত কংগ্ৰেছে ১৬ হাজাৰ ভোট বেচি পালে, সেয়ে তেখেতক হতাশ কৰা স্বাভাৱিক কাৰণ ১৬ হাজাৰ ভোটত হৰা এটা ডাঙৰ কথা। সেই কাৰণে বিবৃততই যিহকে পায় তাকে কৈছেহি। সেই কাৰণে মই ক্ষমা কৰিছো।

আৰু এটা কথা তেখেতে কৈছে যে মানুহৰ মানদণ্ড হ্রাস হৈছে। কিন্তু তেখেতে যদি গাৱে গাৱে ধুবি চালেহেতেন তেনেহলে বুজিব পাৰিলেহেতেন মানুহৰ মানদণ্ড বাঢ়িছেনে কমিছে! আজিকালি গাঁৱত মানুহে এমাইল বাটো খোজ কাটি নাযায়, চাৰিওফালে বাছ চাৰ্ভিস আছে তাতেই যায় আগেয়েতো বেলেত যাবলৈকে পইছা নাছিল মানুহৰ। তাৰ মানে বুজা যায় মানুহৰ হাতত পয়চা বাঢ়িছে—কমা নাই। গতিকে মই কও মানদণ্ড কমি নাই বৰং বাঢ়িছেহে। *Per capita* ২৫৬ টকা যে হৈছে সেইকথা বোধ কৰো তেখেতেও জানে।

তেখেতে আৰু এটা কথা কৈছে যে বৃটিছৰ তলত থকা চাহ বাগিছাবিলাকত এটা Discriminatory Tax বহুৱাব লাগে। কিন্তু তেখেতে নেজানে যে বৰ্তমান কংগ্ৰেছ চৰকাৰৰ নীতি অনুসাবে কোনো ভাৰতবাসী বা অভাৰতবাসীৰ প্ৰতি Discrimination হব নোৱাৰে। এয়েই কংগ্ৰেছ চৰকাৰৰ বৈশিষ্ট। ইয়াত হীনদেৱী ভাব বিবল। তেখেতক মই সোৱবাই দিও যে আজি বাৰ্শিয়াতো সেই বক্ষণশীল ষ্টেলিন নীতি বৰ্তমান কমিউনিষ্টৰ নাই। আজি মিঃ বুলগেনীনেও ভাৰত, ব্ৰহ্ম, ইংলেণ্ড আদৰ লগত বন্ধুত্ব পাতিবলৈ বাগ্ৰ হৈ পৰিছে। বাৰ্শিয়াৰ নেতা দুজনে আহিও ইয়াত মত প্ৰকাশ কৰিছে যে ভাৰতে আজি ৭ বছৰৰ ভিতৰত যি উন্নতি কৰিছে সি ইতিহাসত নোহোৱা কথা। ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়া সেই বাৰ্শিয়াৰে চেলা হৈ সেই কথাৰ বিৰূপ কৰিছে—মই বৰ আচৰিত হৈছো।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take strong objection to the use of words like 'Chela' and other things. I am here to represent the Gauhati Constituency and not as anybody's 'Chela'.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Basumatari, please do not use the word 'Chela' because it is improper.

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: But Sir, he himself announced that he was a member of the Communist Party. If, however, he now denounces his profession, I shall no longer use that word.

তাৰ পিচত তেখেতে কৈছে যে, বাইজৰ Economic condition বহুতো ক্ষেত্ৰত তললৈ গৈছে। জনসাধাৰণৰ মানদণ্ডৰ এটা পৰিসীমা নিৰ্দ্ধাৰিত কৰা দৰ্কাৰ। কিন্তু তাক কৰিবলৈ কোনো পৰামৰ্শ তেখেতে আগবঢ়োৱা নাই।

তেখেতে আকৌ কয় যে Displaced person ব কাৰণে চৰকাৰে একো কৰা নাই তেখেতে গাৱৰ যেই সেই মিটিঙত গলে শুনিব আমাৰ ডুমিহীন গাৱলীয়া খেতিয়ক সকলে চিঞৰি চিঞৰি কৈ থাকে যে "Displaced person বিলাকহে আপোনালোকৰ বুকুৰ কুটুম। তেওলোকক চাৰিওফালে মাটি দিছে। আমাৰ পিনে একো নাই। আমাৰ কি হ'ব।" আমিও উপলব্ধি কৰো যে আমাৰ ডুমিহীন সকলক আমি একো কৰিব পৰা নাই অথচ বহিবাগতক সংস্থাপন কৰোতেই আমাৰ মাটি নাইকিয়া হ'ল। এনেস্থলত তেখেতে এই বাইজ সকলৰ বিৰুদ্ধে কেনেকৈ অভিযোগ কৰিছে মই আচৰিত হৈছো। আমাৰ বুজিবলৈ বাকী নাই যে তেখেতে সেই বহিবাগত সকলৰ হকে কোৱা নাই তেখেতে নিজৰ হক অক্ষুণ্ণ ৰাখিবলৈ তেওলোকক মাত্ৰ উচঠাইছে।

তেখেতক মই জনাও যে অকল Displaced person বিলাকেই নহয়— সকলোৱে আমাৰ বন্ধু। আমাৰ মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই প্ৰত্যেক আলাপ আলোচনাতেই ভালকৈ স্পষ্ট কৰি দেখুৱাইছে যে আমি কেনেকৈ সকলোৰে লগত মিলান্ৰীতি, সৎভাৱ ৰখাৰ যত্ন কৰিছো। আমি মণিপুৰ, ত্ৰিপুৰা আদিকো সৎভাৱে আজি আমাৰ মাজত আকোৱালী লবলৈ বিছাৰিছো। এয়ে হ'ল আমাৰ কংগ্ৰেছ নীতি। আজি আমাক যেনে অবিশ্বাস চকুৰে চাইছে কালি তেওলোকে আমাৰ সৌহাৰ্দ্য-পূৰ্ণতাক বিশ্বাস কৰিব লাগিব। তেনেকৈ সুদূৰৰ বৃটিছে আহি আমাক সেই বন্ধুত্বৰ সূত্ৰ ইমান দিন ব্যৱধান কৰি ৰাখিছিল divide and rule নীতি লৈ। কিন্তু অসমীয়া মানুহ হৈও যে এই সামান্য কথাখিনি তেখেতে নুবুজিলে তেখেতে এই কথাৰে সমগ্ৰ অসমীয়াৰ ন্যায্য কৰিছেনে অন্যায্য কৰিছে তাক বাইজে বিচাৰ কৰিব। ইয়াৰ তথ্য বোধকৰো প্ৰথমে তেখেতে ভাৰতীয় হৈ ভাবে তাৰ পিচত অসমীয়াৰ প্ৰতি ভাবে আৰু শেহত তেখেতৰ গৌহাটী কণ্ঠটিউৱেঞ্চিৰ হকে ভাবে।

