

**Proceedings of the Second Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly
assembled under the Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitu-
tion of India.**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 1-30 P.M. on Friday, the 6th October, 1950.

P R E S E N T

The Hon'ble Srijut Lakshesvar Borooah, Speaker, in the Chair, the seven Hon'ble Ministers and forty-eight Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Damages to crops by insect pest

Srijut BELIRAM DAS asked :

70. (a) Is Government aware that due to insect pest this year the cultivators of the South Banks of Kamrup and Goalpara Districts have suffered huge loss ?

(b) Whether this matter has been brought to the notice of Government by the respective Deputy Commissioners ?

(c) Is Government aware that due to the loss of their crops the cultivators have not been able to pay their revenue ?

(d) Does Government propose to make an early enquiry into the matter and give relief to the deserving persons ?

Srijut HARESWAR DAS (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

70. (a)—Government have no information.

(b)—No.

(c)—Government have no information.

(d)—There is no such proposal, but Government will make an enquiry.

Re : Leprosy, Kala-azar and Tuberculosis in Mikir Hills and dispensaries at Mahandijua and Diphu

Srijut KHORSING TERANG asked :

71. Will Government be pleased to state —

(a) Whether Government have received the report of the last leper survey in the Mikir Hills ?

(b) If so, what is the number of lepers detected during the survey ?

(c) Whether Government have taken any steps to arrange treatment of these lepers ?

- (d) If so, where the proposed treatment centres will be located ?
- (e) What steps Government propose to take to prevent the spread of this disease in the Mikir Hills ?
- (f) The number of *Kala-azar* patients in the Mikir Hills at present ?
- (g) The number of tuberculosis patients in the Mikir Hills at present ?
- (h) What steps have been taken to treat these patients ?
72. (a) Is Government aware—
- (i) That the Mahandijua Dispensary is now closed and if so, why ?
- (ii) That there is no doctor at Mahandijua and that patients are not getting any medical help ?
- (b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Sub-Assistant Surgeon at Mahandijua moved Government for sanction of some grant for the repairs of the dispensary and doctors' quarters there ?
- (c) If so, whether any grant was sanctioned ?
- (d) If not, will Government be pleased to state whether Government propose to take any steps in this direction ?
73. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to open a dispensary and hospital at Diphu ?
- (b) If so, when and the amount sanctioned for this purpose ?
- (c) If not, do Government propose to take up the matter soon ?

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS replied :

71. (a)—Yes.
- (b)—105.
- (c)—Yes. The Sarihajan Leprosy Treatment Centre run by the Bharatiya Adim Jati Sevak Sangha, which treats leprosy patients in the Mikir Hills has received a grant of Rs. 5,000 from Government so far. The question of sanctioning additional grants to the Centre is under consideration.
- (d)—There is no proposal at present to open new treatment centres.
- (e)—Steps have been taken to educate the public to take precautionary measures against leprosy, by propaganda carried on through posters, magic lantern shows, etc., arranged by the Public Health Department. The villagers are also being advised to keep the patients segregated.
- (f)—104.
- (g) No figures are available, as no T. B. survey has yet been undertaken.
- (h)—The *Kala-azar* patients are treated in the Public Health Dispensaries. Facilities are available for the treatment of the T. B. patients in the T. B. Dispensaries at hospital in some of the other districts.
72. (a) (i)—So far as the Government are aware, the dispensary is not closed.
- (ii)—No substitute was detailed to hold charge of the dispensary during the period of absence of Dr. M. S. Haque, Medical Officer in-charge thereof on casual leave. In the meantime it was decided to replace Dr. Haque, and accordingly he was asked not to re-join at Mahandijua on the expiry of his leave, and another Assistant Surgeon II was ordered to proceed there to take charge of the dispensary. In all probability the new Assistant Surgeon II has joined duty by now.

(b)—The Civil Surgeon, Sibsagar, moved for a grant of Rs.1,540 for the purpose.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Does not arise.

73. (a)&(b)—Yes. A proposal to establish a dispensary at Diphu at an estimated cost of Rs.10,031 is under consideration. A Budget Schedule has been submitted to Finance Department for consideration along with other new Schemes, for provision of funds in the next year's budget. It is difficult to say when the proposal will materialise. It depends on the availability of funds.

(c)—Does not arise.

Formation of Mikir Hills District

Srijut KHORSING TERANG asked :

74. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) When the proposed Mikir Hills District will be brought into existence ?

(b) Whether construction of all necessary buildings in this connection has been completed ?

(c) If so, what is the reason behind the delay in forming the district ?

(d) Whether any officer or officers have been appointed for this district ?

(e) The number of subordinate staff appointed for this district ?

(f) The total cost in maintaining the staff and officers ?

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEMO KUMAR DAS replied :

74. (a)—No date can be specified. But every effort is being made to constitute this an Administrative District to be known as the Amalgamated District of Mikir Hills and North Cachar Hills as early as possible.

(b)—No.

(c)—The proposal to constitute the new district involves diminution and increase in the areas of two autonomous districts, namely, the Mikir Hills and the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills. The matter cannot, therefore, be finalised before the consideration of the report of a Commission appointed under paragraph 14 (1) of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India, as required under the proviso to paragraph 1 (3) of the said Sixth Schedule. Such a Commission is being appointed.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—25.

(f)—Rs. 31,000 per annum approximately.

Total Mileage of Roads in the Mikir Hills

Srijut KHORSING TERANG asked :

75. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The total mileage of roads in the Mikir Hills with reference to the following :—

(i) All Weather Roads ;

(ii) Dry Weather Roads and

(iii) Cart track ?

(b) What has happened to the Scheme of constructing Diphu Mahandijua Road ?

- (c) How much money has been spent on Diphu Mahandijua Road ?
 (d) The reasons for abandoning the Diphu Mahandijua Road Scheme ?
 (e) What steps Government propose to take to improve the road communication in the Mikir Hills ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS replied :

75. (a) (i), (ii) and (iii)—The information is not available and will be supplied to the hon. Member later.

(b)—After the curtailment of the Post War grant, the road has been included in the programme for Development of Tribal Areas and will be taken up for improvement after the programme is approved and necessary funds for the purpose allotted by the Government of India.

(c)—Rupees 71,000.

(d)—Due to curtailment of Post War grants by the Central Government works on all Post War Development Projects had to be suspended.

(e)—As a first step to improve Road Communication in the area, Government have recently sanctioned a sum of Rs.10,000 for test relief works in connection with the road project from Bokulighat to Siloni and Siloni to Kolioni Road under the supervision of the Special Officer, Mikir Hills.

Improvement of the economic conditions of the Mikir people

Srijut KHORSING TERANG asked :

76. (a) What particular effective measures the Government have taken up till now to remove the extreme backwardness of the Mikir people economically ?

(b) Whether Government have drawn up any scheme towards this effect ?

(c) If not, whether Government propose to draw up schemes for the improvement of the economic conditions of the Mikir people ?

(d) Whether Government are aware that most of the Mikir ryots live for six months practically on starvation on jungle potatoes and roots in spite of the very hard work they do ?

(e) Whether Government propose to make a survey of the economic conditions of the Mikir ryots with a view to take up specific measures to improve their method of farming and disposal of their produce ?

(f) If not, why not ?

77. (a) Are Government aware that the Mikir ryots are badly exploited by the dealers in Cotton, Lac, Oil seeds, Endi cocoon and other commodities produced by the Mikirs, and that they do not get a fair price of their produce ?

(b) Do Government propose to establish a Government procuring agency so that the Mikir ryots may be saved from exploitation ?

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS replied :

76. (a), (b) & (c)—Government have under consideration various schemes for the all-round development of the Tribal Areas including the Mikir Hills. Some schemes have already been taken up. Schemes for the improvement of Agriculture, Cottage and Small Scale Industries, etc., in the Mikir Hills have been included in the three-year plan of development, submitted to the Government of India for the provision of funds under clause (b) of the second proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution. Schemes relating to Cottage and Small Scale Industries have been selected on the basis of the availability of raw materials

and resources. It is hoped that the schemes which have been taken up and are proposed to be taken up will go a long way to improve the economic conditions of the Mikir ryots.

