

Proceedings of the Third Session of the Second Assam Legislative
Assembly assembled under the provisions of the Government of India
Act, 1935

(FIRST SITTING OF THE ASSEMBLY IN FREE INDIA)

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 2 p.m., on Friday,
the 12th September, 1947.

PRESENT:

The Hon'ble Mr. Debendrar Sarmah, Speaker, in the Chair, the six Hon'ble
Ministers and fifty one Members.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

The following Member was sworn in :—

Mr. J. S. Hardman.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

High Court in Assam

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked:

- *139. (a) Is it a fact that the Government of Bengal has intimated the
Government of Assam for making its separate arrangements for High Court?
(b) If so, how do this Government propose to meet this situation?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA replied:

139. (a)—The Government is not aware of any such intimation from the
Government of Bengal.

(b)—The Government, however, are taking immediate steps for the
establishment of the High Court in Assam and a Motion in that behalf will soon
be placed for the consideration of the hon. Members.

†Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Will the Hon'ble Minister
please repeat his answer to No.139 (a)?

†The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: The Government is not
aware of any such intimation from the Government of Bengal.

†Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Was no intimation
received from the Bengal Government?

†The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: No, Sir.

†Speech not corrected.

†**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, then, may I take it that the statement made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister the other day while discussing the High Court Scheme is incorrect? He said definitely that the Bengal Government has notified that the Calcutta High Court will not cater for Assam after 31st March, 1948.

†**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI**: That is my information, Sir.

†**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA**: But that information was not communicated to me.

†**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA**: It was given on the floor of the House.

†**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI**: It may not be from the Bengal Government but from the Bengal High Court

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

(Further Supplementaries to ††Unstarred Question No.516)

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: মোৰ প্ৰশ্ন এটাৰ উত্তৰ দিবলৈ বাকী আছে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: অনুগ্ৰহ কৰি আৰ্জি প্ৰশ্নটো সোঁৱৰাই দিয়ক।

†Speech not corrected.

††Newspaper Caption in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN asked:

516. (a) Will Government be pleased to state if their attention has been drawn to the article published in the *Assam Tribune* dated 25th of December 1946, under caption 'Agricultural and Animal Husbandry'?

(b) Is it a fact that only 5 Assam Veterinary Stipendiary Students have lately been admitted into the different Veterinary Colleges in India against a large number of Stipendiary Students sent by other Provinces?

(c) If so, how Government propose to meet the requirement of their Veterinary personnel for their Post-War Scheme?

(d) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the articles under headings "Assam need a Veterinary College" and "Director of Animal Husbandry" published in the *Assam Tribune* of 23rd and 26th of October 1946, respectively and whether Government propose to take immediate steps to establish Veterinary Colleges for Assam for training up Veterinary officers?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied:

516. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No. Altogether 7 Veterinary Stipendiaries were admitted during 1946-47, 4 in Bengal Veterinary College and 3 in the Bombay Veterinary College.

(c)—Government have taken up the question of establishing a Veterinary College in this Province.

(d)—Yes.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: Is it a fact that because the present Director of Veterinary Department has opted to serve in Pakistan, he does not work here earnestly and that many important works have been left undone—for example, preparation of Vaccine which is urgently required?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: I think it is a fact that he has opted to serve in Pakistan, but it is not a fact, Sir, that he is not doing his duty.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: আক কিবা প্রশ্ন আছেনে ?

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: বই ৩খিন খোজো যে ইয়াত vaccine তৈয়াৰ কৰা হবনে নহব। কলেজ হলেহে হবনে তাৰ আগেয়ে হব ?

Is the Hon'ble Minister in a position to say whether we can have vaccine locally?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: That is not possible, Sir, because a scheme for building a Vaccine Depot is still under preparation, and as regards the Veterinary College, a scheme has been prepared but it is not possible to say which of these could be started earlier.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: May we know what steps are going to be taken by Government to protect the lives of the cattle in Assam for want of Vaccine?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: The position will be as we have been doing all this time, i.e., so long as we are not in a position to prepare vaccine locally, we will have to import it from outside. There is no other alternative.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge take it from me that vaccine can be made locally?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Yes, it can be prepared provided you have proper house. As far as I can remember the suggestion of the hon. Member was to make vaccine locally; I say that is not possible. I have consulted experts and they have unequivocally said that vaccine could not be prepared anywhere and everywhere. The buildings for their storage require specifications of their own.

Mr. HARENDRA NATH SARMA: Do Government propose to release this particular officer to enable him to go to Pakistan? If so, when?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: That will be considered, Sir, it cannot be answered off hand.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: In reply to Question No. 516(b), in my opinion the answer sought has not been replied to properly by the Government. The question was this: "Is it a fact that only 5 Assam Veterinary Stipendiary Students have lately been admitted into the different Veterinary Colleges in India against a large number of Stipendiary Students sent by other Provinces?" What the hon. Questioner wants to know is that the number of Stipendiary Students from Assam is very low in comparison with other Provinces.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: The hon. Questioner seems to have been satisfied with the answer given since he has not put any question to that effect. However, the answer given is: "No. Altogether 7 Veterinary Stipendiaries were admitted during 1946-47, 4 in Bengal Veterinary College and 3 in the Bombay Veterinary College."

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the students that were admitted into the Bombay Veterinary College are still continuing their studies there?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Yes, I suppose so unless those students have left the College of their own accord recently.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: My information, Sir, is that some of them have left the College recently.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: If any of them have left the College the information has not yet reached the Government.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: May I know the opinions of the experts in Assam about the preparation of vaccine locally?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: The Director of Veterinary as well as the Veterinary Investigation staff have told me that the vaccine prepared in any place in Assam may not be fit for use. Both the Director of Veterinary Department and the Veterinary Investigation Officer of Assam, who is a specialist in that behalf, say that the vaccine prepared in a place not fit for the purpose may rather get contaminated somehow and the result will be contrary.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: May I inform the Hon'ble Minister, Sir, that vaccines could be prepared locally some years ago?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: It may be so, Sir, but I cannot say.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the vaccines prepared locally were used in the hospitals and whether good result was obtained?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: I cannot reply to that question, Sir, off-hand.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: As far as my information goes, Sir, some vaccines were prepared locally on a small scale on an experimental basis.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: If any experiment was made and if that experiment was successful, why were the vaccines not prepared in a large scale?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: I cannot say, Sir, whether the experiment was successful or not, but we shall have to see whether that experiment can be followed if it was successful.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The position is this. The hon. Member is insisting to know that if any experiment was made and the result was successful why has not that experiment been continued? If the Hon'ble Minister wants time to look into the matter that can be given to-morrow.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had a discussion with the specialists whether such things could be prepared locally, and after examining the matter thoroughly, they declared that as we had no sufficient equipment here it would not be fruitful to prepare them. Moreover we have not proper storage facilities for keeping them even after preparation. When I am a layman, Sir, I am to depend upon the opinions of the experts we are here.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The other side of the matter is this: The hon. Member is harbouring an idea persistently from yesterday that these experts in Assam mentioned by the Hon'ble Minister are not inclined to do things in right earnest.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: May I intervene, Sir, for a moment? I think both the Questioner as well as the Hon'ble Minister are struggling with different points. The Hon'ble Minister has not clarified what vaccine he is thinking of. In his reply he only told that vaccine cannot be prepared for want of storage and other equipment. The hon. Questioner is speaking of goat tissue vaccine that was prepared locally and utilised in the Province for many years before.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Sir, the vaccine that we have been using here is only goat tissue vaccine as has been mentioned by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. There is no misunderstanding between the hon. Questioner and myself.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The dispute is with regard to the attitude.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Not at all, Sir. I have all along been answering about the preparation of vaccine locally.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: But the hon. Questioner is seeking information about the officers who are alleged to have been taking no interest in the matter of preparation of vaccine locally.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: I cannot question the *bona-fide* of those officers, Sir.

Srijiit PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: In view of the statement made by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, will the Government make an enquiry whether the experiment that was made was successful in Assam and, if so, whether that will be continued again?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Certainly, Sir, by all means.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Certainly, Sir,

Minerals leased out in Assam under prospecting licenses and running leases

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA asked :

517. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The different minerals leased out in Assam under prospecting licenses and running leases ?
- (b) The names of each licensee or lessee, the area and the period of each holding ?
- (c) Whether there is any perpetual lease granted by Government to any of the concessionaire ?
- (d) If so, under what rule of the Mining Manual ?
- (e) The total area held by the Assam Railway and Trading Company, Limited, under Mining Leases in the Lakhimpur District ?
- (f) The maximum area allowable to a single concessionaire in a province under the Mining Rule ?
- (g) The total area leased out to the Assam Oil Company, Limited, and Burma Oil Company, Limited, for mineral oil and natural gas ?
- (h) The total area granted to the above Companies under prospective licenses from time to time and what was the total area retained by them after prospection ?
- (i) Whether any report was submitted by these Companies on the geology of the rejected area or any new mineral discovered in the course of prospection ?
- (j) Whether Government asked for any such report ?
- (k) Whether Government are aware of the method or methods employed by these Companies of the prospection of oil in the areas ?

518. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The total of royalty paid by the Assam Oil Company, Limited, for the last five years ?
- (b) On what basis the royalty is calculated, *i.e.*, whether on the basis of crude oil produced from the wells or on the finished products such as Petrol, Kerosene, Wax, etc. ?
- (c) How does this rate compare with those obtained in Burma, Upper India, and outside India ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to revise the rate or rates of royalty at the time of next renewal of the leases ?
- (e) If so, on what basis, *i. e.*, whether on the production of crude oil, or on a basis bearing on a current selling price of the finished products or on a sliding scale ?
- (f) The action taken by Government to ascertain the method of extraction that is being employed by the Company ?
- (g) Whether there is any resident Government Geologist stationed at the Assam oil field as in Burma to look after the interest of Government ?
- (h) If not, whether Government propose to station a resident Government Geologist at the oil fields now ?

519. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How much of the total area held by the Assam Railway Trading Company has been prospected by Boreholes, etc., by the Company ?

- (b) Whether the said Company at any time was asked by the Government to prove the reserve of any of their holdings ?
- (c) The amount of coal extracted by the Company so far and what are the total reserves in the different concessions ?
- (d) How long would these reserves are expected to last ?
- (e) With the present method of extraction what is the percentage of recovery, that is to say, what percentage of total amount of coal contained in the bed is won ?
- (f) What action has the Government taken to ascertain that this is the maximum recovery possible ?
- (g) The amount of royalty paid by the lessee on the production of coal for the last 5 years ?
- (h) The amount of surface rent paid by the lessee ?
- (i) The amount of death rent fixed ?
- (j) On what basis the rate of royalty on coal calculated, i. e., on the pit's mouth value or a certain fixed sum per ton of coal raised ?
- (k) How does this rate or rates compare with those obtained in other parts of India ?
- (l) What was the pit's mouth value of Assam coal before the war, say in the year 1936-37 and what is the pit's mouth value now ?
- (m) What was the selling price of Assam coal before the war, say in the year 1936-37 and what is it now ?
- (n) Whether Government propose to revise these rates at the time of the next renewal of the leases ?
- (o) For what purpose is Assam coal used at present ?
- (p) Whether this coal is suitable for metallurgical purpose ?
- (q) If not, whether Government propose to investigate the possibility or otherwise of improving it by beneficiation ?
520. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) The total reserve of limestone in the area leased out to the Assam Bengal Cement Company, Limited, and how long it is expected to last at the present rate of production of cement ?
- (b) Whether the area has been leased under a mining lease or a quarry license ?
- (c) The present rate of royalty on limestone extracted from the area ?
- (d) How does this rate differ from that of a quarry lease ?
- (e) Whether this rate has any relation to the selling price of cement ?
- (f) To whom the property was first leased ?
- (g) Whether the consent of the Provincial Government was first obtained before the lease was transferred or sublet to the Assam-Bengal Cement Company, Limited ?
- (h) For what consideration did this transfer take place ?
- (i) Whether any fee was imposed by the Government for this sub-lease or transfer ?
- (j) What is the rate of royalty on coal extracted from the area leased out for the Assam-Bengal Cement Company, Limited ?
521. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) Who hold the sillimanite deposits in the Nongstoin State in the

- (b) Whether Government derive any revenue from this source ?
 (c) If so, how much ?
522. (a) Are Government aware that there is a vast hidden coal field in the Garo Hills ?
 (b) Will Government be pleased to state whether any mining lease or prospecting license has been granted for the whole or part of this area ?
 (c) If so, to whom, for what period and on what rate or rates of royalty the lease or license has been granted ?
 (d) Do Government propose to develop this coal deposit ?
 (e) Are Government aware that if the property is fully prospected by Government before leasing out, it is sure to bring in better revenue to the Government ?
 (f) Will Government be pleased to state what other minerals are reported to be available in the Province ?
 (g) Do Government propose to have a stock taking of all such reported minerals in the Province ?
 (h) If so, how do Government propose to proceed in this direction ?
 (i) Are Government aware that the United Provinces Government is appointing Chief Geologist for this purpose ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

517-522.—The hon. Member is referred to the reply given to the Unstarred Questions Nos. 510-515 asked by Babu Khagendra Nath Samaddar, M.L.A., during the current Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly on this matter.

Veterinary Graduates

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked :

523. Will Government be pleased to state—
 (a) How many students from Assam are now taking their training at the different Veterinary Colleges of India to qualify them as Veterinary Graduates ?
 (b) What is the probable annual outturn of such graduates ?
 (c) Whether such annual outturn is sufficient to meet the present requirement of the Province ?
 (d) If not, how do Government propose to increase the number of Veterinary Graduates to the required strength ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

523. (a)—10.
 (b)—1 in 1948-49 ; 2 in 1949-50 and 7 in 1950-51.
 (c)—No.
 (d)—By training qualified candidates outside the Province ; Establishment of a Veterinary College here is also under contemplation.

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS : With regard to 523 (a), Sir, may I know if any of these Veterinary graduates are from the portion of Sylhet which is now in Pakistan ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : Some of them are from the Pakistan area.

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS: How many of them, Sir, are from the Pakistan area?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: They may be about 3 or 4, Sir.

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS: As regards 523 (b), Sir, in view of the fact that there will be such a few number of Veterinary graduates between now and 1950-51 and in view of the fact that there is a great demand for more Veterinary hospitals from all over Assam, will the Government see its way to the establishment of a Veterinary College immediately?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: That will be done, Sir.

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: May I know, Sir, from the Hon'ble Minister the total number of seats reserved for the Assam students in the Bengal Veterinary College?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: 7 seats have been reserved for this year, Sir. In the Bengal Veterinary College, we have got seven seats this year. We have very recently sent seven students to the Bengal Veterinary College. We were given four seats in the Bombay Veterinary College, but we could not avail of these. They wanted I. Sc. students with Biology. So we could not avail of the seats.

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: What was the total number of candidates for admission this year?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Several hundreds.

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: From Assam?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Yes, from Assam.

Minerals leased out in Assam under prospecting licenses and running leases

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE asked:

524. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The different minerals leased out in Assam under prospecting licenses and running leases?
- (b) The names of each licensee or lessee, the area and the period of each holding?
- (c) Whether there is any perpetual lease granted by Government to any of the concessionaire?
- (d) If so, under what rule of the Mining Manual?
- (e) The total area held by the Assam Railway and Trading Company, Limited, under Mining Leases in the Lakhimpur District?
- (f) The maximum area allowable to a single concessionaire in a province under the Mining Rule?