ৰাজ্য পুনৰ্গঠণ আয়োগৰ সিদ্ধান্ত মতে অসমৰ সীমা আৰু স্থিতি নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰি দিছে। ইয়াত তেখেতৰ কি কবলগীয়া আছে আমি বুজি নাপাওঁ। তেখেতে হেনো শুনিছে যে বেঙ্গল, বিহাৰ আৰু উৰিষ্যা সংলগ্ন হ'বলৈ ওলাইছে। সেই কথা স্বতন্ত্ৰ। এই স্মৰিকা লৈয়ে যদি তেখেতে আমাকো গালিগপনি পাৰে তেন্তে আমাৰ কবলৈ নাই। কাৰণ দেশৰ মতামত লোৱাৰ পিছত সেইবোৰ কৰা নকৰাৰ কথা আহিব।

তেখেতে পিচত চাহকৰ্মী সকলৰ কথা কৈছে। তেওলোকে আজি কি পাইছে? যি ঠাইত একোজনো দিনে চাৰিঅনাকৈ পাইছিল তাত তেওলোকে আজি এটকা, বাৰঅনাকৈ পাইছে। যিঠাইত মাহে ৩০ টকাকৈ পাইছিল তাত আজি ১০০ টকালৈ পাইছে। এনেস্থলত তেখেতে যাতে কিছুমান অবাস্তব কথা ভবিষ্যতে নকয় তাৰ কাৰণে তেখেতক মই অনুবোধ জনাওঁ।

ইয়াকে কৈ মই আমাৰ বৰা ডাঙৰীয়াৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সৰ্বাস্তঃকৰণে সমৰ্থন কৰিছো আৰু ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াৰ সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ যোৰ বিৰোধিতা কৰিছো।

Shri DALBIR SINGH LOHAR: চাহবনুৱা সকলে বেচি পায় নেকি ?

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: বেচি পোৱা বুলি কোৱা নাই। বেচি পাব লাগে বুলিহে কৈছো। কাৰণ আয় চাই হে ব্যয় কৰিব পাৰে। কিন্তু লাহে লাহে বহুত কৰা হৈছে। মূল কথা হৈছে তেওঁলোকৰ শিক্ষাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: কাগজ পত্ৰ পঢ়িব অলপ।

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: কাগজ পত্ৰ বোধ কৰো তেখেতকৈ বেচি পঢ়ো Sir, তেখেতৰ দৰে এটা পঢ়ি আনটো কোৱা মই নহওঁ।

Shri PRABHAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take my stand to support the Motion moved by Shri Bimala Kanta Bara and to oppose the amendment that was moved by Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. Because I feel that the allegations that were brought by Shri Bhattacharyya while moving his amendment were all vague and almost all of them were baseless. If we survey the various developmental works that have already been done and those that are being taken up in hand, we cannot but admit that at no other period of the long and chequered history of this country such concerted and all round efforts were made, both by the Government and the people, to make the State happy and prosperous. We know, Sir, in the face of the gravest natural calamities such as the earthquake and repeated floods, this Government was able to move forward with a bold programme of economic reconstruction of the country. I feel sure, Sir, this period of development of our country will go down in the history of India as well as that of Assam as the golden age. It is, indeed, gratifying to find that even in spite of the great earthquake and recurrence of floods, every year, our Government was able to execute the schemes under the Five-Year Plan with commendable success, and most of the schemes were executed with unusual

skill and efficiency. We are definitely of the opinion that if our Government can execute the schemes under the Second Five-Year Plan, there will be no cause for anxiety for our people. The roads, the embankments, irrigation channels, the incentive given to our village people to take to and develop our various cottage industries and all round efforts to set up certain big industries including the Co-operative Sugar Mill at Dergaon—these things, to name only a few, bear ample testimony to the earnestness and sincerity of efforts put in by the Government to do good to our people against tremendous odds both in men and material as well as financial. The problem of unemployment, specially of the under matriculates have already drawn the pointed attention of our Government, and I hope this burning problem of the country that has been facing us to-day will be waning in its intensity if the Second Five-Year Plan can be properly executed. Efficiency of the officers for this purpose, at any rate will have to be improved and the charges of corruption that were brought forward by Shri Bhattacharyya would be a thing of the past if our officers and the public try their utmost to check corruption. Unless there is an improvement of our national character, we cannot expect to prosper and meet the demand of the time, which is no doubt the all round development of our country. Therefore, there should be concerted efforts both from the Government as well as from the people themselves to fight against this corruption. Only Government machinery cannot stop this corruption unless there is a move from the people themselves to stop this corrupt practice. Regarding the allotment under the Second Five-Year Plan, Sir, there will be no cause for despair under the dynamic Plan there can be no limit to the finalisation of funds. Let us show our works by proper execution of the schemes which are in our hands, and then proceed to get more and more funds. Sir, we are sure, if we can rise to the occasion, the Central Government will always be with us in our efforts to make Assam happy and prosperous. Lastly, Sir, we must express our gratefulness to the Governor in informing this august House, the people of Assam, his and his Government policy in bringing the whole region to the north east of East Pakistan and also the Government policy towards the Naga Hills.

Mr. SPEAKER : What do you mean by "to the north east of East Pakistan" ?

Shri PRABHAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI : I mean merging of Tripura, Manipur and North East Frontier Agency with the rest of Assam. Sir, we are happy with the policy followed by the Assam Government with regard to the Naga terrorists. The

Naga National Council should prove by their action that they are not with the terrorist activities. In that case our Government will see their way to put an end to the co-ersive measures, so far adopted.

With these few words, Sir, I support the Motion moved by my Friend, Shri Bimla Kanta Borah, and oppose the amendment moved by my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, because I find no sufficient reason for him to request the House to accept his amendment.

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take my stand to support the amendment moved by my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. In the amendment of Shri Bhattacharyya there are 11 items. I shall discuss only a few of them. I am taking the first item. It is true that in the Governor's address there is no mention of any effective measure to be taken by the Government in order to secure the legitimate share in the Second Five-Year Plan. Opposing this item my Friend, Shri Radhika Ram Das, said yesterday on the floor of the House that Assam's legitimate share on the Second Five-Year Plan is Rs. 46 crores on population basis and that we have been given more than our dues, that is, Rs.59.39 crores. But his Government says otherwise. At page 2 of the Revised Draft Second Five-Year Plan of Assam Part III, Supplementary Plan published by the Government of Assam, we are on an area basis. Assam's Plan should be 189 crores against the total outlay of Rs. 4,300 crores. On a population *cum* area basis, the State's share comes to Rs. 148 crores. Against these figures the ceiling of Rs. 59.39 crores fixed for the Assam Plan by the Planning Commission appears wholly inadequate. So, it is clear that Assam has not received the legitimate share of Second Five-Year Plan and in the Governor's Address there is no mention of any effective measure to be taken by the Government for its realisation. Also my Friend, Mr. R. Das, is trying to multiply the stand on his Government and the party.

