

16 March to 31 May 1989

16 March to 12

no. of copy, 19

20 copy 178

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES



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1992

OFFICIAL REPORT

NINTH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE EIGHTH
GENERAL ELECTIONS UNDER SOVEREIGN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION
OF INDIA

BUDGET SESSION

VOL - I

NO. 1

The 16th March, 1989

Price Rs. : 6:20

REFERENCE,
(NOT FOR ISSUE)

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C O N T E N T S
B U D G E T S E S S I O N

Volume 1. No. 1

Dated, the 16th March, 1989

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DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Thursday, March 16, 1989

The House met at 9 A.M. in the Assembly Chamber, Dispur with Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

ঘোষণা :

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ :

উপস্থিত মাননীয় সদস্য সকল, ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ে আজি সদনত ভাষণ দিব। তেখেতে আজি ৰাতিপুৱা ৯-১০ বজাত অসম বিধান সভাৰ পদূলীমুখ আহি পাব। মই, উপাধ্যক্ষ আৰু সচিৱে পদূলীমুখত তেখেতক আদৰিব লাগিব। ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ক কেনেধৰণে আদৰি অনা হব তাৰ এটা কাৰ্য্য পদ্ধতি প্ৰতিজন সদস্যৰ মাজত ৰখা হৈছে। ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয় বিধানসভা আহি পোৱাৰ লগে লগে কেনেধৰণে আদৰিব লাগিব সদস্য সকলক জনোৱা হৈছে। ইতিমধ্যে সদস্য সকলৰ মাজত ভাষণৰ প্ৰতিলিপি বিতৰণ কৰা হব। ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ক আদৰিবলৈ মই এতিয়া সদন ত্যাগ কৰিলো।

(Mr. Speaker then left the House at 9'02 A.M. to receive the Governor)

(মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষই ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ক লৈ সদনত প্ৰৱেশ)

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ : এতিয়া মাননীয় ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ক তেখেতৰ ভাষণ দিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনালোঁ।

Governor's Address

(As the Governor rose to deliver his address Shri Binai Khungur Basumatari rose)

Mr. Governor, we have gone through your address. You have failed to mention the denial of human-

rights to the Plains Tribal of Assam; You have failed to recognise their very identity. I protest and I walk out of this House.

(Shri B. K. Basumatari left the House)

(The Governor continued delivering his speech.

As the Governor continued his speech Dr. Ardhencu Kumar Dey started shouting.)

Hon. Mr. Speaker and Hon'ble Members,
Governor:

It gives me immense pleasure to address this august House once again. It is a matter of satisfaction to note that during the period of only three years, this young Government's dynamic and determined measures have led to a significant all round development of the State. I am confident that in the days to come my Government's sincere and sustained efforts will promote further development and take this beautiful State to greater heights.

Assam
Accord.

The historic Assam Accord signed on 15 th August, 1985 has been the main plank of all the activities of the Government. I can assure this august House that notwithstanding serious obstacles the Government has spared no efforts to faithfully implement the clauses of the Accord. While its success can be correctly assessed only by the people, I will reiterate that the Government have not been wanting in efforts. The Union Home Ministry is the nodal Ministry for the purpose of implementation of the Assam Accord and it should take more prompt and positive

steps to implement the important clauses of the Accord;

In the all important matter of detection, deletion and deportation of foreign nationals, substantial progress has been made. Already 12 (twelve) Foreigners Tribunals under the Foreigners' Act, 1946 have been set up for determination of such people who entered Assam between 1-1-66 and 24-3-71. Under the Illegal Migrants (Determination) Tribunals Act, 1983, 18 Foreigners Tribunals have also been set up.

The withdrawal of drastic measures against the Central Government employees is not complete. A number of such Central Government employees have been absorbed in various departments of this Government.

The Government have taken all possible measures to ensure that in the implementation of the Accord there is no discrimination amongst the various communities living in the State and no harassment is caused to a single genuine Indian citizen.

Shri Shanti Ranjan Dasgupta : Indian citizens are being harassed (other Members from the UMF joined him in a chorus.)

Hon.
Governor

Already Assam Police Battalions have been deployed all along the border as a second line of defence behind the Border Security Force at Mankachar and Dhubri areas from the beginning of the current financial year with a view to

combat infiltration. The Assam PWD has already completed survey of the entire border road and road construction is halfway through. The design and specifications of border fence which were sent to the Central Government much earlier have now been recast as advised by the Central Government. I am happy to inform this august House that the revised design for border fence has since been accepted and an amount of Rs. 2.67 crores has been initially sanctioned by the Union Government.

The Government has requested the Union Government for creation of No Man's Land along the Indo-Bangladesh border with a view to combat infiltration more effectively.