- (g) The total area leased out to the Assam Oil Company, Limited, and Burma Oil Company, Limited, for mineral oil and natural gas ?
- (h) The total area granted to the above Companies under prospective licenses from time to time and what was the total area retained by them after prospecting ?
- (i) Whether any report was submitted by these Companies on the geology of the rejected area or any new mineral discovered in the course of prospecting ?
- (j) Whether Government asked for a general report ?
- (k) Whether Government are aware of the method or methods employed by these Companies for the prospecting of oil in the areas ?
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- (b) On what basis the royalty is calculated, *i.e.*, whether on the basis of crude oil produced from the wells or on the finished products such as Petrol, Kerosene, Wax, etc. ?
- (c) How does this rate compare with those obtained in Burma, Upper India and outside India ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to revise the rate or rates of royalty at the time of next renewal of the leases ?
- (e) If so, on what basis, *i.e.*, whether on the production of crude oil, or on a basis bearing on a current selling prices of the finished products or on a sliding scale ?
- (f) The action taken by Government to ascertain the method of extraction that is being employed by the Company ?
- (g) Whether there is any resident Government Geologist stationed at the Assam oil field as in Burma to look after the interest of Government ?
- (h) If not, whether Government propose to station a resident Government Geologist at the oil fields now ?
526. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) How much of the total area held by the Assam Railway and Trading Company has been prospected by Boreholes, etc., by the Company ?
- (b) The amount of coal extracted by the Company so far and what are the total reserves in the different concessions ?
- (c) How long would these reserves are expected to last ?
- (d) With the present method of extraction what is the percentage of recovery, that is to say, what percentage of total amount of coal contained in the bed is won ?
- (e) What action has the Government taken to ascertain that this is the maximum recovery possible ?
- (f) The amount of royalty paid by the leases on the production of coal for the last 5 years ?
- (g) The amount of surface rent paid by the leases ?
- (h) The amount of death rent fixed ?
- (i) On what basis the rate of royalty on coal calculated, *i.e.*, on the pit's mouth value or a certain fixed sum per ton of coal raised ?

- (j) How does this rate or rates compare with those obtained in other parts of India ?
- (k) What was the pit's mouth value of Assam coal before the war, say, in the year 1936-37 and what is the pit's mouth value now ?
- (l) What was the selling price of Assam coal before the war, say, in the year 1936-37 and what is it now ?
- (m) Whether Government propose to revise these rates at the time of the next renewal of the leases ?
- (n) For what purpose is Assam coal used at present ?
- (o) Whether this coal is suitable for metallurgical purpose ?
- (p) If not, whether Government propose to investigate the possibility or otherwise of improving it by beneficiation ?
527. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) The total reserve of limestone in the area leased out to the Assam-Bengal Cement Company, Limited, and how long it is expected to last at the present rate of production of cement ?
- (b) Whether the area has been leased under a mining lease or a quarry license ?
- (c) The present rate of royalty on limestone extracted from the area ?
- (d) How does this rate differ from that of a quarry lease ?
- (e) Whether this rate has any relation to the selling price of cement ?
- (f) To whom the property was first leased ?
- (g) Whether the consent of the Provincial Government was first obtained before the lease was transferred or sublet to the Assam-Bengal Cement Company, Limited ?
- (h) For what consideration did this transfer take place ?
- (i) Whether any fee was imposed by the Government for this sub-lease or transfer ?
- (j) What is the rate of royalty on coal extracted from the area leased out for the Assam-Bengal Cement Company, Limited ?
528. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) Who hold the sillimanite deposits in the Nongstoin State in the Khasi Hills ?
- (b) Whether Government derive any revenue from this source ?
- (c) If so, how much ?
529. (a) Are Government aware that there is a vast hidden coal field in the Garo Hills ?
- (b) Will Government be pleased to state whether any mining lease or prospecting license has been granted for the whole or part of this area ?
- (c) If so, to whom, for what period and on what rate or rates of royalty the lease or license has been granted ?
- (d) Do Government propose to develop this coal deposit ?
- (e) Are Government aware that if the property is fully prospected by Government before leasing out, it is sure to bring in better revenue to the Government ?
- (f) Will Government be pleased to state what other minerals are reported to be available in the Province ?

(g) Do Government propose to have a stock taking of all such reported minerals in the Province ?

(h) If so, how do Government propose to proceed in this direction ?

(i) Are Government aware that the United Provinces Government is appointing Chief Geologist for this purpose ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

524-529.—The hon. Member is referred to the reply given to the Unstarred Questions Nos. 510-515 asked by Babu Khagendra Nath Samaddar, M.L.A., during the current Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly on this matter.

Reservation of posts of Islamic Teachers in Government High English Schools for Madrassa-passed candidates.

Moulana Md. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN asked :

530. (a) Is it a fact that there are lesser scopes for Madrassa-passed persons than the Graduates in getting Government Jobs ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to reserve the posts of Islamic teachers in Government High English Schools for Madrassa-passed candidates ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied :

530. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

Documents registered in Patharkandi Registry Office

Moulana Md. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN asked :

531. (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the accurate figures of documents registered in Patharkandi Office, thana by thana ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the figures of Ratabari justify the establishment of a sub-registry office there ?

(c) If not, do Government propose to establish a registry office there on commission basis to give relief to the people of a very backward *efaka* ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA replied :

531. (a)—The figures available are as below :—

Ratabari Thana				Patharkandi Thana			
Year	No. of documents			Year	No. of documents		
1943	...	916	...	1943	...	1,910	...
1944	...	1,052	...	1944	...	1,317	...
1945	...	611	...	1945	...	2,390	...
1946	...	1,252	...	1946	...	1,986	...

(b)—The figures do not justify the establishment of a sub-registry office there.

(c)—No ; the figures do not justify the establishment of a registry office on commission basis there.

Moulana Md. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN: With regard to 531 (b) and (c) may I know from the Government what is the minimum figure to justify a Sub-registry office on commission basis?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: According to the Inspector General of Registration, it will be near about 1,500.

Moulana Md. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN: For both kinds?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Yes, for both.

Retailer of cloth in Jaluguti in the District of Nowgong

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE asked:

532. (a) Will Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that one Rahmat Balia has been selected as a retailer of cloth in Jaluguti in the District of Nowgong by cancelling the retailership from one Abdul Hamid of the same place?

(b) Is it a fact that the aforesaid Abdul Hamid has an established shop at Jaluguti while Rahmat Balia never did any business in his life and has no financial position to run a retailer's shop for cloths?

(c) If so, will Government be pleased to state who is financing his business?

(d) Are Government aware that this retailer, whenever a Muslim comes to him to buy cloth, refuses to sell him unless he pays 4 annas after signing the Congress Creed?

(e) If so, do Government approve of the conduct of this retailer?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY replied:

532. (a)—Yes. The local Liaison Committee selected Rahmat Ali Thakuria, and not Rahmat Balia, in place of Abdul Hamid.

(b)—Abdul Hamid had a retail shop. Government have no information whether Rahmat Ali Thakuria was engaged in business previously and whether his financial position is bad. He has, however, been paying for his quota regularly.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—A complaint to this effect was received and enquired into by the Deputy Commissioner but the allegations were found to be baseless.

(e)—Does not arise.

Monthly quota of cloth sanctioned for the Nowgong District

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE asked:

533. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The monthly quota of cloth sanctioned for the district of Nowgong?

(b) The monthly quota or part of quota actually received by the Textile Department, Nowgong for distribution month by month since February 1946?

(c) Whether it is a fact that monthly quota never arrives in the district regularly? sanctioned for Nowgong

- (d) If so, who is responsible for this and what steps Government have taken or propose to take to ensure regular arrival of the allotted quota every month ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that there are still thousands of people who have not been given ration card for cloth by the District Textile Department, and applications for ration cards are summarily rejected by the authority on the ground of non-provision of cloth ?
- (f) If so, whether Government propose to take steps to ensure provision for those who are not getting any controlled cloth at present in the District of Nowgong ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY replied :

533. (a)—325 bales.

(b)—February	1946	...	...	...	79 bales.
March	1946	...	...	...	190 ditto.
April	1946	...	...	...	232 ditto.
May	1946	...	...	...	307 ditto.
June	1946	...	...	...	504 ditto.
July	1946	...	...	...	339 ditto.
August	1946	...	...	...	438 ditto.
September	1946	...	...	...	115 ditto.
October	1946	...	...	...	131 ditto.
November	1946	...	...	...	373 ditto.
December	1946	...	...	...	357 ditto.
January	1947	...	...	...	361 ditto.
February	1947	...	...	...	256 ditto.

(c) & (d)—For the last six months a cut of 10 per cent. amounting to about 720 bales per month was imposed on our provincial quota by the Textile Commissioner to the Government of India. Moreover, due to riots, strikes and lower production in the mills, the Textile Commissioner could not release the full quota in any month and arrears consequently accumulated. Present releases are however, on a larger scale.

(e)—No separate Textile Ration Cards were issued in Nowgong. Cloth was issued against foodstuffs Ration Cards under the supervision of Supply Department except to Government Free Ration holders who receive separate Textile Cards. It is not a fact that the Textile authorities reject applications for ration cards on the ground of non-provision of cloth. Holders of ration cards are entitled to receive cloth according to the stock position. Recently the Deputy Commissioner has been asked to issue separate ration cards for cloth.

(f)—Does not arise.

Improvement of Local Breeds of Poultry

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked :

534. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The rural or town areas other than Silchar, Dibrugarh and Gauhati where poultry farms or works for improvement of local breeds of poultry have been undertaken by them ?
- (b) Whether the type of poultry farms at Gauhati, Silchar and Dibrugarh with the *pucca* building and all the paraphernalia in its trail would be suitable for the village people of Assam to adopt it or whether it is meant to serve as model ?
- (c) If not, how do they propose to improve the quality and quantity of poultry breed in the rural areas ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

534. (a)—The Department has undertaken works mainly in the interior areas of the districts of Kamrup, Lakhimpur, Cachar and Sylhet and more particularly in the adjoining rural areas of Jorhat, Titabar, Goalpara, Sylhet and Karimganj towns.

(b)—*Pucca* expensive farm houses will not be suitable for villages. A type of cheap moveable poultry house suitable for these areas is now in use in the Government poultry farms and the Department intends to popularise them in the villages.

(c)—The Department proposes to do this by following the present policy of grading up the local poultry with the help of imported improved breeds.

Distribution of oil cake and compost manure in Barpeta Subdivision

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked :

535. Will Government be pleased to state how much oil cake and how much compost manure were distributed in the Barpeta Subdivision in 1946-47 for demonstration purposes and how ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

535.—The total quantity of oil cake issued for demonstration in Barpeta Subdivision during 1946-47 was 80 (eighty maunds only). The quantity was distributed among the Agricultural Demonstrators and Kamdars to be issued to the interested cultivators. The detail of distribution is given in the table No. I, below :—

TABLE No. I

Officers with Headquarters	Quantity of oil cake issued			
				Mds.
1. A. D. Barpeta	10
2. A. K. Barpeta	6
3. A. D. Pathsala	10
4. R. O. Marka	10
5. A. K. Pathsala	10
6. A. K. Sorbhog	10
7. A. D. Barpeta Road	10
8. L. C. Kakati (local man)	10
9. Mohanlal Choudhury (local man)	8
				6
				80

(ii)—The Nos. of demonstration conducted by each demonstrator and Kamdar are also given below :—

A. D. Barpeta	...	...	...	5 Nos.
A. K. Barpeta	...	...	...	3 "
A. D. Barpeta Road	...	...	...	5 "
A. K. Sorbhog	...	...	...	5 "
A. D. Pathsala	...	...	...	5 "
A. K. Pathsala	...	...	...	5 "
R. O. Marka	...	...	...	5 "

(iii)—In case of compost manure 50,000 c.ft. of compost manure was prepared locally by the cultivators with the help of the Agricultural Demonstrators and Kamdars during the year 1946-47 in 184 houses in Barpeta Subdivision. The dimension of heaps was (10×5×2) which produced 100 c.ft. of compost manure. The cultivators were given subsidy for preparing the compost manure at Re.1 per hundred c.ft. And Rs.500 was spent for operating this scheme in Barpeta subdivision. The statement given below will show the location where the compost manure were prepared and utilised.

Name of officer	Name of Circle	Quantity of manure prepared	No. of house	Remarks
1. Srijut Durganath Sarmah	A. D. Barpeta	5,000 c.ft.	17	
2. Srijut Dinanath Das	A. K. Barpeta	8,000 "	21	
3. Srijut Padma Ram Das	A. D. Pathsala	7,000 "	21	
4. Md. Guinuddin Ahmed	A. K. Pathsala	5,500 "	22	
5. Srijut Krishna Kanta Goswami	R. O. Marka	2,500 "	12	
6. Srijut Chanaram Kachari	A. D. Barpeta Road	5,000 "	22	
7. Md. Mantaz Ali	A. K. Baghbar	8,000 "	37	
8. Md. Akbar Ali	A. K. Tarabari	5,000 "	12	
9. Srijut Mukunda Narayan Datta	A. K. Sorbhog	4,000 "	20	
		50,000 "	184	

Scarcity of umbrella in the Province

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA asked :

536. Will Government be pleased to state—

- Whether they are aware of the scarcity of umbrella throughout the Province ?
- The reason of such scarcity ?
- What is the function of Mr. Mazumdar who is placed at Calcutta by the Assam Government ?
- Whether it is a fact that he is acting there against the instructions of Government ?
- If so, what steps have been taken by Government against him ?
- Whether Government propose to take immediate steps for the supply of umbrellas throughout the Province without any further delay ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY replied :

536. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Supply position has deteriorated due to the withdrawal of control by Government of India over distribution of umbrellas and ribs.

(c)—The duty of the Trade Adviser, Calcutta, is to maintain contact with the Civil Supplies Departments of Government of India and Bengal and other Provinces and to assist traders in procuring goods at controlled prices and to maintain contact with the Transport Authorities and to see that all transport laid on is fully utilised.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—The question does not arise in view of withdrawal of control over umbrellas and ribs.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : With regard to 536 (c) may I know what is the function of Mr. Mazumdar ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : The function of Mr. Mazumdar is that he is the Trade Adviser. He is stationed in Calcutta. He is to maintain contact with the Civil Supplies Departments of the Government of India and Bengal and other provinces and to assist traders in procuring goods at controlled prices and to maintain contact with the Transport Authorities and to see that all transport laid on is fully utilised. These are the duties of this officer.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : Mr. Mazumdar is the Trade Adviser ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : Yes.

Mr. HARENDRA NATH SARMA : Is it one of the duties of the Trade Adviser to attend Howrah and Sealdah stations when any high official goes to Calcutta ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : From scarcity of umbrella, how can we travel to Sealdah platform ?

Mr. HARENDRA NATH SARMA : Since his duties are the subject-matter of the question, my question is perhaps not irrelevant.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : He gives all necessary information to the Ministers when they are in a hurry to go to Delhi.

