

**Proceedings of the Sixth Session of the Second Assam Legislative
Assembly assembled under the provisions of the Government
of India Act, 1935, as adapted.**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 a. m., on Monday
the 21st March, 1949.

P R E S E N T

The Hon'ble Mr. Lakshesvar Borooah, Speaker, in the Chair, seven Hon'ble
Ministers and fifty-one Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Improvement of Municipal Water-Works at Tezpur

Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN asked :

31. (a) Is it a fact that the Tezpur Municipality applied for some special
fund some time ago for the improvement of the Tezpur Municipal Water
Works ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to grant some special fund for this
object without delay ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

31. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Loan application of Tezpur Municipal Board for improvement of
water works is being examined. Government of India will be moved for loan as
soon as a suitable scheme will be ready for implementation. Government
cannot afford to provide any special fund for the purpose.

Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN: With reference to answer to my
Question No. 31 (b), Sir, Government have said that the Government of India
will be moved for loan as soon as a suitable scheme will be ready for implemen-
tation. May I inform Government, Sir, that the Tezpur Municipality have
already submitted a scheme some three years ago, but we have not as yet heard
anything in this respect. It is not understood why Government said "as soon as
a suitable scheme will be ready....."—will the Hon'ble Minister please clarify
the position ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: The answer
given, Sir, does not refer to the application which the hon. Member says that
Tezpur Municipality has submitted. It refers to a scheme to be submitted in
consultation with the Public Health Engineer by the Municipality and the
Municipality has been saked to do so. As soon as this scheme is ready, as I have
said in the answer, the Government of India will be moved for loan.

Suspected Opium smugglers in Sibsagar and Lakhimpur Districts

Srijut KARKA DALAY MIRI asked :

32. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there is a list of suspected Opium smugglers in Sibsagar and Lakhimpur Districts ?
- (b) If so, what are the names of those suspected smugglers ?
- (c) How many of them are Assamese and how many are non-Assamese ?
- (d) Whether Government have taken steps to bring those offenders to book and what steps have been taken to bring them under operation of the Assam Prohibition Act as amended ?
- (e) The number of persons detected and convicted for offence committed in respect of smuggling of opium (i) below one tola and (ii) above ?
- (f) How many of these persons are consumers and dealers ?

The Hon'ble Maulana MD. TAYYEBULLA replied :

32. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The names cannot be disclosed in public interest, as the list is a secret document.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Yes, steps in certain cases have been taken to bring them to book under the provisions of the Act.

(e)—As no mention is made of the period, figures cannot be given?

(f)—Does not arise.

Srijut KARKA DALAY MIRI: ইয়াত উত্তৰ দিছে যে “names cannot be disclosed in public interest” মই জানিব পাবোনে যে Smuggler বিলাকৰ নাম disclose নকৰা public ৰ কি উপকাৰত আহিব পাৰে ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: আপুনি সেইটো প্রশ্ন কৰিব নোৱাৰে। গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে যেতিয়া কয় যে ‘names cannot be disclosed in public interest,’ rule মতে আপুনি সেই বিষয়ে প্রশ্ন কৰিব নোৱাৰে।

Srijut BELIRAM DAS: With reference to Question No. 32 (a), may we know, Sir, on what basis Government prepared the list of those suspects ?

The Hon'ble Maulana MD. TAYYEBULLA: Such lists are prepared by District officers and scrutinised by Government. These being secret documents cannot be published in the public interest.

Srijut BELIRAM DAS: As regards Question No. 32 (c)—the question is ‘how many are Assamese and how many are non-Assamese’ and the answer is ‘does not arise’. May we know from Government, Sir, what prevents Government from giving the number of Assamese and non-Assamese suspects ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister has already explained that this matter is secret and cannot be disclosed in public interest.

Age limit of retirement of Government Servants

Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA asked :

33. (a) Is it a fact that the Government of India have recommended age limit of retirement of Government servants at 60 ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to extend the concession to this Province also ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

33. (a)—The Central Pay Commission set up by the Government of India recommended the increase of the age of superannuation from 55 to 58 years in case of Government servants other than ministerial officers. This recommendation is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

(b)—This recommendation is also under consideration of this Government.

***Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA :** With reference to Question No. 33 (a)—may I know, Sir, whether this increase of age of superannuation from 55 to 58 will also be applicable to the ministerial officers ?

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI :** The answer given to Question No. 33(a) is quite clear, Sir. This question as it relates to ministerial officers is also under consideration of the Government. As a matter of fact some of these officers have been re-appointed due to shortage of officers.

Construction of Bridges over the rivers in the Dawki-Muktapur Road

Mr. LARSINGH KHYRIEM asked :

34. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any progress has been made with regard to the programme for constructing bridges over the rivers (1) Umlympiang, (2) Umtyrngai and (3) Umsku in the Dawki-Muktapur Road ?

(b) If so, what are those ?

(c) If not, do Government propose to take necessary steps so that those bridges be completed before rain sets in ?

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

34. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Temporary crossings for pedestrians are being provided over the :—

(1) Umlympiang, (2) Umtyrngai and (3) Umsku to enable people to cross during rainy season.

Plans and sections are being prepared for the permanent bridges.

(c)—Does not arise.

India-Burma Road, G. D. Road in Golaghat Subdivision and Dhansiri Bridge

Srijut CHANOO KHERIA asked :

35. (a) Are Government aware that the metalled Road (India-Burma Road) constructed during the war, from Numaligarh towards Barpathar, is now in a bad state of disrepair ?

(b) Are Government aware that it is one of the most important roads in the Province ?

(c) Do Government propose to take immediate steps to keep the said metalled road intact ?

36. (a) Are Government aware that a portion of G. D. Road in Golaghat Subdivision near Bar-Newria Bridge including the Bridge itself is in a very bad state of disrepair ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what steps are being taken to keep the said road in good condition ?

37. (a) Are Government aware that the Dhansiri Bridge on 2-mile of G. D. Road is in danger of collapse owing to erosion ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state what step is being taken for protecting the bridge ?

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

35. (a)—The road is being well maintained and all necessary repairs are being carried out. The portion between 12th and 19th miles is being maintained as a Gravelled road as the original Bitumen surface has completely broken down.

(b)—Yes, this is a National Highway.

(c)—Yes. An original work estimate for metalling and surfacing 5 miles has already been prepared for approval by Government of India. Arrangement has been made for resurfacing another five miles this year under "Repairs".

36. (a)—No. The road is in fair condition.

(b)—A new diversion road with two new bridges has already been constructed in October last and opened to traffic. Arrangements have been made to improve the surface of this diversion.

37. (a)—No. There appears to be no danger.

(b)—The Department is taking necessary measures for protection of the bank against erosion. Boulders, etc., have been collected at site for pitching the abutment.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : With reference to answer to Question No. 35(a)—will Government take it from me that most of the bridges on this road are very unsafe and due to the erosion of the Dhansiri river in many places the road have been washed away and the diversions are not motorable ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : The reply was given by the Engineer in charge and we take it to be correct. It shows the present condition of the road. But if the hon. Member would say that the reply is not correct, we shall make an enquiry. Does the hon. Member say that the reply is not correct ?

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : Yes, Sir, I say that the reply is not correct. I said that in many places the road have been washed away and the diversions are not motorable in rains.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member say this from his personal knowledge ?

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: Yes, Sir, I say this from my personal knowledge as I very frequently pass by this road.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: May I know when the hon. Member last passed by this road ? Because according to the information that I received, there is nothing wrong and I think the information given by the hon. Member might be wrong.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will the hon. Member kindly make enquiries again in case he is wrong in his information ?

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: When I came to attend the Assembly, Sir, I saw one of the bridges unsafe and the diversions are not motorable especially in the rainy season.....

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: In the rainy season it may be so, but not at the present time. Our Engineers have been working hard to look after this road, but if the hon. Member still say that the reply they have given is not the correct position now, the matter will be investigated, Sir.

Recorders of the Jowai Subdivision

Mr. LARSINGH KHYRIEM asked :—

38. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The travelling allowance given to the Recorders of the Jowai Sub-division ?
- (b) Whether they have received a representation from the Recorders of Jowai to increase their travelling allowance ?
- (c) If so, what action has been taken in the matter ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that a peon is allowed to draw a travelling allowance of annas 12 per day ?
- (e) Whether the Recorders are classed as ministerial officers and the peons as menials ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that the Recorders have to carry on their work throughout the Subdivision where permanent and temporary cultivated lands have to be visited, checked and assessed ?
- (g) In view of the fact that they have to shoulder the works other than their normal duties whether Government propose to increase their travelling allowance to Re.1-8-0 per day or grant them a fixed travelling allowance of Rs.20 per month to meet the high cost of living ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

38. (a)---Same travelling allowance as is allowed to all Recorders in the Province, *iz.*, annas 12 per day as halting allowance and annas 2 per mile as mileage.

(b) & (c)—Action will be taken by Government on receipt of the original representation sent through the Deputy Commissioner which is awaited.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes, but the word “menial” is being replaced by “Grade IV Government Servant”.

(f)—These are the normal duties of Recorders everywhere.

(g)—No.

Report of the Assam Pay Committee

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY asked :

39. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the two paragraphs reproduced in Finance Department's Communique No. FG.43/47, dated the 20th May 1948, are the full and complete report of the Assam Pay Committee ?

(b) The reason why stenographers serving in the District Offices have been asked to pass a test examination of the Assam Public Service Commission in order to qualify themselves for the new scale of pay recommended by the Assam Pay Committee ?

(c) Why the scale of pay for the Treasurer in the District Offices as announced in Finance Department's Communique No. FG.43/47, dated the 20th May 1948, has been subsequently reduced ?

(d) Why the benefit of higher initial pay in the form of four advance increments to graduate Lower Division Assistants serving in the District Offices prior to 1st April 1948 have been subsequently withdrawn ?

(e) Is it a fact that it was adopted without reservation in the Finance Department Communique No. FG.43/47, dated the 20th May 1948 ?

40. Will Government be pleased to state why the existing Upper Division posts in the District Offices have been eliminated twice in the formula laid down for upgrading 25 per cent. of the Lower Division posts as Upper Division ?

41. Will Government be pleased to state the percentage of Upper Division posts in the Assam Secretariat on 1st January 1949 ?

42. (a) When do Government propose to introduce the scale of Dearness Allowance as recommended by the Assam Pay Committee ?

(b) Are Government aware that the Government of India have already increased the Dearness Allowance of their employees ?

(c) Do Government propose to follow suit ?

(d) If so, when ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

39. (a)—No.

(b)—Any one can take down spoken matter at dictation speed, but to qualify for a higher scale of pay the stenographer's speed must not be less than 120 words per minute. Pay Committee has recommended this higher scale for those who are thus qualified.

(c)—The scale of pay (Rs.150—200) for Treasurers recommended by the Pay Committee and originally accepted by the Government was intended to be *inclusive* of the compensatory allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem which they draw

on furnishing security. Government having finally decided to continue the compensatory allowance in addition to their pay, the Treasurers have been allowed the same scale of pay as the Sadar Accountants (*viz.*, Rs. 125—175) as was done in the last two revisions. This means that they actually draw Rs. 5 more pay than they would have drawn according to the Pay Committee's recommendation.

(d)—The concession has all along been intended to apply to new recruits only, *i.e.*, those appointed on or after 1st April 1948.

(e)—No.

40.—It is not correct to say that the existing Upper Division posts have been eliminated twice. What has been done is to make a deduction of the existing number of Upper Division posts, so that the prescribed percentage of 25 is not exceeded.

41.—52 per cent.

42. (a)—This has been postponed for the benefit of the Government servants, in view of the prevailing high price level: it is proposed to introduce the revised rates when the prices have stabilized at a reasonable standard level.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: As regards Question No.42 (a), Sir, would the Hon'ble Minister read again the contents of my question and then give a reply ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: The measure that has at present been taken is only to obviate hardship of the officers concerned. So it is all for their benefit only. If the hon. Member wants to go against the interest of these ministerial officers then that will be a different thing.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: No, Sir, I do not want to go against the interests of the ministerial officers.

State Insurance Scheme

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY asked :

43. When do Government intend to operate the State Insurance Scheme announced in Finance Department's Communique No.FG.43/47, dated the 20th May 1948, for rendering free Medical Treatment to Government servants with their families ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

43.—Particulars of the State Insurance Scheme are awaited from the Government of India.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: In view of the reply that has been given, may I ask the Hon'ble Minister when the particulars from the Government of India could be expected ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: It is difficult to say when the reply would come from the Government of India. We have however reminded the Government of India in this respect, but have not got any reply as yet.

Supply of C. I. Sheets at Dhubri

✓ **Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

44. (a) Are Government aware that the supply of C. I. Sheets is too meagre, specially at Dhubri ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken or proposed to take to ensure regular supply of C. I. Sheets ?

Srijut BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

44. (a)—The hon. Member is referred to the distribution list of C. I. Sheets appended to the reply to unstarred Question 20 (c) asked by Srijut Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati, M. L. A., during this Session. Dhubri has been allotted its due share out of the quota allotted for this Province.

(b)—A Handling Agent has been appointed in Calcutta for promptly bringing the full quota of C. I. Sheets to Assam.

Statement *re* fixation of time and date for submission of Amendments to the Assam Primary Education Rules and amendments to the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The other day I was asked to fix time and date for submission of amendments to the Assam Primary Education Rules. In view of that I now fix 2 p. m. of the 24th March, 1949 as the time and date for the purpose. The same is fixed to table further amendments to the amendments to the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940 also.

Now let us take up Demands for Grants.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

GRANT No.35

("85-A—Capital Outlay on Provincial Scheme of State Trading")

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum not exceeding Rs.100 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1950, for the administration of the head—"85-A—Capital Outlay on Provincial Scheme of State Trading".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs.100 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1950, for the administration of the head—'85A.—Capital Outlay on Provincial Scheme of State Trading'."