Second item of the amendment of my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, is about the immediate distribution of land to landless people. This is a vital problem of our State. Lakhs of our landless cultivators are passing their lives without land when there are lands for distribution. But Government is not taking any definite plan regarding the immediate distribution of land to them also there is no mention in the Governor's Address. My hon. Friend, Shri Pratap Chandra Sarma, purporting to oppose the assertion of Mr. Bhattacharyya, supported his thesis; because, he admitted that not only in Kamrup, but in Nowgong also thousands of landless

peasants were evicted, their houses burnt or destroyed and their crops confiscated and sold on the plea that they encroached upon the Government land. In my own constituency this type of eviction has taken place on a large and ruthless scale. What does it indicate? It indicates that lakhs of our peasants are without land. There are lands in the so-called reserves where they can be settled. As Government did not settle them there, they had for their very existence to enter into them. From technical legal point of view they may be encroachers. But does that mean that they are not citizens of this State or that they should not be given an opportunity to live and cultivate for the production of national wealth.?

Now, I come to the fifth item of the amendment of Mr. Bhattacharyya. Yes, Government have not taken any immediate step to check the deteriorating economic condition of the masses. In our State only few people have become richer and richer and the masses have become poorer and poorer. The miserable condition of the Scheduled Caste people living even in town like Barpeta cannot be expressed. Also the cultivators of our State have become poorer and poorer day by day and Government should take some definite effective measures for stopping this economic deterioration.

Now, I come to the seventh item of the amendment of Mr. Bhattacharyya. It is true that Government have not mentioned any effective measure to lighten the burden of taxation of the common man. Rather Government is imposing more and more direct and indirect taxes upon the masses. Also now they are to pay more and more land revenue. In Barpeta Subdivision there was the resettlement operation for the last 8 years. People hoped many things out of it. But instead of everything, only the land revenue is increased and no more. So, we have seen that people are taxed from all directions and in the Governor's Address there is no hint to lighten the burden of taxation over the masses.

In the 8th item Mr. Bhattacharyya has mentioned about the nepotism, corruption and favouritism in the administration. This is not a new thing in the present administration. Mr. Khakhari of the Treasury Bench has rightly mentioned in his speech yesterday. I need not speak more on his point but I must thank him for his free and frank speech.

Government should take effective measures to stop this nepotism, corruption and favouritism in the administration.

Now, I come to the 9th item, that is about the problem of the displaced persons. The East Bengal refugees as well as the river-eroded people are the displaced persons in Assam and for their rehabilitation, immediate effective measure should be taken by the Government. But our Government is doing otherwise. In this connection I like to mention that due to the construction of Adabari-Bahari-Naghor flood embankment, the current of the river Brahmaputra has become stronger and some villages in Mauza Barkhetri in Gauhati Subdivision and also many villages in Barpeta Subdivision were eroded and people become helpless and homeless. The people of the villages Khagrakati, Bagnapute, Rangchar, Puranchaprapare, Godhonichar helplessly took their shelter temporarily in the Bhagnari Professional Grazing Reserve which is just on the opposite side of these villages. The actual area of this Professional Grazing Reserve was 28,000 bighas. Now these villages are eroded and the lands being added to the area of the Professional Grazing Reserve together with the Khas land, the total area has become more than 48,000 bighas of land. So, some portions of the land of this Professional Grazing Reserve can be given to the eroded people of the nearby villages or at least the river eroded people may be allowed to live there temporarily. But instead of rehabilitating them they are evicted and the houses are destroyed and burnt down to ashes. In Barpeta subdivision also, specially in Mauza Bagribari and Baghor, thousands of families have become homeless and helpless due to the erosion of the river, but no definite plan has been made by the Government and there is no mention in the Governor's Address regarding this. Some of the river-eroded people of Bagribari and Baghor Mouzas have taken shelter in the Government Khas lands of Baghor, Jania and Mondia Mouzas. There are 25,000 bighas of Khas land in those Mouzas. It is stated that out of this about 23,000 bighas of land have been reserved for the refugees. There are 1,300 refugee families in Barpeta subdivision and if 10 bighas of land are given to each family then 13,000 bighas will be sufficient for them. The rest of the land can be given to the eroded people. Land will be reserved for people who are not present and the river-eroded people will roam without any shelter. I think this is an injustice done to the eroded people. I hope Government will enquire into the matter and do justice to the eroded people of Barpeta subdivision.

Moreover, due to the construction of Bahari-Baghor flood embankment the currents of the river Brahmaputra have

become stronger and stronger and every year many villages are eroded. For their rehabilitation definite plan should be taken. Also one very strong current of Beki, known as Kalam-pur Dhala in Mouza Jania in Barpeta is damaging the crops of a vast area of Mouzas Mondia, Jania and Baghbor. A plan should be made to control this Dhala and thereby save the people of Jania, Mandia, Baghbor and some portions of Titapani.

Lastly, I come to the most important item of the amendment of Mr. Bhattacharyya. Government should take effective measures to counter the move of grouping Assam together with Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, etc. In the speech of the Governor he has welcomed the merger of Tripura and sought the integration of North East Frontier Agency and Manipur in Assam. But there is no definite mention that Assam should never go under the grouping scheme.

With these few words, I support the amendment of my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

Shri AARAN SANGMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in support of the Motion moved by my Friend, Shri Bimala Kanta Borah, and in opposition to the amendment moved by Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, I take my stand here to speak a few words, which, I feel, I should speak for the information, through you, of the august House. That in course of his speech, the Governor was kind enough to mention in a right way about the recommendations of the States Reorganisation Commission, who, in their Report, made a recommendation to keep Assam in tact. I personally appreciate and accept the recommendation of the States Reorganisation Commission because while giving the recommendation they had minutely gone through all matters that concern Assam and accordingly for the benefit and the interest of all people living in Assam in particular and for the solidarity and security of the country in general they made their wise and far-sighted recommendation.