Mr. HARENDRA NATH SARMA : But my humble self also stays at Calcutta, Sir. *(laughter)*

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA asked :

537. Will Government be pleased to state what are the total annual productions of the following products in Assam :—

(i) Tea, (ii) Rice, (iii) Paddy, (iv) Jute, (v) Mustard seed, (vi) Dhaniya, (vii) Dal of different varieties, (viii) Petroleum products such as

Petrol, (ix) Superior Kerosene, (x) Inferior Kerosene, (xi) Diesel Oil, (xii) High Speed Diesel Oil, (xiii) Light Distillate Fuel Oil and (xiv) Lubricants of all varieties.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

537.—A statement is given below :—

(i)—Tea—128,300 tons (1945-46).			
(ii)—Rice	} 1,900,615 tons of rice or	} 1946-47 forecast figures.	
(iii)—Paddy			} 3,040,984 tons of paddy.
(iv)—Jute—481,800 bales of 400 lbs. each.			
(v)—Mustard (Rape and mustard)—50,300 tons.			
(vi)—Dhaniya—No figure available.			
(vii)—Dal (Pulses)—			
(a) Mati Kalai—17,770 tons.			
(b) Pulses other than Matikalai—9,020 tons.			
(viii)—Petroleum products such as petrol—2,29,38,304½	} gallons.		} Figure for 1945.
(ix)—Superior Kerosene				} No separate figures are readily available. The total output was 1,04,97,418 gallons.
(x)—Inferior Kerosene			
(xi)—Diesel Oil—41,47,760 gallons.			
(xii)—High Speed Diesel Oil—91,44,601 gallons.			
(xiii)—Light Distillate Fuel Oil—85,238 gallons.			
(xiv)—Lubricants of all varieties—15,08,692 gallons.			

Telegraphic connection of North Lakhimpur

Srijut HEM CHANDRA HAZARIKA asked :

538. (a) Are Government aware that the telegraphic connection of North Lakhimpur has been most irregular for the last two or three years ?

(b) Do Government propose to move the authorities concerned to maintain the line in proper order ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY replied :

538. (a) & (b)—The matter was brought to the notice of the Director, Posts and Telegraphs, Assam, whose report is reproduced below :—

“I have the honour to say that the records of this Department show that during the past three years there had been only three interruptions on the particular circuit. It will, therefore, be appreciated if any specific instances are furnished to enable this office to make further enquiries in the matter.”

It is under consideration to lay an under-water cable between Tezpur and Sootea in replacement of the existing cables which are not giving satisfactory results”.

Names of Collieries in the Province

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI asked :

539. Will Government be pleased to state—
- The names of Collieries in the Province together with the names of owners in each case ?
 - The daily average output of coal in each of these Collieries ?
 - The net income of each of these Collieries during the last seven years, year by year ?
 - Whether Government proposes to nationalise these Collieries ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

539. (a) & (b)—A statement is given below :—

Name of Collieries	Name of owner	Daily average output during 1946
1. Lekhapani Colliery	Messrs. The Assam Railway and Trading Company Limited (Incorporated in England).	No raising.
2. Tipong Colliery ...	Ditto	
3. Namdang Colliery	Ditto	58.6 Tons.
4. Baragolai Colliery	Ditto	126.3
5. Ledo Valley Colliery.	Ditto	441.6 "
6. Kongon and Borjan Colliery.	Messrs. The Nazira Coal Company Limited.	178.3 "
7. Delli Colliery ...	Mr. D. D. Lohia	50.1 "
8. Bemolapur Colliery	Mr. D. C. Barooah	25.3 "
(c)—Government have no information.		1.2 "
(d)—There is no such proposal under the consideration of Government at present.		

Agricultural College at Jorhat

Mr. P. M. SARWAN asked :

540. (a) Is it a fact that the construction of the Agricultural College at Jorhat is being postponed ?
- (b) If so, why ?
- (c) Is it a fact that the proposed Agricultural College at Jorhat be shifted to Sylhet ?
- (d) If so, why ?
- (e) Will Government be pleased to state the area of land under cultivation for the following crops in Sibsagar District :—
- Tea ;
 - Paddy ;
 - Mustard seed ;
 - Potato ;
 - Sugar cane ;
 - Pineapple ;
 - Wheat ?

(f) What areas of land are under cultivation for such crops as tea in Kamrup and Sylhet Districts?

(g) Are Government aware of the existing facilities for an Agricultural College at Jorhat, namely Entomological Laboratory, Cereals Laboratory, Sericultural Laboratory and Meteorological Laboratory?

(h) Will Government be pleased to state definitely whether they intend to start the Agricultural College immediately?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied:

540. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Tea	...	...	...	104,152	acres.
Paddy	...	...	...	192,731	"
Mustard	...	...	...	23,816	"
Potatoes	...	...	...	2,396	"
Sugarcane	...	...	...	11,735	"
Pineapple	...	...	...	78	"
Wheat	...	...	...	Nil	"

as per year 1945-46.

(f)—For Kamrup District for the same year 4,439 ; 927,512 ; 70,687 ; 11,197 ; 10,137 ; 85 ; 84 acres respectively ; figures of Sylhet not furnished.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—Government are taking steps to start as soon as practicable.

Number of Foreign Scholarships

Mr. P. M. SARWAN asked :

541. Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge be pleased to state—

- The number of foreign scholarships granted to students from Kamrup District and to students from other Districts of the Assam Valley respectively?
- What is the number of foreign scholarship holders who left for foreign countries from Kamrup District and from other Districts of the Assam Valley?
- What are the special qualifications possessed by the students of Kamrup District to merit special favour from the Education Department?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied :

541. (a)—The number of foreign scholarships granted to students—

(i)	from Kamrup District up to date is	...	10
(ii)	" Sibsagar	...	13
(iii)	" Goalpara	...	3

(iv)	from Nowgong District up to date js	...	1
(v)	.. Lakhimpur ..	..	1
(vi)	.. Darrang ..	..	Nil
Total ...			28

(b)—Foreign scholarship holders who left for foreign countries from—

(i)	Kamrup	...	4*	*One was in England already. ** Ditto
(ii)	Sibsagar	...	8**	
(iii)	Goalpara	...	3	
(iv)	Nowgong	...	1	
(v)	Lakhimpur	...	1	
(vi)	Darrang	...	Nil	
Total ...			17	

(c)—The selection for awarding scholarships are not made on the district basis. Scholarships were awarded to candidates possessing 1st Class Masters' degrees or good graduates' degrees, preference being given to the former. Practical and Research experience and other factors relating to the candidates were also considered.

Resolution regarding supply of microscope to Veterinary Hospitals (further discussion)

Srijut GAURI, KANTA TALUKDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other day while we were discussing my Resolution regarding provisions to be made for supplying microscope to every veterinary dispensary in the Province, some of the hon. Members wanted to have further informations regarding the nature and symptoms of the two diseases mentioned in my Resolution, *viz.*, Haemorrhagic Septicaemia and Anthrax. To-day, I can supply my hon. Friends with further informations based on expert opinion. I beg to refer my hon. Friend to "Some Diseases of Cattle in India" edited by Major G. K. Walker and published by the Office of the Superintendent of Government Printing, India. There at page 6 we find that the nature of Haemorrhagic Septicaemia is described thus:—"Haemorrhagic Septicaemia is an infective blood disease caused by a specific organism which attacks animals and birds in different ways. Cattle and Buffaloes are mainly affected." Then, Sir, as regards symptoms it is stated thus:—"Several different manifestations of the disease are recognised, but the usual symptoms met with in India, are high fever and marked constitutional disturbance with difficult breathing. The disease may take the form of a severe inflammation of the bowel when abdominal pain with diarrhoea and dysentery is manifested. may or may not be associated with throat symptoms." Then, Sir, as regards treatment of Haemorrhagic Septicaemia it has been said amongst others that "a protective serum is also available which can be used during an outbreak, as it gives immediate protection for a short period." Now as regards the nature of anthrax, it is stated at page 8 that "Anthrax is an infective blood disease which attacks all animals including man. Anthrax is susceptible of the domestic animals are horses, cattle, sheep, goats, elephants and camels". Then, Sir, as regards symptoms it is stated "in many cases animals die suddenly, no symptoms having been noticed. The most generally rapid. Abdominal pain may be noticed accompanied by the evacuation of fluid dung which may be bloodstained. The urine may be bloodstained also".

So, Sir, what I said the other day, that bloodstained stool is one of the symptoms, is correct. Then, as regards treatment, we find at page 9 that "Large doses of anti-anthrax serum, if available, may be tried".

We, therefore, find, Sir, that these two diseases are infective blood diseases and blood is the main thing which shall have to be examined. Now, in both the cases we have just seen that serum of some kind is to be used. At page 8, it is also stated "there is no doubt that the disease (anthrax) was and still is frequently confused with hæmorrhagic septicæmia, which it stimulates in many respects".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think that is enough for vindicating the hon. Member's position.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: I only want to say that these two diseases are very deceptive and very difficult to diagnose.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We shall discuss this matter when we take up Resolutions.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: But there is no time for that.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This is not the Resolution hour, and the agenda to-day is heavy. The hon. Member only wanted to vindicate his position, as the Hon'ble Minister disputed him.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Only one thing I want to say, Sir, and that is that it will be clear from what I have read out that these two diseases are difficult to be diagnosed without the help of a microscope as blood is the main thing to be examined.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: To-day is not a private Member's day.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: One word, Sir. So, it is clear that a microscope is absolutely necessary for helping the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons in villages in fighting against these diseases.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Would the hon. Member like to hear what the Hon'ble Finance Minister wanted to say?

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: The hon. Leader of the Opposition has called him an opponent of my Resolution. I hope he will not prove an opponent. He is a friend of the cultivators. I want the Hon'ble Finance Minister to take advantage of my suggestion and try to help the villagers as much as he can.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: I have also got a note, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We shall take all these up in due course.

Complaint re: non-receipt of replies to certain questions

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, মোৰ কেইটামান কথা admitted হৈছিল, কিন্তু আজিলৈকে উত্তৰ পোৱা নাই।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: কি প্রশ্ন ?

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: আজি ৫ মাহৰ আগতে প্রশ্ন দিছিলো। প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰো আহিছে বুধি ধৰিব পাৰিছো, কিন্তু উত্তৰ আজিলৈকে নাপালো। প্রশ্নটো পঢ়িব পাৰো:—

(a) Will Government be pleased to state how many gallons of petrol have been issued to Messrs. Allen Berry and Company, Dibrugarh, from 1st January 1946 till 28th February 1947 for transport vehicles which they purchased from the Military ?

(b) Is it a fact that lately about 14,000 gallons of petrol were issued to them in about 1 month for the purpose of transport of their vehicles purchased from the Military ?

(c) If not, what quantity of petrol was issued to them month by month during the period of last 14 months ?

(d) Are Government aware that the said.....

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I think, Sir, there is no need for reading out the whole set of Questions. The hon. Member has already given an indication about the nature of his Questions.

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: এই প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰ আজিলৈকে দিয়া হোৱা নাই। কাইলৈ পৰিষদৰ অধিবেশন শেষ হব। এনেকুৱা আৰু ২৫টা মান প্রশ্ন জুন মাহতে admitted হৈছিল, কিন্তু আজিলৈকে উত্তৰ দিয়া নাই।

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLAI: কথা কৈছে অহত: সেইটো প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰ তৈয়াৰ হৈছে। এডেম্বলি তেখেতে আছিল আৰু বোধ কৰো প্রশ্নবিলাকো সেই অনুসারে distribute আৰু ২ দিন যিটো হঠাৎ পৰিষদ বন্ধ কৰিব লগা হোৱাত এই অৱস্থা হৈছে বুলি কৰি দিয়া বহিৰৰ প্রশ্ন যদি উত্তৰ বিচাৰে, এনেয়ে বিচাৰিলেও পাৰ। কৰি দিয়া হৈছিল। কথা বিণাস হয়। প্রশ্নবিলাকৰ

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: এইবোৰ ready হৈ থাকিলে এনেয়ে দি দিব পাৰিলে হেতেন।

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: আজি ৫ মাহ হল। আছিল এনেয়ে দি দিব হেতেন।

Information re: Distribution of Government Holidays

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to get an information from the Government regarding Government Holidays. 15th of August last we have entered into a new era. Sir, since

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We have got a heavy agenda for the day.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: I only want to say that the present allotment and distribution of Government holidays do not meet public demand and do not enjoy popular approval.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then, I have to ascertain the sense of the House whether they are willing to sit beyond to-morrow, in which case Assembly Secretary will have to inform the Chief Secretary for making necessary arrangement.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: It is a very small matter and can be finished soon. May we know, Sir, whether Government propose to revise and re-adjust the list of Government holidays to meet the national demand?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member recollect that the consideration of the Draft Principles of the Model Provincial Constitution is also hanging over?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: Sir, Government have already appointed a Committee to go into this question. The Committee will shortly examine the question of shortening the number of holidays. That is the decision. At present we give 37 full holidays, whereas Bengal gives 27 and the Government of India gives only 19.

Srijut DHIRSINGH DEORI: মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঃবীয়া, Assam Land and Revenue (Amendment) Bill এই Session তে pass হ'ব নেকি?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: সেইটোও আছে। আনি তাইল এতিয়া আহিম।

The Gauhati University Bill, 1947

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We take up item 2 of the Agenda.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: Mr. speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Gauhati University Bill, 1947, and to move that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

In moving this Motion, I have not much to say except that we, the Members of the Select Committee, were unanimous in almost everything excepting two matters which had been the subject-matter of dissent, one being of my hon. Friends Maulavi Abual Majid Ziaosh Shams and Maulavi Sayidur Rahman, and the other being of Srijut Motiram Bora. The note of dissent on behalf of Messrs. Ziaosh Shams and Sayidur Rahman is for incorporating certain provisions for reservation of seats for the Muslims in the University Court and in the Executive Council. But, having regard to the principles of the Bill, I mean the central idea of the Bill, it will be for them, of course, to see whether they could do without pressing them.

There is another note of dissent by Srijut Motiram Bora the purport of which is to stop affiliation of any kind of institution in the Province with any other University except with the consent of the Gauhati University Council. In respect of this note of dissent, all that can be said is that the action might evoke reciprocal by other Universities on the one hand and on the other even if institutions which may not be recognised by Government may not have any scope of any activity whatsoever in the Province. These are indeed the two notes of dissent which have been incorporated in the Report that is before you.

Now, the Select Committee after consideration have added one or two things and they are as follows :—

A clear provision has been made by which the Gauhati University Trust Board is to be dissolved and all properties and rights now vested in the said Trust Board is to be transferred to the University.

Then we have incorporated a provision from the draft of the last Assam University Bill (which was in the Select Committee stage) defining the scope of the University and its jurisdiction and that is contained in clause 1 (4). This has been newly incorporated. The object of this clause is that the Calcutta University and the Dacca Intermediate Board shall cease to exercise their jurisdiction over the educational institutions recognised by the Government of Assam and that this University shall exercise authority and jurisdiction over such institutions from the date from which this Act comes into force.

The last clause which has been incorporated in the Bill had been done with a specific purpose and that is in reference to taking certain action by the Government during the period of time between the establishment of the University and when the University will be in full working order. That clause is clause 38. This is a transitional provision and the object of that provision is to hold University examinations which it is the intention of the Government to take over even from the next examination. The provision that has been incorporated is as follows :—

“If any difficulty arises with respect to the establishment of the University or in connection with the first meeting of any authority of the University or in connection with the holding of the first examinations of the University and publishing results thereof or otherwise in first giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Provincial Government may, at any time before all the authorities of the University have been constituted, by order make any appointment or do anything, consistent so far as may be with the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, which appears to it necessary or expedient for the purpose of removing the difficulty, and every such order shall have effect as if such appointment or action had been made or taken in the manner provided in this Act”.

It will be seen that even action that has been proposed by Government under this clause must be consistent with the provisions of the University Bill.