There are as many as five Cut Motions and we have got one hour to dispose of these Motions and the Grant. I think it will be better if one omnibus Motion is taken up so that other hon. Members can participate on that Motion.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM: Sir, the whole thing can be divided into two—one part to relate to the matter regarding rice control and the other for cloth and yarn. This may probably cover the whole criticism. In that case I may move my first Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion relating to cloth and yarn stand in the names of Maulavi Md. Abul Kashem and Maulavi Md. Nazmul Haque.

Maulavi MD. NAZMUL HAQUE: In that case, Sir, I may move my Motion.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Sir, my Motion relates to the general policy with regard to rice control.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think it will be better if Cut Motions No.1 and No.5 are moved and in that case other Motions can be covered.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM: I beg, Sir, to move that the total provision of Rs.100 under Grant No.35, Major head—85-A—Capital Outlay on Provincial Scheme of State Trading, at page 280 of the Budget be reduced by Re. 1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.100 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

My object in bringing this Motion is to criticise the Government on their failure to effectively run the administration.

Now, first, for grain storage scheme, the Department of Procurement has been started to stock paddy and rice to meet any emergency that may arise, and also to feed the people in the food deficit areas, but it has been found during the last flood that the Procurement Department could not meet the demands of the people and people suffered a good deal. This year also we are not sure whether in a case of emergency, Government will be in a position to meet it. Government should take it into consideration that the places which generally suffer from such annual calamities should have sufficient stock. Unless this is done, it becomes impossible to take paddy and rice from one corner of the province to the other to meet such emergency. I would, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister to see that stocks are built up in the South bank of the Dhubri Subdivision in South Salmara to meet any emergency that may arise due to flood or other annual calamities.

As for the rice control, there has been a great difficulty in enforcing controlled price. Controlled prices become effective only on agriculturists and innocent cultivators. Government can compel them to sell at controlled rates, but as soon as it passes on to the licensee or the smugglers, the controlled rate vanishes. Last time when people were in great distress suddenly the control was withdrawn and by that the smugglers of paddy and rice were encouraged by Government but I must say that such things must not occur. Government must examine the *pros* and *cons* whether it would be possible to enforce control and the rates should not be fixed haphazardly. Otherwise, only agriculturists will suffer. Now *Ahu* seeds that used to be brought up in our market cannot be found there. So I suggest that these should be excluded from the operation of the Act. Otherwise agriculturists must hunt the black-market to get the seeds. Another difficulty is that Government have made provisions under section 3(a) of the Foodgrains Control Order, 1947 that they can declare some areas to be notified areas. In those areas one cannot carry in a craft or vehicle at a time more than two maunds of paddy or rice. Again in the same

Order in section 17 it is clearly written that no producer shall move any food-grains of his produce to any place more than thirty miles from his normal place of cultivation or residence except under a permit issued by the Director. But actually agriculturists are not getting the benefits of section 17. Now I would urge upon the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge to consider if it is practicable on the part of the agriculturists to go to the officer to obtain a permit to move his own foodstuff from the fields to home and again from home to market. Due to different interpretations of section 17 they are being deprived of the benefits of this section. It should be made clear that agriculturists should not be harassed if they carry more than two maunds of paddy or rice in a vehicle or a craft. If any agriculturist bring 50 maunds to the market and if he sells only 30 maunds and carry the balance of 20 maunds he is harassed on the way. This should not be done. Either there should be a list of agriculturists who sell their paddy in the market or there should be a clear provision that the officers of the Rice Control Staff will not object to paddy being moved by producers from his house to the market and from market to his house. Their lives have become very miserable due to this enforcement and they are being deprived of section 17.

Further, Sir, there is another difficulty which I want to bring to the notice of the Government. According to the said Control Order, sections 12 and 13 allow certain amount of paddy or rice to be moved by a person without any permit whatsoever. But, Sir, that order also is not strictly carried out. On the strength of these orders while a person brings less than 2 maunds or to the extent of 2 maunds of rice or paddy from Garo Hills to Goalpara, that is also seized and the person is prosecuted. But according to this order as I have brought to your notice, these orders must be enforceable and the Deputy Commissioner should be informed that no one who does not violate these orders *i.e.* sections 12 and 13 should not be prosecuted and all the prosecution that have been started against the provision of this order should be dropped at once. Sir, these orders are for the benefit of the consumers as well as the genuine cultivators. But both the consumer as well as the genuine cultivator are facing difficulty in bringing 2 maunds of rice or paddy allowed under the schedule. Under the schedule a man can bring 2 maunds of rice or paddy freely without having any permit. Moreover the control order does not say anywhere that there is any district barrier. The Hon'ble Finance Minister knows how we faced difficulty while he had paid a visit to Manakchar during the last December. We had to take his help to get rid of these difficulties during that time. The Control Order does not say that there is any barrier anywhere for the district. So an agriculturist should be allowed to move his paddy say from Goalpara to Garo Hills or Garo Hills to Goalpara. I therefore urge upon the Government to see that in future the agriculturists are not to go to the officers and haunt their offices for months together to get a permit and thus become loser. In the paddy fields this year many people had to remain for days together because for the absence of permit they could not leave the paddy field. And again those who had left their paddy in the fields either lost some of their paddy or got them partially damaged. Sir, these are the difficulties the agriculturists are facing.

I also want to bring another matter to the notice of the Government. That while an order from the officer so authorised is issued for movement of paddy or rice, there should not be any intervention or interference on the part of the Customs Department. Government should move the Central Government that the Provincial Government is also a Government, they have also got some officers to do this work. Now if a man wants to take 3 maunds of paddy from Dhubri first he is to go to the Procurement Department to obtain a permit, then to the

Rice Controller and again to the Customs office for a permit. If they are to roam from office to office that means lot of difficulties for these people.

***Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** When one starts from Dhubri to Mankachar, is he to go *via* Pakistan by the river route ?

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM: Now the river route *via* Pakistan is closed. There is one place called Begardoba which has become a ghat. Now people can go to Mankachar *via* that place. But that may not be possible in the rainy season. So there is one proposal from the Deputy Commissioner, Garo Hills to connect Mankachar with Dhubri by connecting Jinjiram with Kalo river. But that may also do harm to the villages nearby. That is a scheme to be examined by the experts. So the people are anxiously thinking to connect Mankachar by road from Hallidayganj. But I do not know what Government has done so far.

Now, Sir, actually the Custom trouble should not be there when there is proper license and proper authority from the Provincial Officers. Say in the matter of kerosine, if one takes kerosine on a permit issued by the Supply Department, again why should he go to the Customs office for a permit? So Government should move the Centre that commodities over which the Provincial Government has control should not be interfered with by the Customs Department.

Unfortunately Sir, I cannot but bring to the notice of the Government another difficulty which the agriculturists on the borders of Pakistan are experiencing. The border people have got their land even in Pakistan because they cultivate their land on either side of their house. Similarly the land of some Pakistan people have fallen on this side. So there should be some agreement in order that the agriculturists of this Dominion can bring their paddy from either Dominion. If the Pakistan Government think that the quantity may be smuggled then they may allow only in terms of sheaves or bundles. In that case during the heavy transport cost no body will bring that either. So Government will please see that the Government of Pakistan be moved to arrive at an agreement on this vital question. With these words, I commend my Motion for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :

“That the total provision of Rs. 100 under Grant No. 35, Major head—85.—A.—Capital Outlay on Provincial Scheme of State Trading, at page 280 of the Budget be reduced by Re. 1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 100 do stand reduced by Re.1.”

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had a Cut Motion to criticise the Government on their failure to procure adequate quantity of cloth and yarn for equitable distribution in Assam. Now, Sir, while we go to the villages we hear the complaints of scarcity of cloth and yarn. During the war time we had a plea to say that due to the war trouble sufficient cloth and yarn could not be imported. But now when normal time has come we have no reply to give to the people save and except laying the blame at the door of the Government.

***Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** What is the after-effect of the war? The after-effect is more dangerous than the actual war.

*Speech not corrected.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: Now, Sir, the Government may complain of transport difficulties and other things but while cloth was decontrolled many businessmen have brought cloths and flooded the markets, and again while the control was enforced the same difficulties arose. We have started various Co-operative Societies successfully with the hope that sufficient cloth would be distributed among the people. I am sure, this Co-operative movement will fail if sufficient cloths could not be supplied. I warn the Government that the success of this Co-operative movement depends upon the successful supply of cloth for distribution. Sir, may I know from the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge what is the present position of cloth and yarn? May we take that the Government is still unable to supply sufficient cloth and yarn to the people?

With these remarks, Sir, I support the Motion.

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I do not support the Motion moved by my Friend Maulavi Abul Kashem, people will think that I consider the present state of things completely satisfactory in regard to the Department of Supply. This is not the case. Opposite is the case with regard to this Department. As I have already pointed out, the condition of the people in the villages is extremely bad still, and I have had people coming from distant villages who complained that for the last two years they have not got cloth.

***Srijut BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary):** Will the hon. Member please tell the name of the villages?

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: Yes, Sir, I can give them.

I request the hon. Members of this House to believe me with regard to the cloth and yarn difficulty when I say that the villagers are actually suffering; the Government should give up control when people cannot be helped. I suggest that the Government instead of making any effort on the incidence of control should give up control. I do not want to blame the Government at all for this, but I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that something has got to be done. The Government cannot continue in this way and to drift in the supply of cloth and yarn. I am sure the Government will realise the difficulties and sufferings of the people and something has got to be done.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Sir, I whole-heartedly support what the previous speaker has said. Mr. Chaliha wanted to know the actual names of the villages which did not get cloth. Sir, I myself did not get cloth when I had to go to Jorhat town for a long time not to speak of the villagers. The people in urban areas and other towns have been facing this difficulty for a long time.....

***Srijut BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary):** Sir, on a personal explanation I want to mention that for two years during the period of control the villagers did not receive cloth. This cannot be, Sir, that even during the period of de-control the villagers did not get cloth.

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: I would request the hon. Parliamentary Secretary to go to Sepon and Moran where he will find scores of villagers who did not get cloth. As regards de-control period they had not the money to purchase cloth and yarn at high prices when the price was again going high.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Sir, when the control has been re-introduced cloth has become scarce. The poor people cannot purchase them

at high prices and actually the cloths were not available. There is some wrong in the Department. I hope, the sooner the Hon'ble Supply Minister goes to the rescue of the poor with regard to the cloth and yarn the better for the Province.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to participate in this debate, as I find from the budget figures that vast sums are going to be handled by these purchase undertakings. The position of rice and cloth, at the present moment, is far from satisfactory. Whereas a few years ago, Assam, not merely fed her own people fully but also was in a position to export annually a quantity of $\frac{1}{2}$ crore maunds of rice outside the Province. But now what catastrophe has overcome either on our rice cultivation or its mal-administration! Two years ago, the hon. Dr. Rajendra Prasad the then Food Member of the Government of India complained to me personally that whereas in my time I showed to the Government of India that Assam had a surplus of 2 lakhs tons of rice and issued to different parties under the Government of India's instruction more than 50 lakh maunds of rice every year; the present Government of Assam has been showing a surplus of five lakh maunds only of rice, but could not supply even that quantity to the Government of India.

Sir, Assam has not suddenly ceased to produce rice. Therefore the defect lies in the procurement methods, or the arrangements made for taking out from the cultivators and traders the quantity of rice that is available for the open market. The other day, the Hon'ble Finance Minister was pleased to dub me as a friend of the capitalists. My motto in life is that I am friend to all and foe to none. If I am a friend of the capitalist I am a greater friend of the common people. It is stated, Sir, that Napoleon said that the Army marches on its belly. That is, if you feed your Army properly they will fight better for you. One can deduce that if you can feed the people of a country satisfactorily, giving them sufficient food to sustain themselves and sufficient clothing to cover their shame, they will be happy and content, and would not be an easy prey to the nefarious schemes of the communists. Acting upon that policy, Sir, I tried my utmost, even by giving a higher rate of commission to brokers and agents to produce in the country an inducement to growers to part with their surplus stock of rice, and at the same time to import into the Province, in spite of the great transport difficulties of the war time, sufficient foodstuffs and cloth to keep the people content. The Japanese Army was in the heart of Assam, and the Manipur State and the headquarters of the Naga Hills were besieged by the invading Army. It is at that stage, Sir, that I had to raise the commission for procurement to permit-holders from two annas to three annas, and I am proud of the fact that that increased commission gave entire satisfaction to the Procurement Department and encouraged the traders to import sufficient quantities of foodstuffs into the province. Whereas according to my policy even in those difficult times price of rice stood at Rs. 15 a maund, thanks to the inefficiency in procurement, the Ministry had to withdraw control on rice and paddy with the natural consequence of shooting up of prices. I remember, Sir, at one time the price of rice in Shillong went up to Rs. 60 a maund, a thing unheard of throughout the annals of Assam.

As regards cloth, Sir, I need hardly say that the Government's present policy, as I have already stated in my speech on the general discussion of the budget, is fraught with great danger to our finances. Government is embarking on a speculative trade. Cloth, which is regulated and the province gets a certain quota, used to be imported into Assam by two parties—one of them a Co-operative organisation who were granted licenses by my administration. Government were not required to invest any money and they were not in any way concerned whether those permit-holders made a profit or not. Government's chief concern was to see that distribution was made on an equitable basis; the quota for

each subdivision was calculated on a population basis. Government did their best to see that the cloth reached each subdivision in time. I am surprised to hear, Sir, that in spite of the fact that Government are now the importers, as many as 30,000 bales are lying unmoved in Calcutta. Whereas private parties could get railway wagons to import into Assam the quota of cloth in those days why should Government fail for three or four months to get any wagons or hold-space in the steamers that ply between Calcutta and Assam? The movement of every commodity from Calcutta to Assam has now practically ceased. Yesterday, during question hour we heard about Corrugated Iron sheets. I hear, Sir, that there is an acute shortage of salt at the present time, and that in certain places price of common salt has gone up to 12 annas a seer, whereas in former times it never went beyond 4 annas, excepting at one period when owing to an explosion in the Bombay docks no ship could come up from the Western coast ports like Wokha laden with salt to Calcutta and Chittagong.