Sir, regarding natural calamities and flood control, it will not be out of way for me also if I say that the State Government made their greatest efforts to give relief to the people affected by providing various means. It is gratifying to note that a huge amount of help, whether in cash or in kind, has been rendered to the people during the days of natural calamities by this State Government. Even the district of Garo Hills of which some low-lying areas adjoining

and contiguous to the Goalpara District, received considerable amount of help from the Government during floods in 1954 and 1955. I am very much thankful to the Government because of the Bund constructed under Embankment and Drainage in the Lakhipur-Fakirganj area which did splendid work to the people and gave tremendous relief to this part of Garo Hills from Phulbari upwards. In such matter, I inform the Government that more effective measures be taken by the Government so that the downward portion of Garo Hills be also benefitted and saved from future floods.

When we talk about the food situation in the State as a whole, I am glad that by undertaking various methods of cultivation and under Grow More Food Scheme, our State could be surplus in food production, but, regarding the food situation in my district, during the last Sali crop, I inform this House that due to destruction of this Sali crop, particularly, in the southern Part of the Garo Hills, that is, on the Pakistan border, by pests and insects, our food position in those areas has become a great problem which is agitating the minds of the people. Therefore, Sir, I request the Government to make a note of this matter of great importance ; and as such provide us with the adequate number of cheap grain shops of paddy in those areas so that people badly affected may be in a position to purchase paddy for themselves at a considerable cheaper price.

With regard to Jhum Control Cultivation, I am grateful to the Government who have already taken up initial step to introduce alternative cash crop cultivation in the Hills. To my knowledge, I fully understand that our people have taken keen interest in this matter and are very much anxious to grow cashewnut trees, black pepper and coffee. I, therefore, beg to request the Department concerned of this Government to kindly see that good and germinating seeds are timely supplied to our people.

Mr. SPEAKER: You ought to speak these things when you take part in the budget discussion.

Are you concluding ?

Mr. AARAN SANGMA: Yes, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: You will get two minutes more.

Mr. AARAN SANGMA: Regarding Primary education in my district, I like to say that more stress and attention should be given by the Government by way of giving bigger amount of financial help to the District Council. Otherwise, it will not at all be possible to educate all the children in the District. If such attention is endeavoured by the Government in this regard, then only, our children shall be able to have education. Everyone of us know that without education people cannot be brought into light and develop themselves.

Sir, my sincere request to the Government is that our Government be pleased to convince the Government of India and the Planning Commission to provide us with the Railway Link from Garo Hills to Bongaigaon or Amingaon, during the Second Five Year Plan period. If this can be implemented during this period, I am sure that the mineral products, such as, coal, limestone and the like can be exploited for the development and benefit of the district and the State.

Sir, with a view to bring out all developmental works in the district in the most rapid way and to have more effective and efficient administration in the district, I request the Government to provide means so as to establish one more Subdivision in Garo Hills.

With these few words, I again support the Motion of Shri Borah and oppose the amendment of Shri Bhattacharyya, and resume my seat.

Mrs. USHA BARTHAKUR: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ৰ ভাষণৰ প্ৰতি সমৰ্থন জনায় শ্ৰীযুত বিমলা বৰা ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উত্থাপন কৰিছে তাক সমৰ্থন কৰাৰ লগতে বিৰোধী দলৰ শ্ৰীযুত ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াৰ সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰিছে। ১৯৫৪-৫৫ চনৰ প্ৰাকৃতিক দুৰ্যোগে অসমত যিবোৰ বিপৰ্যয়ৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিছিল তাক আমাৰ চৰকাৰে ৰাইজ আৰু কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ সহযোগত স্মচাক কপে সমাধান কৰি পাৰদৰ্শিতাৰ যি চিনাকি দিলে তাক অসমবাসীয়ে ভালকৈ উপলব্ধি কৰিছে আৰু সমূহ ৰাইজে অসম চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰতি কৃতজ্ঞতা জ্ঞাপন কৰিছে। ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণ সমৰ্থন কৰি যি প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰি শ্ৰীযুত ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে সেই বিষয়ে দুৰ্ঘাৰমান কৰ খোজে।

দ্বিতীয় পাচ বছৰীয়া পৰিকল্পনাত অসম চৰকাৰে যি ধন বিচাৰিছিল তাক পাৰৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে যথোচিতো কাৰ্য্যপন্থা লোৱা নাই বুলি যিটো অভিযোগ আনিছে, মোৰ বোধেৰে সেই অভিযোগ একেবাৰে অমূলক। অসম চৰকাৰে যি টকা বিচাৰিছিল আৰু আন প্ৰদেশৰ তুলনাত যিখিনি টকা পালে তাক একেবাৰে কম বুলি কব নোৱাৰি, আৰু সেই টকাৰ পৰিমাণ বৃদ্ধি কৰিবলৈ আমাৰ মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী আৰু বিভূ মন্ত্ৰী

ডাঙৰীয়াৰ চেষ্টাত কিছু কৃতকাৰ্য্যও হৈছিল। সেই কাৰণে ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াৰ কথা একেবাৰে নিৰ্বৰ্ক বুলি কব পাৰি।

ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই আৰু কৈছে যে মাটিহীন বাইজক একেবাৰে মাটি বিতৰণ কৰি দিব লাগে। এই প্ৰসংগত মই কব খোজো যে চৰকাৰে মাটিহীন মানুহক মাটি দিবলৈ যথেষ্ট চেষ্টা কৰিব লাগিছে, কিন্তু আমি মাটিৰ উপাৰ্জনৰ ওপৰতে নিৰ্ভৰ কৰি থাকিলে ভাল হব; কাৰণ মাটি হৈছে গীমাৰ ভিতৰত থকা বস্তু আৰু জনসংখ্যা হৈছে গীমাহীন। সেই কাৰণে আজি এই সমস্যা সমাধান কৰিলেও কালিলৈ আকৌ জনসংখ্যা বেছি হৈ গলে কি উপায় হব? সেই কাৰণে এতিয়া জীৱিক। নিৰ্বাহৰ আন উপায় উলিয়াব লাগিব আৰু জনসাধাৰণকে সেই পথ বোৰ আমাৰ নেতাসকলে দেখুৱাব লাগিব। জনসাধাৰণৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক অৱস্থাৰ অবনতিৰ বাট বন্ধ কৰাৰ বিষয়ে ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণত উল্লেখ আছে। ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই এই বিষয়ত অনৰ্থক অভিযোগ আনিছে বুলি মই কব খোজো।

চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা নানাতৰহৰ বৃহৎশিল্প আৰু যক্ষ্মা শিল্প উন্মূৰ্ত্তনৰ কাৰণে চেষ্টা চলাইছে। এই শিল্প সমূহৰ জৰিয়তে গাঁৱে ভূঁয়ে প্ৰতিজন মানুহে নিজক উন্নত কৰিবলৈ পৰ্য্যাস পাইছে। আজি গাঁৱেভূঁয়ে ভাই ভনী সকলৰ মাজত পৰিশ্ৰমৰ মৰ্য্যাদা বাঢ়িছে। লো যেনেকৈ গৰম হলেহে ভাজ লয় তেনেকৈ আমাৰ ভাই ভনী সকলকে এই শিল্পৰ উদ্দীপনাৰে উৎসাহিত হৈ থকা অৱস্থাত আমাৰ নেতাসকলে চৰকাৰৰ লগত সহযোগ কৰি তেওঁলোকক শিল্পোন্মূৰ্ত্তি কৰি তুলিলে আমি কম আয়াসতে বৃহৎ পৰিকল্পনা কাৰ্য্যকৰণ কৰিবলৈ সমৰ্থ হম। সেই কাৰণে আমাৰ প্ৰথম আৰু প্ৰধান কৰ্ত্তব্য হল এই কুটীৰ শিল্পৰ মাজেৰে আমাৰ বাইজক উৎসাহ উদ্দীপনা দি আমাৰ ভবিষ্যৎ কৰ্ম্মপন্থা সুচল কৰা। তেতিয়া হলে আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ জীৱনৰ মানদণ্ডৰ লগে লগে ক্ৰমোন্নতি হব বুলি আশা কৰো। বৰ্ত্তমান জনসাধাৰণৰ মানদণ্ডৰ যথেষ্ট উন্নতি হৈছে বুলি কব পাৰি। এটা কথা মাত্ৰ অনুভৱ কৰিছো যে মই মাননীয় ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ৰ ভাষণত জনসাধাৰণৰ শিক্ষা আৰু স্বাস্থ্যৰ বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে যি ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লৈছে তাক উনুকিওৱা হলে বেচি আনন্দ পালোহেতেন। শিক্ষা আৰু স্বাস্থ্যই হৈছে সকলো উদ্যোগৰ মূল ভেটি আৰু গণতন্ত্ৰৰ আলম। এটা সুনিপুণ জাতি গঠন কৰিবলৈ হলে শিক্ষা আৰু স্বাস্থ্যক ভেটি কৰি লব লাগিব। যদি এই দুটা গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ বিষয়ত সৰ্ব্ব প্ৰথমে আগবাঢ়া নহয়, আৰু আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণ তীক্ষ্ণ, সুশ্ৰী আৰু স্বাস্থ্যবান হব নোৱাৰে তেতিয়া সকলোতে কেৰোণ লাগিব। পিচপৰা অঞ্চলৰ বাইজ আজি-কালি সজাগ। তেওঁলোকে এইদুটা দৰ্কাৰী বিষয়ৰ সুবিধা লবলৈ যথেষ্ট আশা কৰে কিন্তু কিছু মান ঠাইত এতিয়াও ১০।১২ মাইললৈ এখন হস্পিটাল নোহোৱাত জনসাধাৰণে স্বাস্থ্য বন্ধাৰ সুবিধা পোৱা নাই। এই অৱস্থাই দেশ গঠনত বিঘিনি ঘটাব।

গতিকে চৰকাৰক মই অনুৰোধ কৰো যাতে চৰকাৰে এই দুটা বিষয়লৈ চোকা দৃষ্টি ৰাখে।

ইয়াকে কৈ মই বৰা ডাঙৰীয়াৰ প্ৰস্তাবটো সমৰ্থন কৰিলো।

Pu LALMAWIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of thanks moved by Shri Bimala Kanta Borah. But I would like to comment on some points raised by the Governor in his Address and offer my humble suggestions. The Governor said—"It is my Government's clear opinion in the interest of National security and unity of India, that the entire region to the north-east of East Pakistan needs

an integrated administration from various points of view and should ultimately form one administratively homogenous unit so that it can be developed as a self-sufficient economic zone under a plan". To serve the best interest of the hills people of these areas he also recommended an economic unit which sounds very well. But to what degree or extent the homogenous administration of an area will be desirable or beneficial to the people of that area or how that economic unit will serve the best interest of the people of that area, is a matter of opinion. It should be governed by many considerations. Unless the people living in that area belongs to one community, having come up to the same standard of civilization and living or having the same culture and customs, one homogenous administration and one economic unit may not serve the best interest of all the different people within that area. Knowing that in this north-eastern corner of India, there are different people and communities having different culture, manners and customs and also vastly varying in standard of living and civilization, I cannot agree that one homogenous unit of administration would serve the best interest of the people concerned. But I quite believe that something like Zonal Council, as the Prime Minister of India proposed, may be desirable. Under this Zonal Council, several Regional Councils may be formed enjoying regional autonomy. Assam, Tripura, Manipur and North-East Frontier Agency may conveniently be divided into two such regions each having a Regional Council.

Mr. SPEAKER: This matter will come up a little later and you will have a chance to speak about this then ; so you can omit it now and speak on something else.

Pu LALMAWIA: But, Sir, it is so closely linked with some other points, so I may be allowed to finish.

Mr. SPEAKER: All right, carry on.

Pu LALMAWIA: Now, Sir, West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa will each form a region and all these Regional Councils will come under the Zonal Council in matters of common interest ; the eastern zone thus formed will play the role of a strong bulwark for the defence of India. The economic inter-dependence of these different areas may also be established. If we try to patch up old and new cloths, it may tear off again where it is patched up.

Formation of different regions will not destroy national unity, solidarity or security of India.

Even now, there are a good number of States within the Indian Union. If all the different States are administered to the satisfaction of the people concerned under the Government of India, then we shall have that desired national unity, solidarity and security of India. It will also result in economic prosperity of the country as a whole.

As regards the flood control, I presume the House will appreciate the effective measures taken by the Government in controlling the floods of the river Brahmaputra from erosion of the banks and destruction of important towns, villages and paddy fields. But the length of embankments already constructed and proposed to be constructed rather strikes me. If the total length of embankment to be constructed is 3,400 miles as mentioned by the Governor, I am afraid that it might include some portions for which embankment is not necessary.

Mr. SPEAKER: Why do you presume that the embankment is not necessary in some portion ?

Pu LALMAWIA : Because this suggestion is given here in the Address of the Governor is so long that I presume it must include the portion where no embankment is necessary.