With these words, Sir, I move that the Report of the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That the Gauhati University Bill, 1947 as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.”

(After a pause)

I take that no body is taking part in the debate.
Then I am putting the question.

The question is :

“That the Gauhati University Bill, 1947 as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.”

The question was adopted.

**Formation of a Committee for Modification of Assam Legislative
Assembly Rules**

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: Sir, I beg to move that consequent on the change of the Provincial Constitution under the Indian Independence Act, 1947 and the India (Provisional Constitution) Orders, 1947, following therefrom, a Committee consisting of the following hon. Members, with the Hon'ble the Speaker as Chairman, be formed to amend or modify the Assam Legislative Assembly Rules under sub-section (1) of Section 84 of the Government of India Act, 1935 :—

1. Maulavi Sayidur Rahman,
2. Mr. J. S. Hardman,
3. Babu Kamini Kumar Sen,
4. Srijut Kameswar Das,
5. Srijut Hareswar Das.

Three members will form a quorum and the time for submitting the report must be before the next sitting of the Assembly.

As I said, Sir, the Motion is self-explanatory. The Indian Independence Act has brought a fundamental change in the Constitution of 1935 Act and one important change is that the Governor's authority in respect of almost the whole sphere of administration is taken away. The Governor now acts more or less as a Constitutional Governor. The House very well know that we had a full section of Rules with regard to the exercise of powers by the Governor in his discretion as well as in his individual judgment. Now, naturally these Rules will not be there. There will also be certain changes consequent on the transfer of power in reference to the procedure of financial matters. All these things have got to be carefully gone into and the rules modified accordingly.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Do you think that the joint sitting Rules should be retained ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: No, all these things will go naturally. Thus there will be plenty of changes in the procedure. By putting the word "amend" I mean, Sir, the committee shall have powers to frame additional Rules. We all know that we should take up this work as early as possible and according to the wish of the House I am moving this Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :

"That consequent on the change of the Provincial Constitution under the Indian Independence Act, 1947 and the India (Provisional Constitution) Orders, 1947, following therefrom, a committee consisting of the following hon. Members, with the Hon'ble Speaker as Chairman, be formed to amend or modify the Assam Legislative Assembly Rules under sub-section (1) of Section 84 of the Government of India Act, 1935—

1. Maulavi Sayidur Rahman,
2. Mr. J. S. Hardman,
3. Babu Kamini Kumar Sen,
4. Srijut Kameswar Das,
5. Srijut Hareswar Das.

Three members to form a quorum and the report is to be submitted before the next session of the Assembly".

Shall I put the question also ?

Maulavi SAIYID MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Is not the time-limit very vague? We don't know when the next session of the Assembly will commence.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: Let us put it as 31st December, 1947.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then I put it that the report is to be submitted before 31st December, 1947?

The question is—

“That consequent on the change of the Provincial Constitution under the Indian Independence Act, 1947 and the India (Provisional Constitution) Orders, 1947, following therefrom, a Committee consisting of the following hon. Members, with the Hon'ble Speaker as chairman, be formed to amend or modify the Assam Legislative Assembly Rules under sub-section (1) of Section 84 of the Government of India Act, 1935:—

1. Maulavi Sayidur Rahman,
2. Mr. J. S. Hardman,
3. Babu Kamin' Kumar Sen,
4. Srijut Kameswar Das,
5. Srijut Hareswar Das.

Three members to form a quorum and the report is to be submitted before 31st December, 1947.”

The question was adopted.

The Assam Pure Food Bill, 1947

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Item No. 4—consideration of the Assam Pure Food Bill, 1947, clause by clause.

Here we have three Amendments. There is no Amendment to clauses 1 to 7 and therefore, I propose to put the question in respect of these clauses straight way.

The question is:

“That clauses 1 to 7 both inclusive of the Bill, stand part of the Bill”.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: In respect of clause 8, the first Amendment stands in the name of Maulavi Abual Majid Ziaosh Shams. Does he propose to move his Amendment?

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: Yes, Sir. Shall I move all the Amendments together?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: Is the hon. Member allowed to move all the Amendments together?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Which will be more convenient to the Hon'ble Minister?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: I think, it will be convenient to all if the hon. Member is allowed to move one after another.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: All right.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAO H SHAMS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that under clause 8, in sub-clause (1) (b), after the word "butter", the words "including tinned butter or butter in closed receptacles" shall be added.

In moving this Amendment I want to point out this fact that it is very often — I should say universally—accepted, that tinned-butter is pure butter. But I can tell the hon. Members of this House that tinned butters generally such as we found in the Bazar are not really so, most of these are adulterated save and except perhaps the Australian Butter which is not in the market now and which comes under the brand "Cow and Girl" all other butters are generally adulterated. All these varieties of butter are being sold and so many people have consumed it. But up till now has anybody taken a sample of these tinned-butter and has it been ever sent to the public analyst for examination? The result is that we are consuming this poisonous food without trying to improve the same.

So, in order to emphasise the point that not only the butter which is churned locally every kind of butter that comes for sale should be properly examined and samples should be taken therefrom and sent to the public analyst. As a matter of fact about 90 per cent. of the butter that is supplied in Assam, Calcutta and other parts of India comes from this tinned butter and unconsciously and sometimes consciously we have got to consume it. So, for this reason I have moved this Amendment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved:

"That in sub-clause (1) (b) of clause 8, after the word 'butter' the words 'including tinned butter or butter in closed receptacles' shall be added".

Mr. C. W. MORLEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I consume some of the brands of butter that my hon. Friend has mentioned. He has stated that these are all adulterated. May I know in what way they are adulterated?

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: I have mentioned some brands and I have found that the Ghee that is produced from those brands does not smell real Ghee, *i.e.*, it smells adulterated Ghee and then the Australian butter, as I have said just now, my idea about it is, that it is almost pure.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has moved his Motion on a misunderstanding. He is under the impression that Government has not taken into consideration the question of tinned-butter or butter in closed-receptacles. By the word butter, we mean also tinned-butter and butter in closed-receptacles. Therefore, Sir, according to our opinion this Amendment is redundant and on that ground, I oppose it.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member press his Amendment?

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOS SHAMS: I know that butter includes tinned-butter; but upto this time, I can challenge the Government whether anybody cared to send these butters for examination to the Public Analyst. The thing is this, butter includes tinned-butter and all sorts of butter. But I emphasise the point that prosecution should be directed to the sellers of tinned-butter, or if possible, catch the persons who are in the origin or source of it. I have purposely used tinned-butter or butter in closed-receptacles; otherwise, there will be definite harm to most of us who use tinned butters, other than butters that is produced by local dairies, Goalas or churners.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Does the hon. Member know that butter includes tinned-butter and butter in closed-receptacles ?

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS : I know, Sir, but I emphasise it as otherwise, there will be no prosecution.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : After knowing it, has the hon. Member any objection to withdraw it ?

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS : But still I insist on Government to issue instructions that the closed-receptacle or tinned butter should also come under the supervision and examination. After Government agree that instruction will be given by Government Directorate then, of course, I will be able to withdraw.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS : That can be presumed, Sir.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS : I beg to withdraw my Amendment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw the Amendment ?

The Amendment was, by leave of the House withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Then the second Amendment may be moved

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS : Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (I) (e) of clause 8, after the words "mustard oil", the words "cocoanut oil" shall be added.

It will mean that no person shall directly or indirectly sell mustard oil and cocoanut oil when it is adulterated. The thing, cocoanut oil, does not come strictly under food, but we all know that cocoanut oil is used for toilet purpose in India. Mustard oil is used as frying medium for oil or fat. But in Madras and some other parts of India, we know that cocoanut oil is eaten or consumed. But only in Bengal, Assam and a portion of Bihar mustard oil is used for cooking. There are Madrasi people in Assam also, who consume this cocoanut oil. When the cocoanut oil comes under this control adulteration of cocoanut oil. If anybody goes to market in Shillong, Dhubri or any other place in India, he will find it extremely difficult to procure pure cocoanut oil, as 99 per cent. vendors will produce cocoanut oil mixed up or adulterated with white oil. White oil is produced in the process of making of petrol, I think, as a by-product. If cocoanut oil is kept for some days after purchase it smells like kerosene oil and this is so almost in 99 per cent. cases as it is adulterated with white oil.

So, my intention in moving this Amendment is to have control on cocoanut oil also as on mustard oil, because of the reason that it is used also for food purposes.

I hope, the Hon'ble Minister will not oppose this Amendment also, because he has got a majority by his side, and as this reasonable proposition has come from a minority group in the House. I want it for the good of all people.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR : Is the hon. Member right in saying this as the Hon'ble Minister has not as yet replied to that ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved:

"That in sub-clause (1) (e), of clause 3, after the words 'mustard oil' the words 'cocoanut oil' shall be added."

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Amendment also shall have to be opposed by me. I oppose it not on the ground that this Motion comes from the Minority Group but on the ground that this Motion is also redundant.

Under clause 3 (1) (f), Government has taken power to prescribe certain number of articles. I may be permitted to read this "any other article of food which may be notified by the Provincial Government in this behalf". I again repeat that this Amendment has been moved by my hon. Friend also under a misunderstanding. He is under the impression that Government has not thought of cocoanut oil as an oil of food. I can tell him, Sir, that Government takes it as a food and it will be prescribed as such under the provision (f). On this ground, I oppose his Amendment.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: Then I beg to withdraw with the leave of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Amendment?

The Amendment was by leave of the House withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member's Amendment No. 3 is consequential, so it need not be moved.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: Yes, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will the hon. Member move Amendment No. (4)?

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—That after sub-clause (4) of clause 3, the following proviso shall be added:—
"Provided that the Provincial Government may prescribe that the products known as vegetable ghee, Banaspati, Dalda, ground nut oil or white oil or the same or similar substance under different names other than mustard oil, sesame or Teel oil or cocoanut oil, linseed oil and oil derived from any rape seed shall be sold coloured green, red, blue, or rosy; or in the alternative the Provincial Government may also prescribe that the substance known as vegetable ghee, Banaspati, Dalda, ground nut oil or white oil or the same or the similar substance under different names with the exception as provided for above or other exceptions as may be prescribed shall not be sold by any vendor to, or purchased by, persons who deal directly or indirectly in ghee, butter, mustard oil, cocoanut oil except under a permit from a responsible officer as prescribed and the permit to be issued on a specified object and is rarely to be issued to such dealers."

Explanation—"Persons who deal" shall include "a sweet meat vendor".

Now, Sir, you know the need for our daily life as regards food; it is known that in many varieties and the most delicious food of ours by which Indian dishes are prepared they require butter and ghee, but we know that certain vegetable fats are used as an adulterating media; they are vegetable fat called vegetable ghee, Banaspati, Dalda, and ground nut oil and mineral oil are also used as adulterating media. In some cases cocoanut oil is also used as an adulterating ingredient for Ghee and ground nut oil is used for adulterating mustard oil—

ground nut oil being very cheap; and then, linseed oil is also similarly used for adulterating mustard oil. These are the basic oils, Sir, which should be dealt with so that they cannot be used as adulterating media and the only way to check the same is by colouring them and that no such substances or oil should be allowed to be imported into Assam or allowed to be sold unless the same is coloured green, red, blue, etc., as just now stated by me. If they are sold in a coloured state, then surely they cannot be used as adulterating substances for our ghee, butter, mustard oil, etc., because as soon as they are mixed together, our butter, ghee, etc., will take a colour quite different from the natural colour; so adulteration would be made an impossibility.

I have stated an alternative in my Amendment because, if it is decided upon by Government that these substances could not be coloured like that, the Provincial Government may prescribe that these substances should not be sold to persons who are responsible for this adulteration of food and should not be purchased by those persons also who are dealing either directly or indirectly in ghee, mustard oil, butter, etc., without a permit from a responsible officer and even then only in rare cases these persons can get them otherwise not, and the object must be specified. I have stated that persons "who deal" in these things include sweetmeat vendors. It is through sweetmeat vendors, Sir, that we generally take things such as *kochcurie*, *nimki* and other sweets which are prepared with these adulterated substances; so these sweetmeat vendors will be persons who cannot purchase these adulterating substances unless permitted by Government and that such permits should be rarely issued.

From this, it is clear, Sir, that the object and idea of my Amendment is to check adulteration of our food. I consider this is very urgent and necessary to make it almost impracticable for unscrupulous persons to adulterate those valuable foods with which we are concerned and which are taken daily by every Indian family.

With these words, Sir, I commend my Amendment for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved:

"That after sub-clause (4) of clause 8, the following proviso shall be added:—

'Provided that the Provincial Government may prescribe that the products known as vegetable ghee, Banaspati, Dalda, ground nut oil or white oil or the same or similar substance under different names other than mustard oil, sesame oil or Teel oil or cocoanut oil, linseed oil and oil derived from any rape seed shall be sold coloured green, red, blue, or rosy; or in the alternative the Provincial Government may also prescribe that the substance known as vegetable ghee, Banaspati, Dalda, ground nut oil or white oil or the same or the similar substance under different names with the exceptions as provided for above, or other substances as may be prescribed shall not be sold by any vendor to, or purchased by, persons who deal directly or indirectly in ghee, butter, mustard oil, cocoanut oil except under a permit from a responsible officer as prescribed and the permit to be issued on a specified object and is rarely to be issued to such dealers.

Explanation:—'Persons who deal' shall include 'a sweetmeat vendor'."

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I express my sincere thanks to my hon. Friend, Maulavi Abual Majid Zioash Shams for placing this suggestion of colouring vegetable ghee before this House. I appreciate his earnestness for helping the people from being duped or from being injured by unwholesome food-stuffs now sold in the market. He introduced a Pure Food Bill himself in this House but as the Government had been pleased to undertake legislation on this subject, he did not like to pursue his Bill.

Sir, it is known to all that vegetable ghee, Banaspati, Dalda, ground nut oil, white oil and such other materials are being freely used by unscrupulous traders for adulterating ghee and other food-stuffs and it is very difficult for ordinary people to detect adulteration. These adulterants are all perfectly white in colour and they can be easily mixed with food-stuffs without being detected. So, the suggestion of my hon. Friend is that these substances must be coloured if they are allowed to be sold in the market. It will not be so easy then for the unscrupulous persons to adulterate our food-stuffs. What he suggests is that these articles should be coloured green, red, etc., before they are placed in the market. He has asked the Government to prescribe such provisions under their rule-making authority of the Bill. And it is not a substantive provision in the Bill itself but he simply wants that Government should make provision in the Rules prescribed to have these articles coloured.

I hope Government will readily accept his suggestions and incorporate them in their Rules that are to be framed under the rule-making power of this Bill. In that event, Sir, his alternative proposal, namely, that they should not be sold without a permit will be unnecessary.

I hope Government will accept his suggestions and my Friend, Maulavi Abual Majid Ziaosh Shams will withdraw his Amendment.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not differ with the hon. Mover of this Motion in respect of the principle of his Amendment, but I differ with him in respect of the procedure that he wants to adopt. He wants to embody in the body of the Act what he wants us to do. But, Sir, in our opinion this can be done by Government under its rule-making power.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: What is the harm if the first portion of the Amendment is embodied in the Statute?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: Government at present cannot say whether these four colours will suit or not. They shall have to take the advice of the experts on this point. So, in stead of fixing the colours with a provision in the Act it would be better for this Legislature to leave the matter to Government and Government will see how best the wishes of the Mover of this Amendment can be given effect to under its rule-making power. I think the hon. Mover will please withdraw his Motion in view of what I have stated.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: If Government undertake, of course, under their rule-making power to do what is necessary I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Amendment.