A State Level Advisory Committee has been set up to advise the State Government in the implementation of various clauses of the Assam Accord. Just below this Highpower Committee there is another committee at the officers level to scrutinise and monitor implementation of this Accord. Already complaint boxes have been placed in the offices of the Deputy Commissioners and Civil SDOs, where the people have been requested to put in their suggestions, advices, or complaints regarding the Accord:

Till 30-11-88, 27,355 number of cases have been referred to the Foreigners Tribunals out of which 8,482 cases have been disposed of by the Tribunals. Of this, 6,914 number of persons have

been registered with Foreigners Regional Registration Officers and 3,597 names have been sent for deletion from the Electoral Rolls. An Illegal Migrants (Determination) Appellate Tribunal is functioning at Guwahati which consists of two Members. As many as 12,694 cases have been referred to the Illegal Migrants (Determination) Tribunals till 30.11.88 for taking decision. Of these, 2,021 cases have been disposed of. 1,359 persons have been declared as illegal migrants.

The State Government has faced difficulties in this work because of the very lengthy procedure involved in the IMDT Act. In repeated discussions with the Union Government, the State Government have been pressing for repealing the IMDT Act and to make the Foreigners' Act, 1946 applicable in Assam also as is being done in the rest of the country.

In the matter of revision of Electoral Rolls, numbering of houses has since been completed and house to house enumeration is under way. Steps have also been initiated by the Government to microfilm the Electoral Rolls.

Some progress has been made in the matter of establishment of an Indian Institute of Technology at Misa in Nagaon District. A particular area has already been earmarked for the purpose. I am hopeful that within a short period it would be possible to hand over the land

to the Government of India. I, however, regret to note that a final decision on the establishment of another refinery in Assam and revival of the Ashok Paper Mill is still awaited from the Central Government.

North Eastern Research Extension Centre of the Indian Institute of Language has recently been opened of Guwahati with a view to undertake research on various languages in the State in response to clause 6 of the Assam Accord. At our insisetence the Government of India has decided to set up an Oil Museum through the agency of Oil India Ltd. at Guwahati. I am happy to note that this has found place in Oil India's budget in the current year. In addition to the Oil Museum, Oil India Ltd. in collaboration with ONGC will set up an Institute of Bio-technology and Geotectonic Studies-the first one of this type in South East Asia- at Jorhat at an initial estimated cost of Rs. 12 crores. Furthermore OIL is setting up a Research and Development Centre at a cost of Rs. 7 crores at Duliajan, one Oil Training Institute at a cost of Rs, 2 crores at Duliajan, and a Management Training and Development Centre also at Duliajan, at a cost of Rs 2 crores. These institutions will further bring education and knowledge of the State-of-art technology right to the threshold of Assam.

**Economic
Develop-
ment &
Planning**

The Government have made earnest efforts to ensure speedy implementation of the plan programmes notwithstanding the severe bouts of flood that ravaged the State during the last

year: As against an original outlay of Rs. 610 crores for the current year's plan, an outlay of Rs. 635 crores has been approved for the next year. With a view to involve the people, decentralised planning has been introduced up to the Sub-Divisional level. Monitoring and evaluation have been given special attention with a view to achieve time bound implementation of the developmental schemes and to see that real benefit of the plan flows down to the lower level's of the society. In addition to the 20-Point Programme, a 14-Point Socio-Economic Programme has been adopted tailored to the special conditions prevailing in the State.

**Economic
Review**

The growth in Net State Domestic Product in Assam has only shown a marginal growth rate mainly on account of decline in agricultural output due to floods. Though production of rice during the year has registered 13.9% increase, production of the main commercial crop i. e. Jute, declined by 7.3%. In the industrial and mineral front, a more or less satisfactory production profile is visible. The production showed a rise of 8.9% and fertilizers 22.6%. The performance of the power sector was erratic during the first part of the year changing over

to a marginal improvement towards the later part.

Pension
to
freedom
fighters

The rate of State Freedom Fighters pension has been raised to Rs. 300/- from Rs. 200/-. This single step has benefited more than 5,000 State Freedom Fighter pensioners.

Agriculture

Agriculture, which is the backbone of the economy of the State, once again suffered the vicissitudes of nature. An extensive drought followed by unprecedented waves of flood destroyed vast areas of the standing crop. The economy of the farmers and the State as a whole was adversely affected on an unprecedented scale. The State's limited resources had to be diverted for relief works even at the cost of sacrificing some programmes which had been initially approved. As a result, the State's target of production of 36.90 lakh tonnes of foodgrains is now expected not to exceed 25.98 lakh tonnes. Soon after the floods a massive rabi seed distribution programme was undertaken by the Government to cover an area of 3.05 lakh hectares. With floods having almost become an annual messenger of misery to our farmers, it shall now be the conscious policy of the Government to encourage cultivation of rabi crops on a much larger scale.