(d)—Government are aware that shortage of food occurs in the Mikir Hills almost every year. The Mikirs like some of the other Tribal people do eat jungle potatoes when they are short of other food. Steps have been taken to introduce the cultivation of sweet potatoes in the Mikir Hills which is expected to improve the food problem. Steps are also being taken to settle Mikirs on wet rice cultivation, by allotting them land fit for such cultivation. When Mikirs take to wet rice cultivation in increasing numbers, the food position will be eased.

(e)—No survey is contemplated; but schemes for the introduction of improved systems of Agriculture, and for the establishment of Co-operative Societies to facilitate the improved marketing of Mikir Hills produce are proposed to be taken up.

(f)—Does not arise.

77. (a)—Yes.

(b)—There is no proposal to establish a Government procuring agency; but Co-operative Societies are proposed to be set up to buy the produce of the Mikir people at fair prices, and to arrange for their export to other areas.

Last Local Board General Election in North Lakhimpur Subdivision

Prof. P. M. SARWAN asked :

78. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of candidates disqualified at scrutiny in North Lakhimpur Subdivision in the last Local Board General Election ?

(b) Do Government propose to take necessary steps so that the nomination forms for General Elections to Local Boards may be simple and without any ambiguity ?

(c) How many votes were cast during the last general election to Local Boards (information to be given subdivisionwise) ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

78. (a)—Sixty-five candidates were disqualified at the scrutiny in the last North Lakhimpur Local Board Election.

(b)—Generally the Board use the nomination form prescribed in the Assam Election Manual, 1940 which is simple and unambiguous. Government therefore do not consider it necessary to take any step.

(c)—A statement showing the number of votes polled (Subdivisionwise) during the last general election of Local Boards is given below :—

| Name of Local Board | | | | | No. of votes polled |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------------|
| 1. Silchar | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24,437 |
| 2. Hailakandi | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13,938 |
| 3. Karimganj | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,037 |
| 4. Dhubri | ... | ... | ... | ... | 181,427 |
| 5. Goalpara | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,394 |
| 6. Gauhati | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33,384 |

| Name of Local Board | No. of votes polled |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 7. Barpeta | 14,446 |
| 8. Tezpur | 3,477 |
| 9. Mangaldai | 7,814 |
| 10. Nowgong | 22,875 |
| 11. Sibsagar | 13,211 |
| 12. Jorhat | 8,859 |
| 13. Golaghat | 5,379 |
| 14. Dibrugarh | 7,665 |
| 15. North Lakhimpur | 10 |

***Prof. P. M. SARWAN:** As regards Question No.78(a), Sir, the answer is that sixty-five candidates were disqualified at the scrutiny in the last North Lakhimpur Local Board Election. Do not Government think that this is rather strange that so many candidates were disqualified ?

***The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** It is a matter of opinion, Sir.

***Prof. P. M. SARWAN:** In the answer of Question (c), Sir, this is reflected by the fact that in North Lakhimpur subdivision only 10 votes were cast during the last election. Is that a matter of opinion now, Sir ?

***The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** It is a matter of fact, Sir.

**Principle adopted in fixing positions and promotions of
Assistants in Assam Civil Secretariat**

Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN asked :

79. (a) What is the general principle of fixing positions and promotions of Assistants in the different divisions and cadres in the Assam Civil Secretariat ?

(b) Whether the principles adopted in the Assam Civil Secretariat are strictly followed in the various Departments and Offices under this Government ?

(c) If not, do Government propose to issue immediately a general order to follow the Secretariat procedure in matters of fixation of positions of Assistants in different divisions and cadres of all offices in Assam ?

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

79. (a)—The date of confirmation in a cadre determines seniority. Promotion is given to the seniormost man if he is otherwise qualified and fit.

(b)—Yes, as far as Government are aware.

(c)—Does not arise.

Ring Wells sunk by Government and Nowgong Local Board in Nowgong District

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH SAMADDAR asked :

80. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of ring wells sunk by Government and the Nowgong Local Board in the district of Nowgong from 1945-1950 ?
- (b) The number of ring wells sunk in the district of Nowgong by the State Government and the Nowgong Local Board during the above said period Mouza by Mouza, with the respective population figures ?

81. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there is a big village named Radhanagar in Mouza Hojai, District Nowgong (Assam) ?
- (b) Whether that village is pre-dominated by Manipuris, Deswalis, *ex-garden* labourers and other Scheduled Castes people ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that there is no arrangement for any drinking water in that village and that a large number of the villagers are generally attacked by various diseases throughout the year ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the southern part of that Radhanagar village is the worst sufferer in that respect and the number of deaths is heavy due to the attack of various diseases ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the Nowgong Water Supply Committee sanctioned a ring well for the South Radhanagar village in the year 1949 to remove the difficulties for drinking water ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Water Supply Committee authorised the Nowgong Local Board to sink up all ring wells under the said Committee at Nowgong and consequently the Nowgong Local Board took up the responsibility to sink up the said ring well for South Radhanagar village in the year 1949 ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that the Nowgong Local Board has taken no steps to sink up any ring well for that South Radhanagar village and that the people of the locality are suffering and dying as before ?

82. Are Government aware—

- (i) that the Nowgong Local Board sunk up a ring well in village Narayanpur in mouza Hojai, district Nowgong (Assam) in the year 1949 and took money for the purpose from the Nowgong Water Supply Fund ?
- (ii) that the Nowgong Water Supply Committee did not receive any petition for any ring well from the villagers of village Narayanpur, nor the said Committee sanctioned any ring well for that village ?

83. Are Government aware—

- (a) that the village Radhanagar or Kisam Radhanagar is quite different from village Narayanpur or the Kisam Narayanpur in mouza Hojai, district Nowgong (Assam) and that it can be easily found out from the land records of the Kampur circle ?
- (b) that the village Narayanpur is situated 4(four) miles off from the village South Radhanagar ?

(c) that there is a record in the Nowgong Local Board that a ring well has been sunk at village south Radhanagar (Narayanpur) and that the Contractor has taken a sum of Rs.1,000 for sinking up the said ring well ?

(d) that no ring well has been sunk by any Contractor in the village South Radhanagar and even not a single officer of Nowgong Local Board visited the village for that purpose ?

(e) that in spite of the information submitted by reliable persons to the effect that no ring well was sunk in the village South Radhanagar, no steps were taken by the Nowgong Local Board ?

(f) that the Local Board Overseer, one Local Board Member and the Contractor were involved in the said offence ?

84. Do Government propose to make an enquiry in the matter and take due legal steps against the persons who are responsible for such state of affairs ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

80. (a)—No Ring Well was sunk by Government. One hundred and fifty-five Ring Wells were sunk by the Nowgong Local Board during 1945-1950.

(b)—The statement appended will show the population figures with number of wells sunk by Nowgong Local Board in each mouza.

Statement showing the population figures with number of wells sunk by Nowgong Local Board in each Mauza

| Name of Mouza | No. of ring wells | Population |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 1. J u r i a M a u z a | 7 | 48,597 |
| 2. Tetalia | 2 | 11,091 |
| 3. Barbhogia | 3 | 6,185 |
| 4. Jamunamukh | 4 | 12,184 |
| 5. Jarabari | 2 | 5,968 |
| 6. Dandua | 8 | 12,050 |
| 7. Dhing | 2 | 20,077 |
| 8. Charaibahi | 7 | 11,653 |
| 9. Kampur | 5 | 10,604 |
| 10. Chalchali | 3 | 15,829 |
| 11. Kandali | 4 | 7,879 |
| 12. Barapujia | 1 | 6,638 |
| 13. Kachamari | 3 | 16,663 |
| 14. Silpukhuri | 5 | 13,544 |
| 15. Namati | 3 | 21,419 |
| 16. Mikirbhetta | 3 | 10,835 |
| 17. Pubtharia | 4 | 14,584 |
| 18. Satial | 4 | 13,152 |
| 19. Garubat | 2 | 10,792 |
| 20. Nijsahar | 6 | 12,917 |
| 21. Bokonai | 5 | 23,201 |
| 22. Hozai | 7 | 18,161 |

| Name of Mouza | No. of ring walls | Population |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 23. Khatwal M a u z a | 4 | 23,653 |
| 24. Lanka | 4 | 6,579 |
| 25. Mikir Hills | 9 | 61,728 |
| 26. Laharighat | 10 | 45,598 |
| 27. Ghagua | 6 | 9,735 |
| 28. Singiapotoni | 5 | 10,761 |
| 29. Uttarkhola | 4 | 14,277 |
| 30. Pakhimaria | 3 | 14,613 |
| 31. Bhelewguri | 5 | 21,566 |
| 32. Kathiatali | 2 | 6,020 |
| 33. Jagial | 2 | 10,907 |
| 34. Kuthari | 1 | 5,056 |
| 35. Hatichoong | 2 | 20,429 |
| 36. Laokhowa | 2 | 23,433 |
| 37. Saidaria | 3 | 22,563 |
| 38. Roha | 2 | 11,595 |
| 39. Mayong | 1 | 14,549 |
| Total | 155 | |

81. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—No. Records only show that there were 3 deaths from Malaria and 1 from pox this year.