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had not intended to intervene in this debate at this stage, but I am most apprehensive at the argument put forward by the Hon'ble Minister when he points out that Government propose virtually to accept this Amendment by incorporating it in the Rules. I think it is necessary to remember, Sir, that a large number of consumers of Banaspati do not buy it misguidedly but they do it advisedly knowing that it is a wholesome substance and that it is cheap. A large section of the population in this country cannot afford to purchase ghee and commodities made from it and so it is necessary to consider what articles are consumed by the poorer section of the population and what they can afford. Hon. Members of this House may have seen from time to time advertisements in the Press by an Association known, I think, as the Banaspati Association. I hold no brief for

them although I represent certain commercial interests. I have no concern with them at all. But, I think it is necessary for Members of this House to realise very clearly what they are proposing to do. They are proposing to penalise by making unattractive a commodity which is a perfectly wholesome food. Here also I hold no brief for adulteration. The Act, I am satisfied, gives sufficient powers for action to be taken by Government if there is any adulteration. In point of fact in many respects the Act goes a very long way towards making crime unprofitable. It is therefore, reasonable for Government to reflect whether it is proper to penalise an industry which performs a very useful function. Personally, I should not like to buy Banaspati with a very unattractive colour. But perhaps it is also necessary to remember, Sir, that when the hon. Mover of this Motion spoke of the great value of ghee it is very often not realised that in the process of frying ghee is subjected to a very high temperature, which carries away entirely the vitamin values and I understand that experiments show little difference between the nutritional value in cooked ghee and Banaspati. The difference in food value between them is not significant. We have to consider what food value a particular commodity is expected to provide protein, fat or vitamin and it is not dietary necessity for a fat to contain vitamins though it may be an advantage. Under these considerations, Sir, I would suggest that it is undesirable to embark on any crusade against Banaspati until we realise the value that it has. It is performing a very useful function by supplying an essential article to a large section, the poorer section, of the public including myself (laughter) who cannot afford to buy a more expensive product. I hope Government will be pleased to take these points into consideration.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it will be rather asking the indulgence of the House to speak after the Hon'ble Minister has already spoken, but I want to point out one aspect of this discussion. We do not want to penalise the production of Banaspati, but what has been proposed is that Banaspati should be so coloured that any one will not take it as ghee. Sometimes unscrupulous traders try to pass Banaspati vegetable product as ghee. But my point is whether the proposition propounded by my Friend, the Deputy Leader of the Muslim League Party as well as the Hon'ble Minister who accepted the suggestion on behalf of the Government is a practical one. We have got no factories for producing Banaspati or vegetable ghee in this Province. We cannot tackle the producers at the source. What we get is 5 lb. or 2½ lb. or bigger tins manufactured from outside. If it is said that all these things should be coloured according to Government idea, the dealers of these will be put to a great difficulty. The price of the commodity will go higher and it is probable as Mr. Hardman has mentioned, who extolled to the skies the food value of it, that we will be killing a good substitute for ghee. I do not know what they will do. If we ask our Assam traders to colour them they may mix anything even unhygienic material. That is an aspect which, I think, the proposer of the Amendment and the Government should take note of.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLAI: I think, I can make the position clear. The object of the colouring is of course only to make it known to the country that the people are getting nothing different from actual ghee or Banaspati. As everybody knows, Banaspati is mixed up with ghee or passed for ghee. So people should not be made to accept a thing for what it is not. This is the object of this colouring. As regards the nutritive value of ghee, I think it has been argued that as ghee is put to a high temperature the food value is lost. But, I am

sure that Banaspati, in its preparation, has to go through a very high degree of temperature, very much higher than ghee. I have personally seen the preparation of this stuff. Generally, it is groundnut oil which pass through a very high temperature from chamber to chamber. Groundnut oil is the cheapest vegetable oil they get in the market. It is made to pass through many stages of heating in order that dross and other ingredients may be removed during these processes. It is taken to the stage of such a high temperature that it has to be artificially cooled and condensed before it is sent to the market. At present the Government of India are actually investigating about the food value of this material and also whether it is not actually injurious to the health. It is not necessary to bring that question now. All that Government propose to do is to let the man in the street, the purchaser and the customer know that he is purchasing the thing for what it is and not something, they did not want to do. This it seems is the only object of this Motion and the Government accept the spirit of the Amendment only to that extent.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Is it not a fact that the question of colouring vegetable ghee is agitating the public mind throughout India?

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Will the Hon'ble Prime Minister inform us whether any one is functioning as agent in Assam for Banaspati or Dalda? So far as I know there is no one.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: There are agents.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: There are traders of the stuff but no agents of the manufacturers.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We have had enough discussion. Has the hon. Mover leave of the House to withdraw his Amendment?
(The Amendment was by leave of the House, withdrawn).

Now I put the question.

The question is:

That clauses 8 to 28 both inclusive of the Bill stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We now take up clause 29.
There is an Amendment by Maulavi Abual Majid Ziaosh Shams.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOS SHAMS: Clause 29 as reported and amended by Select Committee is that every local authority shall submit a statement in such a manner to such authority as may be prescribed.

Of course, this is some improvement over the existing Act to some extent, and I do not boast but I would humbly say and appeal to the judgment of the hon. Members of the House that I tried to differ from them and bring an Amendment. My Amendment is this: That for clause 29, the following shall be substituted "29. Every local authority shall for analysis procure or cause to be procured sufficient numbers of samples of every kind of food to be dealt with under this Act and shall send the same to the Public Analyst and shall submit monthly return to Deputy Commissioner of the district and the Director of Public Health of (1) the number of samples of each variety of food sent for analysis and the result of the analysis thereof, (2) the number of prosecution for food of all cases under the Act in each month and (3) of cases when after the positive result of adulteration found by the Public

Analyst in any particular cases prosecution is not launched upon with the reason of such non prosecution. Provided that Government may order discontinuance of monthly return in any particular district."

My object is this: as the present Pure Food Act stands there is no compulsory duty on the part of the local authority to send samples. Simply the present Act is an enabling Act which enables the local authority to send samples whenever it wants to do it according to its sweet will and pleasure. A colossal food adulteration is going on in the most vital food, and really it is due to this adulteration of food which is taken in the adulterated state and which is sapping the vitality of the nation. This Motion of mine wants to put some compulsory duty on the local authority, so that if there be any contravention for not sending any monthly return then it may be superseded. This has been dealt with in different sections and there is a section for that every contravention of this law will be regarded as a breach under certain section of the Assam Local Self-Government Act of 1915 and the Assam Municipal Act of 1921. Now, Sir, the reason why I have stated that there should be compulsion is just to rouse not only the local authorities to their sense of duty, but this will also be a handle in the hands of the public if the local authorities are not alive to their responsibilities. The public will come forward and invoke the provisions of this section and compel the local authorities to take samples. I have suggested different methods how this is to be done. I have stated that samples of each variety of food, which has been dealt with under this Act, should be procured and sent to the Public Analyst. So, it does not depend upon the local authorities to choose only a few persons who are not in their good grace and then launch prosecution against them if the samples collected from them happen to be adulterated. It compels the local authorities to take samples of every variety of food. Sir, I was once the Chairman of a Municipality and I know of cases when the Health Officer, out of *zid*, proceeded against only particular persons but showed favouritism to some other persons. Just to remove the scope for this sort of favouritism on the one hand, and unnecessary *zoolu u* on the other, I have stated that all varieties of food should be seized for samples and the same should be sent to the Public Analyst.

Secondly, Sir, I have stated that returns of the number of prosecutions must also be sent every month. From my personal experience I know how big people get away. I was once appointed a pleader in such a case in which a very big merchant, who is known throughout the length and breadth of India, was implicated. The food which he stored for sale was found to be adulterated. But, Sir, to my surprise the prosecution was withdrawn for reasons unknown. So, you can well understand that even if positive proof of adulteration is found in particular samples, prosecution is not launched upon. So, I have suggested a provision that monthly returns of those cases in which prosecution is not launched upon should be sent together with the reason for such non-prosecution. In my Amendment I have proposed that the monthly returns should be sent to the Deputy Commissioner and the Director of Public Health. In the Deputy Commissioner being a man on the spot can at once without much formality or red-tapism compel the Municipality to do its duty, and ultimately I have made provision for returns to be submitted to the Director of Public Health. If the Government think that it is not proper to submit such returns to the Deputy Commissioner owing to the fact that the Municipalities enjoy a certain amount of freedom, Government may choose any authority to whom returns should be submitted.

With these words, Sir, I commend my Amendment for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Amendment moved :

"That for clause 29, the following shall be substituted :—

'29. Every Local authority shall for analysis procure or cause to be procured sufficient numbers of samples of every kind of food to be dealt with under this Act and shall send the same to the Public Analyst and shall submit monthly returns to the Deputy Commissioner of the District and the Director of Public Health of (1) the number of samples of each variety of the food sent for analysis and the results of the analysis thereof, (2) the number of prosecutions for food of all cases under the Act in each month and (3) of cases when after the positive result of adulteration found by the Public Analyst in any particular cases prosecution is not launched upon with the reason of such non-prosecution. Provided that the Government may order discontinuance of monthly return in any particular District' "

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Motion for two reasons. The first is that this Amendment has come from the Deputy Leader of our Party who can be considered as an expert in pure food because from the way he has taken part in the discussion it seems that he has thoroughly studied this question. Besides, Sir, he himself is a victim of impure food. He used to possess a splendid health, but now being a victim of impure food he has given his best attention for eradicating this evil of adulteration. Secondly, Sir, I support this Amendment because it is not so much due to the defects in the existing Bill that adulteration has not been stopped but the reason is that there is no will on the part of the authorities to remove this evil. That is why we find in the market that every food is adulterated. Even under the existing Act, not only the Health Officers but also the Civil Surgeons, the Assistant Surgeons, who are stationed in towns, and even the doctors in the interior are empowered to take action, but no action is ever taken. There is no authority to compel them to take action under the Pure Food Act, which is now going to be replaced by the present Act. I do not believe much in improving the Act itself. What we want is that there should be definite will on the part of Government to tackle this problem. It is no use passing this Act and let it remain as a dead-letter, simply because the authorities do not take any action under it. Stories are current that the Health Officers without taking any action make monthly arrangement with all the dealers of adulterated food and make huge income. And these things go unnoticed.

Now, under the proposed Act another Health Officer for each district in the Province is going to be appointed. Now, what is there in the Act itself to ensure that this Health Officer would take action? By this Amendment, some sort of compulsion will be placed on these officers to take action. If they are required to procure samples of food-stuff and then send them to the Public Analyst and submit return of action taken by them then some result may be obtained; otherwise only for want of will to act and for want of action this will also prove to be another dead-letter. That is why I whole-heartedly support this Amendment.

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, once again I am compelled to intervene. I should like to give a little qualified support to this Amendment which has been moved, but at the same time it is necessary for me to observe that perhaps the better place for this provision is in rules under the rule-making power under the Act. We think it is essential that the Government should be exclusively interested in enforcing the Act and it will be seen in the proceedings of the Select Committee that the then representative of the Planting and Commerce Group stressed very strongly that the local authorities should be cut out completely from the Act. Unfortunately the Hon'ble Minister who was presiding ruled that it was impossible for them to put in the Select Committee...

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: I did not object to the discussion.

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: I hope, I have not misrepresented the Hon'ble Minister but I think it will be clear from the printed proceedings which form part of the publication before me that the Planting Group were anxious to move in the Select Committee this Amendment and were not able to do so. At the same time, we consider that the chief defect in the Pure Food administration in the past has not been the defect of the Act but the lack of will-power to enforce the Act. I have seen the official reports prepared by Government Departments in the last few years and I think, if you will turn to the relevant Report for the year 1940-41 you will find it is there stated that the Sylhet Local Board had succeeded in getting convictions in 30 cases out of some 60 and the remaining cases were pending. This was in striking contrast to the miserable results obtained in other districts. Admittedly, the Act was defective and a great deal of care has been devoted to curing those defects. But the chief disability which underlay this Public Health Administration was absence of will-power and the inability to get the local authorities to apply it. We have still got the same defect. I agree that some sort of provision, as proposed, could suitably find place in the statutory rules which can be framed by Government. But I doubt whether they suitably can be included in the body of the Act itself. I need not go into detail, but one of the difficulties of making mandatory penalties is how such penalties are to be imposed on local authorities, who cannot be fined or sent to jail.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Mover of this Amendment has given much emphasis in his speech in moving this Amendment mainly on the ground that he by this Amendment wants to compel the Local Bodies to administer this Act properly. I do not see in the Amendment any provision made by him as to how the Local Boards can be penalised in case of their failure to administer it properly.

Secondly, Sir, we also admit that in the past the Boards could not or sometimes they did not administer the Pure Food Act in the way it needed to be done and it is only for this reason that Government has made a provision in this Bill to step in where the Boards cannot or do not administer this Act properly. In order to avoid the defect in the existing Act they have made this particular provision in this Bill so that they can take the responsibility to administer this Act directly in those areas.

Thirdly, Sir, the hon. Mover wants to prescribe in the body of this Bill a procedure how the Local Boards or Local Bodies should be asked to administer this Act. In the procedure that he is prescribing, Sir, there may be questions or points which may not be liked by Local Bodies and also this procedure may not meet the requirements which would be absolutely necessary to administer this Act. Therefore, Sir, if we embody this procedure in the body of this Act. There- defect in it, we will not be able to change it unless we make an Amendment in the Act itself. But, Sir, the purpose of the hon. Mover we can best be served by the pro- vision that Government has made in this Act. The provision runs like this: "That every local authority shall submit statement in such manner to such authority and containing such particulars as may be prescribed." So Government will prescribe in what way or in what procedure the Local Bodies shall have to administer this Act. If this procedure be left to the rule-making power of the Government then in cases of necessity, Government will be able to change the procedure that will be prescribed by them at any time without waiting for chances to amend the Act. This will facilitate the proper administration of the Act than the other.

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: On a point of information, Sir. May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether under the existing Act there is provision for obtaining statements from the Local Authorities and whether that has not produced the desired object?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: I do not see what is more wanted by the hon. Mover by this Amendment. The hon. Mover wants nothing more than some statements to be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner and the Director of Public Health as to how many cases have been detected, how many samples have been sent to Public Analyst, how many prosecutions have been made and how many convictions have been made. These are the statements wanted by the hon. Mover. But my points for opposition are quite different and I have already stated them.

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: Sir, what is the penal clause by which the Hon'ble Minister wants to compel or penalise the local bodies in case they do not administer this Act properly?