Sir, my intention is not to criticise the Government, but to point out these things so that they may ponder why this change in the procurement of rice has come over and why this difficulty in importing essential foodstuffs from outside the province to Assam. The entire policy ought to be overhauled so that peace and plenty are again restored to Assam.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Sir, before the Hon'ble Minister replies I may be permitted to say a few words about the rice position in Assam, instead of moving my Cut Motion separately.

Sir, it has already been stated both by Maulavi Abul Kashem and the Leader of the Opposition that the rice situation in Assam has been serious. As a matter of fact, the whole world is faced with the danger of starvation. From the figures that have been published by the Food and Agricultural Organisation Food Bulletin we find that the production of rice and other cereals in the world has fallen off. It is because of the after-effects of the war, secondly of shortage of equipment; thirdly of unfavourable weather; and, fourthly, of use of sub-marginal land. According to Food and Agricultural Organisation's publication, the world production of rough rice (paddy) was 145 million tons in 1948. During the last decade there has been an increase of 100 millions in the world's population. That appears to be in keeping with the theory propounded by Professor Malthus of England although it has not been accepted by economists. According to his theory population increases in a geometrical ratio and food increases in an arithmetical ratio, unless want or vice restrict the growth of population. In spite of the fact that the cereal production was 145 million tons in the whole world, the deficit areas in the whole world has increased on account of (1) unfavourable weather, (2) shortage of equipments, (3) use of submarginal land. In 1948-49 the areas under rice plantation exceeded by 6.177 million acres the pre-war average. Despite that production is said to be below pre-war average by 2.9 million tons.

Only recently, Mr. Morris Dodd, Director General of the United Nation Food and Agriculture Organisation said that the world rice outlook is "gloomy" Monsieur Lie, Secretary General of the United Nation Organisation has been repeatedly warning the world, specially the rice eating world of the danger ahead.

Coming nearer home, Sir, and looking at the recent proceedings of the Central Assembly, we find that the food situation is very serious, either because of the inefficiency of the department concerned, or because of unfavourable weather, or something, which I will point out presently. It is an admitted fact that there has been a terrible shortage of foodstuff in the

country according to the figures given by the Hon'ble Food Minister, Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram in the Central Assembly. He said that in 1948 the cereal production was 42.6 million tons, the actual requirement for 1949 is 45.4 million tons and the estimated production is 46.9, *i. e.*, 47 million tons. On account of the acute shortage of foodstuff the Government of India had to import foodstuff to the extent of 2.8 million tons in 1948, at a cost of Rs.130 crores or to be exact Rs.129.5 crores.

In undivided India of 1945-46, the Government imported .8 million tons of rice at a cost of Rs.20 crores only. When the country was partitioned and needs and requirements of the country became fewer, India imported 2.8 million tons of foodstuff from the hard currency and dollar areas. This year India has had to purchase from the International Monetary Fund \$ over 92.4 millions and most of it has been spent on the importation of food-grains.

Sir, I do not know what progress the Provincial Government have registered as a result of the Grow-More-Food Campaign. I am sure, at the cost of Rs.5 crores, the Grow-More-Food Campaign has produced a few lakh of tons of paddy. I do not know the figure exactly but the target aimed at was 9 lakh tons, and I think production was 7 lakh tons. The land reclaimed under the Agriculture Department was 4.4 lakh acres at a cost of Rs.2 crores. The net value of the crops raised on the reclaimed areas amounts to Rs.3.4 crores and it is said that only .08% of the India Budget is spent on Agriculture in India. That is terrible reading. In spite of the fact that the country is predominantly agricultural and in spite of the fact that it has been repeatedly told that there is a chronic annual shortage of food only .08% of the budget has been spent on Agriculture.

The Central Government said that they had a reserve of 2 lakh tons based on expected supply. The Centre expected some 60,000 tons of rice from Assam, 37,000 tons from the United Provinces and 37,000 tons from East Punjab. But instead of sending 60,000 tons of rice Assam had to be subsidised with 55,000 tons of rice by the Central Government.

Sir, after having quoted these figures, I should like to know from the Hon'ble Supply Minister as to what he had been able to do during his term of Office.

Srijut SIDDHINATH SARMA: Is it 5,000 or 55,000 thousand ?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: It is 55,000. It has been published in the papers like that. I am subject to correction. I have quoted from the figures stated in the papers and there was no subsequent correction of the "wrong" publication of the figure.

Sir, last year, in the summer (about 8 months ago), in spite of that fact that there was a serious shortage of food-stuff in Assam rice and paddy were de-controlled, with the result that prices shot up and at Jorhat we had to go for one or two days without rice and when it was available we had to purchase it at Re.1 per seer. Now, it is available at the rate of 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ seers per rupee. The Leader of the Opposition has said that people in Shillong had to purchase rice at one time at Rs.60 per maund. Now, control has been re-introduced. Thank God !

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: You should cut short your speech.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: I am sorry, Sir, I cannot finish my speech in a short time. However, I will shorten my speech, although I could not deal with the situation fully.

In spite of the fact that control is reimposed, the situation is not happy, because, I know of villagers still selling rice and paddy at decontrolled prices and that in spite of the inspecting staff. This has caused great hardship specially to the people with fixed salaries.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister will get 8 minutes.

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. Friend, the Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. Chaliha, will reply to the points raised in this debate, but in this connection I must point out that the hon. Leader of the Opposition said that in Shillong the price of rice after de-control went up to Rs.60 per maund. This was not a fact, Sir, although it was published in the Press, it was subsequently corrected. We went round the market to check and it was found that the price was not more than Rs.45 and Rs.48 per maund.

Srijut BIMALAPRASAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am afraid the time at my disposal is too short to deal with all the points raised by the various hon. Members in this House. At the outset, I would like to express our thanks to the hon. Member on behalf of the Government for giving us this opportunity of discussing this very important question of supply.

The question of supply, Sir, is after all a very serious one not only for the Treasury Bench, not only for the Opposition Bench but for the people of the country as a whole. Whatever we may be able to do in other matters, it is the primary duty of the Government and also of all responsible people of the country to see that the people are fed and clad. Sir, this question of supply is taxing the brains not only of the Provincial Government here but also of the Government of India, not only of the Government of India but also the international organisations. The scarcity of foodstuffs in the world as a whole as was explained by my hon. Friend, Dr. Emran Husain Chaudhury, goes to show that this problem is not confined only to our particular province or to our particular Dominion, but to the world as a whole. We have, therefore, to put our heads together to solve this problem to the best way possible.

Personally I do not think, Sir, that the supply position has ever been satisfactory in our Province. With all respects to the hon. Leader of the Opposition I would say Sir, that even during his regime we do not think the supply position was satisfactory. But there were then, I mean in the pre-partition days, certain advantages which the partition of the country has deprived the people particularly of this Province. By that I mean the problem of transport. The difficulty of transport has increased to such a considerable extent that in spite of best efforts on the part of the Government it has been possible to do only very little in the matter. On the other hand we have to depend so much on commodities imported from other provinces of India that unless this transport question is improved, every step that we may take and every calculation that we may make seldom stands. All the hon. Members are aware how this transport difficulty has reacted on the supply position of the Province. Assam produces kerosene oil and the allotment for the Province is also very satisfactory but still people suffer from scarcity of Kerosene oil. All this is due to the transport difficulty even inside the Province itself.

Sir, in these matters of transport difficulty we have referred to the Government of India not only once but for many times and they have been doing their best to help in this respect. But there are certain things the solution of which needs time. To cite an example—it has been reported that something like 500 wagons of

the Assam Railways are out of condition and they are now being used for accommodating the Railway staff. On the other hand the Railway complains that until they establish a suitable workshops in the Province it is simply impossible on their part to bring these wagons in proper working order. As a result of partition of the country the workshop which used to cater to the needs of the Assam Railways now has fallen to Pakistan and the entire metre gauge system of our Assam Railway is now being served by the workshop at Dibrugarh capacity of which is not adequate. These are the main reasons why our transport and thus the supply position has not improved.

Then, Sir, as regards the points raised by my Friend Maulavi Abul Kashem, he has suggested grain storage in the deficit areas, particularly Dhubri. In Dhubri we have at present two godowns—one at Dhubri and the other at Tamarhat and the capacity of these two godowns is 35,000 maunds. The Procurement Department is trying to build up sufficient reserve in these areas. Besides that, recently we have decided that in all rationed deficit areas we will ask the retailers to stock at least 3 weeks' requirement for their respective area. Similarly in addition to the reserve stock that will be kept by the retailers, the wholesalers will also be asked to retain a reserve for another 3 weeks. I may also inform the House that their is a marked improvement in the procurement position this year as compared with that of last year. The Government's commitments to the deficit areas and rationed areas also the Industries come to about 16 thousand tons of rice per month and as against this requirement the Industries have in reserve an average of 3 months' requirement. In case of rationed areas also there is sufficient reserve in those places. In the meantime we are endeavouring our best to speed up and increase procurement as far as possible.

Sir, as regards the difficulties of the agriculturist as pointed out by my hon. Friend Maulavi Abul Kashem as a result of the Foodgrains Control Order, I am quite prepared to examine all the points he has raised in his speech and I shall be grateful if we could sit together—the Maulavi Saheb and myself—and discuss these points and take suitable steps in the matter.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: What has the hon. Member got to say ?

***Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** In view of what has been said by the hon. Parliamentary Secretary, Sir, I beg to withdraw my Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to ithdraw his Motion.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is :

“That a sum not exceeding Rs.100 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1950, for the administration of the head '85-A.—Capital Outlay on Provincial Scheme of State Trading’.”

The question was adopted.

Grant No.31

(63.—Extra-ordinary Charges)

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam; I beg, Sir, to move that a sum not

*Speech not corrected.

exceeding Rs.86,800 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1950, for the administration of the head "63.—Extraordinary Charges".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs.86,800 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1950, for the administration of the head '63.—Extra-ordinary Charges'."

There are two Cut Motions. No.1 may be moved now.

Maulavi MAKABBIR ALI MOZUMDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.14,662 under Grant No.31, Major head—63.—Extra-ordinary Charges, Minor head—A.—Charges in India, Sub-head—(iii)—Administration of Paper Control Order (total), at page 272 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.86,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

My intention in moving this Cut Motion is to criticise the Government on their failure to supply papers to the public.

Sir, I think, every hon. Member of this House will admit when I say that there is regular paper famine in the Province, specially in the Mofussil Districts. It is said that the Government is responsible for this crisis, that is, for not supplying the consumers of their legitimate due quota and keeping the same for use by the Government in various Departments. Sir, the students are the worst sufferers in this respect. They are not getting papers to carry on their daily routine tasks and they are not getting their text books. When this is the case what is the use of spending lakhs of rupees for education of the children. It is meaningless to go for their education when we cannot provide them with papers. Not only the students, Sir, but the lawyers, merchants and various other professional people are also suffering from this acute short supply of papers. Sir, my point is that everything can be kept in abeyance for some time but not the education of the children. Therefore, if Government fail to procure adequate supply of papers then I suggest that the allotment of papers for the Publicity Department should be stopped altogether or the Department be abolished so as to meet the demand of the public in this respect.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :

"That the provision of Rs.14,662 under Grant No.31, Major head—63.—Extra-ordinary Charges, Minor head—A.—Charges in India, Sub-head—(iii)—Administration of Paper Control Order (total), at page 272 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.86,800 do stand reduced by Re.1."

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Sir, in lending my full support to the Motion moved by my hon. Friend, Maulavi Makabbir Ali Mozumdar, I like to draw Government's pointed attention to the acute shortage or famine of paper. Actually students are the worst sufferers in this very important matter. When they do not get paper in the market they go from village to village in search of it and for this scarcity of paper their text books have not been published uptil now. And yet, Sir, we find two newspapers, one is 'Assam Information' in English and the other, 'Assam Batari' in Assamese, published by the Publicity Department without any reason whatsoever. I hope Government would take this into

serious consideration and stop publishing these two papers so as to make the paper used for this purpose, available to the students.

I hope Government will look into this matter seriously and accept the Motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Mozumdar.

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS: Sir, the hon. Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. Chaliha, will reply to the points raised in this debate.

Srijut BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): Sir, the time at my disposal to reply the various questions raised is very short. So, I may be given longer time than what has been fixed for me.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I can give the hon. Member 10 minutes' time.

Srijut BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government is fully aware about the scarcity of paper in the Province. The hon. Members of the House may be aware that allotment of quota of papers for the Province is made by the Government of India. Besides that, Sir, I regret to inform the House that the supply of papers that we are now getting is not even half of what is allotted to us. We are getting only about 50 per cent. of the allotment. Hence the scarcity in this Province.

Another thing which is responsible for this scarcity is that, Government has been compelled to take some papers out of the present allotment for administrative purpose, as the Central Stationery Stores have not sent us our requirement of papers, etc.

With regard to the non-availability of papers to our educational institutions or students I may say that Government is trying its best to solve this difficult problem. Recently the Director of Consumer Goods has instructed all the District Officers to give priority in issuing papers to the educational institutions.

I have placed before the House the actual position about paper. With regard to the two journals, *viz.*, 'Assam Information' and 'Assam Batari', published by the Publicity Department, I may inform the House that the Publicity Department is not getting these papers from the present quota that is allotted to us. As a matter of fact there was a huge stock of papers purchased long ago by the Publicity Department for publishing their previous journals which remained unused.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Why not make available these papers to the students ?

Srijut BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): These are the properties of the Publicity Department.

With these few words, Sir, I would request the hon. Member to please withdraw his Cut Motion.

Maulavi MAKABBIR ALI MOZUMDAR: In view of what has been stated by the Parliamentary Secretary 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 Motion ?