A broad forum for interchange of ideas between the farmer and the Assam Agricultural University shall be provided either in terms of

formal training programmes for the farmers or informal interactions between them:

In order to narrow the gap of availability of good quality seeds including HYV, efforts shall be made to increase production of quality seeds by the registered growers in the Government farms and by the Assam Agricultural University: A single window scheme for helping the agriculturists through agricultural growth centre has been taken up in 16 blocks:

A new thrust is also being given to the production of vegetables in the State. Other special thrust programmes that are being implemented in the State shall continue to be implemented during the coming year also:

Industry
The Government is keen in establishing village, small and medium scale industries. Considering the importance of infrastructure for rapid industrial development, the State Government has decided to establish an Infrastructure Corporation during 1989-90. During 1989-90, it is proposed to establish 2200 small scale industries with employment potential of 15,000 persons: In the handicraft sector, it is proposed to establish 2000 artisan's units which will create employment for 3500 persons: Under Medium and Large Industries Sectors, one mini cement plant has already gone into production and another is expected to go into production shortly. With the commissioning of the Co-

operative Polyester Spinning Mill at Tulsibari near Rangia, all the four Spinning Mill projects financed by the State Government have gone into production. The 30 crores capacity Methanol Expansion project of Assam Petrochemicals Ltd. has also been commissioned. Assam Electronics Development Corporation has entered

into a the-up arrangement with Indian Telephone Industries for manufacturing Push Button Telephone and allied products at Guwahati and Silchar, having a capacity of 50,000 instruments per annum. The State Government is taking necessary steps to revamp all the Corporations.

Power

To consolidate the power position, steps have been taken by the ASEB to step up the generation capacity of the existing projects. In February 1989, Chandrapur Thermal Power Station extension has come into grid to add 30 MW to the present total installed capacity of 484.4 MW. The Karbi Langpi Hydro-Electric Project (2×50) is under construction. It is also proposed to undertake gas based Lakwa Thermal Power Station Phase II (3×20 MW) with 60 MW capacity and Amguri Power Project with 360 MW capacity. The Dhansiri Mini Hydel Project (15×1.33 MW) and Dalaima Mini Hydel Project (2×2 MW) are expected to be completed during the Eighth Plan period.

The State Government have taken up Rural

Electrification Programme to improve socio-economic condition of the rural folk. Steps have been taken to achieve the annual target of 2,200 villages and 500 pump-sets under the 20 Point/14 Point Programme. Of the total census villages of 21,995, ASEB has already electrified 18,516 villages upto January 1989 and 8,274 Pump-sets have been energised. It is hoped that over 95% of the villages will be electrified by the end of the current plan period.

Hand-loom
Textile
&
Sericulture

Assam is well known for its rich heritage in handloom weaving. The State Government has given a positive and systematic policy thrust to improve the economic condition of the weavers and steps have been taken to extend infrastructural and financial support. The State has about 14 lakhs looms of different varieties with 16 lakhs people engaged in weaving and a sizeable number of people involved in service and commercial activities linked with handloom and marketing activities. Major emphasis in this sector has been to increase the level of production of handloom fabrics to the tune of 82 million square metres in 1989-90. Special attention has been given to benefit the weavers belonging to the SC/STs.

Sericulture is a traditional cottage industry involving about 1.58 lakh families. Under the 14 Point Programme, 1332 persons benefited in 1987-88 and 1064 are proposed in the year

1988-89. Programme has been formulated at the cost of Rs. 47.00 lakhs in consultation with experts of the Central Silk Board and arrangements have been made to increase the area of plantation under the high yielding variety of mulberry plants.

For the development of Sericulture in Hills Districts, 12 schemes-7 in the State Plan and 5 in the additive plan-are under implementation: To keep the sericulturists in the Hill Areas abreast of modern technology, training facilities along with study tour have been arranged.

Khadi-
and
Village
Indus-
tries

The Khadi and Village Industries Board continues to provide various services such as supply of raw materials and improved implements to the artisans and wage subsidy to the spinners with a view to improving the economic condition of the rural people. The State Board has imparted training to the artisan at Raha in Nagaon and different production centres throughout Assam; The Board has provided subsidiary occupation to a large number of villagers. An outlay of Rs. 129 lakhs has been allotted for establishment cost as well as expansion of the on-going schemes.

Geology
&
Mining

The thrust on exploration of various mineral resources like coal, limestone, china clay etc, have been intensified; A mini cement plant with capacity of producing 100 tonnes of cement

per day has been commissioned in August 1988; Construction of another mini cement plant of 300 tonnes per day is in progress; Intensive exploration for limestone to set up a million tonne cement plant is in the final stage of completion. Important objective oriented mineral exploration and development schemes are proposed to be taken up during 1989-90 in respect of limestone, china clay and high grade refractories.