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not convinced from the arguments that I have heard from either side that this Amendment is a practical proposition. What the Amendment seeks is that samples of food-stuffs should be taken by the Local Bodies for the purpose of analysis. Has any hon. Member of this House taken the trouble to consider the area that our Local Boards have in their jurisdiction? On an average every Local Board has got 400 square miles to administer. In these 400 square miles there may be at least 4,000 shops dealing with food-stuff. To carry into effect the proposal that has been submitted before the House by my hon. Friend Maulavi Abual Majid Ziaosh Shams, the Local Board will have no other functions than to send all their officers to take samples of the food stuff sold in these shops. Again what sample to take? There are three intermediaries before the food-stuff reaches the consumer. First there is the importer of the food-stuffs that are imported from outside the Province; sample of that will have to be taken. Then from the importer the food-stuff passes to the wholesaler. Does the hon. Member suggest that local bodies shall take samples from the wholesalers as well? From the wholesaler the food-stuff goes to the retailer and from the retailer to the consumer. Well the hon. Member has not given in his Amendment any indication whether at every stage samples of the food-stuff should be taken. If he confines to the importer or the wholesaler the third intermediary may adulterate the food-stuff. So the samples only from the first and second intermediaries will be of no avail. Again there may be quite a lot of food-stuffs stored for sale. At best our dealers take one month's consumption and in that case samples of food-stuffs shall have to be taken at least twelve times a year. Under these circumstances I feel it rather difficult to say that the Amendment is a practical proposition. I think it will be unanimously agreed that whether we pass in this House should be a living thing and not a dead-letter in the Statute Book. I request both Government as well as the Mover of the Amendment to think over the question and leave the matter to the rule making power of the Government as has been suggested by Mr. Hardman, and in the meantime I would request my hon. Friend the Deputy Leader of the Muslim League Party to give indication to the Government how best we can make this Act one that can be functioning properly. With these words I neither support nor oppose the Amendment that has been placed before the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Do the hon. Members want to rise now?

Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEB: If the Hon'ble Speaker wants to finish the agenda then we can wait, otherwise not.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the difficulties that have been raised by our Leader are but petty considerations. Of course he has not opposed my Amendment and I think he should not think it to be so difficult for practical purposes. It should be possible to take sufficient samples of one variety of food stuff in one district in a week or in a month. What I propose is that sufficient number of samples should be taken of each variety of food-stuffs. We should not take samples from every dealer or the importer down to the hawker and retailer. It is not the duty of the local authority nor should we embarrass them with such functions. If we find that thousands of people are selling ghee in one district at a certain time some samples from these people should be taken and sent to the Public Analyst for examination. Each and every person from wholesaler down to hawker need not be chosen for taking samples.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member propose to make another speech? I thought he was rising on a personal explanation.

If it were that another half a dozen Members taking the same time, I think, it will take more than the scheduled time. Has the hon. Member finished?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: When I took my stand I did it to oppose the Amendment and I have narrated the reasons for my opposition. One of the grounds is, as I have said, that the procedure prescribed here by the hon. Mover may not be a suitable one and in case we need any change in it we will not be able to do that unless we amend the Act itself. Then I do not see any provision made in the Amendment to compel the Local Boards or to penalise them in case of their failure to administer the Act properly, although the hon. Mover of the Amendment has given too much emphasis on compelling the Local Bodies to administer the Act properly. We are feeling that certain Local Boards do not or cannot administer the new Act properly. For that reason we have taken the responsibility of administering the Act ourselves. The main point is that instead of fixing the procedure in the body of the Act as to how the Local Board should be asked to administer the Act, it should be left to the rule-making power of the Government. On this important ground I oppose the Amendment and request the hon. Member to withdraw it.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: of the House to withdraw my Amendment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Amendment? Yes, Sir, I beg leave.

The Amendment was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I will put the question in respect of the remaining clauses. The Schedule will remain. That Schedule will not take much time.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: This is an important measure.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Let us devote due time, but let us not waste time. I am putting the question.

The question is :

"That clauses 29 to 32, both inclusive, of the Assam Pure Food Bill, 1947, stand part of the Bill."

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is an Amendment to the Schedule : The hon. Member may please move it.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in the Schedule for the word 'or', wherever it occurs in column 4 in the items relating to sections 4, 6, sub-sections (1) and (2) and section 8, sub-sections (1) and (2) the word 'and', shall be substituted.

The other Amendment need not be moved at all because it is consequential and as I have already withdrawn the original Amendment as the Government proposed to accept the principle.

Now, Sir, this, I should think, is the most important point which comes in as a deterrent to this nefarious practice of adulteration of food, which has not only demoralised the vendors themselves or the adulterators who carry on this nefarious practice, but it has also done a lot of injury to the public health and in order that these miscreants should have deterrent or exemplary punishment, I have proposed here that for offences under certain sections, but not under all sections, there should be imprisonment and that is the only thing, Sir which will do to a very great extent to check all these things of adulteration which cannot be otherwise tackled or checked or controlled.

I may cite two instances. I won't give the name. In Dhubri there is a person who was fined thrice but still he is carrying on adulteration. There is another man who was also fined thrice ; on the last time he was convicted to pay a fine of Rs. 150 although he was originally fined to pay Rs. 300 but as the pleader, after the sentence was passed, requested the magistrate to lighten his punishment, the sentence was changed from a fine of Rs. 300 to Rs. 150. That was done. As a matter of fact, we sometimes plead for such concessions. So I have stated that simply on grounds of exemplary punishment of heinous crimes of adulteration only under three sections there should be imprisonment. I think, this should be accepted. This is a thing without which you cannot do anything. We know of cases in which a man was prosecuted to pay a fine of Rs. 5 only and the next day he took to this heinous practice. There are magistrates who do not fine more than Rs. 10, Rs. 15 or Rs. 20, but there are some magistrates who fine Rs. 50 or more. For the last 3 to 4 years, the magistrates have not been passing deterrent or exemplary sentences. I know of a case. A milk seller, a lad of about 19 years or so, would adulterate milk with water and then put some trickle into it, i.e., *Lali*, this would give a colour and make it look like a thick substance. In this way he carried on the practice until he was caught and his milk was thrown several times. Once I myself went to the bazar and purchased milk from him as the milk looked to be of very good quality. I came home and when it was boiled "Chana" was prepared. I found that the "Chana" which came out was too little because of the fact that the milk was mixed with *Lali* and adulterated. I reported the matter to the Chairman of the Municipal Board and the boy was caught hold of as I gave the description of his person. After that he was sentenced to imprisonment

and since then I have not seen him in the bazar, because I go to market specially on Sundays. I am sure this imprisonment had a salutary effect.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Amendment moved :

"That in the Schedule for the word or wherever it occurs in column 4 in the items relating to sections 4, 6, sub-sections (1) and (2) and section 8, sub-sections (1) and (2) the word 'and', shall be substituted".

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose this Amendment on two grounds. The first ground on which I like to oppose is this. That if this Amendment is accepted, the reading of this clause will be a meaningless one. His Amendment is this that "for the word 'or' wherever it occurs in column 4 in the items relating to sections 4, 6, sub-sections (1) and (2) and section 8, sub-sections (1) and (2) the word 'and', shall be substituted."

Then it will read like this ; "a fine of Rs.1,000 and an imprisonment for 6 months and both",

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOS SHAMS : The word 'both' can be omitted, Sir.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS : The second ground on which I want to oppose this is.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The second ground will not be necessary. The hon. Member may reply to it.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOS SHAMS : 'Both' can be made a verbal alteration. If this word is there, this Amendment will be redundant.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I hope the hon. Member will state whether he withdraws the Amendment as he has already wasted a lot of time of the House. I say wasted advisedly.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOS SHAMS : I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Amendment ?

The Amendment was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS : With the permission of the Hon'ble Speaker, I want to make an Amendment at page 16 and under the heading "the Schedule", that the figure "24" should be "25".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : That can be done without the leave of the House as this is a clerical mistake.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Now I am putting the question in respect of the schedule.

The question is :

"That the Schedule of the Bill stands part of the Bill".

The question was adopted.

(After a pause.)

The question is :

"That the Title and Preamble of the Bill, stand part of the Bill".

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Pure Food Bill, 1947, be passed.

Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members of this House for the co-operation that I have received at all the stages of discussion of this Bill on the floor of this House. This Bill is necessary in order to see that food is not adulterated and that adulterated food or food injurious to health is not sold. These are the purposes of this Bill and unless the public co-operate whole-heartedly it will be very difficult on the part of Government to materialise these purposes. Therefore, Sir, I appeal to all hon. Members both inside and outside this House to extend their hand of co-operation for the successful administration of this Act.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:
"That the Assam Pure Food Bill, 1947, be passed."

(After a pause)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:
"That the Assam Pure Food Bill, 1947, be passed".
The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Now it is going 22 minutes past four. I would like to have the sense of the House as to whether we should sit longer to finish today's agenda or shall we leave it for tomorrow. I shall be obliged to have the sense of the House in this matter.

(Voices—Yes, yes, let us finish it to-day).

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I think we can finish it today, Sir, and we are ready to sit a little longer.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes, if we can finish now to-day's agenda, then we can finish tomorrow also.

The Assam Sales of Motor Spirit and Lubricants Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Item No.5—The Assam Sales of Motor Spirit and Lubricants Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947.

I would request the Hon'ble Minister to move the Motion straight way as there is no Amendment to it.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Sales of Motor Spirit and Lubricants Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, be passed.

It is only with a view to give relief to persons who consume these lubricating oils for their engines. So, I think the House will accept my Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:
"That the Assam Sales of Motor Spirit and Lubricants Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, be passed".

(After a pause).

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:
"That the Assam Sales of Motor Spirit and Lubricants Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, be passed".

The question was adopted.

The Assam Land and Revenue Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1947

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Item No. 6—Motion for consideration of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1947.

I think we anticipate a Motion for sending the Bill to a Select Committee for report.

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: Mr Speaker, Sir, I have a Motion for circulation of the Bill for eliciting public opinion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: You have to mention it on the floor of the House.

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Just one moment please. What is the position of the Government? The other day it was mentioned that we received a letter from the Government that the Bill will be sent to a Select Committee; in that case a formal Motion will have to be moved by some one else other than the Hon'ble Minister.....

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: There is a difficulty on the other side also regarding this Motion and also my Tribal Friends here want that this matter should not be delayed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will the hon. Member move a formal Motion?

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: Yes, Sir, I shall move it now. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1947 be circulated for eliciting public opinion. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated—"The Resolution of July 1945 on the Land Settlement Policy based on an all-parties agreement of agreement was arrived at in the year 1945; now they say that an all-parties agreement was arrived at. They say that an all-parties agreement whether any such agreement was arrived at. So, are not in a position to know so that the Members know what are the contents of that agreement framed is really in accordance with the terms of that agreement? We know nothing of that; how can we say that this Bill was framed in accordance with the terms of that agreement arrived at in 1945? That was in 1945; now it is 1947, and this House was not in existence then but another House was there."

Therefore, Sir, we feel, we have a claim on the Government that they should supply us with copies of that agreement, so that we may be in a position to compare that agreement with this Bill which is framed now.

Now, Sir, again in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it was stated—.....
 “The Bill gives power to Government to constitute such belts and blocks and places such matters as disposal of land, the right of annual and periodic settlement holders ejection of unauthorised encroachers, etc., on a slightly different footing than in areas which are governed by the normal provisions of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation....” But in the Bill itself it gives a different reason for enacting this Bill, i.e., Section 160 (1) says, “.... the Provincial Government may adopt such measures as it deems fit for the protection of those classes who on account of their primitive condition.....”. Now, Sir, if the object of this Bill is to remove the primitive condition of these Tribal and backward people, will the creation of those belts and blocks, and segregation remove the primitive condition of these Tribal people, remove illiteracy from amongst their midst and make them healthy and useful citizens? Therefore, Sir, this protective measure which might have been thought of as urgent and necessary for the Tribal people then may not be so now. After the 15th August the position is very much changed. The Tribal groups which were found to be in a minority and which were not in a position before to influence in the administration and for which some protective measure was considered to be necessary to safeguard their interests, may not be so now. Under the new Constitution that is being framed, the Tribal groups may emerge as the largest majority party and the responsibility of the administration of Assam may go to their hands. Now they are seeking protection from the majority party, but time will soon come when other parties will have to seek protection from them. Therefore, in view of this and other objectionable features—because this proposal is going to curtail the existing rights of all the people—we should not go to make this hasty legislation.

There is another very objectionable feature in the Bill which I may read out: “if the extent of cultivable land available for settlement in the belt or block be large enough, the *bona-fide* needs of other classes of persons residing in the neighbourhood of the belt or block. Preference shall be given to persons whose religion, mode of life, agricultural customs and habits are the more akin to those of the classes for whose protection the belt or block was constituted.” Here there is a word ‘religion’. Supposing an Assamese Muslim who is staying near a belt and if he applies for land inside a belt, the Government will not settle land with him as his religion is not akin to those classes of people for whose protection this Bill is going to be framed. Therefore, Sir, in view of all these features of the Bill I think it is only reasonable that an opportunity be given to the Tribal people to reconsider the position, because they are not going to be what they are now owing to the very changed circumstances after inauguration of this new Constitution. I think an opportunity should be given to the public also to give their opinion whether this Bill is necessary or not.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1947 be circulated for eliciting public opinion by 30th December next.”

Srijut DHIRSINGH DEORI: সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, মাননীয় বক্ষিক চাহাবে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱদাঙ্গি ধৰিছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ বিৰোধিতা কৰি মই দুটামান কথা কব খুজিছোঁ। জয় জয়তে মই কব খোজো যে বাজহ-মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই যিখন বিল ইয়াত উপস্থাপন কৰিছে সেই বিলখন ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ বাস্তবিকতে উপকাৰত আহিব। ১৯৩৭ চনৰ পৰা ১৯৪৭

চনটোকে এই ১০ বছৰ মই এছেম্বলিত থকাৰ সময়ত এই মাটিৰ সমস্যা সম্বন্ধে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ অনেক প্ৰস্তাৱ হৈ গৈছে আৰু সদায় সেই প্ৰস্তাৱত এটা কথা থাকে যে “to advance the progress of the backward classes”, কিন্তু আচলতে ইয়াক কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰা নহয়। এই কাৰণে ট্ৰাইবেল সদস্যসকলে সদায় এনেকুৱা এটা দাবী হিচাপে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ওচৰত দাঙ্গি ৰবি আহিছিল; কিন্তু ট্ৰাইবেল সদস্যসকল ৰাজনীতি ক্ষেত্ৰত পৰিপক্ক নহয় গতিকে মিসকল পৰিপক্ক তেওঁলোকে সুবিধা লৈ ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ প্ৰতি অনেক অন্যায় কৰি আহিছে। ১৯৪৫ চনত এটা agreement হৈ যোৱাৰ পিচতো এই মাটিৰ সম্বন্ধে অনেক বেমেজালি ঘটিছে। ১৯৩৭ চনৰ পৰা ১৯৪৭ চনটোকে এই ১০ বছৰৰ ভিতৰত কৰলৈ গলে বিশেষকৈ নগাঁও জিলাত Tribal Belt কৰিবলৈ জাগা নোহোৱা হৈ পৰিছে। তাত যি মাটি আছে সিও অতি সোনকালে নাইকিয়া হব, কাৰণ মাটিৰ অভাৱত অনেক মানুহ আহি বসতি কৰিবহি। তাত কেৱল যে immigrant বিলাকেইহে আহি মাটি দখল কৰে এনে নহয়, আমাৰ ওচৰৰ যিবিলাক মানুহ আছে তেওঁবিলাকেও সেই মাটি দখল কৰি ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ অনিষ্ট কৰিছে। এনেকুৱা ঠাই আছে য’ত বেচি বকমে Tribal মানুহ থাকে, তেনেকুৱা ঠাইত সোমাই গৈ আৰু য’ত ট্ৰাইবেল বিলাককো periodic পাটা দিয়া হোৱা নাই তেনেকুৱা ঠাইতো periodic পাটা কৰি লৈ বিদেশীক মাটি বেচি দিছে। লাহৰিঘাটত আগেয়ে লাইন পুখা আছিল। তেতিয়া ট্ৰাইবেল বিলাকে সেই ঠাইত periodic পাটা লাগে বুলি দাবী কৰিছিল। কিন্তু আমাৰ বহুতে অফিচাৰ সকলৰ সহায়লৈ য’ত periodic পাটা হব তেতিয়া তেনেকুৱা ঠাইতো periodic পাটা কৰি লৈ বিদেশীক মাটি বিক্ৰি কৰিব লাগিছে। এনেকুৱা অৱস্থা চলি আহিছে। আমি ১৯৩৭ চনৰে পৰা সদায় শুনি আহিছো যে ট্ৰাইবেল বিলাকৰ ৰক্ষাৰ নিমিত্তে আইন কৰা হব, কিন্তু সদায় delaying tactics কৰি এতিয়ালৈকে কোনো legislation নোহোৱাকৈ ৰাখিছে। এতিয়া আমি সকলোৱেই স্বাধীন। এতিয়া আমাৰ ভাত কাপোৰৰ সমস্যাই উঠিব। এনে সময়ত যদি legislation কৰাত পলম কৰা হয় তেনেহলে ট্ৰাইবেল বিলাক সকলো ঠাইতে ধুংস হৈ যাব। সেই কাৰণে মই Public opinion ৰ নিমিত্তে পঠিওৱা প্ৰস্তাৱৰ বিৰোধিতা কৰোঁ আৰু ল’গ ল’গে যাতে এই বিলখন সোনকালে আইনত পৰিণত হয় তাৰ কাৰণে এই বিলখন এই Session তে pass কৰিবলৈ House ক অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ। কাৰণ, Public opinion ৰ কাৰণে পঠিয়ালে অন্ততঃ আৰু ৬ মাহ সময় লাগিব আৰু এই সময়ৰ ভিতৰত বহুত মাটিৰ গওগোল কৰিবলৈ সুবিধা পাব। গতিকে Ordinance জাৰি কৰি হলেও এই বিলখন আইনত পৰিণত কৰিব লাগে। সেই কাৰণে মই মাননীয় ৰফিক চাহাবৰ প্ৰস্তাৱৰ বিৰোধিতা কৰিলোঁ।