(e)—Yes, in the year 1948.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—The Ring Well sanctioned for South Radhanagar was subsequently sunk at village Narayanpur at a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from South Radhanagar.

82. (i)—Yes.

(ii)—The matter is still under enquiry.

83. (a)—The matter is still under enquiry.

(b)—It is situated at a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile through field.

(c)—Contractor received a sum of Rs.393 and not Rs.1,000 for sinking a well at Narayanpur.

(d)—No. A ring well was sunk in village Narayanpur which was selected by a member and the Board's Overseer supervised the work.

(e) & (f)—Government have no information.

84.—Enquiry is being made.

Jaipur Road from Jaipur to Tipling

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI asked :

85. Will Government be pleased to refer to page 514 of the Assam Legislative Assembly Debates of the 24th March 1950 in connection with the replies given to the Unstarred Question No.82 asked by the Questioner on the subject of Jaipur Road from Jaipur to Tipling and state the items of works on which this huge amount have been spent and what informations have been received after investigation ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS replied :

85.—The items of expenditure are detailed below :—

| | Rs. |
|---|--------|
| (i) Cold Weather bridge over Tipling and South Channel of Dehing (2 Nos.)—total 248 R.ft. and Cold Weather track—1400 R.ft. | 3,218 |
| (ii) Repairs to Mar-boat | 2,042 |
| (iii) Cost of Shingles (1,200 C.ft.) | 726 |
| (iv) Supplying direction and caution sign-boards | 100 |
| (v) Supplying mile and furlong posts (8 miles) | 517 |
| (vi) Earth-work | 285 |
| (vii) Guard posts and Barrier posts | 290 |
| (viii) Maintenance of the road by Departmental labour. | 2,696 |
| (ix) Maintaining ferry approaches | 2,208 |
| (x) Pay of I. B. Chowkidar, Naharkatiya and one Muharrir for the Road. | 522 |
| (xi) Petty purchases of Bamboo, Jute, Cane, etc. | 100 |
| Total | 12,704 |

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI : ইয়াত যি টকা mar-boat ৰ কাৰণে আৰু টিপালিং নদীত দলংৰ কাৰণে খৰচ দেখুৱাইছে সেই টকাটো বেচি দেখুওৱা যেন অনুমান হৈছে। যিহেতু যি দুখন নাও দিয়া হৈছিল সেই কেইখন নাও বেয়া কাৰণে ৫—৬ ঘণ্টা মানুহ বৈ থাকিব লাগে। নাও কেখন মেৰামত কৰাওঁতে দু হেজাৰ টকা খৰচ হ'লনে? তাতকৈ নতুন নাও এখন কিনাই ভাল আছিল। গতিকে মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে যি টকাৰ হিচাপ দেখুৱাইছে আৰু পাৰ্থক্যৰ খৰচৰ হিচাপ দেখুৱাইছে সি অতি বেচি অনুমান হৈছে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : আপুনি আলোচনা লৈ গৈছে।

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI : কাম ভাল যেতিয়া কৰা হোৱা নাই সেই বিষয়ে ভাল কিবা এটা কৰিবলৈ কৰই লাগিব।

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS : Sir, মোৰা বছৰ তাৰ বিষয়ে enquiry কৰোৱা হৈছিল মোৰ Predecessor এ তাৰ এটা ৰিপোর্ট পাইছে।

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI : মই কৈছো যে যি খন নাৱৰ কথা কৈছে সেই খন নাও repair হোৱাই নাই। আৰু আলিৰ ওপৰত এটাও শিলগুটি দিয়া নাই।

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS : Sir, শিল দিলে বোকা বাস্তাত অলপ দিনৰ ভিতৰতে বহি যায়।

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI : শিলৰ আলি কেনেকৈ বোকা হয়?

Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN : নাও খনত নতুনতে কিমান খৰচ হৈছিল কব পাৰিবনে?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: নতুনতে কিমান খৰচ হৈছিল এতিয়া
কব নোৱাৰো।

Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN: তথাপিও নাও কেখনৰ মেৰামতিত দু হেজাৰ টকা
খৰচ হোৱাটো বেচি বুলি ভাবো।

Damages done by Earthquake in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI asked :

86. Will Government be pleased to state—
- The total number of Government buildings damaged by the last great earthquake in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
 - The total number of Public Institutions of the same Subdivision which have been badly damaged by the same earthquake giving the name of the institutions ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS replied :

86. (a)—64

(b)—13. Names of Public Institutions are furnished below :—

- George Institution at Dibrugarh.
- Marwari's High School at Dibrugarh.
- Lower Primary School at Khalihamari, Dibrugarh.
- India Club at Dibrugarh.
- Church at Dibrugarh.
- Jain Temple at Dibrugarh.
- Mosque 4 Nos. at Dibrugarh.
- Kalimandir 2 Nos. at Dibrugarh.
- Temple at Chowkidinghee, Dibrugarh.
- Temple at Amolapatty, Dibrugarh.
- High School at Kumaranichiga, Dibrugarh.
- Victoria Girls' Middle English School at Dibrugarh.
- Bengali High School for boys at Khalihamari, Dibrugarh.

Vocational trainings imparted in different High English Schools of the State

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR asked :

87. Will Government be pleased to state—
- The different vocational trainings that are being imparted in different High English Schools of the State ?
 - The names of High Schools where vocational training is being imparted with the names of the particular vocational training that is being given ?
 - The number of High Schools (Government and Aided to be shown separately) in the State and the number of those having vocational training sections ?
 - Whether Government are aware that vocational sections in High Schools are not at all popular amongst students and teachers ?

- (e) Whether Government are aware that many responsible citizens are of opinion that vocational training has proved a failure in High Schools ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that Head Masters find difficulties in making room in their routine for vocational training and that greater difficulty will be experienced when Hindi will be made a compulsory subject ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that vocational and technical trainings are being imparted in a wide scale by several institutions of the State and the necessity of making provision for vocational training in High Schools has greatly diminished ?
- (h) Having regard to these facts whether Government propose to discontinue the vocational training sections in High Schools and spend the money thus saved in granting stipends for students eager for such training in institutions meant solely for such purposes ?

The Hon'ble Srijut MOTI RAM BORA replied :

87. (a)--(1) Agriculture, (2) Weaving and Spinning, (3) Carpentry, (4) Tailoring, (5) Paper Making, (6) Cane and Bamboo works, (7) Sericulture, (8) Telegraphy, (9) Book-keeping, etc.