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

Maulavi MUHAMMAD NAZMAL HAQUE: I beg to move that the provision of Rs.72,092 under Grant No.31, major head—63—Extraordinary Charges, minor head—A.—Charges in India, sub-head—(iv)—Consumers' Goods Scheme (total) at page 273 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.86,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, my intention in moving this Cut Motion is to know from the Government why the supply of Corrugated Iron sheets has not been improved. So long whatever meagre quantity was allotted to Goalpara, could not be supplied in full. I know Government will come forward with the usual reply of transport difficulty. But when these difficulties could be overcome by the private dealers, I do not see why this should stand in the way of the Government. I fail to understand why Government having the authority at their back fail to import sufficient quantity of Corrugated Iron sheets due to transport difficulty, whereas the ordinary businessmen can import without any trouble whatsoever. At the same time Government has a Handling agent at Calcutta, still they cannot supply their fixed quota regularly. There must be something wrong in this administration. I hope the Minister in charge will explain whether this supply would be regular or not. With these few words, I move the Motion for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :

“That the provision of Rs.72,092 under Grant No. 31, major head, 63.—Extraordinary Charges minor head—A.—Charges in India, sub-head (iv)—Consumers' Goods Scheme (total), at page 273 of the Budget be reduced by Re. 1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.86,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.”

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this acute dearth of Corrugated Iron sheets compels me to draw the Government's attention to one particular instance. I do not know what will be the Government's reply with regard to the shortage or scarcity of Corrugated Iron sheets in Assam. This shortage has been there for the last 3 or 4 years. In spite of the fact that Corrugated Iron sheets are distributed by the Liaison Committees we find that certain rich people or certain people having money are getting Corrugated Iron sheets in abundant quantities, building houses and renting them to people and earning enough money thereby. As a matter of fact the priority should go to the people who want Corrugated Iron sheets for their Mandirs, Maktabs, Madrasas and Mosques. Unfortunately these people do not get Corrugated Iron sheets most of which are taken either by the members of the Liaison Committee themselves or by those who have connection with the members of the Liaison Committee. I once myself applied for one bundle of Corrugated Iron sheets and I fought for that for 1½ years. At that time Mr. Hayley was the Deputy Commissioner at Jorhat. On one occasion when most of the members were present at a meeting of the Liaison Committee and when my question was raised, the impression I got was that priority went to the Ministers and then to the Members of the Legislative Assembly in some cases. I was asked whether I would accept that one bundle as a Member of the Legislative Assembly and I at once refused the offer because we must look to the needs of the poor people and not to those Members of the Legislative Assembly who by virtue of their being Members of the Legislative Assembly can do anything and are doing many things. Therefore I hope the Government will take this matter into serious consideration and attempt at a better and more equitable distribution of the Corrugated Iron sheets so that they may meet the grievances of those whose needs are most urgent.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS :** May I know who are those Members of the Legislative Assembly who have taken Corrugated Iron sheets ?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY : The question of the gentleman is not at all clear to me.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS :** The hon. Member says that Ministers and M.L.A.'s get priority in the matter of Corrugated Iron sheets. May I know who are those Ministers and M.L.A.'s who get priority in the matter of distribution of Corrugated Iron sheets ?

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what Dr. Emran Husain Chaudhury said is only a repetition of what he actually heard in that conference of Mr. Hayley as Deputy Commissioner of Jorhat and the members of the Liaison Committee. He did not make any statement of his own that Ministers and M.L.A.'s are given priority in the matter of supply of C. I. sheets. As a matter of fact Ministers and M.L.A.'s who are in dire need of Corrugated Iron sheets are not getting sufficient quantity or full requirements. I know some of my hon. Friend M.L.A.'s have received Corrugated Iron sheets and probably Srijut Beliram Das is in search of Corrugated Iron sheets to complete his building at Gauhati. He has completed two storeys but to complete the rest he has not got sufficient material. So, that proves the M.L.A.'s are not getting the full quantity but some quantity is apparent.

Corrugated Iron sheets, as the very name shows, was difficult to obtain during the war years because every spot of iron or steel was used for military purpose. Therefore there was a very short supply. Since then sufficient steel has been released to the industry to convert into C. I. sheet. I think Government reply will be that they have got a definite quota but on account of transport difficulty they have not been able to bring that quota to the Province. They have employed Messrs. Kedarmall Keshabdeu of Shillong as the Handling agent at Calcutta who are in this business from before. I wonder very much how the transportation of these goods are going on at the hands of a private party ! If the Government themselves request to the Controller of Consumer Goods of the Centre he can grant priority to the movement of C. I. sheets into Assam.

Sir, I request the Government to consider, at least after three months ; if they find that the present arrangement of transport for C.I. sheets is satisfactory or not, then the Government should take up the work in their own hand.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS :** Sir on a personal explanation I want to say for the information of the House that by means of C. I. sheets I do not want to complete my building. My building is a re-inforced cement concrete building. I have no connection with C. I. sheets. My building is a two storeyed building.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY :** In view of your denial I have nothing to add.

***Srijut BIMALA PROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir. During the course of different questions that have been raised in this Assembly on this subject regarding the actual allotment and actual arrival and distribution of C. I. sheets to the hon. Members, it was the intention of the Government that instead of leaving the consumers to the mercy of the District Officers, Government formed those Liaison Committees in which, I think, almost

*Speech not corrected.

all the M.L.A.'s are members, so that the genuine difficulty of the people may get redressed and so that the genuine demands will be met. Now, Sir, complaints have been raised against the Liaison Committees, and I would have been very happy if he could suggest means for the betterment of the Liaison Committees by which the distribution, in his opinion, is not properly done.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Sir, no Liaison Committee is necessary.

***Srijut BIMALA PROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary):** Sir, with regard to the suggestion of the hon. Leader of the Opposition, I would say that they are very useful. As a matter of fact, we have been proposing to give trial to the agent for two months and if he cannot do anything satisfactorily in lifting these things we will consider the suggestion of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

With these few words I request the hon. Mover of the Cut Motion to please withdraw his Motion.

***Maulavi NAZMAL HAQUE:** Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Motion.

The Motion was, by leave of the House withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is :
 "That a sum not exceeding Rs.86,800 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1950, for the administration of the head—'63.—Extra-ordinary Charges'."

The question was adopted.

Grant No.11.

("27.—Administration of Justice)

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATN BRAHMA: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum not exceeding Rs.7,85,000 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1950, for the administration of the head "27.—Administration of Justice".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :
 "That a sum not exceeding Rs.7,85,000 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1950, for the administration of the head—'27.—Administration of Justice'."

Maulavi MAKABBIR ALI MAZUMDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.1,95,955 under grant No.11, Major head 27.—Administration of justice, Minor head—D.—District and Sessions Judges (total), at page 87 of the budget be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.7,85,000 do stand reduced of Re.1.

My intention in moving this Cut Motion is to urge upon the Government to establish a District and Judge's Court at Silchar immediately. In doing so, Sir, I have to recall the whole painful and tragic history of neglect, indifference and callousness with which the legitimate grievances of the

Cachar people have been and are being treated. The newly constituted Cachar district has had a population over 12 lakhs. A portion of Sylhet district notorious for its litigious propensities and full of complicated and bewildering variety of cases due to its peculiar land system and other factors rare in other parts of the province has been tagged on to the old district of Cachar. This has all the more added to the difficulties of the administration of justice.

From the statistical points of view, I may say this much that though the actual figures are not before me, the Hon'ble the Judicial Minister will certainly bear me out on facts that the number of cases that come up before the courts of Cachar district are far larger than those in any single district in Assam. So far as I have been able to gather on a modest computation that these may even exceed the number in any three districts, *viz.*, Darrang, Nowgong and Sibsagar taken together and will decidedly beat down any district in Assam Valley in point of variety, complexity and intricacy.

Sir, the present system of sending up of appeals, motions and bail petitions to Jorhat is not only very expensive but troublesome also. From all conceivable angles, Jorhat which lies at a considerable distance intersected by high impenetrable hills liable to land slides and linked up by difficult communications especially during the monsoon is not at all a suitable seat for our Judgeship. Difficulties of the litigant public especially of those who have been convicted in criminal courts may better be imagined than described.

It is common knowledge that Assam High Court is practically sitting idle. It has had no cases worth the name except those from Cachar.

If the large paraphernalia of the High Court with its heavy cost has to be maintained at all that must be done by the feeder court at Silchar. It goes without saying that it is Cachar and Cachar alone which has had the singular credit of the largest quantity of legal materials for its very existence. From that view of things it is simply criminal on the part of the Government to keep such an important district without a District Judge to attend to its vital needs and to supervise its intricate judicial administration in close contact.

Sir, recently the All-Assam Lawyers' Conference being fully convinced of our claim passed a resolution to this effect.

Sir, it is my most painful duty to observe that not only in this matter but in other amenities of civilised life our benighted district is receiving step-motherly care at the hands of the present Ministry.

The sooner this state of things is ended, the better for all concerned.

Sir, before I resume my seat I would like to say that I find that of the Hon'ble Ministers present in this House to-day, at least 7 or 8 are from the Bar, specially the Hon'ble Finance Minister and the Hon'ble Judicial Minister are from the Bar. They will be able to realise our difficulties and consider my claim for the establishment of a Judge Court at Silchar favourably.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the provision of Rs.1,95,955 under Grant No.11, Major head 27.—Administration of Justice, Minor head—D.—District and Sessions Judges (total), at page 87 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.7,85,000, do stand reduced by Re.1."

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the separation of Sylhet, when we took up the question of reconstitution of the Judgeship we examined whether we could give one District and Sessions Judge with his headquarters at Silchar. We took figures from which it was found that it would not be justifiable to put one District and Sessions Judge there. Government are

not at all callous about the matter, Sir, and we have already given one Sub-Judge, with the powers of Assistant Sessions Judge, with his headquarters at Silchar. Sir, after the transfer of Sylhet we had only one district with a District Judge, but recently we have reconstituted the Judgeship, according to which we now have two Districts, and Cachar falls within the Upper Assam District with the Judge's headquarters at Jorhat. The Judge is also expected to go to Silchar on circuit whenever necessary. This question has been discussed again and again, and was also discussed threadbare during the last Session, and I do not see any reason why my hon. Friend has raised it again. I, however, admit, Sir, that some difficulty is being experienced in the matter of moving bail petitions. In that matter I am examining whether we can delegate power to the Sub-Judge to receive bail petitions. In view of what I have said, I hope my hon. Friend will withdraw his Motion.

Maulavi MAKABBIR ALI MAZUMDAR: May I know when the figures were called for? Recently or immediately after partition?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: We have only recently reconstituted the Judgeship and we would first like to see how the present arrangement works. After that, if necessary, we shall review the whole position and see if we can give further relief to the litigants of the Cachar district.

Maulavi MAKABBIR ALI MAZUMDAR: I am not very much satisfied with the reply of the Hon'ble Minister. He could not fully realise our needs and difficulties. Any way, Sir, as he has assured us that he will do something, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Motion half-heartedly.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The next Motion stands in the name of Maulavi Muhammad Abul Kashem.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.3,96,206 under Grant No.11, Major head 27.—Administration of Justice, Minor head—H.—Criminal Courts (total), at page 88 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.7,85,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

The object of my Motion is to raise a discussion on the neglect of the Magistrates in the matter of early disposal of the cases. If the cases are speedily disposed of those become an example to the law-breakers, who will be frightened to think that if they break the law they would be speedily punished. But people care very little for law if speedy punishment is not meted out. It is also a trouble to the accused to come to the courts for months and years together. It may be that an innocent person has been prosecuted; he should get justice as early as possible. The cases should be disposed of within six months. The High Court once calls for explanation why the cases were not disposed of in time. But that is merely formal. May I urge the Hon'ble Minister to see whether he can do something so that the Magistrates do not take more than six months to dispose of the cases? As a pleader he may oppose this, as some of the pleaders are guilty of deliberately having the cases adjourned from time to time, as by this means they get more money from their clients.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That the provision of Rs.3,96,206 under Grant No.11, Major head 27.—Administration of Justice, Minor head—H.—Criminal Courts (total), at page 88

of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.7,85,000 do stand reduced by Re.1."

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion, because I should very much like to see that the officers in the courts help the poor people by early disposal of the pending cases. Of course the pleaders may try to delay disposal, but I do not represent the pleaders. I represent the poor people, and in their interest I request speedy disposal of pending cases. I am just reminded of a case in which one poor *ex-tea* garden labourer was the accused. That case dragged on for 1½ years. (*A voice*:—Civil or criminal case?). A criminal case, Sir. The poor fellow did not understand what the case was about. I had to go from Dibrugarh to Jorhat and contact the pleader. When he explained that case to me I found that was a very simple one. I attended the court that day and had the case finished on that very day. I am just reminded about another case,—I am giving these instances as I have been asked to cite specific cases.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It is not necessary to give more instances now.

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: I would only urge that the Government make it a point to see that the Judiciary and the Magistrates dispose of cases as speedily as possible, in the interest of the poor people.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I admit that there was some delay some time back in the disposal of cases but it will not be correct to assume generally that it was due to the negligence of the Magistrates.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister will finish his reply after lunch.

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 1 P. M.

(After Lunch)

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was telling the House that the delay in the disposal of cases in courts was not due to the negligence of the Magistrates but it was due to the shortage of Magistrates. Hon. Members know that after releasing of officers opting for Pakistan there was a considerable gap in the cadre. We had to fill up this gap by promotion from the rank of Sub-Deputy Collectors and by temporary recruitment from the Bar. Now after this the position is much improved and we have issued strict instructions to the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers to see that cases are speedily disposed of. Our report is that the situation has much improved and cases are now being disposed off more speedily than they were done before. In view of all this that I have said, I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his Motion.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM: In view of what has been said by the Hon'ble Minister, I beg leave of the House, Sir, to withdraw my Motion.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion No.4—Moulana Md. Mufazzal Hussain to move.

Moulana MD. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.3,96,206 under Grant No.11, Major head 27.—Administration of Justice, Minor head—H.—Criminal Courts (total), at page 88 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.* the amount of the whole grant of Rs.7,85,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

My intention by moving this Motion is to bring to the notice of the Government how illegal fees on the bail amount is realised from all the accused persons in the Karimganj Criminal Court.