Srijut KARKA DALAY MIRI: মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, পোন প্ৰথমে মই এই বিলখন অনাৰ বাবে ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াক ধন্যবাদ জনাওঁ। এই বিলখন অনাৰ পৰা ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ বিশেষ উপকাৰ হব বুলি মোৰ বিশ্বাস। এতিয়াও ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ ভিতৰত শতকৰা ৯০ জনৰ মাটি নাই—যি সকলৰ মাটিৰ অভাৱ, তেওঁলোকে এতিয়াও হাঁহাকাৰ কৰি আছে। মাটি নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা শোচনীয়। তেওঁবিলাকৰ প্ৰায় বিলাকেই খেতিয়ক যদিও যি হিচাবে মাটি পাব লাগে সেই হিচাপে তেওঁলোকে মাটি পোৱা নাই। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে অফিচাৰ বিলাকক দোষ দিব নালাগে। আমি মাটিৰ মূল্য নুবুজো, সেই কাৰণে মাটি লব পৰা নাই। আমাৰ নিজৰো দোষ আছে। অনাৰ কাৰণে তেখেতক পুনৰায় ধন্যবাদ জনাইছো, কাৰণ এই বিলখন ৰাজহ-মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই বিলাকে মাটিৰ মূল্য নুবুজি আৰু সেই কাৰণেই ভৱিষ্যতলৈ তেখেতে জানে যে এই ট্ৰাইবেল ৰাখিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰি এই বিলখন আনিছে। ইয়াত মুছলিম কিছু পৰিমাণে মাটি আছুতীয়াকৈ নাই। এজনে কৈছে যে ট্ৰাইবেল বিলাক political power group ৰ কোনো ভয়ৰ কাৰণ নিমিত্তে কোনো বকম মাটি আছুতীয়াকৈ ৰখা উচিত হোৱা নাই। আহিছে যেতিয়া তেওঁলোকৰ এতিয়াও political power পোৱা নাই। নৌ-পাওঁতেই কিন্তু তেওঁ বুজি যে আমি তাতহে আমি আচৰিত হৈছো। Political power পোৱা কিয় তেওঁলোকে ভয় কৰিছে পাৰ্থক্য আছে। যদি মাটি নাপায় তেন্তে political power পোৱা আৰু আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ ভিতৰত একো লাভ নহব।

এতিয়া ৰাজহ-মন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই Tribal Belt ত মাটি আছুতিয়াটক ৰাখিবলৈ সি যত্ন কৰিছে সেইটো মুছলিম group ক অন্যায় কৰিবৰ কাৰণে কৰা নাই; কাৰণ যত মুছলিম majority আছে তাত তেওঁলোকে আধিপত্য বিস্তাৰ কৰি আছেই—তেওঁলোকৰ মাটি কাটি আনি ট্ৰাইবেল সকলক নিদিয়ৈ। সি বিলাক মাটি খালি হৈ আছে বা য'ত ট্ৰাইবেলৰ লোকসংখ্যা বেচি সেই বিলাক ঠাইৰ মাটিত এনেকুৱা ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব খুজিছে। এই বিলখন অতি দৰকাৰী আৰু আমাৰ মতে এতিয়া public opinion বিচাৰিবৰ প্ৰয়োজন নকৰে; কাৰণ সি বিলাক ভাল কাম সেই বিলাক সোনকালেই কৰা উচিত হ'ব। মুছলিম লীগে এই নিময়ে আমাক সমৰ্থন হৈ কৰিব লাগে। বুগে বুগে এই জাতিয়ে বহুতখিনি কষ্ট পাই আহিছে। তেনেদৰে এই সময়ত অসমত তেওঁলোকৰ চকু মেলাব লাগিব আৰু ভৱিষ্যতে যাতে এই জাতিৰ উন্নতি হয় তাৰ কাৰণে যত্ন কৰিব লাগিব। সেই কাৰণে বিপক্ষ দলক মই অনুৰোধ কৰিছো যে এই বিলখন public opinion ৰ কাৰণে পঠিয়াব নালাগে। এই session তে এই বিলখন pass কৰি তাক কাৰ্য্যত পৰিণত কৰিব লাগে।

Srijut DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, মাননীয় ৰাজহ-মন্ত্রীয়ে এই বিলখন পৰিষদৰ আগত ডাঙি ধৰাৰ কাৰণে তেখেতক মই ধন্যবাদ দিছো। আজি বহুদিনৰে পৰা অৰ্থাৎ যেতিয়া মুছলিম লীগৰ সাদ্ৰা গবৰ্ণমেণ্ট আছিল তেতিয়াৰে পৰা শুনি আহিছে যে Tribal Belt কৰিব। তেতিয়া বুজিছিলো যে Tribal বিলাক দুৰীয়া, শিক্ষাত পিছপৰা, সেই কাৰণে তেওঁবিলাকক যাতে economic holding দিব পাৰে সেই নিমিত্তই Tribal Belt কৰিব। কিন্তু আজি আচৰিত হৈছে যে সি সাদ্ৰা গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে Tribal Belt কৰিব বুলি হাতত লৈছিল, তেওঁবিলাকেই এতিয়া ইয়াক oppose কৰিছে। তেখেতে কৈছে যে Tribal বিলাক majority হৈ আহিব আৰু এতিয়াও তেওঁবিলাক majority party ৰ লগত আছে সেই কাৰণে এই Tribal Belt কৰিব নালাগে। কিন্তু তেখেতসকলে জানে যে যেতিয়া তেখেত সকলে Grow More Food Campaign কৰিছিল তেতিয়া লাৰে লাৰে বিদেশী পুৰা আমদানী কৰিছিল। সেই বিলাকক ক'ত থৈছিল। সেই বিলাকক Tribal বিলাকৰ মাজতেই মাটি দিছিল যিহেতু তাত waste land আছিল। এই বিলাক জনা স্বত্বেও mover জনে কিয় এই দৰে কৈছে, তাৰ বাবেহে আমি আচৰিত হৈছো। Backward Tribal সকলৰ কাৰণে সি Tribal Belt কৰিব খুজিছিল তাক কোনেও আপত্তি নকৰিব বুলিয়েই আমি ভাবিছিলো। আজি বুজিছে যে আমাক হাতত ৰাখিবৰ কাৰণেহে Tribal Belt নৰিম বুলি কৈছিল। প্ৰস্তাৱকে কৈছে যে public opinion ৰ কাৰণে এই বিলখন পঠিয়াই দিব লাগে। আপোনালোকে জানে যে শিক্ষাত Tribal বিলাক কিমান পিছ পৰা; তেওঁলোকৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাও নিতান্ত বেয়া আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ শতকৰা ৯০ জনবেই মাটি নাই। সেইটো ভালদৰে জনা স্বত্বেও আৰু তেওঁলোক educationally আৰু economically advanced হৈয়ো আজি কিয় আমাৰ অন্যায় কৰিব খুজিছে তাকে ভাবিহে আমি আচৰিত হৈছো। এতিয়া যদি তেওঁলোকে এই বিলখন pass নকৰে তেনেহলে আমাৰ প্ৰতি অন্যায় কৰা হ'ব বুলি বিশ্বাস কৰোঁ। সেই কাৰণে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টক অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ যেন তেওঁলোকে যেনে তেনে এই বিলখন pass কৰাই ল'ব আৰু Tribal বিলাকৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা যাতে ভাল হ'ব পাৰে তাৰ নিমিত্তে যত্ন কৰিব। হাজাৰ হাজাৰ Tribal ৰ যে মাটি নাই এইটো ভালকৈ জনা স্বত্বেও মুছলিম লীগ পাৰ্টিয়ে কিয় যে oppose কৰিছে তাক বুজিব পৰা নাই। সেই কাৰণে অনুৰোধ কৰিছো আৰু লগে লগে দাবিও কৰিছো যাতে তেওঁলোকে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ উঠাই লয়।

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a Bill giving protection particularly to the Tribals in the matter of land. The question of giving protection to the Tribals has been engaging serious attention of the Government for many years. Successive Ministries have also admitted that special protection should be given to the Tribals in this matter. As a matter of fact, this land problem has become very acute for Tribal people. If you go to the areas

inhabited by Tribal people in the Assam Valley you will find how they are being ousted there. So when the matter has been accepted by the successive Ministries, I do not see why it should be delayed now. If you delay the matter by circulating the Bill for eliciting public opinion the position of the Tribals will become worse. So my appeal to the hon. Members of the House is that they should look into this very seriously and lend their support to the passing of the Bill and thus give protection to the Tribal people. Specially I would appeal to the hon. Leader of the Opposition. I hope he will agree to this.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, মোৰ পুৰনি বন্ধু শ্ৰীযুক্ত ৰূপনাথ বৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই মোক personal appeal কৰিছে যাতে আমাৰ ফালৰ পৰা এই বিলখনৰ নিমিত্তে কোনোবাকম আপত্তি নহয়। তেওঁ জানে আৰু তেওঁৰ লগৰ টাইবেল মেদাৰ সকলে জানে যে পুৰণেই মোৰ মিনিস্ট্ৰিয়েই তেওঁলোকৰ নিমিত্তে সুকীয়া Tribal Belt কৰি দিবৰ programme হয়, আৰু ১৯৪৫ ছনৰ যিটো agreementৰ কথা কৈছে তাত মই মত দিয়াত সেই সময়ত opposition হৈছিল। এনেকুৱা অৱস্থাত মোৰ নিজৰ কথা বা প্ৰতিজ্ঞা বা বন্দবস্ত যে আজি মই পেলাই দিম সেইটো কোনেও ভাবিব নালাগে আৰু ভবাও উচিত নহব (applause), বৰং ই অন্যায় হে হব।

কিন্তু আপোনালোকে দুটা কথা ভাবিব লাগিব। এই আইনখন Houseত দিয়াৰ পিচত এখন Conference হৈছিল আমাৰ সভাপতি অনাৰেবোল Speakerৰ কামৰাত। তাত প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়া, মই আৰু ইউৰোপীয়ান Groupৰ Leader উপস্থিত আছিলো। সেই সময়ত programme দুটা কৰিব লগা বিষয়ে বিচাৰ হৈছিল। তেতিয়া আমাৰ প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছিল যে আমি এই বিলখন Select Committeeত দিম। আনকি আমাৰ মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়াই এটা ফাইল দেখুৱালে যে মন্ত্ৰী সভাৰ পৰা তেনেকুৱা এখন চিঠিও তেওঁলৈ আহিছিল আৰু তাতো লেখা আছিল যে তেওঁলোকে এই বিলখন Select Committeeত দিব। কিন্তু সেইখন চিঠি আমাৰ আলোচনাৰ নিমিত্তে যিখন সুচীপত্ৰ তৈয়াৰ হয় সেইখন চুপা হৈ উঠাৰ পিচতহে আহিছিল, সেইকাৰণে change কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে। সেই সময়ত প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰীয়ে কৈছিল যে এইবিলখন তেওঁলোকে Select Committeeত দিব। আজি আমাৰ বন্ধু ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই মোক শুধিছিল যে আমি কি কৰিব পাৰো; আৰু মোক কলে যে তেওঁলোকৰ ইচ্ছা Select Committeeত আমি কি কৰিব লাগিব; আৰু মোক কলে যে তেওঁলোকৰ ইচ্ছা Select Committeeত আমি কি কৰিব লাগিব। Tribal বন্ধু সকলে বৰকৈ ধৰিছে যে আজিয়েই এই বিলখন pass হব লাগে। মই আপত্তি নাই। কিন্তু তেওঁবিলাকে ধৰিলেছে যে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এতিয়া যিখন বিল আনিছে সেইখনেই সকলোতকৈ ভাল। ইয়াত জানো আৰু শুধৰণি দি ইয়াতকৈ ভাল কৰি দিব নোৱাৰি? সেইটো chance আমাক কিয় নিদিয়? আমি ভাবিছিলো যে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বিলখন Select Committeeত দিব, সেই কাৰণে আমাৰ ফালৰ পৰা কোনো শুধৰণি নিদিলে। আমাৰ মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়াক সাক্ষী ৰাখি প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াক কও যে তেওঁলোকে Select Committeeত দিব বুলি ভাবি আমাৰ ফালৰ পৰা কোনো প্ৰস্তাৱ দি এই বিলখন ভাল কৰিবলৈ বা ইয়াতকৈ বেচি সুবিধা দিবলৈ আমি একো প্ৰস্তাৱ দি এই বিলখন মন্ত্ৰীৰ লগত কথা হোৱাৰ লগে লগে গবৰ্ণমেণ্ট পাৰ্টিৰ প্ৰধান কৰিব নোৱাৰিলো। এখন slip দিলে যে এই বিলখন Select Committeeলৈ Whip ডাঙৰীয়াই নাম দিয়ক। আপোনালোকৰ বহুতে দেখিছে যে তিনিবজাত বাৰ, তেওঁ গৈছিলো। এইখন তেওঁৰ চিঠি। তেওঁক কলো যে মন্ত্ৰী আপোনাৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা শ্ৰীযুক্ত পূৰ্ণ চন্দ্ৰ শৰ্ম্মাৰ উত্তৰ দিলে; এনেকুৱা অৱস্থাত নাম কিয় লাগে? ডাঙৰীয়াক শুধিছিলোঁ। এইটো ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছিল কিন্তু আজি কিবা অদল বদল হৈছে যদি তেওঁ কলে যে কালি ৫ মিনিটৰ পিচতে আকৌ চিঠি লেখিছিল যে ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই কব নোৱাৰো। কিন্তু নাম খুজিছে, কাৰণ ই