(b)—

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----------------------|
| (1) Girls' High School, Tezpur | ... | ... | Weaving and Spinning. |
| (2) Puranigudam Girls' High School | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (3) J. N. Memorial Girls' High School | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (4) Panbazar Girls' High School, Gauhati | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (5) Girls' High School, North Lakhimpur | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (6) M. M. M. Ch. Girls' High School, Karimganj. | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (7) J. R. Girls' High School, Barpeta | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (8) Sasidhar Phukan Girls' High School | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (9) Girls' High School, Nazira | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (10) R. B. D. B. Girls' High School, Golaghat | ... | ... | Spinning. |
| (11) Girls' High School, Jorhat | ... | ... | Weaving. |
| (12) T. C. Girls' High School, Gauhati | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (13) Laban Assamese Girls' High School | ... | ... | Ditto. |
| (14) Government Girls' High School, Dibrugarh | ... | ... | Weaving and Sewing. |
| (15) Cotton Collegiate High School, Gauhati | ... | ... | Carpentry. |
| (16) R. K. Mission High School, Cherrapunji | ... | ... | Weaving. |
| (17) Krishnai Government Aided High School, Goalpara. | ... | ... | Carpentry. |
| (18) Rangiya High School | ... | ... | Tailoring. |
| (19) Tihu Government Aided High School | ... | ... | Carpentry. |
| (20) Kamrup Academy, Gauhati | ... | ... | Paper making. |
| (21) Chamata High School, Nalbari | ... | ... | Weaving. |
| (22) Barama High School, Gauhati | ... | ... | Carpentry. |
| (23) Bajali High School, Barpeta | ... | ... | Weaving. |
| (24) Sarthabari High School, Barpeta | ... | ... | Carpentry. |
| (25) Chapar High School, Dhubri | ... | ... | * |
| (26) Kokrajhar High School, Dhubri | ... | ... | * |
| (27) Narsingpur High School, Cachar | ... | ... | * |
| (28) Earle High School, Cachar | ... | ... | Tailoring. |
| (29) Lala Public High School, Cachar | ... | ... | Weaving. |
| (30) Bhella High School, Barpeta | ... | ... | Telegraphy. |
| (31) Barpeta Vidyapith High School | ... | ... | * |

1950.] RESULT OF ELECTION OF THE MINORITY COMMUNITY 1095
TO THE CACHAR DISTRICT MINORITY BOARD

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| (32) Chenga High School, Barpeta ... | ... Telegraphy. |
| (33) Sarukhetri High School, Barpeta... | ... * |
| (34) Swarnalakshmi High School ... | ... * |
| *(The names of the subjects will be reported later in case of these schools.) | |
| (35) Government High School, Jorhat... | ... Agriculture. |
| (36) Government High School, Nowgong | ... Weaving. |
| (37) Government High School, Dibrugarh | ... Carpentry. |
| (38) Babejia High School, Nowgong | ... Telegraphy. |
| (39) Roha High School, Nowgong ... | ... Cane and Bamboo works. |
| (40) Marigaon High School, Nowgong | ... Carpentry, cane and bamboo works. |
| (41) All Assam Miri High School, North Lakhimpur. | Agriculture. |
| (42) Dhakuakhana High School, North Lakhimpur. | Carpentry. |
| (43) Bordoloni High School, North Lakhimpur | Spinning and Weaving. |
| (44) Meragarh N. D. High School | ... Book keeping. |
| (45) M. R. S. High School, Titabar | ... Sericulture. |
| (46) Assam Polytechnic Institute ... | ... Carpentry and Weaving. |
| (47) S. R. High School, Tinsukia ... | ... Carpentry. |
| (48) Khowang High School, Dibrugarh | ... Carpentry. |
| (49) Dergaon High School, Golaghat | ... Sericulture. |
| (50) Sipajhar High School, Mangaldai | ... Cane and bamboo works. |
| (51) Chariali High School, Tezpur ... | ... Weaving. |

(c)—1. Number of Government High Schools ... 24
2. Number of Government High Schools with Vocational subjects. 5

3. Number of Government Aided High Schools ... 192

4. Number of Government Aided High Schools with Vocational subjects. 46

(d)—No.

(e)—No. Government are not aware.

(f)—It is not difficult to adjust the time table.

(g)—No. Training in Vocational Subjects in High Schools serves purposes different from that of the Technical Schools. While the Technical Schools are intended to give specialised training to a few. The aim of instruction of Vocational classes in High Schools is to give a practical bias to Secondary Education as a whole.

(h)—No.

Result of Election of the Minority Community to the Cachar District Minority Board

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: As a result of voting held on the 5th October, 1950, by the Muslim Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly, the following persons are hereby declared elected as Members of the Minority Community to the Cachar District Minority Board:—

1. Maulavi Makabbir Ali Mazumdar,
2. Maulavi Abdul Jolil, and
3. Maulavi Rashid Ali Laskar.

Adjournment Motion on the failure of the Jorhat Police to control the situation arising out of sacrifice of a cow

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I direct Dr. Emran Husain Chaudhury to move the first Adjournment Motion.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg leave to move that this House do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance and of very recent occurrence to wit; the failure of the Jorhat Police to control the situation arising out of sacrifice of a cow on the 29th September last in the house of a Muslim gentleman residing near the Trunk road, Jorhat.

Sir, in this connection I should like to tell the House that for about 3 hours the inmates of the house were being threatened by a large crowd. This occurred on Friday, the 29th September last at 8 in the morning when a cow was sacrificed on the birth of a child to a Muslim gentleman residing in the Jorhat town. Soon after the sacrifice of the cow some people began to collect in front of the house and by 9 o'clock this crowd reached the 4 figures: it was about one thousand strong. A whispering news was to be heard in the crowd and some were actually talking aloud "maro! maro!" Apprehending certain trouble the inmates of the house sent for the Police. They tried to contact the Police three times but each time they failed. At last at about 10 o'clock 2 police officers with 5 or 6 constables appeared on the scene. They could not quieten the crowd with the result that this crowd of about one thousand strong broke into the house; they broke the hand of the brother of the gentleman who had sacrificed the cow. He is a Government servant, a Deputy Inspector of Schools. He was struck on the head and he also received injuries on several parts of the body. While this man was being attacked and while the mob were trying to kill him, Srijut Debeswar Sarma—your distinguished predecessor, Sir—tried to save him. He himself received injuries at the hands of the furious mob. But for the timely intervention of Srijut Sarma—a gentleman of great influence not only in Jorhat but throughout Assam—this man would have been done to death. Just a little after that the police officer—a Havildar—who came to save the man was himself seriously injured. A servant of the house and another Muslim gentleman who had just come to enquire into the event were also severely hit. All of them were at once removed to the hospital where they are being treated.

Not satisfied with having injured the inmates of the house and their helpers, the crowd began to loot the house. Walls were broken down, boxes were smashed, sarees and clothings, utensil, crockeries and other thing, including cash worth over six thousand rupees were either stolen or destroyed. Altogether property estimated at over sixty thousand rupees was either stolen or destroyed. It was not until 11 o'clock that armed police arrived at the spot. It is understood the armed police who live 2 miles away from the town could not come in time simply for want of transport. It is a pity that in a place like Jorhat police help was not available. The Police went to Sibsagar and other interior places to fight and round up Communists completely forgetting the danger at the hands of Communists at home. As I said, Sir, it was between 11 or 11-30 that the armed police arrived and the crowd began to flee in different directions.....

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: May I know from the hon. Member at what time did he say the Police arrived on the scene?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: It was sometime between 11 and 11-30 but I do not know the exact time. It was, however, about three and a half hours after the sacrifice of the cow that armed police reached the scene of the tragedy.

Sir, because of the tense situation due to this incident which came as a rude shock to the peace loving Assamese people, many of the Muslims dare not go out of their houses to offer their Friday prayers that day being a Friday. I may inform the House that most of these people were non-Assamese. They were Marwaris, Bengalis, Deswalis and a few Sikhs.

Now, Sir, this incident, as I said, has given a rude shock to all the Assamese, the peace loving people of Jorhat. A nephew of a distinguished Member of this House was also present and he was an eye witness to this tragedy—I mean my hon. Friend Mr. Nilmoni Phookan. I have brought a letter to my Friend, Mr. Phookan and I hope he will also throw some light on the tragedy that occurred at Jorhat.