Flood
Control

The problem of recurring floods in the State has of late assumed a serious proportion: Last year, the State experienced four successive waves of major flood which breached 185 embankments and caused flood spill to an area of 38.23 lakh hectares superseding all previous records. The State Government has taken up a number of short term flood control measures in the form of construction of embankments, anti-erosion measures, drainage channels and major sluice gates: The State Government had submitted a memorandum to the Union Government during the visit of the Central Team for assessment of flood damages demanding Rs. 317.45 crores for repairs of damages to flood protection works. The Government of India has so far released only Rs. 28.59 crores which is insufficient considering the magnitude of damage: The State Government has taken up the matter with the Central Government;

Irriga-
tion

Irrigation being an essential pre-requisite for developing a strong agricultural foundation, the Government has accorded high priority to this sector. The annual plan outlay for 1988-89 has been approved for Rs. 3579 crores for major and medium sectors. The physical target is 37,000 hectares for minor irrigation and 16,359 hectares for other sectors.

Under the 14-point programme irrigation facilities for double cropping has been extended to an area of 1,17,313 hectares upto 1987-88. During the current year, against the target of 12,100 hectares the achievement upto September 1988 was 2973 hectares. The Command Area Development Authority of the State has taken up medium irrigation schemes viz, Sukla, Jamuna and Kaliabar Irrigation Projects under the centrally sponsored scheme.

Revenue
Relief &
Rehabi-
litation

The State Government has undertaken various land reform measures on a priority basis. During 1988-89, five Revenue Circles at Bongaigaon, Gohpur, Algapur, Nutan Bazar and Barama have been created. Under MNP scheme, each eligible family is provided house-sites comprising of half to one bigha land along with financial assistance @ Rs. 2500*00.

Steps are being taken to grant pattas on the spot to indigenous people of the State in phased manner with priority to the tribal people; the R & R Department, in accordance

with the provision made under para 14(b) of the Assam Accord, has drawn up various schemes, interalia providing exgratia grant to the next of kin of martyrs and also to the persons injured, invalided or otherwise affected for taking part in the last movement. For flood relief, Government of India approved a ceiling of only Rs. 85.36 crores as against the State Government's demand for Rs. 788.68 crores.

Steps have also been taken to rehabilitate the people who have been rendered landless and homeless, through rehabilitation programmes.

Char area
Develop-
ment

In the field of char area development, the State Government has undertaken the task of improving agriculture, animal husbandry, dairy development, irrigation, drinking water and inland water transport. Handwells for drinking seeds for cultivation of Rabi crops have been arranged. Meritorious students of these areas have been given lump sum grants upto Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand).

Cultural
Affairs

In keeping with Clause 6 of the Accord, the Government has been working for all round development of art and culture of Assam with due emphasis on preservation and propagation of folk and traditional dance and music of the State including Tribal art and culture, documentation of traditional arts including publication of books on these subjects. Four Cultural Centres have been set up in Narayanpur, Na-satra

in Sarthebari and Bijni and Sarupather. The Government School of Art and Culture at Guwahati has since been upgraded to a College. To immortalise the eminent Vaishnava saint Shri manta Sankar Dev, foundation stone of a kala kshetra bearing his hallowed name has also been laid during the year:

Forest

The prime policy thrust in this sector has been on removing encroachers from forest areas and restoration of ecology by suitable regeneration and plantation:

A major policy change for 1989-90 has been on a reversal of the hitherto adopted practice of clear felling of natural formations and replacing by exotic species by raising of indigenous species. Emphasis on preservation of wildlife continues with greater zeal. Here, I may make particular mention of the Rhino Conservation Scheme and the development of Pobitara Wildlife Sanctuary. The programme includes measures for protection of wildlife from poachers as well as floods particularly in the Kaziranga National Park and to rear rare species like Thamin (Sanghai) in Pobitara Wildlife Sanctuary.

Soil Conser- vation

The Soil Conservation Department has taken up schemes in order to protect soil erosion keeping in view the maximum productivity from the soil without hampering its fertility. In the Hills districts, Government's efforts have been focused on weaning away the tribal people from

Jhumming by taking up permanent agriculture by way of developing the valley bottom land through reclamation and terracing. In the degraded forests, protective afforestation has been taken up to stop erosion. Cash crop has been introduced as a means of alternative income for the Jhummiya families.