Sir, I am glad to note that the Government is alive to the need of exploitation of abundant water resources of the State for beneficial and industrial purposes. But, I regret to learn that no investigation has been proposed of the rivers of Mizo District, where there is abundant water resources. Some of the rivers flow through Cachar district and if these water power is utilised, it would be sufficient to feed Cachar and the Mizo district with electric power. The Mizo district has the most plentiful supply of bamboos which can be utilised for paper pulp. I would suggest that the rivers of the Lushai Hills be also surveyed along with other four river basins to be surveyed during the Second Five Year Plan. It is encouraging to learn that the Government have always been alive to the urgent need of bringing their tribal citizens educationally and otherwise to the level of others in the country, and that no opportunity has been lost to achieve all round development of these tribal areas and of the inhabitants thereof. But, I am afraid that this may be only

a lip service when we see that all the important and higher educational institutions are located in the Assam Valley and that representatives of tribal people in Government services are far below the percentage as provided for by the Government of Assam. Most of the autonomous districts have not been represented in the Ministry of the State, and they can only vent their feelings of satisfaction or dissatisfaction through the faint voice of their few Members of the Legislative Assembly, which are usually not so effective. I, therefore, suggest that each of the autonomous district be represented in the Ministry of the State either as full-fledged Minister or Deputy Minister at least whose duties will be to look after the interests of their respective district. In Burma, each of the Tribal District has a Minister dealing with the affairs of his own district, and this arrangement is found to be working satisfactorily.

The Naga problem figures prominently in the Governor's Address. I am sure that the House will be very anxious to solve the Naga problem quickly and satisfactorily. The question is how to solve the problem? As the Governor said, the State Government are determined to effectively maintain law and order in the Naga Hills, and to ensure that the continued progress of the development schemes is maintained without any interruptions. Maintenance of law and order by mere force and liberal grant for development schemes without willing co-operation of the people is not enough. The Nagas do not complain about the amount of development grant they receive from the Government. If I remember correctly, they complained about the non-implementation in the Constitution of India by the Government of the agreement between the Naga National Council with the late Sir Akbar Hydari, formerly the Governor of Assam. The result is that they lost confidence in the Government. The Naga people started the demand for independence which seems to be unreasonable and foolish to some people. Honesty will be the best policy not only in dealing with the Naga people, but with all other tribal people of Assam.

As regards the claims of some Nagas as not being Indians, and that the Naga areas as not forming part of India the claim sounds rather fantastic to those who completely identify themselves as Indians. But the same opinion is prevalent not only among the Nagas, but among some other tribal people also. If we look back to the history of this north-eastern corner of India, we shall find that some of the tribal areas of Assam remained independent countries till the British came and

ruled over them. The feeling prevailing in the Naga areas is that since the British Government had left the country, they should be allowed to choose whether to remain within India or not.

Mr. SPEAKER : What is your idea ? Do you want them to cede from India ? You seem to be talking something else.

Pu LALMAWIA : Sir, I try to explain the stand taken by the Nagas. As I go on I shall try to find out a solution to the Naga problem.

Because of this feeling prevailing in the hill areas, it is all the more essential that in dealing with the Hills or tribal people, the use of military force should be avoided as far as practicable and that the desires and aspirations of the tribal people should be respected also. Unless the tribal people are giving their due place and due shares in India, it will not be possible for the Government to solve not only the Naga problems, but also other problems that may arise in other parts of tribal areas. In my humble opinion, the only solution to the Naga problem and the problems of the tribal people is to allow them to have a State of their own, or at least a Regional Council as proposed by the Prime Minister of India. I should like to suggest to the Government to call off the declaration of Naga Hills as disturbed area, withdraw the military force, and leave the tribal people to start negotiations amongst themselves. By doing so, I am confident that a satisfactory solution will come out. A separate State within the Union of India does not mean independence. The activities to that end does not mean anti-State activities.

I would like to say that the Assam Government committed some acts in the past having unprecedented results. In my opinion, the division of India into India and Pakistan was the result of the opposition by the Assam Government to grouping of India into four groups—as suggested by the Cabinet Mission. Also, the Bengalees of Sylhet district were not happy in Assam, and the Assam Government wanted that Sylhet should go to Bengal.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Sir, this is absolutely an incorrect statement. Assam Government did not want that Sylhet should go to Bengal.

Pu LALMAWIA : Sir, I apologise for it. My statement may be wrong.

Now they have gone to Bengal and to East Bengal. It is high time that the Assam Government examine their policy towards the minority communities and also in all India matters.

As regards the displaced persons, the question of giving relief and rehabilitation to the displaced persons has been raised very often. It is said that refugees coming into India from Pakistan are increasing instead of decreasing even eight or nine years after the partition of India. However unfortunate these refugees may be, I am of the opinion that they should be able to bear their misfortune in Pakistan rather migrating into another country. How long the India Government is going to accept the citizens of Pakistan as their own? As long as India Government take the trouble of rehabilitating the refugees at the expense of the true citizens of India, I am afraid that there will be no end of influx of refugees from Pakistan. It is quite possible that many people will sell their houses, lands and other belongings in Pakistan with the hope that they will be given land, jobs and all kinds of other facilities by the kind Government of India. They may not suffer under Pakistan Government as they picture it to be. It is therefore necessary that the real condition of these so called refugees in Pakistan be examined and the chapter be closed for good.

Sir, I am glad to learn that five N. E. S. Blocks have been opened in the Naga Hills. But not a single N. E. S. Block has been opened in the Mizo District.....

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): But you have got a Community Development Block.

Pu LALMAWIA: If a prodigal son gets five N. E. S. Blocks, while the son who remained with his father gets none. I am afraid it will encourage a faithful son to adopt a prodigal life. I therefore request the Government to allot at least one N. E. S. Block out of the four N. E. S. Blocks to be opened immediately.

Mr. SPEAKER: Your time is up.

Pu LALMAWIA: If the Government is really keen on raising the tribal people to same standard of living and education with that of the plains people, more grants for education should be given to them in addition to all the schemes already proposed for implementation within the Second Five-Year Plan.

As regards the amendment Motion moved by Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, I support many of the points raised by him, and I should think his speech in the House yesterday was most interesting. But, I cannot support all his points particularly the last one which is to counter the move of grouping together several States including Assam.

I shall therefore resume my seat by saying that I support the Motion moved by Shri Bimala Kanta Borah.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are grateful to the Governor for giving us comprehensive survey about the state of things in our State, but unfortunately the way he has dealt with the burning problems that confront our State may lead us to a sense of complacency and may even make us believe that there is no problem in our State. Sir, the two problems that have agitated the minds of our people most to-day are the problem of States Re-organisation with the latest development of the theory of Zonal Councils and the treatment that has been meted out to this frontier State by the Government of India in the matter of Second Five-Year Plan.