That evening a public meeting was convened at the instance, I understood, of Srijut Debeswar Sarma at the Thakurbari near the place where this tragedy had taken place. In that meeting also the crowd was rowdy and there was no response to the speeches made by Srijut Sarma or the President who was no other than the Deputy Commissioner himself. At one time the crowd began to show signs of ureasiness and indignation. Srijut Sarma counselled the audience not to take the law into their own hands but to leave the matter to the administration and the Government established by law. Almost in similar language the Deputy Commissioner appealed to the people to maintain peace when a Sikh gentleman said that it was entirely due to the indifference of the Deputy Commissioner—he meant Mr. Dumbreck—that the tragedy had happened. That gentleman further said that he had previously approached the Deputy Commissioner to stop the cow slaughter, but the Deputy Commissioner told him that he did not see any need to interfere if it was done in strict privacy. Some people also approached the Chairman of the Municipality to intervene in the matter, but he was also helpless saying that if it was done. In strict privacy by the inmates of the house nothing could be done. As a matter of fact, Sir, this was done in an enclosure with bamboo fencing and tarpaulins.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think that is enough at this stage. The hon. Member need not speak any more.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I am very sorry to learn of this incident, Sir, which is quite unusual in Assam. It is unfortunate that such an incident should have taken place, but according to the Police this is the work of Goondas and irresponsible persons who have assembled there. It is said that it was somewhere near the house of some Marwaris. But whatever that may be, if there is any cow slaughter in a place within the enclosed compound of an individual it is the duty of the Police as well as the Magistrate to prevent breach of peace. The Deputy Commissioner in his report said that the slaughter was not in a suitable place. Also according to the Deputy Commissioner—unfortunately Mr. Dumbreck, had handed over charge on the 4th I think—in his subsequent report regarding the actual place of occurrence he said that this place was not suitable for cow slaughter.....

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: It was in a closed place, Sir. You can take it from me that it is not possible to see from outside.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: But according to the Deputy Commissioner it was not a suitable place. The Deputy Commissioner is the man who is in charge of the district, I have to take his report. However, I may inform the hon. Member that as a result of police investigation in this matter a number of people has been arrested and in the meantime, to expedite the matter a judicial inquiry has been started. The Magistrate has been asked to look into

the matter himself in collaboration with the Superintendent of Police who is a Muslim gentleman. As I said, Sir, this matter is already under a judicial inquiry and while this judicial inquiry is pending, I think we should not prejudice the judicial proceeding which has been started in connection with this matter. In view of that, Sir, I think there is no ground for this Adjournment Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Hon. Members know that whenever a matter is *sub-judice* under a judicial inquiry, such matter cannot be the subject for an Adjournment Motion. Therefore, in view of that I cannot allow this Motion and rule it out of order.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I just want to inform the hon. Leader of the House, Sir, that this place where the cow sacrifice was done is absolutely invisible from the street or outside. I have been receiving communication—a copy of the one that he has received—from the aggrieved party to the effect that complete bamboo fencing covered with tarpaulins was round the spot and that nothing could be seen from outside. Moreover on previous occasions of the kind, even on Bakrid day, a week earlier cow slaughter had been done in that very place without anybody taking objection to it. However, as the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered a judicial inquiry in the matter, I think this side of the House is satisfied.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I have not seen the place myself and I am basing my remarks on the reports that I have received.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS:** May I know from the hon. Mover of the Motion whether there is a slaughter house in Jorhat? If there is one why was not the cow slaughtered there?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: For the information of the House I would say that this thing was done in their own house.

Adjournment Motion on the harassment caused to the general public of Sibsagar and Sarbhog areas by the Military in detecting alleged Communists

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: I move the second Adjournment Motion. I beg to move, Sir, that this Assembly do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance and of recent occurrence to wit the harassment caused to the general public of Sibsagar and Sarbhog areas by the military in detecting alleged Communists.

In moving this Adjournment Motion it is furthest from my mind to preach the very thing which the Government are out to combat. For sometime past Assam has been disturbed by certain Red activities. This, however, is not an occasion to go into the causes which have led to the spread of Communism. In Assam or in any part of India it is known to all hon. Members of this House.....

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS:** On a point of order, Sir, does this Adjournment Motion lie in the form it has been placed?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: I am just coming to the harassment that has been going on for two weeks past. It is a matter of almost daily occurrence.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** May I know when the harassment in Sarbhog area did occur ?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: This has been going on for a pretty long time.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There was sufficient time for the hon Mover to move this Motion earlier.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: I am just going to narrate what has been happening in the Sibsagar area. The hon. Gentlemen present must be aware of this speech recently delivered by S. Bargohain who..... ..

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: When did the occurrence in Sibsagar take place ?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Within the past two weeks. It is a thing almost of daily occurrence. I should like to mention certain specific cases. In a recent statement the Deputy Minister of the Central Government had occasion to say that almost the Ahoms are generally not Communist. In Sibsagar there are two organisations—the Congress and the Ahom Association. They control the entire population. Only for 6 or 7 Communists the entire place have been declared a disturbed area. I am just giving the House a few specific cases of harassment of Namti. I fail to understand how the whole Subdivision in Sibsagar has been declared a disturbed area. 6 or 7 persons were arrested, one Mr. Sarma said to be a Congress worker of Kenduguri near Simolguri, was arrested and sent to jail. He died within two or three days of his jail life. Another Congress worker, Nibaran Borua, of Simolguri was also beaten. I understand these two people came to Shillong and perhaps had a talk with the Hon'ble Chief Minister. A photographer, Mr. Mohanta, was arrested and beaten sometime back.

***Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA:** I rise on a point of order, Sir. Under rule 90 of the Assam Assembly there cannot be more than one Adjournment Motion in the same sitting of the Assembly. To-day he has moved one Adjournment Motion ; how can he move the other ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I want to point out that there is a difference between begging leave to move an Adjournment Motion and a Motion being actually moved. Any number of Motions asking for leave may be moved in one meeting.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: It is known that towards the end of March last a robbery had been committed at Balighat, Nazira. Two youngmen offered to help and did help the police in the detection of the culprits, they were subsequently fatally stabbed. But the Government have given no attention to their relations.

Of the 400 and odd people who have been arrested recently in the Sibsagar Subdivision 80 or 90 per cent. of them are Ahoms. But I have already said, Sir, that Ahoms are not generally Communist. Most of them belong to Congress organisation, or the Ahom Association, but the people of the entire subdivision are being harassed. At the moment Sibsagar has been made a disturbed area without any previous warning given to the public. At least some warning

should have been given to the people, as to why this subdivision should be named a disturbed area. Nothing of the sort was done. Recently as you know some Police Officers were returning from Sibsagar to the thana. Some people met them on the way and wrested two rifles from the police and went away.

Now I should like to draw the attention of the Government to the harassment being done to the people of Sorbhog area. On the 15th of August some red flags were placed in place of the national flag and for sometime a procession was taken out, about 200 people came to the police station. There some people were arrested. Among these there were some women, of whom 4 or 5 were pregnant. I understand one of these women was delivered of a child later on while in police custody. That is a terrible harassment no doubt. That sort of torture must be stopped.

The Procurement Department is procuring rice and paddy with the help of the military in that area.

Recently some people came here and met the Hon'ble Chief Minister. One old woman, I understand, met Mr. Brahma and laid before him the whole story of how the people in that area have to live on account of Military excesses.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: When did the Sibsagar occurrences take place?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: They took place within the last fortnight. Incidents are occurring daily.

***The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA:** May I know from the hon. Member to whom he was referring?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: I was referring to you. I understand that a certain old Kachari woman came to meet you and narrated the story of harassment with tears in eyes.

***The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA:** It is not a fact.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Thank you very much. I stand corrected.

Sir, these things are occurring almost daily. That is why I have been prompted to bring in this adjournment motion with a view to draw the Government's attention to the excesses committed by the Military. If these are not stopped then other people also would be driven to the extreme camp.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I submit that the Motion, as it stands, is not in order. Rule 90 says, "not more than one matter can be discussed on the same motion, and the Motion must be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence". This Motion relates to alleged occurrence at Sibsagar and Sorbhog areas, *i. e.*, two different matters, which cannot be dealt with by one motion.

Then, Sir, the Sorbhog occurrence, according to him, took place on or after the 15th August, *i. e.*, more than a month before this House assembled. The hon. Member therefore had ample opportunity of moving Resolutions or tabling Questions to elicit information. The incidents in the Sibsagar area also happened

more than a month before the Assembly Session commenced and the hon. Member had similar opportunities to elicit information. So, Sir, my submission is that these are not of recent occurrence, and also that the incidents in the Sorbhog and Sibsagar areas relates to action taken by different officers at different places unconnected with each other.