Panchayat and Rural Development

With an alarming 52.29% of the State's rural population living below poverty line, the need of the hour is a massive rural development effort. I am happy to state that Assam has taken remarkable strides in this sphere:

In implementation of the IRDP, special provisions have been made to ensure the benefits to Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste Communities. Emphasis is being shifted from traditional schemes to innovative schemes related to horticulture, sericulture and cottage industries so that primary and secondary sectors get more attention. The schemes of TRYSEM, DWCRA (Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas), IRDP, NREP, NPBD and RLEGP have been satisfactorily implemented. For successful implementation of RD Programme, Senior BDO's have been appointed in the Blocks.

Labour and Employment

Greater emphasis has been laid on self employment. Steps have been taken to improve the implementation of provisions under Minimum Wages Act, Plantation Labour Act and the Assam

Tea Employees Welfare Funds Act: Minimum Wage for agricultural labour has been raised to Rs. 19/- per day effective from 1-7-1988. All possible efforts are afoot to render justice to the working class population within the framework of the Labour Acts and Rules:

Tourism Emphasis has been laid by the Government to provide infrastructural facilities for the tourists by way of Tourist Lodges, Pilgrim Lodges and transport facilities. A Tourist Lodge at Nagaon with 4 double-bed rooms and 2 dormitories has been opened for the tourists:

Transport The Government has placed considerable emphasis on provision of transport facilities extending to the remote and backward areas of the State. During this period Majuli-the biggest river island-has been provided with ASTC service. ASTC has also increased reciprocal Inter-State Services to West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura and Meghalaya:

Sports and Youth Welfare Stress has been laid on development of infrastructure facilities in the rural areas. Construction of mini stadia in each Development Block has been started. Construction of two modern swimming pools at Nagaon and Golaghat and one indoor hall at Golaghat is nearing completion. During 1988-89, seven veteran sportsmen/sport organisers have been awarded Sports Pension. Ten veteran Sportsmen/

sports organisers are expected to be awarded Sports Pension during 1989-90:

Cooperation

The major plan programme in the cooperative sector being agriculture oriented, the prime objective of the schemes drawn up is to ensure sound health of the cooperative credit structure. Steps have been taken to strengthen the network of Cooperative Societies for playing supporting role to increase the agricultural production, procurement and marketing of agricultural produce, providing employment opportunities through agro-based industries, setting up of Cooperative Spinning Mills, etc. Besides, Public Distribution System in both urban and rural areas of the State has been strengthened.

Food and Civil Supplies.

Assam is a deficit State and solely dependent for supply of almost all the essential commodities on sources outside the State. The State Government has to face manifold problems like flood, transport difficulties, etc, in maintaining supplies and price line of essential commodities. The Government of India has been moved to make additional allotment of 9 lakh tonnes of rice @ 75,000 MT per month to supplement the shortfall.

The entire State is well covered by the chain of Public Distribution System. At present there are 23872 Fair Price Shops and retail outlets of which 2524 are in urban areas and 21348 in rural areas of the State; STATFED has

been supplying essential commodities like rice, mustard oil, pulses, vanaspati etc. through their retail outlets at a reasonable rate.

**Health &
Family
Welfare**

The Government has given due importance to provide curative and preventive health services to the people. Government have taken up schemes for installation of modern equipments and accessories in the hospitals. The Malaria Eradication Programme, and T.B. and Leprosy Control Programmes continue to receive emphasis. For the first time treatment facilities under Homoeopathic system of medicine have been extended to the rural areas.

**Drinking
Water.**

Considerable emphasis on provision of drinking water supply in the rural areas has been given. The target for 1988-89 is to provide drinking water to 1440 problem villages and for 1989-90, the target is 1560 villages.

**Science
Techno-
logy &
Environ-
ment.**

Government has undertaken the task of popularising and promoting Science and Technology programmes through various schemes providing financial assistance. A Regional Science Centre has been established at Khanapara with assistance from National Science Museum and NEC. A modern Planetarium is being established. Measures for prevention and control of water and air pollution have been taken up.

Significant progress has been made in construction of the Indo-Bangladesh Border Road

**Public
Work
Depart-
ment**

under Assam Accord. Road works in the Dhubri and Karimganj districts are in progress. The Union Government has already cleared construction of 36 KM of fencing in Dhubri district during the current year and has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 2.87 crores as the first instalment out of the total estimate of Rs. 5.26 crores. The total outlay for the current year for border road and fencing is Rs. 9.80 crores:

During the year, 55 KM of road, 48 KM of pavement, 6 timber bridges and 141 culverts have been constructed in schemes under the NEC programme.

An amount of Rs. 10.09 crores has been finally allotted by NEC out of which a major RCC bridge over Dhaleswari and three major bridges on the Orang-Mazbat-Rupa road have been completed. Besides, work is going on in connection with major bridges over Singra, Kundil, Barapani and Dirak rivers.