Sir, the rate of such fees is as follows—upto Rs.1,000 it is at Re.1-8-0 per hundred and part thereof; above Rs.1,000 it is at Rs.7-8-0 per thousand and part thereof.

Sir, the actual persons give such fees in the impression that the sum is due by them to the Government God knows how much money has been realised from the people upto date and who are those fortunate fellows who digested the money throwing dust upon the eyes of the public.

I do not know, Sir, where the money actually goes, but it is a fact, so far my knowledge goes, that such fees are realised with the knowledge of the Magistrates. It is also heard, Sir, that at the instigation of some influential person the amount of bail in some cases is increased only because the accused person should pay more fees.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** On a point of information, Sir, I want to say that it would be better if the hon. Member could send to us secretly such informations bringing specific instances to the notice of the Government so that the Government will be able to inquire into the matter instead of his giving a general statement of this type.

Moulana MD. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN: So, Sir, I urge upon Government that the public of Karimganj as well as the legal practitioners and Government authorities there, should be informed so that such illegal practice should be stopped at once.

With these few words, Sir, I move my Motion for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

“That the provision of Rs.3,96,206 under Grant No.11, Major head 27.—Administration of Justice, Minor head—H.—Criminal Courts (total), at page 88 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.7,85,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.”

***Maulavi ABDUL HAI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, what we have just heard from the hon. Mover of this Cut Motion is a new thing to us. We have not heard of such illegal acts anywhere in Assam. It goes without saying that such acts are illegal. I hope Government will take immediate steps to stop such illegal practice.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: So far as the Government is concerned, Sir, we have got no such information up till now and I am

not prepared to accept as correct the statement made by the hon. Mover of this Cut Motion. It would be better if, as suggested by the Hon'ble Revenue Minister, we can have specific instances of such illegal acts and in that case I can assure the hon. Member that Government will take necessary steps in the matter.

Section 496 of the Criminal Procedure Code is very clear—when the accused is brought before the Magistrate, the Magistrate is bound to grant him bail. But the main difficulty lies with regard to the decision as to the sufficiency of the bail which have to be furnished. In this connection I think it would be better if this decision regarding the sufficiency of the bail is left to the Magistrate rather than to the Police. This I think will solve the matter and I can assure the hon. Member that this aspect of the question will be examined by the Government and we shall see what we can do.

***Moulana MD. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN:** In view of what has been said by the Hon'ble Minister I beg leave of the House, Sir, to withdraw my Motion.

The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs.7,85,000 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head—‘27.—Administration of Justice.’”

The question was adopted.

Grant No.24.

(“47.—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS”)

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum not exceeding Rs.5,76,800 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head—“47.—Miscellaneous Departments”.

I do know, Sir, whether the Cut Motion standing in the name of Mr. B. K. J. Sarwan is in order as it refers to consideration of the members of the Independent Labour Party of the Legislature while making appointments of members to Committees, etc.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs.5,76,800 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head—‘47.—Miscellaneous Departments’.”

The Cut Motion may be moved now.

Mr. B. K. J. SARWAN: I beg to move, Sir, that the provision of Rs.1,41,020 under Grant No 24, Major head 47.—Miscellaneous Departments,

*Speech not corrected.

Minor head B.—Labour (total), at page 246 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.5,76,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

The purpose of my moving the Cut Motion is to criticise the Government for their taking no consideration of the Members of the Independent Labour Party of the Legislature while making appointments of members to Committees, etc.

In moving my Cut Motion I cannot help drawing the attention of the Government to the fact that ours is a democratic Government with the passing away of the British rule in India; and this theory of ours, Government being a democratic institution of the people, must steadfastly be brought into practice. The present Government of Assam has now the opportunity of giving practical effect to the democratic way in Government affairs by nominating unattached Independent Labour Members of this Legislature to Government Committees and Boards connected with nation-building schemes. The Government should nominate Independent Members to Primary School Boards, Municipalities, Local Boards, Jail Committees, Communication Board, etc., etc., so that those people who are not represented may have representation through elected Members of the Legislature.

There is at present an Independent Labour Group in the Assembly, though it has been a dwindling Group. Yet, so long as that Independent Group exists in the Legislature the Government owe it to themselves to nominate Members from that Group, now known as Independent Labour Group, to Government Committees and Boards, etc., so that the general public outside the Congress Party may also be represented. This is the democratic way, and I earnestly request the Government to be just and give an assurance that the matter will receive due consideration of the Government.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: At this stage I should make a statement.

This is a matter for the Chair to recognise Parties in the Legislature. In this House at present there are three Parties, *viz.*, the Treasury Bench, which commands the confidence of the Congress Group, the Opposition Party and the Independent Group. Of course I have received a letter from the two Sarwan brothers to recognise them as Independent Labour Group. I have not yet disposed of that matter as I shall have to consider it whether they may be recognised as a separate Group. The hon. Members who sent me this representation will get certain correspondence from me in a day or two. But until the matter is disposed of, they cannot be recognised as a different Group in the Legislature. Therefore I consider that this Motion is out of order, as this subject is not within the purview of Government.

Now the question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs.5,76,800 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head ‘47.—Miscellaneous Departments’.”

The question was adopted.

Grant No 21.

(“41.—VETERINARY”)

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum not exceeding Rs.6,48,900 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head “41.—Veterinary”.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs.6,48,900 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head '41.—Veterinary'."

There are 4 Cut Motions. Motion No.4 being an omnibus one this may be moved now.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.6,48,900 under Grant No.21, major head 41.—Veterinary, at page 190 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.6,48,900 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, in moving this Cut Motion I want to raise a general discussion on the administration of the Veterinary Department. But as there are several other Cut Motions in the name of two other hon. Members I want to restrict myself to some of the major points. Sir, a huge sum of money from the public exchequer is being spent on this Department. The public should know or feel that the money is being spent for the good of the people specially the cultivators. Instead of having a paraphernalia of offices from the Director down to the Field Assistants, this Department is found doing no beneficial work for the people. At the time of any cattle epidemic, no adequate help comes from the Government. The Government should understand that this Department is meant not only to improve the cattle stock of our country, but also upon this depends the improvement of our agricultural production. If we do not improve the stock of cattle, our grow-more-food problem and other agricultural projects to increase our agricultural products will be in vain. Sir, I urge upon the Government to see that officers of this Department should not be callous towards their duties.

As regards a local question, I refer to my another Cut Motion regarding the establishment of a Veterinary Dispensary at Lakhipur in Goalpara District. Lakhipur constitutes a constituency by itself. More than 95 per cent. or more of the population are agriculturists. Several times people have requested the Government to have a veterinary dispensary there and the Hon'ble Minister in-charge also knows that a dispensary is essentially needed in that place ; but up till now nothing has been done. I request the Hon'ble Minister that this time the people will be helped by granting a veterinary dispensary at Lakhipur.

With these few words I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved :

"That the total provision of Rs.6,48,900 under Grant No.21, Major head 41.—Veterinary, at page 190 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.6,48,900 do stand reduced by Re.1."

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM: I beg, Sir, to support my hon. Friend, Maulavi Muhammad Nazmal Haque, and to say that in spite of our repeated requests sufficient attention is not being paid towards the matter of the working of the Department. You know, Sir, that this province has been facing great difficulties in respect of foodstuffs and other things, and you know, Sir, that cattle is an urgent need for the purpose of agriculture. It has been brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Minister concerned on several occasions that instead of maintaining so many officers with high salaries, it would be better to see whether actually they can do some good to the people by increasing the number of low paid doctors and Veterinary Field Assistants. The thing is that though Government has already taken steps to increase

the number of Veterinary Field Assistants, we cannot expect efficiency in the direction from the Head of the Department. The Head of the Department is so callous that if any matter is brought to his notice for redress, no care is taken nor any response is given. I have got practical experience of bringing a matter up again and again. I do not see any necessity of asking for it again. I want to mention one glaring thing which they can do away with. I brought this matter first of all to the notice of hon. Members in 1946. There is a veterinary dispensary at Mankachar, but people of Mankachar do not get any benefit from that dispensary as people of Mankachar are under Sukchar Dispensary which is at a distance of 18 miles. This is how the administration is going on. In spite of repeated requests no action is being taken to place that area under this dispensary. The dispensary is maintained on State coffers. It would serve the people of the place where it is situated. It does not bar supplying medicine or treating the cattle that come from outside, but its benefit should not be withheld from the people of Mankachar area. There are dispensaries at Sukchar and Ghagmari. But there is no doctor and no Field Assistants at Ghagmari. One doctor there is at Sukchar, but he cannot practically go from one end of the area to the other to attend epidemic diseases especially after the flood subsides. The Deputy Commissioner himself pointed out that it was impracticable to cope with the disease. The Veterinary Department does not take any steps to post some suitable Field Assistants there. It is well known to the Department that flood affects that area and people cannot feed their cattle. The result is that after the floods are over, goats and cattle are attacked with epidemic, but no previous arrangement was made to staff the Ghagmari and Mankachar Dispensaries. If precautionary measure be not taken to save the lives of cattle, then there is no use in spending such a huge amount of money.

Sir, so far as I remember it was said in the last Budget Session that the post of a Deputy Director was needed. At that time I raised a discussion saying that there was no need for a Deputy Director because our Veterinary Surgeons are not many in number. Now we see that the post has been filled up though the Government assured us that when the number will be increased they will provide one Veterinary Deputy Director, but it has been done already. We also see that there is one temporary Veterinary Investigating Officer and his pay is Rs. 6,000, *i.e.*, Rs. 500 a month. So far we did not know what is the function of the Investigating Officer, whether he investigates the work of the Director or his subordinates we do not understand this. I shall be glad if we are enlightened on this. If such experts are not kept for supply of vaccine and other things for necessary anti-precautionary measures then the Department cannot do proper service to the people and without the Veterinary Research Officer in these days we do not know what the Department will do. I shall be glad if Government gives details as to the utility of this Research officer, whether he is doing anything good to the people. With these words I support the Motion moved by my Friend, Maulavi Nazmal Haque.

Maulana MD. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN: I rise to support the Motion moved by my Friend, Maulavi Md. Nazmal Haque. Sir, my contention is to bring to the notice of the Government how the area under Ratabari Police Station in Karimganj is situated and how much difficulties they have to face at every step of their life. Sir, the area of Ratabari is cut off by big hills on three sides and by a big *beel* on one side; and within this area there is no Veterinary Hospital. When the public are in need of getting help of Veterinary Doctors, they must go to Patharkandi crossing a *beel* and a hill 15 to 20 miles from some places. So it is practically impossible for them to get help of the doctor.

Sir, I may mention here another thing which, I believe, the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge for Veterinary himself knows that in the Haor of Shone Beel thousands of buffaloes and cows from Hailakandi and Longai Valley come every year in winter to graze there and while epidemics break out widely hundreds of buffaloes and cows die without any treatment.

So, Sir, I urge upon the Government for establishing a Veterinary Hospital somewhere at Shone Beel area of Ratabari. With these words I support the Motion moved by my Friend, Maulavi Md. Nazmal Haque.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far the difficulties of the Veterinary Department are well-known to the hon. Members of this House. This Department has been labouring under certain disadvantages. First we are in dearth of Veterinary Graduates. According to the expert opinion our province requires at least 200 Veterinary Doctors, but instead of that we have been running the Department with about 70 doctors. Even amongst these some have been re-employed after their superannuation. This is a thing beyond the power of the Government to remedy. So long we have been carrying on the training of our students by sending our boys to Bengal and some other provinces. There we had to face some difficulties. Experience has shown that this Department is not yet as attractive as one would like it to be. Therefore the boys of most mediocre talent join these Colleges and even then the number of seats that are allowed in these Colleges is very limited, say 2, 3 or 4. As a result every year we cannot get more than 2 or 3 graduates out of these Colleges. So, Sir, it has been calculated that if we go on in this way it will take 50 years to meet the deficit in our staff. At the same time those who have been in service they will also be pensioned off. This is a great difficulty. Without doctors it is very difficult to establish dispensaries anywhere although we quite appreciate the need of establishment of such dispensaries. Government have been doing their part. In the opinion of the Central Government and their Expert, Assam does not require a Veterinary College. The opinion of the Expert is that it will turn out so many graduates in a few years that there will not be sufficient appointments for them. And they are suggesting that our young men should be sent to other provinces for training. But, Sir, as I have stated before, we have a very bad experience of sending our boys to other provinces.

In order to remedy these difficulties we have established a Veterinary College in our province and now we can admit boys according to our needs and I think in 20 to 25 years we shall have the requisite number of Veterinary Graduates to meet the service of the people which is so essential. So long this was our difficulty.

We have as yet no provision for making the most important medicine which is required in inoculating the animals against the fell disease, rinderpest. So long we have been importing the medicine from other provinces and thus the disadvantage was there. This medicine has only a week's life and after that it becomes inefficacious. Specially during these days it takes much time to reach our province. By the time it reaches here its utility is gone. So Government, as has already been stated, I think, in the last Session of this Assembly, contemplated to establish a Vaccine Depot in the province and as a matter of fact we are constructing buildings for that purpose. Before the establishment of the Vaccine Depot we started preparation of the vaccine by getting some apparatus from Calcutta and now we are fully prepared to prepare the vaccine in our own province.

Then as regards the staff, of course it will take some years to have the adequate staff just sufficient to meet the requirement of the province, but in the meantime we have been taking another step that will go a great way towards meeting our requirements and the demand of the public. The hon. Members of this House probably remember that in the last Session we have passed the Cattle Diseases Act. In the Act, Sir, we provided for mass inoculation. I have taken up the programme of mass inoculation after having made the arrangement for preparation of vaccines. If that programme is carried out with success, I think the present complaint will vanish in no time.