DR. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: My Motion relates to harassment caused to the general public of the Sorbhog and Sibsagar areas, and as such it is one single matter.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: But they happened at different places, and different persons are in charge of these areas. How can these be considered as one matter ?

Then, Sir, operations in the Sibsagar area commenced from about 24th of August, in order to hunt out those persons who committed brutal murders and dacoities and also those who sheltered these murderers and gangsters. So, Sir, this cannot be said to be of recent occurrence. The hon. Member could by other methods elicit information earlier. As such, I submit, Sir, that this Motion is out of order and leave should not be granted to move this Motion.

Then, Sir, regarding specific allegations of harassment of three persons that he has mentioned for the first time to-day, I can say that so far no complaints have been made or information lodged by any of the so-called affected persons, who are alleged to have been arrested or harrassed by the Police. Not a single instance of harassment has been brought to our notice. The hon. Member wanted to know why Sibsagar area had been declared a disturbed area. I will just give a few facts which will clearly indicate why this was done, and also to show that the over-whelming majority of law-abiding citizens are supporting the Police in their operations. The Military personnel are not taking part in the operations at all. The Assan Rifles are simply guarding the perimeter of the affected areas, so that the R. C. P. I. murderers and gangsters may not escape to the nearby jungles of the Naga Hills.

Sir, so far eight persons have been murdered in cold blood. Sir, the R. C. P. I. activities began with the Amguri Railway Dacoity case in which Rs.55,000 was snatched away after murdering the clerk and the orderly who were taking the money. That was in August, 1949. This money was distributed among the sympathisers for organising a reign of terror in the Amguri area. Since then many other acts of depredation took place. In Gohaingaon one Jibakanta Borgohain was murdered on the 29th May 1950. In Sukanpukhuri one Bhudhar Mouzadar of Nitaipukhuri was murdered, in Kakodanga, one Padma Bhuyan was murdered with sten guns and other things.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Who were these people ? Were they Congress workers ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Almost all of them were Congress workers. Then, Sir, nearabout Joysagar, Hem Chandra, a teacher, was shot at. At Khargharia Dova, a whole family was brutally assaulted. These gangsters entered the house at night and attacked the man, his wife and the children. Three of them have already died as the result of injury received at the hands of the members of the R. C. P. I.

The Assam Rifles have been employed to guard the surrounding areas in order to close their escape route. We have also got information, Sir, that these people have got sten guns and other arms and ammunition in reserve in that area. We apprehend that these people propose to give a fight with sten guns, revolvers and rifles in their illegal possession. In case of fight it may be necessary to get the help of the Military by way of defence and in order that these people may not run away to the Naga Hills. They are anti-social elements. In view of that, the area was declared as a disturbed area where reign of terror was prevailing due to the illegal activities of the anti-social elements.

***Mr. C. W. MORLEY:** On a point of information, Sir, may I know wherefrom they got the sten guns ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Generally they get from the Naga Hills where such weapons might have been left by the Military during war.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: This information should not have been disclosed.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: It is known to the public that the Government issued instructions to the Deputy Commissioner before actual launching of the operation. It is known to the public that Government have declared the Sibsagar Subdivision as a disturbed area and the Police and Military there have been vested with special powers to maintain law and order. In this effort the Congress workers are also helping the authority in order to maintain peace and order in the locality. I would like to repeat that innocent persons have no reason to fear. I appeal to them to give help to the Police by furnishing information, etc., for the welfare of the State. Some persons were murdered in cold blooded fashion by the under ground members of the R. C. P. I. concealing in this area. Many of them have been declared as absconders. In case any one is suspected to supply information to the police these absconders threaten such informants with dire consequence and have created a reign of terror throughout the district. The appeal widely signed by representative public men of all shades of opinion will indicate that police and executive authority of the district has got full support of all law-abiding citizens. The names of the signatories are—

Shri Bhupendramadhab Dam,
 Shri Bishnuprasad Chaliha,
 Shri Bareshchandra Rajkhowa,
 Shri Durgaprasad Barthakur,
 Shri Mangilal Bagari,
 Shri Sabalram Khemka,
 Shri Girindra Nath Gogoi,
 Shri Ananda Ch. Bezbarua,
 Shri Bhupendranath Ghosh,
 Shri Thanuram Gogoi,
 Dr. Abdul Matlib.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Is it our Hon'ble Abdul Matlib Mazumdar? (*Laughter*).

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Shri Ukhadhar Bharali, Shri Durganath Gogoi, Shri Prafulla Ch. Phukan, Sri Tulan Ch. Chetia Patar, Shri Mohi Ch. Gogoi, Shri Chandra Nath Chetia, Shri Kalia Gohain, Shri Nilkanta Gogoi, Maulavi Bakhtaddowlla, Shri Joynath Bora, Shri Ratneswar Kuwar, Shri Padmanath Kuar, Shri Dibakar Deuri, Shri Kamakhya-prasad Barua, Shri Tufani Turi, Shri Nilkanta Mohan, Shri Ashadhar Phukan, Shri Krishna Das Barua, Shri Khagendranath Gogoi, Shri Trilochan Barua, Shri Maniklal Barua, Maulavi Mohbubur Rahman, Shri Muktanath Bhattacharyya, Shri Hemkanta Basumatari, Shri Jogendranath Barua, Shri Lakhi Nath Phukan, Shri Nikharam Phukan, Shri Prafulla Ch. Saikia, Shri Rama Kanta Hazarika.

The entire population being oppressed by these high-handed action, murder and dacoity, are whole-heartedly supporting the Police and Assam Rifles. I am reading the contents of the appeal in Assamese as these were distributed at Sibsagar.

“বাইজে জানে যে কিছুদিনৰ পৰা শিৱসাগৰ মহকুমাৰ ঠায়ে ঠায়ে হত্যা, ডকাইটি আদি উপদ্ৰৱ হোৱাত এই মহকুমা চৰকাৰে “উপকৃত অঞ্চল” বুলি ঘোষণা কৰি ঠায়ে ঠায়ে আসাম বাইফলচে ঘাটি পাতি শান্তি ৰক্ষা কৰিবলৈ দিহা কৰিছে। বাইজৰ তৰফৰ পৰাও শান্তি আৰু শৃঙ্খলা ঘূৰাই অনা কাৰ্য্যত সহযোগ কৰিবৰ কাৰণে গাওঁবখীয়া বাহিনী গঠন আদি উপায়ৰ আলোচনা কৰিবৰ কাৰণে অহা ইং ২৪-৯-৫০ তাং দেওবাৰে দুপৰীয়া ১ বজাত এখন বাজহুৱা সভা কালিপুসাদ স্মৃতি মন্দিৰত আহ্বান কৰা হৈছে। আশাৰ্কাৰে সকলো বাইজে সভাত যোগদান দি দেশৰ এই উপস্থিত সমস্যা সমাধানৰ অৰ্থে বুদ্ধি পৰামৰ্শ দি এই কৰ্ম সাফল্য মণ্ডিত কৰেহি যেন। এয়েই মিনতি।

ইতি—তাং ১১-৯-৫০—

বিনিত—”

This was issued on the 21st of September 1950 after the Police action started on the 15th September. The object of it is that there may not be harassment made by any person and if there is any complaint judicial investigation will be made to find out the culprits. The illegal activities of these under-ground people have caused enough harassment including looting, murder, dacoity, etc., in this area.

Under the circumstances, there seems no reasonable ground for permitting leave to move this Adjournment Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I have heard the hon. Mover of the Adjournment Motion and also heard the Hon'ble Chief Minister in this connection. I must say that the hon. Mover could not satisfy me that the matter under consideration is definite and also of recent occurrence. The hon. Mover said that one occurrence took place on the 15th of August and the other occurrence took place in the last fortnight. Apart from all these points, I have heard the Hon'ble Chief Minister saying that the Government of Assam has adopted a policy to check the activities of the anti-social elements resorting to murder, dacoity etc, and disturbing the social equilibrium of the country.

Any acts done in persecution of a policy adopted by Government cannot be a subject-matter of an Adjournment Motion. In such view I hold that the Motion is out of order.