**Legisla-
tive**

The Government have formulated an important scheme to provide Legal Aid to the poorer sections of the people. The Assam Legal Aid Rules, 1987 have been framed repealing existing Rules. Under the said Rules, the Assam State Legal Aid Board has been constituted with the Minister, Legislative, Judicial etc. as Chairman and one Senior High Court Judge nominated by the Chief Justice of the Guwahati High Court as Vice-Chairman, and in the

Districts and Sub-Divisions, Legal Aid Committees have been constituted with the Deputy Commissioners and Sub-Divisional Officers, as the case may be, as Chairman, to provide Legal Aid to the poor.

During the current year, 18 Lok Adalats were held where 1500 cases were disposed of including Motor Accident Claim cases. In these cases, Rupees one crore fifty lacs were awarded as compensation to claimants. Lok Adalats are being held in all districts of Assam to bring justice to the door-steps of the poor litigants.

There were voices from the Opposition Benches.....“No, No, Nothing new has been done”.

Educa-
tion

Honorable Governor : The national policy of universalisation of elementary education has made steady progress in Assam during the year. In-service training of teachers is going on apace. A series of orientation courses for elementary and secondary teachers have been undertaken. In order to encourage gradual introduction of various tribal languages for elementary education, the Rabha language in Assamese script is being introduced in primary schools having cent percent enrolment of Radha students.

However, because of paucity of fund, against the target of 3000 new Primary Schools and 2000 new Middle schools, only 1175 Primary schools and 677 Middle schools could be opened.

**Technical
Educa-
tion**

Keeping in mind the emphasis on computer education in the New Education Policy of the Union Government, the Government has introduced Master and Degree courses in Computer Science in the Jorhat Engineering College. Expansion of the existing Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics by opening new branches of studies are afoot. A scheme for award of scholarship to Scheduled Tribes students under the Tribal Sub Plan has also been introduced.

**Welfare
of Plains
Tribes &
Backwa-
rdClasses**

Government's anxiety for amelioration of problems of the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes has led to a large number of welfare schemes with substantial outlays. Actually, the per capita plan outlay for tribal areas is higher than that of the General areas.

Priority has been given to schemes like Primary Health care, Drinking Water supply, Elementary and Secondary education and road construction. Development of agriculture, veterinary, fishery, dairy, irrigation, weaving, co-operatives and cottage industries has gone on at a brisk pace. Special land reforms measures for the benefit of tribals have been implemented.

Reservation for Scheduled Tribes (Plains), Scheduled Tribes (Hills) and Scheduled Caste candidates in services posts under the Government is being done effectively in accordance with the Reservation Act. In technical, medical

and similar educational institutions, constant attention is being given to reserve specified number of seats for ST(P), ST(H), SC, OBC and MOBC students. Scholarships are being given on a much larger scale for pre-matric, post-matric, technical, medical and vocational education of students coming from these groups.

In regard to Tea Garden and ex-Tea Garden communities, special attention has been paid to providing assistance in educational pursuits by way of stipends and scholarships as well as to implementing family oriented income generating schemes.

Law and order situation in the State

The Government is very keen to maintain traditional, harmonious and peaceful relations with all the neighbouring States and is committed to make all out efforts for peaceful solution of any border differences with them. While keeping its doors open for friendly discussions for settling any border problems, the Government has to ensure that the constitutional borders, which are the very basis of the existence and jurisdiction of States, are respected by all Government. It is in this context that the Government has recently filed a suit in the Supreme Court for upholding our constitutional boundaries with Nagaland and a similar suit is being filed in respect of the boundaries with Arunachal Pradesh. Discussions have taken place at Chief Ministers' level with Meghalaya and the Government hope that the matter will

be settled soon on basis of the Chandrachud Committee Report.

Law and order situation in the State.

The law and order situation in the State during the year is under control. There were voices from the Opposition Benches—No, No, the law and order situation in the State during the year is not under control.” voices—No, No.”

Hon. Governor : However, instances of assaults, attacks on moving vehicles and passengers, throwing of bombs, burning of houses and other forms of violence and crimes took place as a result of anti-social activities, particularly in Kokrajhar district and Udalguri subdivision in the context of an agitation. The Government has taken prompt steps to defuse the agitation by initiating a process of dialogue, which is still on. The Government stands committed to take firm action against the elements indulging in terrorism and disruptive activities and to maintain law and order in the State. I am of the firm view that it is not in the national interest to allow any further division of the State and the Government also are resolved to contain any violent, divisive activities. I am happy to note that the Union Government also has unequivocally declared that no further fragmentation of Assam would be allowed.

I feel sad to note that in spite of our strict vigil and deep commitment to democratic means

to solve any problems, some valuable lives have been lost at the hands of extremists. However, administrative measures for maintaining strict vigilance and efforts to mobilise the people towards constructive endeavours to achieve social peace and communal harmony are continuing. I regret that the democratic and peaceful atmosphere nurtured by the Government is being disturbed by some organisations and groups to further their narrow interests. The Government is firmly committed to development of a composite culture of Assam embracing various ethnic groups with their own rich cultural and linguistic heritage.