Sir, I shall briefly say about the state of our State. To-day there is a clash of arms in the Naga land. The North-East Frontier Agency which is so near to us is yet too far from us. In the matter of economic field we are almost where we were. The supply position has deteriorated. The supply of essential commodities like C. I. Sheets, iron rods, cement, etc., have deteriorated to a great extent. Not a single industry—major industry—worth the name has taken birth in this accursed land of ours, and what is more the prevailing prices of manufactured goods have remained comparatively higher than the price of agricultural goods. As regards the people's economic position, it is not a degree better than what it was in the last year. Sir, I will not to-day, in making my observations on the Governor's address, dilate on the economic side of our problems, but I shall mainly concentrate our attention to the States Re-organisation, the Naga Problem and to a certain extent the Five-Year Plan. Sir, the Governor began his address by saying that this was a year when we had had occasions of anxiety and concerns. But from his address we do not know whether those occasions of anxieties and concerns have ceased to exist. To me it appears it will not do simply to say that our Government want the integration of the region to the north-east of East Pakistan into one integrated unit. We

would also like our Governor to say what steps are taken to give an impression on the power that be in Delhi to bring about the desired integration. The danger to-day is the real one. If the grouping—the merger of Bengal and Bihar comes into effect, then unless we take proper action now and here, we may be drawn into it, and it is also to be remembered that on this very issue of joining Bengal during the Cabinet Mission that the proposal contained in that Mission failed. To-day if we have to go back and forger the lesson of our past then it will be a very bad day for Assam. Sir, as in Bihar and Bengal, the Governor of Assam is also the Agent of the Central Government regarding the administration of North-East Frontier Agency. We would like to know from our Chief Minister whether a joint demand has been made by these two Heads before the Central Government that these areas should be integrated into one. I would like to know what steps have been taken by our Government to persuade Manipur and Tripura to agree to the proposal of merger and forming an integrated unit. If this integrated unit is formed and if an atmosphere is created only then and alone will there be no apprehension of our being dragged into the proposed Bengal-Bihar unit. Sir, I am apprehensive about it. Because the circular that was circulated to us by the Assembly Secretariat regarding the proposal of creating five zones we find North-East Frontier Agency, Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa have been grouped together under one unit which gives an indication of the mind of the Central Government, unless this move is countered to-day by an opposite move of having an integrated unit here and now and unless we also have to confront a *fait accompli* that these people have agreed to merge, then it should be suggested to the Central Government that if Assam along with North-East Frontier Agency, Tripura and Manipur is merged with Bengal and Bihar, it will be such big unit that it will be difficult to administer this entire area under one administrative machinery. Therefore, I would like our Government to take effective steps not merely to expression of pious wish that we want integration of Manipur, Tripura and North-East Frontier Agency but effective steps to bring about integration of this entire area. Sir, when we read the Governor's Address we find that Governor is halting. He says that the Government welcome the recommendation of the States Reorganisation for merger of Tripura in Assam in the national interest provided the people of Tripura are generally in favour of such merger. And about Manipur he says that if at any time in the national interest and in the interest of unity and solidarity of India, the people of Manipur State in general agree to the integration with Assam as one political administrative

unit, the Government of Assam will welcome such merger. At one time we said so, I admit that one time I myself also said like that. But to-day even such a remark is not enough. It is time to say definitely, categorically and also with determination that we want complete merger of these areas irrespective of the fact Manipur or Tripura would like to come or not. There should be no reservation in our mind because if we maintain such reservation to-day, that reservation will always be there, and it will be very difficult to persuade these people to come to us. So, Sir, the problem that has been facing us to-day is a very vital one and in solving this problem we want not only an expression of wish but also taking very effective steps, bold and forthright, for bringing about such an integration.

Sir, the next problem is the problem of the Hills. We have found in the Governor's Address that enough has been done regarding the implementation of the developmental activities of the Hills. But we cannot forget that only till recently there was a big movement for creation of a Hills State and this move came not only from one quarter but also certain sections of the people of Khasi and Jaintia Hills, Garo Hills and to a certain extent those of the Lushai Hills were also a party to this move. It is our bounden duty to try to know their psychology, try to remove any misapprehensions they might be labouring under towards our intentions. We have to change their psychology, try to find out the causes leading to such a separatist move and try our utmost to remedy them. At the same time we must tell them categorically that we are entirely opposed to any such demand, and convince them such a move will not benefit them. We should tell them that we are inseparably connected with them, we are intertwined together. We must depend on each other and for that we must banish all suspicions and we must learn to understand each other closely. And for that it is not a matter as to how many roads we build, how many tanks we dig that counts but it is a question of removing misunderstanding and suspicion and with that end in view we should direct all our efforts and activities. Otherwise suspicion may again occur. I am sorry Sir, we have not found any indication about that in the long and laborious speech of the Governor. Coming to the Naga problem again, Sir, we have waited long to see a satisfactory solution of this intricate problem, but in vain. It was about three years back I on the floor of this House charged the Government of bungling in the Naga land of making the problem more complicated. But then we were told that the

Government should be given some more time to deal with the problem, and we remained silent. Very often it has been harangued in our ears that we should support their policy. But, Sir, it is very difficult to follow the Government blindly without understanding the policy that Government propose to pursue. Therefore, Sir, we say that if we are to give our support to the Government's policy, we should also be taken to their confidence and given us an indication of the broad outline at least of their policy. We do not say that we should be given fuller details of the policy they pursue but if Government want our whole-hearted support we should be taken into confidence and at least the broad outline of the policy should be made known to us. But to-day again we find in the Naga land that there has been a bungling going on. In the Governor's address itself we find a good deal of complication. On the one hand they say that co-operation has been coming forth from the people and on the other hand it has been stated that subversive activities undertaken by a handful of lawless and terrorist elements are going on unabated. If that is so, then may I ask the Government why this handful of lawless and terrorist elements create these things? If the people are not behind them, may I ask the Chief Minister how can these handful of people engage themselves in lawless activities and go merrily untrapped by our Police and the Army? Did not Phizo, the leader of these handful of lawless people, who is wanted by the Police to-day, for whose arrest a sum of Rs. 5,000 has been declared to-day, come to the Chief Minister only a few days ago and sit with him together? Could he not then understand the policy and principle that was proposed to be followed by him? My accusation against Government is that the Government policy regarding Naga land lacks positiveness. It also lacks in understanding of the psychology of the people out to create disturbance and lawlessness. And that is why we are being faced with a situation of chaos and disorder prevailing in the Naga land. I also want to make it clear to the House that we do not support the Naga people in their demand for independent Naga Land. We have made it abundantly clear that it is suicidal for the Naga people to indulge in their claim for the Naga Land, we have told them to give up their tactics of violence. But what we exhort is that we should go to them, mix with them, sit together with them and try to remove their misapprehensions and try to evolve a common solution. It is necessary for us to go deeper and deeper into the matter to see that these extremists cannot persuade the people, misguide the people with a view to swell the ranks of these lawless elements. If this is not done, Sir, then I believe

that this Naga problem will not be solved this year ; even for years to come it will remain unsolved. Then, Sir, when the Disturbed Areas Act was passed, we were told by the Chief Minister that the Act was meant mainly for the Naga land and also in the disturbed area which was mainly confined to Tuensang area because the people from Tuensang used to come and create trouble. To-day, Sir, we find that it is not Tuensang where there is disturbance, we find the main disturbance in the main Naga land. What is the reason ? To-day the disturbance in the Tuensang area has stopped. I would only draw the pointed attention of the Government that while it is necessary to disarm the terrorists, while it is necessary to protect the peace loving and law abiding people from the extremists, it might be necessary to take some punitive measure and action and it is more necessary to see that not a single peace loving citizen is harmed, not a single man is arrested or detained in jail. Sir, I am sorry to learn that Phizo's family has been kept in detention.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) : It is not a question of detention, but is a question of some specific offences.