The Assam Appropriation Bill No.(2), 1950

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Appropriation Bill (No.2), 1950.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The matter now before the House is the Assam Appropriation Bill (No.2), 1950.

The Assam Non-Agricultural Urban Areas Tenancy Bill, 1950

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: This Motion will be moved by Srijut Hareswar Das (Parliamentary Secretary).

Srijut HARESWAR DAS (Parliamentary Secretary): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Assam Non-Agricultural Urban Areas Tenancy Bill, 1950; and to move that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Sir, the Select Committee were unanimous in their report and only some minor changes have been made and as the alterations were not of a material character, they did not advise re-publication of the Bill. In clauses 2 & 3 of the Bill some minor changes were made. Only in clause 9 some changes worth the name were made. Clause 9(3) deals with cases of transfer in Court sale. Now, there were some loop-holes whereby the provisions of the Bill could be frustrated and those loopholes have been avoided by the alterations. Then a new sub-clause (4) under clause 9 has been substituted, because sub-clause (4) of the present Bill provided some consequences when the transferee failed to do something, but when the transferee did his part, there was no provision as to what the landlord will have to do. That has been provided by the new sub-clause (4).

Then, in clause 10, sub-clause (3) the language has been changed to make the meaning clear.

In clause 17, only drinking water wells and tanks have been added and there was no other change.

Now, as regards the consideration of the Bill, there is some difficulty. Because there will be no seven days' notice. If the hon. Members waive that right and you, Sir, agree, then the Bill can be taken into consideration during this Session and be passed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Hon. Members have heard what the Parliamentary Secretary has said. Under the rule the hon. Members have a right of seven days' notice for consideration. If there is no objection from the hon. Members, I may allow the Parliamentary Secretary to move the Bill for consideration.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: We have no objection.

***Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** We have no objection to the presentation of the Bill but we raise objection to the consideration of it. The Bill was laid on our table on the 3rd October and we require seven days' notice and if this seven days' notice is not given, we feel that there is not sufficient time for us to examine it carefully.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think there is no objection to allow the Parliamentary Secretary to present the Bill.

***Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** We have no objection to the presentation of the Bill but we have objection to the consideration of it without seven days' notice. We just heard, Sir, that you would not waive our objection in the case of another Bill presented to the House and unless you rule otherwise, the Bill cannot be moved for consideration. It is Government's responsibility to see that their action is in well advance and that unnecessary burden is not thrown on the legislators having to take a decision without any opportunity of being able to examine it and refer it to their constituencies.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: On a point of information, Sir. May I know why the Bill has been presented so late? I myself was a member of the Select Committee, I have been agitating in the matter for a long time. What I want to know is that why the Bill has been presented so late and why it was not placed before the House in time.

Srijut HARESWAR DAS (Parliamentary Secretary): The thing is this, Sir. On the evening of the 3rd October the Bill as reported by the Select Committee was received from the Press. 4th was a recess day, some members got copies, some did not. So, on the 5th, which was the next opening day, copy of the Bill was supplied to all the hon. Members.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: May I know when the Bill was first introduced?

Srijut HARESWAR DAS (Parliamentary Secretary): It was introduced in the last March Session. At first it was started for the district of Cachar only. Then there were demands from all parts of Assam to introduce it for all over Assam. So the present Bill was introduced which was referred to a Select Committee in the last March Session. There is practically no difference between the Cachar Bill and this Bill.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: I had been requesting the hon. Member to call a meeting of the Select Committee as early as possible.

Srijut HARESWAR DAS (Parliamentary Secretary): It is a fact, but we wanted to save some money by holding the meeting of the Select Committee at Session time.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: The *post-mortem* examination by our *pseudo* "doctor"—I call him as such as he is not a Doctor of Medicine—has not in any way helped the House. Sir, an objection and a practical objection has been raised by Mr. Hardman to the matter coming before the House for consideration. I can make a suggestion. Most of the hon. Members including yourself are assuming that the House shall have to be prorogued on the 10th instant. I suggested the other day if we could contract our business and finish by the 7th. Then you quoted certain rules to show that a motion which was placed before the House on the 26th September—the very first day of the Session—by the learned Leader of the House for changing a provision of the Public Service Regulation, 14 clear days' notice

must be given to the House. It is a matter of simple calculation that the motion moved on the 26th September will not give the House 14 clear days' notice of that motion on the 10th instant. It will be the 14th day and not 14 clear days and therefore, to be consistent with the rule you quoted, the House will have to sit for the next day. If I remember aright, the 11th instant will be Wednesday which is a recess day. Then automatically we come to the 12th to finish our session.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: If the hon. Members like to continue beyond the 10th, I have no objection.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY:** That too involves much expenditure.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** If the hon. Members to continue the sitting I have no objection. I think the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition is perfectly correct that to give 14 clear days notice we shall have to sit till 12th--11th being a recess day. If, however, 26th is included, we can take up that matter on the 10th.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: No, it cannot be included, under the rules.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** That is a matter of interpretation. If 26th is excluded then, I think, it can be taken up on the 14th day in the afternoon. But if the House wants to sit till 12th, I have no objection.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: The present Bill was laid before us on the 5th and therefore 7 days will expire on the 11th and it can be taken up on the 12th.

***The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI:** But there is provision for the Speaker to waive that rule and convert 7 days to 5 days or 3 days.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: If the session is to be extended for that Public Service Commission Regulation matter, then it will be all right and there will be no necessity for the Speaker to exercise his discretion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This will be a contentious Bill and therefore, I think, there will be amendments.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: May I be permitted to point out that only the other day, on Saturday last, as many as 10 Bills were taken up in the West Bengal Assembly and all of which were passed almost unanimously. The *Hindustan Patrika* came out next day with a bitter comment against the Members of the Assembly for not taking a dequate interest in this discussion. If you give me little indulgence, Sir, I would like to read that.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member should not read it.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: So I say this Bill should not be taken in a hurry. Particularly in a controversial and contentious Bill of far-reaching effect, I think, the same day for consideration as well as for consideration clause by clause should not be fixed.

Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is due to the persistent demand of the Cachar people, particularly the inhabitants of the towns of Silchar, Hailakandi and Karimganj that this Bill has been brought to the present shape and I congratulate the Hon'ble Chief Minister as well as the Parliamentary Secretary for bringing the Bill into the present shape. The Hon'ble Chief Minister personally knows the overwhelming public opinion in Cachar which expressed itself in thousands of telegrams and hundreds of representations for passing this Bill and as hon. Members know that already twice or thrice this Bill has appeared in the Assembly programme but unfortunately for the poor tenants this Bill could not be passed. During the last Budget Session this Bill was introduced, but it was not passed. The public have been hoping that in this session the Bill would be passed into Act, but taking advantage of the technical objection which is arising today, I hope the hon. Members will not delay this very important legislation any further. The hon. Members can waive that objection and pass the Bill into Act within the present Session. If it is deferred for the next Session then the next election would come and then the views may be expressed by the interested parties that new Members can take the Bill into consideration and have it passed, and thus the very purpose of the Bill may be frustrated. In view of the fact that the Bill has been before the House so long and the view of the fact that the Select Committee has been unanimous, there should be no reasonable ground on which the Bill can be deferred any longer. Therefore I appeal to you, Sir, for using your discretion for allowing the Bill for consideration and for passing it into Act.

Prof. NIBARAN CHANDRA LASKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as we the Cachar Members are very much interested in this Bill, I would like to bring to your notice that if the Bill is passed into Act then it extends in the first instance to the urban areas of the Cachar District and not to other areas of the State. It has been made clear in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that due to persistent demands from the public for a legislation recognising the rights of the tenants of urban areas in all the Subdivisions of the Cachar District except North Cachar Hills in order to avoid unnecessary ejections by the landlords, this Bill was introduced in the last September 1949 Session of the Assembly. The House adopted a Motion to circulate the Bill for eliciting public opinion throughout Assam. When the Bill was circulated accordingly, several representations from public were received demanding similar legislation in other districts of the State. This sort of legislation was long over due. While the Bill was circulated for eliciting public opinion, representations from different organizations of Silchar, Hailakandi, Karimganj subdivisions were submitted in favour of passing this Bill. For example, the Silchar Municipal Board of which Shri S. M. Deb is the Chairman, all the Municipal Boards and Local Boards of the said three Subdivisions, Silchar Bar Association, Cachar Merchants' Association, Hailakandi District Congress Committee and many other organisations expressed their views in favour of this sort of legislation. In view of the fact that due to acute housing problem in town areas during the last few years all lands let out for that period, were given to others after realisation of exorbitant premiums (*salami*) and that was very often more than Rs.2,000 per bigha, it is all the more necessary that the Bill should be passed early.