I have highlighted some of the important policies and programmes of the Government. I am sure your deliberations will cover all the areas of vital interest to the State, including the annual financial statement and the various legislative proposals which will be placed before you for consideration: I wish you all success in the common endeavour for the welfare and all round development of the State.

JAI HIND

(Governor of Assam completed the Address and left)

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ: মাননীয় ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ৰ সন্মানার্থে সদন কক্ষৰ বাহিৰত আয়োজন কৰা চাহ মেলত যোগদান কৰিবলৈ তেখেতক অনুৰোধ কৰিলো। লগতে সদনৰ মাননীয় সকলো সদস্য আৰু বীথিকাত উপস্থিত থকা সাংবাদিকসকলক আৰু সকলো

চৰকাৰী বিষয়াক উক্ত চাহ মেলত যোগদান দিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰিলে। এতিয়াৰ পৰা ২০ মিনিটৰ বাবে সদন স্থগন কৰা হ'ল।

(The House re-assembled at 10-20 A.M; after tea break with the Hon'ble Speaker in the Chair)

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

Hon'ble Speaker : Now, item No. 2.—Motion of thanks on the Governor's address.

Hon'ble Dinabandhu Choudhury:

শ্ৰীদীনবন্ধু চৌধুৰী : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি ১৯৮৯ চনৰ মাৰ্চ মাহৰ ১৬ তাৰিখে সদনত ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ে অনুগ্ৰহ কৰি দিয়া ভাষণৰ বাবে সমবেত সন্মানিত সদস্যসকলৰ পৰা ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ৰ ওচৰত কৃতজ্ঞতা প্ৰকাশ কৰিছো আৰু ইয়াৰ বাবে ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ক ধন্যবাদ জনোৱা হওক।

ডাঃ কমলা কলিতা : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই এই ধন্যবাদ পুচক প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিছো।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ : এই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ ওপৰত ইতিমধ্যে উপদেষ্টা সমিতিয়ে ধাৰ্য্য কৰা সময় মতে আলোচনা কৰা হব।

Now, the report of the Business Advisory Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

Under Rule 230 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I called two meetings of the Business Advisory Committee on 7th March, 1989 and again on 13th March,

1989. The Committee decided that the meetings of the Budget Session commencing on and from 16th March, 1989 should continue till 2nd June, 1989. There will be altogether 47 working days out of which 37 days will be devoted for transaction of the Government Business and 10 days for transaction of the Private Member's Business. Out of the 37 days allotted for Government Business, 3 days will be devoted for Debates on Governor's Address, 6 days for General Discussion on the Budget, 19 days for voting on Demands for Grants including passing of the Appropriation Bill relating to Budget and one day each for discussion and passing of the Supplementary Demands for Grants, Voting on Vote on Accounts and Demands for Excess Grants.

Copies of the Calendar have already been circulated amongst the Hon'ble members of the House.

I hope this has the approval of the House.

শ্রীগোলোক বাজবংশী : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এইখিনিতে এটা কথা উল্লেখ কৰিব খুজিছো যে যিটো বেল'ট দেখুৱা হৈছে তাত অলপ এনোমেলি আছে সেই কাৰণে সেইটো বি-এ-চিট আলোচনা কৰিব লাগিব।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ : আজি সদন শেষ হোৱাৰ পিচত বি-এ-চি বহি আলোচনা কৰা কৰা হব। অসম বিধান সভাৰ কাৰ্য্যপৰিচালনা বিধিৰ নিয়ম ৯ (১) অনুসৰি সভাপতিসকলৰ নামৰ তালিকা এনেদৰে ঘোষণা কৰিছো : শ্রীধানেশ্বৰ বড়ো, শ্রীচৰণ নাৰ্জাৰি, শ্রীদীনবন্ধু চৌধুৰী আৰু শ্রীচিলভিয়াচ কন্দপান।

এতিয়া আইটেম নং ৫ : মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্রী।

(LAYING OF REPORTS)

শ্রীপ্রফুল্ল কুমাৰ মহন্ত (মুখ্যমন্ত্রী) : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই অসম বিত্তীয় নিগমৰ ১৯৮৭-৮৮ চনৰ বাৰ্ষিক প্ৰতিবেদন সদনত দাখিল কৰিলো।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ : এতিয়া আইটেম নং ৬।

Shri Surendra Nath Medhi, (Minister, Parliamentary Affairs): Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to lay the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1986-87 (Revenue Receipt) relating to Govt. of Assam.

Mr. Speaker : Now, Item No. 7.