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Goswami, please confine yourself to the subject.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : We do not find any thing specifically mentioned about Phizo's family in the address. There is nothing in this address that Phizo's wife and his children have been charged on any charges. That is what we have heard. Sir, I have come to the floor of the House to know from the Government whether the charges that Phizo's wife and children have been arrested have got any basis or without any basis. Sir, I know that among the Naga people there is a feeling that if they are treated properly, they will be good and understand things also properly. So, Sir, I am sure if we can only approach these people properly we shall be able to solve the Naga problem.

Sir, regarding the Second Five-Year Plan, I do not want to say much now. It is a fact that we have been meted with a bad treatment by the Central Government. While our demand was 290 crores, while we are economically backward, while we have so many rivers to train, when we have so many of our problems to face, we have been given a small sum of 60 crores only to spend in five years time. Sir, on a comparison with other States this is a very small amount. Sir, my feeling is that while Bengal which is economically more advanced and their needs are not so acute as ours, they are going to get

more, but we get less. Is it because we have not been able to impress our Central Government or is it that what is given we shall not be able to spend? Sir, if those things are there, it will be a very bad thing. Sir, unless we can build up our Industries the future of the State is dark. Sir, these hopes will belie us and we are living in some sort of darkness. Sir, if we are thinking in building up our industries, we should be unmindful whether private party will come or not, we should impress upon the Central Government when these demands are there, when the industries are to be started in our State, we shall be allowed to start the industries even at our own expense and at our own initiative. If it is not done, Sir, the area in the north-east of Pakistan will ever remain a deficit area. To-day, Sir, during the monsoon if there is a breach in the railway line, the whole State is cut off and subsequently we have to depend whatever little can come by air. For that every year more than one or two crores are spent unnecessarily by the people, because the prices of the commodities go up and for that we have to suffer. Therefore, Sir, it is necessary that this area to the north-east of Pakistan should be made self-sufficient unit, we must think of our economic condition. But, Sir, we have seen that we have been keeping as a hinterland, as a colony of some other States. Sir, we should see that we must develop all these things. But it is most unfortunate, the other day we have heard that the Brahmaputra bridge of which we have been clamouring so much will not come into existence in another 3 or 4 years to come. The railway line in the Garo Hills also will not be opened in another 3 or 4 years to come. Sir, I do not know how far the newspapers are true. Sir, is it not our duty to go to the Central Government and impress upon them that these things should be done in a neglected State like Assam?

Mr. SPEAKER : Do you rely on the newspapers?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Sir, I have not the correct information. I am asking the Government whether the news published in the newspapers are true or not. Whether the Brahmaputra bridge will not be constructed in another 3 or 4 years time and whether the railway line in the Garo Hills will not also be constructed in another 3 or 4 years to come.

Sir, we have not got any industry in our State worth the name. What are we going to do about it? Lastly, Sir, I will mention about the remarks already mentioned by some of

our Friends whether the status of the Opposition would now be given. Sir, it is for you to decide this. Many hon. Members have of course left us.....

Mr. SPEAKER : You have stated about certain rumours. This is a matter for another time. Just now please confine to the main speech.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Regarding a Welfare State, Sir, I am sure, whether we like it or not the aim of Socialism is bound to come. To-day, Sir, it is very easy for the hon. Member to cross over, but still then we have a responsibility to establish democracy in our country. No matter, Sir, whether any hon. Member has changed basically, but whatever it may be, the hon. Member who has come here with the mandate from the people shall have to go back to the people who have given him that mandate and ask them whether his change of the policy is liked by them or not. But whatever may be, we are all in one big country and we must try to bring about the democratic development in our country and therefore, it is our onerous duty to see that Welfare State should be established in our country, and we are determined to build up a Welfare State, we are determined to build up a democratic State but unless we are able to build up a democratic society, we may get Socialism, but democracy will not be here.

With these words I feel that the Governor has failed to indicate certain vital problems in his address and therefore I support whole-heartedly the amendment moved by my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

Adjournment

The Assembly was than adjourned till 10 A.M. on Monday, the 12th March, 1956.

SHILLONG,

The 10th October, 1956. }

R. N. BARUA,
Secretary,

Legislative Assembly, Assam.

AGENTS IN INDIA

1. Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co., Calcutta.
 2. Messrs. W. Newman & Co., Calcutta.
 3. Messrs. S. K. Lahiri & Co., Calcutta.
 4. Messrs. R. Cambray & Co., 6 and 8/2, Halling Street, Calcutta.
 5. Messrs. D. B. Taraporevala Sons and Co., 103, Meadow Street, Fort, Post Box No.187, Bombay.
 6. The Indian School Supply Depot, 309, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta.
 7. The City Book Company, Post Box No.283 Madras.
 8. The Director, The Book Company, Limited, Book Sellers and Stationers, 4/4A, College Square, Calcutta.
 9. The Manager, The Imperial Publishing Co., 99, Ry. Road, Lahore.
 10. Messrs., Chapala Book Stall, Shillong.
 11. Messrs. Sirbhumi Publishing Co., Calcutta.
 12. The Proprietor, 'Graduates Union,' Gauhati.
 13. Mr. Banwarilal Jain (Book Seller), 1719/2002, Mati Katra, Agra (India).
 14. Messrs. Low Book Society, 65/3, Harrison Road, Calcutta.
 15. The Director, Benares Corporation, University Road, P.O. Lanka.
 16. Messrs. Law Book Society, 4A, Wellington Square, Calcutta.
 17. Messrs. Bodh Raj Marwah, Booksellers, Shop No.63, Pusa Colony Market, Delhi-Karol Bagh, New Delhi.
 18. The Oxford Book and Stationery Co., Scindia House, New Delhi/17, Park Street, Calcutta-16.
 19. Messrs Mokshada Pustakalaya, Publishers and Book Sellers, Gauhati.
 20. Messrs Popular Book Depot (Regd.), Booksellers, Publishers, etc., Lamington Road, Bombay-7.
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