In this connection, I would like to say that we have established a Veterinary College to have a sufficient number of Veterinary Graduates and we have also made arrangement for training Veterinary Field Assistants who, under instructions from Veterinary Doctors, will be useful workers and we can start with the mass inoculation.

Sir, I have ascertained from the experts that against rinderpest inoculation can be effective for three years. So, Sir, if our mass inoculation be successful, I think the need of the province may be met to a very great extent.

My hon. Friend, Maulavi Nazmal Haque, stressed, in his Cut Motion the need for establishing a Veterinary Dispensary at Lakhipur. As I have already stated, it will not serve any useful purpose without a good doctor. Of course, it has been pointed that Field Assistants can be put in charge of the Dispensary. The status of a Veterinary Field Assistant is worse than that of a Compounder. Without prescription from a qualified Doctor a Compounder cannot prescribe any medicine and to put such a dispensary in charge of Field Assistants will not serve any useful purpose.

The same can be said in the case of my hon. Friend, Maulana Md. Mufazzal Hussain. I know the area which he refers to. I appreciate his difficulties and I realise also a Veterinary Dispensary there will serve useful purpose and there are also other places in the province where establishment of Veterinary Dispensaries is necessary. But we are under a handicap. As I have already stated. Sir, "Rome was not built in a day". When the province will be in a position to serve the people efficiently it will do so. If the Government is found not to move with the time that blame can properly be laid at the door of the Government. Now, Sir, the Government has been trying their utmost to do as much as possible within the limitation of finance. Hence I donot think that the Government can be blamed for any negligence.

As regards the appointment of Deputy Director I did not give any such assurance as has been pointed out by Maulavi Md. Abul Kashem that a Veterinary Deputy Director would not be appointed. What I said was that the Department was on the point of expansion. It was under the contemplation of Government to establish 7 or 8 District Veterinary Hospitals.

Sir, one College has been established recently and a Vaccine Depot is almost established. So at that time, what I said, I left it to the good sense of the hon. Members. After the expansion of the Department if it is found that the Deputy Director is unnecessary we may discontinue this post, as we are forced to cut down our grant. I have stated the position of this Department, and the condition and circumstances, under which the Department has been working. I hope, Sir, in consideration of these facts and circumstances, and since the Government have been doing all that lies in their power, I would request the hon. Mover of the Cut Motion to withdraw his Motion.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: Sir, after hearing the lame excuse of the Hon'ble Minister, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Motion.

The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs.6,48,900 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head ‘41.—Veterinary’.”

The question was adopted.

Announcement of the result of Election to the Public Accounts Committee

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We have now finished the Government business fixed for the day.

I shall now announce the result of the voting on the Public Accounts Committee.

The following Members have been elected:—

1. Babu Kamini Kumar Sen.
2. Srijut Gauri Kanta Talukdar.
3. Srijut Siddhinath Sarma.
4. Srijut Bhadra Kanta Gogoi.
5. Mr. J. S. Hardman.
6. Maulavi Abdul Hai.

Resolutions

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Now we take up Private Members' business. The first Resolution stands in the name of Mr. Larsing Khyriem.

Mr. LARSING KHYRIEM: Sir, I do not like to move.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The second Resolution stands in the name of Maulavi Md. Abul Kashem.

Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM: Sir, I do not like to move.

Resolution re: taking of effective measures for the control of wild animals in order to secure greater safety of human life and to facilitate increased food production

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly views with concern the ravages of wild animals in the Province and is of opinion that the Government of Assam do adopt effective measures of control in order to secure greater safety of human life and in order to facilitate increased food production.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members of this Assembly are familiar with the stand which this Group has taken on previous occasions in regard to the extensive damage committed by wild elephants in this Province. We have, on numerous occasions pointed out that this damage is avoidable and that the Government has been indifferent and callous in their action in failing to give protection from wild animals and that they have failed to show real interest in the fate of poor cultivators. On previous occasions, Sir, we have been informed by the Hon'ble the Premier (I regret he is not present today to hear this debate) that Assam was a beautiful land—a land of hills and a land of forests, and therefore, we should be prepared to take the minor inconveniences which arise out of these physical features. We have been told that the Elephant is a very valuable animal and that the Province of Assam derives a sum—varying each year from Rs.3 to 3½ lakhs from the sale of wild animals and then we were also told that Assam was proud of this noble animal.

We, Sir, are no less proud of the elephant ; we do not wish to see it exterminated ; we feel that it has a place in the economy of the province ; but that place should not be in the cultivator's field ; The elephant, Sir, should not be allowed to cause the distress and anguish which is being caused at the present time. We, Sir, have been greatly encouraged on this occasion by the very moving references which have been made by various hon. Members of this House. I refer to the hon. Mr. Larsing Khyriem, who spoke of the damage done in the Khasi Hills, and there was a reference from an hon. Member on the Opposition Benches to the damage done by wild elephants in the Ratabari Thana of the Cachar District. Government should, I feel, by this time be aware of the size of the problem. I have been informed by many members of the public and by many hon. Members of this House that they are appalled at the very extensive damage which is allowed to go on, and that they would be very glad to support my Resolution if their rigid party discipline was relaxed. Why, Sir, should the question of elephants become a matter of party discipline ? There is no danger of turning out the administration. We are asking for justice to be done, and for justice to the poorest on the land, the poor cultivator living on the fringe of the forest areas. We would ask Government to allow this question to be considered dispassionately without any question of party prejudice. I will be prepared to withdraw my Resolution if Government will be prepared to give an assurance that this problem will be tackled on sound lines, that effective measures of control will be adopted.

Now, Sir, many of us are town-dwellers. We live in the security of substantial houses. We have the amenities of town life. It is therefore appropriate that we should consider the position of those unfortunates who live in a constant state of great danger. In the fight with nature they succeed in growing crops, which they know they will never be able to reap. They struggle to drive away herds of wild elephants who reach the area with the ripening of the crops. How many of us have visited areas where elephants have actually been carrying out damage ? How many of us have seen the devastated fields ? How many of us have seen houses completely wrecked with their roofs removed and walls damaged ? In these conditions, Sir, men and women are required to live. Nor, Sir, is life free from danger ? People are being killed, and killed on a scale which, I fear, is not realised. We hear of the income which is derived, but, Sir, this is blood money purchased at the cost of human lives and at the cost of the food of this province.

Many hon. Members may enquire why this problem has become more serious today, and there is no doubt that herds of wild elephants have multiplied rapidly. I have discussed this question on numerous occasions with Forest Department officials, and they say that since the war there has been a very marked increase in the number of elephants. They attribute it to various

causes,—the construction of new roads, *jhumming* in forests, cutting down of jungle and various other causes. But they are agreed that elephants have ceased to be under control, and there is now no question of being able to control their numbers or their movements

Now, Sir, hon. Members may enquire why action is necessary. Sir, no answer is required to that question because it is an element of justice that he who sows should be allowed to reap. The people, wherever possible should be allowed to live their lives in peace and tranquility. We heard this morning a discussion on the food situation, and this question of elephant damage has a vital relation to the problem of food supply in the province. We estimate that there are 50,000 acres in this province which remain uncultivated because of the risk of elephant damage. I personally have seen very extensive areas of paddy land, excellent rice-growing land, which have been allowed to go out of cultivation for the past 3 or 4 years because the cultivators realise that it is no use growing crops for elephants to damage. There is another 50,000 acres which is subject to annual damage by elephants and the amount of rice which is taken from these lands is comparatively small. These herds of elephants move in when the crop ripens and what they do not eat, they succeed in damaging. Let us take the estimate of a hundred thousand acres with a production of rice, say at a low estimate, of half a ton of rice an acre. That, Sir, is $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. towards the four million tons deficit which India has to meet. Would not that be a magnificent contribution from the province of Assam to the deficit of India in foodgrains and to the relief of her currency difficulties ?

Sir, we have been critical and it is therefore appropriate that we should be ready to suggest remedies which, we believe, Government can carry into effect. The first course which I would suggest for consideration of the Government is the intensification of *mela* and *kheda* shikar. I have heard it reported on occasions that after capturing wild elephants they are turned loose again because no buyers are forthcoming and the cost of taking them to areas where they can be sold is prohibitive. Sir, that must be prevented. It is no use going to the labour of capturing wild elephants if they are to be afterwards turned loose on the cultivation of Assam. Some years ago, the Forest Department, I believe, prepared a comprehensive scheme for elephant control and that scheme, I understand, was sent up to Government, but what has happened to it no one seems to know. The scheme, as far as I understand, involved the demarcation of forests of Assam into three different categories. The first category was complete protection of forest, *i.e.*, there should be no molestation of animals in this area and wild animals are free to roam and do as they like ; second, area of elephant control, in which the number of elephants would be restricted and a third area—one of extermination in which elephants would be either driven out or if they cannot be driven out they would be shot. It was the belief of the Forest Department that this scheme would give effective relief. After all it is an integral part of the duties of our Forest Department not merely to protect wild animals, but to see that they do not multiply to such an extent as to become beyond control.

Then, Sir, a further measure which I will commend to the notice of the Government is relaxation of restriction of shooting wild elephants. At present time it is difficult to get the necessary permits as these are tied up with vexatious restrictions. A little relaxation would tempt the amateur Shikari to take up shooting wild elephants.

Then, Sir, I would recommend the location of expert Shikaries in different areas by Government. Should we not have in Ratabari Thana an experienced Shikari who will remain there under the instruction of Government and who may be supplied with a high velocity rifle for the protection of that area ? This would

not be expensive to Government but, I think, would provide some material relief.

We do not claim, Sir, that we have the monopoly of wisdom and we feel confident that all sections can give constructive suggestions for tackling this urgent problem.

The food situation is likely to go worse rather than better. We have in India to think in terms of feeding 60,000 additional mouths a day and we cannot afford to allow so many wild elephants to destroy our food-crops. In this connection, I would have liked to discuss the depredation of other wild animals, but, Sir, I have taken much time, and therefore, I am leaving it for other hon. Members to continue the discussion on this. But, I propose to make a brief reference to the concern in the Mangaldai area regarding the depredation of a man-eating tigress. Government in the end sent out a military party, but I have not heard with what success. It is essential, Sir, that Government should make arrangements for combating the depredations of man-eaters. It is not merely a question of sending a Subedar and six soldiers to a particular area. It is a question of having skilled Shikaries available with suitable rifles and trained elephants. We would earnestly urge Government that in the interest of protecting human life they would consider having an organisation prepared to tackle these emergencies.

Sir, with these words, I commend my Resolution to the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Resolution moved :

“ That this Assembly views with concern the ravages of wild animals in the Province and is of opinion that the Government of Assam do adopt effective measures of control in order to secure greater safety of human life and in order to facilitate increased food production. ”

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I must repeat what I already stated in the last Session of the Assembly when this matter was being discussed.

So long as the beautiful hill regions in the Himalayas and other ranges are there which are the natural abodes of wild animals, this elephant depredation is bound to continue. Government is no less anxious than hon. Mr. Hardman to see that these depredations are checked. I may again remind hon. Members that the tea-planters are more or less responsible for these depredations as they have got vast acreage of green forests lying around their tea plantations.

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN : May I know from the Hon'ble Minister the acreage of land held by tea in relation to the acreage of land held by forest ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : During my visits, Sir, to Cachar, I have personally seen vast areas of green forests round many tea gardens. They are so attractive to the wild animals.

So far as Government is concerned, all possible measures are being taken to put a check to such depredation. These are mainly the measures we are taking. Owners of Private Forest lands have been asked to clear out the jungles around their lands and to this effect circular letters have been issued to the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers to see that this is done.

The second measure is elephant catching operation. Hon. Members know that there are two kinds of operations, the Mela Shikar and Kheda Shikar and last year we have allowed greater operation with greater number of captures in larger areas. In Cachar we opened two Kheda Shikar Mahals, but unfortunately nobody did come up to operate them.

Then the third measure that we have taken is the destruction of troublesome animals. Such troublesome or dangerous animals are proclaimed by notification to be killed. These are in short the measures that we have taken. Sir, the Government are not sitting idle. Mr. Hardman's statement seems to me to be vague. He has gone to the length of saying that thousands of paddy crops have been damaged and that a considerable number of people have been killed, but he is unable to show a single instance of such damage and killing. Now, Sir, Government are conscious of all these things and we are trying to improve matters. In fact I am thinking of increasing the Game Staff. If we can get more arms and ammunitions and also the additional Game Staff, we hope we shall be able to cope with the situation. In view of these measures being taken by the Government, I hope my hon. Friend, Mr. Hardman, will withdraw his Resolution.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** May I ask Mr. Hardman one word, Sir? In regard to the depredation of the tiger in Mangaldai, may I know whether he is aware of the fact that the tiger and tigress took their shelter in a grant belonging to a tea planter?

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: I am prepared to admit that wild animals may have taken shelter in a particular area—they may have taken shelter in a house and I have heard of tiger being shot in a house. But I do not see why the responsibility should be thrown on those who shelter, but who do not protect them.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** That was where they were killed. There was a demand from the public to cut the jungle but still it was not cleared and it is a big area of about 2 squire miles.

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not our intention to embarrass Government by pressing this Resolution. There is a little encouragement in the reply which the Hon'ble Minister for Forests has given and we hope that Government will intensify their measure. We are a little disappointed that a somewhat feeble joke should have been repeated again that tea gardens are responsible for this damage. The amount of forest held by Government is 3 million acres whereas the forest land held by tea gardens is a little more than one hundred thousand acres and this too consists for the most part of small divided plots. It is natural that such areas would attract wild animals; any cover will suffice in the case of tigers and in the case of elephants they are attracted by the existence of cultivated crops. We concede that tea garden lands may afford a sort of temporary asylum. But, Sir, in Shakespeare's words "we are more sinned against than sinning". The prevention of damage is, Sir, a question for the Government to take up and we hope that they will tackle it with more resolution than they have done in the past. Many persons have been disappointed with the apathy which has been shown in the past and we hope that the Hon'ble Minister for Forests will realise that if cultivation is to go ahead in these submontane areas and if the safety of human life is to be assured, it is necessary to have a more resolute policy, which will limit the number of marauders and the extent of devastation. We do not pretend that there can be any complete cure, and we would agree that in a country where there are hills and jungles there must be some damage. It is the scale of which these depredations are occurring that causes us alarm and it is merely our purpose, Sir, to place these facts before the

House, as we are confident that in spite of the rigidity of party discipline, that there is a public opinion which is greater than party discipline, that hon. Members will exert their influence if they do not exercise their votes and if this is done, Sir, our task will be over and we shall remain satisfied.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: As I have already said, we are prepared to take more effective steps in future. As such I hope Mr. Hardman will see his way to withdraw his Resolution.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Is the hon. Mr. Hardman withdrawing his Resolution ?