Shri Thaneswar Boro (Chairman, Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Sir, I beg to present the Ninth Report of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Mr. Speaker : Now, Obituary Reference, Item No: 8.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ : এতিয়া মই সদনত অসম বিধান সভাৰ প্ৰাক্তন সদস্য তথা মন্ত্রী মঃ ইন্দ্ৰিচ আৰু মহাবাহুব প্ৰাক্তন মুখ্যমন্ত্রী বসন্তদাদা পাটিল, জাপানৰ সম্ৰাট হিৰোমিটোৰ মৃত্যুত শোক প্ৰকাশ কৰিবলৈ থিয় হৈছো।

মহম্মদ ইন্দ্ৰিচ এজন বিচক্ষণ বাজনীতিবিদ আৰু সমাজকৰ্মী আছিল। তেখেতে নগাওঁ জিলাৰ উত্তৰ খটোৱাল গাওঁত ১৯২৩ চনত জন্মগ্ৰহণ কৰিছিল। ১৯৪৭ চনত তেখেতে নগাওঁ জিলা আদালতত ওকালতি আৰম্ভ কৰিছিল। ১৯৫২, ১৯৫৭, ১৯৬২ আৰু ১৯৭২, ১৯৭৮, ১৯৮৩ চনত

কংগ্ৰেছ প্ৰাৰ্থী হিচাবে অসম বিধান সভাৰ সদস্য নিৰ্বাচিত হৈছিল। ১৯৭২ চনৰ পৰা ১৯৮৫ চনলৈ কেবাবাৰে তেখেত অসম মন্ত্ৰীসভাৰ সদস্য ৰূপে কেবাটাও বিভাগৰ দায়িত্বত আছিল। তেখেত এবাৰ অসম বিধান সভাৰ ভাৰতীয় জাতীয় কংগ্ৰেছ দলৰ উপদলপতিও আছিল। তেখেত সমবায় আন্দোলনত অতি সক্ৰিয়ভাবে জড়িত আছিল আৰু কেবাটাও সংগঠনৰ মুৰব্বীৰূপে কাৰ্য্যনিৰ্বাহ কৰিছিল। এই গৰাকী বিশিষ্ট বাজনীতিবিদ, সমাজকৰ্মীৰ ১৯৮৯ চনৰ ৮ ফেব্ৰুৱাৰী তাৰিখে ৬৭ বছৰ বয়সত গুৱাহাটী মেডিকেল হাস্পাতাল পৰলোকপ্ৰাপ্তি ঘটে। মহম্মদ ইদ্ৰিছৰ মৃত্যুত অসমে এজন বিচক্ষণ বাজনীতিবিদক হেৰুৱালে যি আমাৰ বাবে এক অপূৰণীয় ক্ষতি হ'ল।

বিশিষ্ট সমাজসেৱক বাজনীতিবিদ বসন্তদাদা পাটিল মহাৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ প্ৰাক্তন মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী আছিল। এখেতে ৰাজস্থানৰ ৰাজ্যপাল ৰূপেও কাৰ্য্যনিৰ্বাহ কৰিছিল। চাৰিবাৰকৈ মহাৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী পদ অলংকৃত কৰা এই বিচক্ষণ নেতাগৰাকী হৃদৰোগত আক্ৰান্ত হৈ ১৯৮৯ চনৰ ১ মাৰ্চত স্বৰ্গী হয়।

জাপানৰ সত্ৰাট হিবোহিটো যোৱা ২১ ফেব্ৰুৱাৰী ১৯৮৯ তাৰিখে স্বৰ্গী হয়। তেখেতৰ বিয়োগত বিশ্বই এক মহান বাজনীতিবিদক হেৰুৱালে। এই সকল প্ৰায়ত নেতাৰ মৃত্যুত আমাৰ অপূৰণীয় ক্ষতি হ'ল আৰু সেই সকলৰ বৈদেহী আমাৰ চিৰশাস্তিৰ কাৰণে দুই মিনিট সময় থিয় হৈ মৌনতা অৱলম্বন কৰোঁহক।

ডাঃ অৰ্জুন্ধনু কুমাৰ দে : বঙ্গাইগাওঁত মৰা সকলৰ কাৰণেও লাগে।
(সদনত থিয় হৈ দুই মিনিট মৌনতা অৱলম্বন
কৰা হয়)

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ : এতিয়া সদন কাইলৈ ৰাতিপুৱা ৮-৩০ বজালৈ স্থগিত
ৰখা হ'ল।

ADJOURNMENT

The House then rose at 10-32 A.M. and stood adjourned till 8-30 A.M. tomorrow, the 17th March, 1989.

Dispur
The 16th March, 1989

S. N. Deka
Secretary,
Assam Legislative Assembly