Select কমিটিতৈ যাব। এনেকুৱা অৱস্থাত আমাৰ position বৰ বেয়া হৈছে। আমাৰ পাৰ্টিয়ে কয় যে আমাক কোনো amendment দিবলৈ সুবিধা নিদিলে। গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে যিটো কথা কৈছিল সেইটো বৰবাদ হৈ গল। মই কওঁ মাহুৱিক যদি আপোনালোকে এই বিলখন pass কৰিবলৈ বিচাৰে, আমি আপোনালোকক অনায়াস কৰিব নোখোজো, কিন্তু আমি বক্তৃতা দিয়া ইমান দীৰ্ঘলীয়া কৰিবলৈ বাধ্য হম যে এই বিল pass নহব। মই ভৱিষ্যত দেখিবলৈ কোৱা নাই, ভালব নিমিত্তেহে কৈছো। এই বিলখন Select Committeeতৈ মানলৈ দিয়ক। তাত আপোনালোকৰ মানুহ থাকিব, গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ মানুহ থাকিব আৰু আমাৰ মাত্ৰ এজন মানুহ থাকিব। এই suggestion নতে যাতে Tribalsৰ সুবিধা হয় তাকে কৰক। কিন্তু আপোনালোকে যদি এই বিলখন Select Committeeত নিদিব আৰু যিটো pass কৰিব খোজে তেন্তে আমি বাধ্য হৈ এনেকুৱা delaying tactics কৰিবলৈ বাধ্য হম যাতে এই বিলখন আৰু এই sessionত pass নহয়। আপোনালোকে যদি আমাৰ সহায় বিচাৰে তেন্তে প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়া আৰু বাহু মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই যি দৰে Select Committeeত দিব বুলি কৈছে সেই দৰে কৰক। নহলে এইবোৰ কথাত আপোনালোকৰ বিশ্বাস নাই। আপোনালোকক আছি যি গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে সহায় কৰিছে সেই গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ পিচত থাকি তেওঁ লোকক সহায় কৰিব। মই ছোৱেৰে সৈতে কৈছো যে আপোনালোকে চেষ্টা কৰক যাতে এই বিলখন আৰু ভাল হয় আৰু সেই কাৰণে Select Committeeতৈ পঠায়ক।

Srijut DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: মোৰ এটা কথা শুনিব লগা আছে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, Order. আমাৰ এইবাৰ সভা আৰম্ভ হৈছিল চেপ্তেম্বৰ পহিলা তাৰিখে। আপোনালোকে দেখিব যে ১৪ নম্বৰ মকাত এইটো আছে।

এইটো পহিলা তাৰিখে প্ৰথম দিনৰ কাৰ্য্যাবলীত আছিল আৰু সেই দিনখন অৰ্থাৎ পহিলা তাৰিখে আবেলি গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ Additional Chief Secretaryৰ পৰা এইখন চিঠি আহিছিল।

“The Assam Debt Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 1947, has been dropped and will not be introduced in the next September 1947 Session of the Assembly. The Assam Land and Revenue Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1947, is being published in the Gazette and the usual number of copies of the Bill will be sent to you as early as practicable. It will not however be possible to introduce it on 1st or 2nd September 1947 as provided in your Provisional Programme of Business. The Bill may be introduced towards the end of the Session. The Hon'ble Minister of Revenue will move the following motions in respect of this Bill ;—

(a) In troduction,

(b) reference to the Select Committee.

The programme of business may please be amended accordingly. The Assam Debt Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 1947 may be altogether omitted from the programme.

It will not also be possible to introduce the Assam Ministers' (Salaries and Allowances) (Amendment) Bill on the 1st or 2nd September as the Bill is not quite ready yet. A further reference will be made if the Bill becomes ready for presentation in th¹s Session. The Assam Sales of Motor Spirit and Lubricants Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1947, will be introduced on the date fixed in the Programme.”

এই চিঠিখন এষণ্টাৰ আগতে পোৱাহলে এই বিলখন included নহল হেতেন। কিন্তু চিঠিখন পিচত পোৱা গল।

এতিয়া মাননীয় মেম্বৰ সকলে ইয়াৰ পৰা নিশ্চয় বুজিছে যে প্ৰকৃত অৱস্থা কি। সিদিনা ভাৰতীয় গৱেষণা কমিটীৰ চিৰিখন পোৱা পৰ্যন্ত হ'ল বুলিহে এই বিলখন ইয়াত included হ'ল। আৰু ইয়াত কোৱা হৈছে যে Select Committee লৈ পঠিওৱা হ'ব আৰু সেই অনুযায়ী এই Houseৰ মাননীয় Leader, Opposition Leader আৰু মই এই বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰিবলৈ। এতিয়া আমাৰ আলোচনা বিষয় এইটো হৈছে যে আমি আজিয়েই এই বিলখন Pass কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম নে Assembly কেইদিন মান হোৱোঁকই দি বিলখন গোনকালে pass কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম হ'ব। এই সম্বন্ধে আপোনালোকে কি ক'ব কওক।

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLAI: এই সম্বন্ধে আলোচনা হোৱাৰ সময়ত আমাৰ মাননীয় Speaker, Opposition Leader, ইউৰোপীয়ান দলৰ Mr. Morley আৰু মই উপস্থিত আছিলোঁ। তাত এটা কথা উত্থাপন হৈছিল সেইটো বোধ হয় নিশ্চয় ভৱিষ্যত সকলৰ মনত থাকিব পাৰে। এই বিলখন যি অৱস্থাত আছে সেই অৱস্থাত Select Committee লৈ পঠিয়াব নোৱাৰে। যাদে Select Committee অৱস্থাত যাব পাৰে তাৰ বাবে কিছু কথাও কিছু আগ নান্ধি নান্ধি আৰু আন কথাও পিচ পৰিব লাগে। এই বিষয়ে এটা motion দিব লাগিব হৈতেন। আৰু বৰ্তমান circulation motion উঠাই ল'ব লাগিছিল। কিন্তু দেৱা প'ল যে বিপক্ষ দলৰ আগত যিটো motion আছিল সেইটোৱেই চলি থাকিল। সেইটো নচলাই কোনোৱাই Select Committee লৈ পঠিয়াবলৈ এটা motion কৰা হ'লে সেইটো সম্ভৱপৰ হ'ল হৈতেন। কিন্তু যি অৱস্থা দেৱা পাইছে, যদি motion for circulation চলি থাকে তেনেহলে motion for sending to Select Committee হ'ব নোৱাৰে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: পাৰে। যি কোনো এজন মেম্বৰে এই motionৰ ওপৰত Select Committee লৈ পঠিয়াবলৈ আৰু এটা motion দিব পাৰে।

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: সেইটো গৱেষণা কমিটীৰ পৰা দিবৰ কথা আছিল।

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLAI: সেইটো এতিয়াও দিয়া হোৱা নাই।

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: সেইটো যেয়ে সেয়ে দিব পাৰে।

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: The Bill is simple and if the House agrees, the Bill may be taken up clause by clause to-morrow and the Amendment may be given, upto 11 A.M. to-morrow.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: এতিয়া এটা বাজিছে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই যি কৈছে গত সকল বাজী হ'লে মোৰ একো আপত্তি নাই।

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: That is what I said. When the hon. Leader of the Opposition is also anxious to get the Bill passed it may be possible and the Amendments may be given upto 11 a.m. to-morrow and we may pass the Bill the same day.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: That is not possible.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: তেনেহলে আমি ক'ব পাৰোঁ যে Assembly বাবে।
ক'ব পাৰোঁ যে Assembly বাবে।

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: We agree to extend the session, if necessary. There is a feeling that there has been inordinate delay in bringing in such a measure for the protection of the Tribal and backward people and that is why the Government is anxious to pass the Bill as early as possible.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: তেনেহলে আমি কি কৰা সন্নিহীন হব? যাতে minority party এ ভাবিবলৈ কাৰণ নেপাই যে majority party এ গাব নবনেৰে লৈ গল; সেই কাৰণে amendment দিবলৈ সিবিলাকক সুবিধা দিব লাগে।

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: In case the House decided that it should be referred to a Select Committee the names were procured in anticipation of such a contingency but we did not commit ourselves to this way of that way.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: What is the harm if there is some delay? There may be another session.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: That means great delay.

Srijut HEM CHANDRA HAZARIKA: সভাপতি ডাঃবীয়া, তেখেতে কৈছে যে পলম কৰিলে কি হব? ইয়াৰ ভিতৰতে মই কব খোজো যে যি উদ্দেশ্যে এই বিলখন অনা হৈছে, এই বিলৰ খবৰ পাই যত Tribal Belt কৰিব খুজিছে সেই ঠাইত অসংখ্য মানুহ ইতিমধ্যে গৈ ভবি পৰিছেগৈ। মই Tribal ৰ মাজত যদায় কুবো আৰু Tribal যমাজন কথা জানো। এতিয়া উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰৰ Tribal ৰ কদম মৌজাত অসংখ্য বিদেশী মানুহ আছি ভবি পৰিছেছি। আৰু দুমাহ মান পলম হলে কেইটা মান Belt একেবাবে শেষ হৈ যাব আৰু Belt কৰিবলৈ ঠাই নোহোৱা হব।

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: কোনে ভবাই দিছে?

Srijut HEM CHANDRA HAZARIKA: মানুহে গম পাই আগতে দখল কৰিবলৈ গৈছে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: তেনেহলে এতিয়া আমি বিবেচনা কৰোঁহক। কাইলৈ University Bill হব। তেনেহলে Model Constitution Bill থাকি গল। সেই কাৰণে কাইলৈ University Bill আলোচনা কৰি সোমবাবলৈ Model Constitution ৰ আলোচনা কৰা হব। সোমবাবে ১১ বজালৈকে Amendment দিয়ক আৰু মঙ্গলবাবে এই বিলৰ আলোচনা কৰা হব। তেতিয়াহলে Bill খন সোনকালে pass হব আৰু opposition এও এটা সুবিধা পায়।

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: ১৬ তাৰিখ বোলে holiday তাৰ পিচ দিনা বুধবাৰ।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: কাইলৈ Amendment দিলে সোমবাবে শেষ কৰিব পৰা নহবনে?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: কাইলৈ ১২ বজালৈকে Amend-ment দিব পাৰে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: কাইলৈ দিব নোৱাৰে কিয়নো কাইলৈ Gauhati University Bill আছে।

Maulavi Sayid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : মজলবাবে দিয়ক, নহলে আগৰ programme মতেই হওক।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : মজলবাবে বন্ধ হলে আমি বুধবাৰেও বহিব পাৰোঁ।

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLLOI : ১৬ তাৰিখে যে বন্ধ আছে সেইটো কৰ পৰা নাছিলো। গতিকে বুধবাৰে বহিবলৈ আমাৰ কোনো আপত্তি নাই। আগেয়ে মই কৈছিলো যে ১৬ তাৰিখলৈ সময় লব পাৰো। সকলোৰে ইচ্ছাইছে যে আমি আমাৰ কাম সোনকালে শেষ কৰো। কাইলৈ পৰিষদৰ কাৰ্য্য শেষ কৰিবলৈ যি যিনি উপায় অবলম্বন কৰিব লাগে, সকলো কৰা হৈছিল।

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN : সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া মই একাধাৰ কৰ পাৰোনে ? মেধাৰ বিলাকে বহুত কাম কৰি ভাগৰ লাগে সেই কাৰণে বুধবাৰে recess লয়। আমি যেতিয়া মজলবাবে বন্ধ পাম, বুধবাৰে বহিব পাৰো।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : সেইটো ঠিক নহয়। গৱণমেন্টে ফাইলৰ আৰু অন্যান্য কাম কৰিব লাগে, নহলে কেনেকৈ গৱণমেন্ট চলিব ? বুধবাৰে recess লোৱাটো মেধাৰ সকলৰ কাৰণে নহয়, মন্ত্ৰী সকলৰ বাবেহে।

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN : মেধাৰ সকলৰ ইচ্ছা যে এই বিলখন pass হব লাগে। Opposition ৰ Leader চাদুল্লা চাহাবে নিজেই কৈছে যে তেখেতৰ দিনতেই Tribal Belt তৈয়াৰ কৰা প্ৰস্তাব হৈছিল। তেখেতৰ বক্তৃতাৰ পৰা জনা গৈছে যে ইয়াত তেখেত সকলৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ সহানুভূতি আছে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : এতিয়া কথা হৈছে যে আমি বুধবাৰে বহিব লাগে। সোমবাৰে Amendment দিয়ক আৰু আমি বুধবাৰে বহিম।

- (f) If so, how many ?
- (g) How many seats or Mahals were given to such companies and why ?
- (h) Whether any special distinction has been made between a company and an individual for this purpose ?
- (i) If so, what is that ?
- (j) Was there any bar to allow more than one seat on the entire Mahal to a company ?
- (k) If not, whether any company was given a single seat on the entire Mahal ?
- (l) To whom the Naga Hills Mahal No.'A' under serial No. 1 was given and why ?
- (m) Whether the Naga Hills Mahal No.1 under serial No.1 and Naga Hills Mahal No.IV under serial No.2 and Naga Hills Mahal No.1 under serial No.2 are the same ?
- (n) If so, why was it advertised like that ?
- (o) If not, why was it given to a particular company ?

Maulavi Syed MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : যদি House ৰ সেয়ে মত হয় তেনেহলে আমাৰ আপত্তি নাই। (*Voices* :—আমাৰ আপত্তি নাই।)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : তেনেহলে এইটো স্থির হল যে কাইলৈ University Bill হব। সোমবাৰে ১১ বজালৈ এই Bill সম্পৰ্কে Amendment দিয়া হ'ব আৰু বুধবাৰে ১১ বজাৰ পৰা এই Bill ৰ আলোচনা হ'ব।

Maulavi AEDUL HAI : সোমবাৰে ২ বজালৈ Amendment দিবলৈ সময় দিয়া হওক।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : বাক; ১২ বজালৈকে সময় দিয়া হ'ব।

এতিয়া আমি এই বিষয়টো নিষ্পত্তি কৰিলোঁ।

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : মোক অলপ সময় দিয়ক মই ইয়াৰ জবাব দিওঁ।

[*Voices* :—জবাব নালাগে তেখেতে প্ৰস্তাব withdraw কৰিলে।]

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 11 A.M. on Saturday, the 13th September 1947.

SHILLONG :

The 25th November 1947.

A.G.P. (L.A.) No.162—118+2—1-12-1947.

A. K. BARUA,

Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly.

কাইলৈ University Bill হ'ব। তেনেহলে Model Constitution Bill থাকি গ'ল। সেই কাৰণে কাইলৈ University Bill আলোচনা কৰি সোমবাৰলৈ Model Constitution ৰ আলোচনা কৰা হ'ব। সোমবাৰে ১১ বজালৈকে Amendment দিয়ক আৰু মঙ্গলবাৰে এই বিল ৰ আলোচনা কৰা হ'ব। তেতিয়াহলে Bill খন সোমকালে pass হ'ব আৰু opposition এও এটা সুবিধা পায়।

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The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : কাইলৈ দিব নোৱাৰে কিয়নো কাইলৈ Gauhati University Bill আছে।