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: I am not pressing it, Sir, and I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Resolution No.4. Hon. Srijut Rajendra Nath Barua is absent.

Resolution No.5. Srijut Gauri Kanta Talukdar.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: I do not propose to move my Resolution, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Resolution No.6. Mr. Binode Kumar J. Sarwan.

Resolution re: Provision of some special funds at the disposal of Local Boards for constructing drinking wells both for the urban and rural areas in the district of Darrang

Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that:

“This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do provide with some special funds at the disposal of Local Boards for constructing drinking wells both for the urban and rural areas in the District of Darrang”.

Sir, I hope that all hon. Members are aware of the fact that the condition of water supply in the districts of Assam is very bad. The Constituency from which I come so far as I can say, is very poor in respect of drinking water. This morning I raised the question about improvement of the water works in the Tezpur Municipality and the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government says that the matter is being taken up with the India Government and that this Government cannot give the loan to the Tezpur Municipality. I hope he will do it without delay.

Now, Sir, what do we find in the rural areas ? The rural areas are simply neglected. The water supply in the rural areas is not sufficiently provided. I can say definitely that in regard to Ward No.1, practically the whole Ward Kumargaon, Lalmati and Kacharigaon areas, the people are

suffering from scarcity of water supply. Practically the whole of the ward is not having proper water supply. I draw the attention of the Government to the suffering of the people for want of proper water supply in Lalmati, Kumargoan and Kacharigoan.

In the District from where I come, I find that the people are drinking foul water and this has caused various diseases. I think the Hon'ble Minister for Medical and Public Health is aware that once I brought this matter to his notice and he said that he would see so that the people did not die on that account. I requested him to provide moving hospitals or dispensaries carrying medicines to the people of the interior villages as hospitals or dispensaries are situated at far distances. It is only for the sake of those people that moving hospitals and dispensaries are very essential. It is the duty of the Government to come to their help in this respect.

Sir, as other hon. Members might be speaking on this subject, this being a very important matter, I want to conclude with these few words and request this House to accept my Resolution.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

"That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do provide with some special funds at the disposal of Local Boards for constructing drinking wells both for the urban and rural areas in the District of Darrang."

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Sarwan has been thinking of Darrang only, but Government has been thinking and thinking very seriously of this problem of water supply of the whole province.

It is known to all the hon. Members that water supply in the whole province is not very satisfactory due to various reasons. It is also known to them that health of the population to a great extent depends on good water supply. The reason, Sir, is not that our Local Boards have not got sufficient fund. It is for want of good ideas and schemes the water supply could not be very successful. Of late Government took into their consideration very seriously the arrangement for water supply, distribution of money from the Post-war Grant as well as from Provincial Fund among all the Local Boards according to their needs. Local Boards of Darrang District also have got some money in the same way. I just quote a few figures to the hon. Mover of the Resolution and also to the hon. Members of this House:

From the Post-war Fund in 1947-48 Tezpur got Rs.31,448 and Mangaldai got Rs 30,659, and in 1948-49 Tezpur got Rs.47,140, Mangaldai got Rs.31,802.

Over and above that, in the year 1948-49, from the provincial fund the Local Board of Tezpur got an amount of Rs.13,501 and Mangaldai also got almost a similar amount, that is, Rs.13,351. The total that Tezpur Subdivision has got from the Post-war Grant is Rs.78,588 and Mangaldai has got Rs 62,461. Sir, we ought to think of other Boards also who have the same claim to get similar amounts for the purpose. But so far as Tezpur is concerned, Sir, it can be seen that Government is not negligent to the water supply problem. As a matter of fact Government has taken up this matter for all the Districts of the Province. On account of some difficulties and disadvantages these amounts could not be properly utilised, and it is for want of mate-

rials. Sir, cement could not be had in sufficient quantity in time, and iron materials also could not be collected. For these reasons Local Boards could not reap the full benefit of this distribution of money. So far as I know, the Local Boards made serious attempts to utilise these amounts by constructing tube-wells here and there. As every Local Board has done as much work as it can, Tezpur Local Board has also done its bit. So also Mangaldai. The purpose of the Resolution which Mr. Sarwan moved is already on the verge of fulfilment. We have distributed sufficient money for future also and according to the means and financial strength of Government this distribution will be continued. At present, Sir, we find that cement is being had easily and so the amount distributed can well be utilised.

Regarding the Tezpur town, I have in course of the discussion of a question put by Mr. Sarwan, stated that the question of urban water-supply is pending with Government and being examined and as soon as suitable scheme is prepared Government will try to implement it.

Regarding water supply of Mangaldai town, Sir, I may state that an amount of Rs.5,250 was provided in 1945-46 to the Mangaldai Town Committee, but this amount continued for three years until it was surrendered for inability of the Town Committee to select a site excavation of a tank in the town. As soon as the Town Committee can select a suitable site and then refer the matter to Government again Government will take up the question into consideration.

After all, Sir, I do not think Mr. Sarwan will have any ground to say that Government has been doing nothing in his District with regard to this problem concerning health of the public. Government have taken all possible steps to solve this problem.

In view of what I have just now stated, Sir, I hope Mr. Sarwan will see his way to withdraw his Resolution.

***Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** I am glad to hear of the statement made by the Hon'ble Minister for Local Self-Government and I hope he would take more interest in this regard so that the entire people can have full confidence on the Government.

I now beg leave of the house to withdraw my Resolution.

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

The Resolution was, with the leave of the House, withdrawn.

Resolution re: award of special scholarships to Plains Tribal Students for higher studies

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move: "In view of the fact that the number of Plains Tribal students is considerably increasing day by day, this Assam Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do award increased number of special scholarships to the Plains Tribal students for undergoing higher studies and also make necessary provision to award them special scholarships for various technical studies".

মোৰ এই প্ৰস্তাৱ উত্থাপন কৰাৰ উদ্দেশ্য এয়ে যে আমাৰ যিটো নতুন constitution তৈয়াৰ হব লাগিছে সেই constitution ত পিচপৰি থকা আৰু ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে

*Speech not corrected.

মাত্র দহ বছৰ সময় দিছে আৰু communal representation আৰু reservation on communal basis মাত্র এই দহ বছৰৰ কাৰণেহে খকিব বুলি আমি সকলোৱে জানো। গতিকে এই দহ বছৰৰ ভিতৰতে যাতে সকলো সুবিধা পাব পাৰে তাৰ বাবে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে চেষ্টা কৰা প্ৰয়োজন। আপোনালোক সকলোৱে জানে যে নতুন constitution মতে ট্ৰাইবেল আৰু পিচ পৰি থকা সম্প্ৰদায় বিলাকে যাতে অন্যান্য সম্প্ৰদায় বিলাকৰ লগত সমকক্ষ হব পাৰে তাৰ বাবে যথেষ্ট provision ৰখা হৈছে। সেই কাৰণে যাতে সকলো ক্ষেত্ৰতে তেওঁলোকক সুবিধা দি এই দহ বছৰৰ ভিতৰতে তেওঁবিলাকক উন্নত কৰি অন্যান্য উন্নত সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ সমান কৰিব পৰা যায় সেই উদ্দেশ্য লৈয়ে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙ্গি ধৰিছো।

এইটো অৱশ্যে নকলে অন্যায় কৰা হ'ব যে বৰ্তমান যি বাজেট গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে আমাৰ আগত দাঙ্গি ধৰিছে সেই বাজেটত ট্ৰাইবেলৰ কাৰণে এম, ই, স্কুলৰে পৰা কলেজলৈকে সাহায্য দিবৰ কাৰণে ১৬,০০০ টকা ধৰা হৈছে। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও অন্যান্য বৃত্তি দিবৰ কাৰণে ৭,৪৫৫ টকা ধৰা হৈছে। এই টকাৰে ৩০ জন ছাত্ৰক প্ৰাইমাৰী স্কুলত special backward scholarship দিছে; এম, ভি, স্কুলত ৩০ জন ছাত্ৰক ১ টকা হিচাপে, আৰু এম ই, স্কুলত ৭ জন ছাত্ৰক ৫ টকা হিচাপে, আৰু কলেজত ৩০ জন ছাত্ৰক ১০ টকা হিচাপে বৃত্তি ভোগ কৰিবলৈ দিছে। এই হিচাপে ধৰাত আমি দেখিবলৈ পাইছোঁ যে টেক্‌নিকেল স্কুলত পঢ়িবলৈ ট্ৰাইবেলৰ কাৰণে টকা ধৰা হোৱা নাই। 'টেক্‌নিকেল' স্কুল মানে মই এগ্ৰিকালচাৰেল কলেজ, ভেটেৰীনাৰী কলেজ আৰু ইনঞ্জিনিয়াৰিং কলেজ বা স্কুল আৰু মেডিকেল কলেজৰ কথাকেই কৈছো। বিশেষকৈ মই এগ্ৰিকালচাৰেল কলেজৰ ওপৰতেই জোৰ দিছো। ট্ৰাইবেল ছাত্ৰ সকলে general competition ত বৃত্তি পাব নোৱাৰে। সেই কাৰণে যদিহে ট্ৰাইবেল সকলে এই দহ বছৰৰ ভিতৰতে উন্নতি কৰিব লাগে তেনেহলে আগতে উল্লেখ কৰা দৰে যেনেকৈ ১৬,০০০ টকা আৰু ৭,৪৫৫ টকা বেলেগে ধৰিছে, সেই দৰে উল্লিখিত সকলো বিভাগতে যাতে বেলেগে টকা ধৰি সুবিধা কৰি দিয়ে তাৰ নিমিত্তে মই গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টক অনুৰোধ কৰিলোঁ। এই বিষয়ে মই মোৰ বাজেট বক্তৃতাতো কৈ আহিছোঁ। গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই টকা আছুতীয়াকৈ ধৰাৰ কাৰণে এখেতে (শ্ৰী যুত মতিৰাম বৰা) গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টক ধন্যবাদ দিবলৈ মোক কৈছে। মই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উপস্থাপন কৰিছোঁ সেইমতে কাম কৰিলেহে আৰু বেচিকৈ ধন্যবাদ দিম।

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: Can the hon. Member point out like this (extending his hand) while speaking ?

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: মই আশা কৰো গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে মোৰ এই প্ৰস্তাৱ গ্ৰহণ কৰিব আৰু পালিয়েমেণ্টেৰী চেক্ৰেটেৰী মাননীয় চৌধুৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই মোক এই প্ৰস্তাৱ withdraw কৰিবলৈ নকয়।

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary): মাননীয় সভাপতি মহোদয়, যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ শ্ৰীযুত ধৰণীধৰ বসুমাতাৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই দাঙ্গি ধৰিছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙ্গি ধৰি বৰ্তমান চৰকাৰে ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে শিক্ষা বিভাগত কি কি ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লৈছে সেই বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰিবৰ সুযোগ দিয়াত তেখেতক প্ৰথমতে ধন্যবাদ দিছো।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: আপোনালোকে শুনি সন্তোষ পাব যে যোৱা জলাই মাহৰে পৰা ৪ জন লৰাক Vernacular reporting শিক্ষা দিয়া হৈছে। তেওঁবিলাকে ইয়াত ৰহিছে যদিও তেওঁবিলাকে যথেষ্ট speed লাভ কৰিব পৰা নাই। এতিয়া তেওঁবিলাকে মিনিটত ৫০।৬০ টাকৈ শব্দ লিখিব পাৰে। সেই কাৰণে অসমীয়া বা বঙ্গালীত কলে আপোনালোকে লাহে লাহে কব।

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :

বৰ্তমান চৰকাৰ কংগ্ৰেচী চৰকাৰ। কংগ্ৰেচৰ মূলনীতি হৈছে সকলো পিচ পৰা অনুন্নত সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ উন্নতি কৰা। সেই মূলনীতিত বিশ্বাস ৰাখি কংগ্ৰেচ মহাসভাৰ নিৰ্দেশ মানি যি গৱৰ্ণমেন্ট স্থাপিত হৈছে সেই গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে কেতিয়াও ট্ৰাইবেল আৰু অনুন্নত সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ শিক্ষা বিষয়ক উন্নতিয়েই হওক, বা অৰ্থনৈতিক বা সামাজিক উন্নতিয়েই হওক, তাত মনোযোগ নিদি থাকিব নোৱাৰে। সেই উদ্দেশ্যে এই চৰকাৰে ক্ৰমাগুয়ে বছৰি বছৰি যিবিলাক বাজেট দাঙ্গি ধৰি আহিছে সেই বাজেট বিলাকেই স্পষ্ট ভাৱে প্ৰমাণ কৰি আহিছে যে এই কংগ্ৰেচ চৰকাৰে তেওঁলোকৰ শিক্ষাবিষয়ক উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে সকলো প্ৰকাৰে চেষ্টা কৰিবলৈ ধৰিছে। যোৱা বছৰত যেতিয়া স্বাধীনতা সোঁৱৰণী বৃত্তি দিয়া হৈছিল তাৰ পৰা সেই সময়ত যি নিৰ্দিষ্ট সংখ্যক বৃত্তি চলি আছিল তাৰ প্ৰায় ডেৰগুণ বেচি ট্ৰাইবেল আৰু অনুন্নত সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ কাৰণে আছুতীয়াতকৈ বখা হৈছিল। তাৰ বাহিৰেও এই চৰকাৰে হাইস্কুল বিলাকত বিশেষকৈ সাহায্য প্ৰাপ্ত হাইস্কুল আৰু সাহায্য প্ৰাপ্ত কলেজ বিলাকত যাতে ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ ছাত্ৰ বিলাকে পঢ়িবলৈ বিশেষ সুবিধা পায় তাৰ কাৰণে আধা মাছুল মাফ আৰু পূৰ্ণ মাছুল মাফ দিবৰ কাৰণে ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰি আহিছে। শ্ৰীযুত বসুমতাৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে ১০ বছৰৰ ভিতৰত পিচপৰি থকা ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ লোক সকলকক আন আন সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ সমানে আগবঢ়াই নিবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে চেষ্টা কৰা উচিত। ইয়াৰ উত্তৰত মই ইয়াকে কব খোজো যে বৰ্তমান চৰকাৰে এই ইচ্ছা কাৰ্য্যত পৰিণত কৰিবৰ কাৰণে আন্তৰিকতা প্ৰকাশ কৰিছে—১০ বছৰ নহয়, তাতকৈ কম সময়ৰ ভিতৰতে ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ক অন্যান্য সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ সমান উন্নত কৰিবলৈ শিক্ষা বিষয়ত যি ব্যৱস্থা লোৱা প্ৰয়োজন সেই ব্যৱস্থা সৰ্ব্বপ্ৰকাৰে গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰা হৈছে।

এই বছৰ আমাৰ চৰকাৰে শিক্ষাবিষয়ত দুটা ডাঙৰ experiment আৰম্ভ কৰিছে। প্ৰথমটো হৈছে বাধ্যতামূলক প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা প্ৰবৰ্তন। এই বাধ্যতামূলক প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা প্ৰবৰ্তনৰ কাৰণে যিবিলাক ঠাই নিৰ্দিষ্ট কৰা হৈছে সেই বিলাক ঠাই নিৰ্দিষ্ট কৰোতে প্ৰত্যেক স্কুল বোৰ্ডকে কোৱা হৈছিল যে যিমান দূৰ সম্ভৱ এই ঠাই নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰোতে পিচপৰি থকা আৰু ট্ৰাইবেল প্ৰধান ঠাই অন্তৰ্ভুক্ত কৰিব লাগে আৰু সেই অনুসাবে বহুতো পিচপৰি থকা আৰু ট্ৰাইবেল প্ৰধান ঠাইত বাধ্যতামূলক প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা প্ৰবৰ্তন কৰা হৈছে। বাধ্যতামূলক প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা প্ৰবৰ্তন কৰাৰ কাৰণে স্কুল বোৰ্ডবিলাকক নিৰ্দেশ দিয়েই চৰকাৰ সন্তুষ্ট হৈ থকা নাই। তাৰ লগে লগে অনুন্নত সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ বাহিৰে পাতি লোৱা যিবিলাক 'ভেন্‌চাৰ' স্কুল আছিল সেই সকলো বিলাকত মঞ্জুৰী দিয়াৰ নীতি চৰকাৰে গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে আৰু সেই নীতি অনুসাবে কেৱল ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায় প্ৰধান ঠাইতেই ৬৩৮ খন স্কুলত চৰকাৰে যোৱা বছৰ মঞ্জুৰী দিছে। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰেও বাহিৰে পতা আৰু ১৬৫০ খন স্কুল চৰকাৰে গ্ৰহণ কৰোতে বহুতো ঠাইত য'ত ট্ৰাইবেলৰ সংখ্যা অলপ কম পৰিমাণে আছে সেই বিলাক ঠাইবোৰ স্কুল চৰকাৰে হাতত লৈছে। এইদৰে ট্ৰাইবেল আৰু অনুন্নত সকলো জাতিৰ শিক্ষাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লৈছে। দ্বিতীয় পৰীক্ষাতো হৈছে বুনীয়াদি শিক্ষা বিষয়ত। বুনীয়াদি শিক্ষাৰ সুবিধাত যাতে ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী সকলে পাব পাৰে তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে। অসমত বৰ্তমাণে আৰম্ভ কৰা শিক্ষক ট্ৰেইনিং কেন্দ্ৰ ছয়টাৰ ভিতৰত দুটা এনে ঠাইত পৰিছে। ছটা একাডেমিক হাইস্কুলৰে দুটা ট্ৰাইবেল এলেকাতেই পৰিছে।

এই বছৰ যি বাজেট দাঙ্গি ধৰা হৈছে সেই বাজেট সম্পৰ্কে আলোচনা কৰি বসুমতাৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ কাৰণে আছুতীয়াতকৈ ধৰা টকাৰ সম্বন্ধে কৈ গৈছে। কিন্তু এই বছৰ যি বৃত্তি ধৰা হৈছে তাৰ বাহিৰেও সাহায্যপ্ৰাপ্ত যিবিলাক কলেজ আছে সেই বিলাক কলেজত ট্ৰাইবেল ছাত্ৰই পঢ়িবলৈ যাতে half-free আৰু free studentship ৰ সুবিধা পাব পাৰে তাৰ কাৰণে যি ৬,০০০ টকা ধৰা হৈছে সেই কথা তেখেতে কোৱা নাই। এই টকা যি ট্ৰাইবেলৰ শিক্ষাৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে বহুত পৰিমাণে সহায়ক হব। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰে আৰু ১৬,০০০ টকা ধৰা হৈছে যি টকাৰ দ্বাৰা এইডেড্ হাই স্কুল আৰু এইডেড্ মাইনৰ স্কুলত পঢ়া ট্ৰাইবেল

আৰু অনুন্নত সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ ছাত্ৰ সকলে half-free আৰু free studentship ৰ সুবিধা পাব পাৰে। এই ১৬,০০০ টকা ধৰোতে যোৱা বছৰত অসমৰ বিভিন্ন ঠাইৰ সাহায্যপ্ৰাপ্ত হাইস্কুল আৰু মাইনৰ স্কুলত যিমান free-studentship আৰু half-free studentship ভোগ কৰা ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী আছিল সেই সংখ্যাৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰি এই সংখ্যা নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰা হৈছে। এই সংখ্যা নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰাৰ পিচত এই বৃত্তিৰ সংখ্যা কিমান অনুপাতে বঢ়াই দিয়া হৈছে সেই অনুপাতে যদি চায়, তেনেহলে দেখা যাব যে বৰ্তমান যি সংখ্যা ধৰা হৈছে সেই সংখ্যা কোনো কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত আগৰ চলি থকা সংখ্যাতকৈ প্ৰায় দুগুণ। যোৱা ১৫০ বছৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে যি খিনি ব্যৱস্থা লৈছিল, এই একে বছৰতে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে তাৰ দুগুণ ব্যৱস্থা লবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰি আগবাঢ়ি গৈছে। বৰ্তমান আৰ্থিক অৱস্থালৈ ব্ৰুক্লেপ নকৰি গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই সিদ্ধান্ত কৰি লৈছে যাতে সকলো ট্ৰাইবেল আৰু অনুন্নত সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰীকে পঢ়াৰ সুযোগ দিব পাৰে, আৰু যাতে আমাৰ দেশ পুনৰনিৰ্মাণ কৰাত সকলো সম্প্ৰদায়ে একেলগে মিলি জুলি আগবাঢ়ি যাব পাৰে তাৰ কাৰণেই এই গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে চেষ্টা কৰি আহিছে। বৰ্তমানে চৰকাৰে বাধ্যতামূলক প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা পূৰ্বৰ্তনৰ দ্বাৰা সমগ্ৰ আসাম প্ৰদেশৰ পৰা নিবন্ধনতা দূৰ কৰি সকলো জনসাধাৰণকে পঢ়াৰ সুবিধা দি তেওঁবিলাকক যাতে নতুন জাতিগঠনৰ কামত লগাব পাৰে তাৰ কাৰণেই চেষ্টা কৰিছে। তেখেতে ১০ বছৰত ট্ৰাইবেল সকলক আৰু অনুন্নত সম্প্ৰদায় সকলক অন্যান্য সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ সমান উন্নত কৰাৰ কথা কৈছে; কিন্তু বৰ্তমানে যি হিচাপে ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ শিক্ষাৰ কাৰণে ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে সেই ব্যৱস্থা অনুসাৰে বৰ্তমান গৃহীত নীতি অব্যাহত ৰাখি যদি কাম কৰি যাব পৰা হয় তেনেহলে মই ডাঠি কব পাৰোঁ যে ১০ বছৰতকৈও কম সময়ৰ ভিতৰতে ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ে অন্যান্য সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ লগত লগলাগি সমানে জাতিগঠনৰ কামত অংশ গ্ৰহণ কৰিব পাৰিব।

ইয়াৰ বাহিৰেও গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে সেই বিষয়েও অলপ কব খোজে। ট্ৰাইবেল প্ৰধান ঠাই বিলাকত বহুত সময়ত শিক্ষকতা কৰাৰ কাৰণে উপযুক্ত শিক্ষক পোৱা নাযায়। কাৰণ হৈছে, যি বিলাক ঠাইত ট্ৰাইবেল মানুহ আছে তাত তেওঁবিলাকে ইমান দিনে শিক্ষাৰ সুবিধা পোৱা নাছিল। বাহিৰৰ নানা ঠাইৰ পৰা যি বিলাকে সেই বিলাক ঠাইত শিক্ষকতা কৰিবলৈ যায় তেওঁলোকেও গাতলাগি কাম কৰিব নোৱাৰে। সেই কাৰণে যোৱা বছৰ ট্ৰাইবেল প্ৰধান ঠাইত এখন মিডল্ ভাবনেকুলাৰ স্কুল চৰকাৰী কৰাৰ প্ৰস্তাৱ কৰা হৈছে যাতে সেই বিলাক ঠাইত ট্ৰাইবেল ছাত্ৰসকলে মিডল্ ভাবনেকুলাৰ স্কুলৰ পৰা পাচ কৰি শিক্ষকৰ যোগ্যতা অৰ্জন কৰিব পাৰে। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰেও গাৰো পাহাৰত বাঘমাৰা মধ্য ইংৰাজী স্কুল আৰু খাচিয়া জয়ন্তীয়া পাহাৰত সখা মধ্য ইংৰাজী স্কুল এই দুখন স্কুল চৰকাৰী ভাৱে গ্ৰহণ কৰি লৈ ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ শিক্ষাৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে বিহিত ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে মনস্থ কৰিছে।

এইবিলাক দেখুৱাৰ পিচত আৰু এই বিলাক কাম কৰি গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে আন্তৰিকতা প্ৰমাণ কৰাৰ পিচত মোৰ বোধেৰে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ এই সভাত দাঙ্গি ধৰাৰ আৱশ্যকতা নাই। চৰকাৰৰ ফালৰ পৰা এতিয়ালৈকে ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ শিক্ষাৰ কাৰণে যিবোৰ কাম কৰা হৈছে তাৰ কাৰণে বসুমতাৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই শলাগ লৈছে। গতিকে মই আশা কৰোঁ যে তেখেতে তেখেতৰ শলাগ অনুসাৰে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ তুলি লব।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: প্ৰস্তাৱকে এতিয়া কি কৰিব খোজে ?

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে যি বিলাক কাম কৰিবলৈ আগ বাঢ়িছে বুলি তেখেতে প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি দিছে আৰু কৈছে, তাৰ কাৰণে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টেৰ শলাগ লৈছে। কিন্তু.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: আপুনি কি কবিব খোজে এটা কথাতে কব লাগে।

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Technical স্কুলৰ কাৰণে বৃত্তি দিয়াৰ সম্বন্ধে মই যি অনুৰোধ কৰিছিলো তাৰ কোনো উত্তৰ নাপালো।

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary): Technical বা কাৰিকৰি বিদ্যা শিক্ষাৰ নিমিত্তে বৃত্তি দিয়াৰ কাৰণে পুস্তাৱত যি কোৱা হৈছে সেই সম্বন্ধে মই কব খোজোঁ বৰ্ত্তমানে কাৰিকৰি বিদ্যা শিক্ষাৰ কাৰণে যি বৃত্তি দিয়া হয় সেই বৃত্তি বিলাক পুৰাতোক সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ সংখ্যানুপাতে দিয়া হয়। গতিকে ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ কাৰণে সেই বিলাক বৃত্তি ধৰা আছেই। কিন্তু দুখৰ বিষয় ট্ৰাইবেল ছাত্ৰ বিলাকৰ সেই বৃত্তি পাবৰ যি যোগ্যতা লাগে, সেই যোগ্যতা নথকাৰ কাৰণে আৰু বহুত ক্ষেত্ৰত ট্ৰাইবেল ছাত্ৰ নথকাৰ কাৰণে সেই বিলাক বৃত্তি তেওঁবিলাকৰ ভাগত নপৰি অন্যান্য সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ ভাগত পৰে। গতিকে তেনেকুৱা যোগ্যতা থকা ট্ৰাইবেল ছাত্ৰ ওলালে, চৰকাৰে যে অতি আনন্দেৰে সেই বিলাক বৃত্তি ট্ৰাইবেল সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰীক দিব তাত কোনো সন্দেহ নাই।

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: এই বিষয়ে যি আশা দিছে তাৰ কাৰণে মই মোৰ পুস্তাৱ তুলি লব খোজোঁ। কিন্তু.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: বৃত্তি দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা আছেই। আপোনালোক যোগ্য হলে পাব বুলি কোৱা শুনিছেই।

Sri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: হয়। তেখেতেও ব্যৱস্থা আছে বুলি কৈছে যেতিয়া সেই আশা লৈ মই মোৰ পুস্তাৱ withdraw কৰিলোঁ।

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

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

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEV of Sidli: Sir, I would like to move my Resolution to-morrow.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 a.m., on Tuesday, the 22nd March, 1949.

SHILLONG:
The 28th May, 1949.

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