Now there has been increasing influx of people from East Pakistan as a result of Partition and the housing problem has become very acute now-a-days.

The landlords want to take advantage of the situation and are trying to increase the rent and also they are trying to eject the tenants on flimsy grounds. Therefore, Sir, the passing of the Bill is urgently necessary.

I am requesting Mr. Hardman who cannot have any interest in the Bill and who, on being approached perhaps by some landlords for giving them protection, might be taking interest for them, to kindly waive his right to save Cachar's thousands of illfated suffering tenants as we all Congress Members from our side are waiving ours (*Hear, hear*).

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can assure the House that I have not been approached by any landlord, nor have I any interest in property in Silchar, Karimganj or Hailakandi. We understand this is a controversial measure, which I am afraid we have had no opportunity to examine with the care with which we desire. We do not know whether we wish to make changes in this legislation, which is being introduced. We consider that if Government wished to have this Bill passed in this Session it was their duty to have convened the Select Committee long before the 27th September. The initial mistake is theirs. We hope, Sir, by resisting on this occasion the requests which have been so ably made from the other side, we will succeed in impressing on the Government that it is essential on their part to maintain their time-table. We would maintain that the notice given to the Assembly is little enough for consideration of this important measure.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: In applying my power to allow a Motion of this kind to be moved in this Assembly under rule 67 of the Assembly Rules, I have got only to see whether for the late presentation of the Report of the Select Committee the short notice given by the sponsor of the Bill for consideration of the Select Committee Report the hon. Members have been put to inconvenience. That is the only thing that I shall have to take into consideration. As I understand from the Parliamentary Secretary that this Bill was introduced in the last March Session of the Assembly, I take it that it was published in the official Gazette then. In that very Session hon. Members had the opportunity of knowing the provisions of the Bill while the Motion for referring it to a Select Committee was being considered by the House. It was at the suggestion of the House in that Session the Bill was referred to a Select Committee and the Select Committee sat on the 27th September and its Report was unanimous. Now it has got to be seen again whether any substantial changes have been made or not by the Select Committee and I find that the Members of the Select Committee did not effect any change whatsoever in the Bill excepting a very few minor changes here and there practically of a drafting nature in the original Bill. My opinion is that the hon. Members will not be inconvenienced for having shorter notice for consideration of this Motion. Therefore I allow the Motion for consideration today. (*Applause*).

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the Assam Non-Agricultural Urban Areas Tenancy Bill, 1950, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to offer my hearty thanks to Government for bringing up this Bill in order to give the necessary relief to the poor tenants. Next, Sir, I should like to congratulate you

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OF DISQUALIFICATIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1950

for having allowed the House to take the Bill into consideration in spite of the objection that has been raised from certain quarters.

For a long time there has been an insistent demand made by the public not only of Cachar but of many other parts of Assam as well for giving relief to the tenants. The landlords who have interest only in money, sometimes do harass the tenants—a fact known to all and taken for granted. Landlords are known to have such rented tenants. It is for this reason the Government thought it fit to bring this important measure before the House. I hope, without unnecessary statements and without taking any amount of valuable time the Bill should be passed into an Act, in a very short time.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Any hon. Members want to take part?
(After a pause)

(The Motion was put by the Chair as question before the House and adopted.)

**The Assam Ministers (Salaries and Allowances) (Second Amendment)
Bill, 1950**

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Ministers' (Salaries and Allowances) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1950, and to move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

This Bill was published in an Extra-ordinary Gazette on the 27th September 1950. By this Bill the Deputy Minister's salary is proposed to be fixed at Rs.650 per mensem.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that the Assam Ministers' (Salaries and Allowances) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1950, be taken into consideration.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as question and adopted.)

**The Assam State Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications)
(Amendment) Bill, 1950**

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam State Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Amendment) Bill, 1950 and to move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

This Bill was published on the 27th September 1950 and by this Bill a provision is proposed to be inserted to remove disqualification in regard to the office of the Deputy Minister to the Government of Assam. I hope hon. Members will accept my Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that the Assam State Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Amendment) Bill, 1950 be taken into consideration.

If there are no Members taking part, I put the question.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as question and adopted.)

The Assam Agricultural Pests and Diseases Bill, 1949

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as there is no amendment, I beg to move that the Assam Agricultural Pests and Diseases Bill, 1949, as amended by the Select Committee be passed.

Sir, while presenting the Report of the Select Committee the other day I referred to the fact that there have been slight modifications with regard to some clauses in the Bill. The Bill, as you know, Sir, was introduced during the last Session. I must mention that some hon. Members have repeatedly brought to the notice of this House in previous Sessions the menace of pests and other agricultural diseases and on the other hand the Government also considered the question owing to food scarcity.

Sir, regarding the modifications suggested by the Select Committee relate to definitions, e.g., 'occupier' and also with regard to claims for compensation, etc. I must mention that the report has been unanimous. Sir, I must congratulate the members who took part in the Select Committee on this Bill specially Mr. Talukdar and Mr. Phookan who had been repeatedly pointing out before this House the menace of the agricultural pests and diseases. Sir, with these words I commend my Motion for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that the Assam Agricultural Pests and Diseases Bill, 1949, as amended by the Select Committee be passed.

Any hon. Member taking part ?

(After a pause)

(The Motion was put by the Chair as question and adopted.)

The Assam Forest (Amendment) Bill, 1950

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as there is no amendment, I beg to move that the Assam Forest (Amendment) Bill, 1950, be passed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved is that the Assam Forest (Amendment) Bill, 1950, be passed.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as question and adopted.)

The Assam Forest Products (Acquisition) Bill, 1950

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Item 8, that is consideration clause by clause of the Assam Forest Products (Acquisition) Bill, 1950.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : There are some amendments to this Bill, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : There is an amendment to clause 1 in the names of Mr. Morley and Mr. Hardman. Who will move it ?

Mr. C. W. MORLEY : We do not propose to move the amendment, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : There is another amendment to clause 1 in the names of Srijut Lakshmidhar Borah, Shri Dharanidhar Basumatari, Srijut Dandeswar Hazarika and Srijut Purna Chandra Sarma. Who will move it ?

Srijut LAKSHMIDHAR BORAH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (3) of clause 1, delete the "full stop" at the end and add the following :

“and shall remain in force for a period not exceeding one year”.

Sir, this Bill has been introduced to facilitate requisition and acquisition of certain forest products for the purpose of rehabilitation of refugees and for other public purposes. The period of one year is sufficient for the purpose and it will be sufficient if it remains in force for one year instead of an indefinite period. That is why I move this amendment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved is that in sub-clause (3) of clause 1, delete the “full stop” at the end and add the following:

“and shall remain in force for a period of one year”.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the time of discussing the Motion for the consideration of the Bill I stated that on this point I would be guided by the sense of the House. There is an amendment for limiting the period to one year. If that be the sense of the House, I shall have no objection to accept this amendment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then I put the question.

The question is:

“That in sub-clause (3) of clause 1, delete the “full stop” at the end and add the following:

“and shall remain in force for a period not exceeding one year”.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

“That clause 1 of the Bill as amended do stand part of the Bill.”

The question was adopted.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (a) of clause 2, delete the ‘semi colon’ at the end and add the following:

“other than homestead land ;”.

Here, Sir, in this Bill clause 2 defines the forest product. My submission is that as forest product as here defined includes also standing trees, bamboos, thatches, ekras, our intention is that those standing on homestead lands should be exempted from the operation of this Bill and that is why I have tabled this amendment and I hope the Government will accept it and exempt the homestead lands from the operation of this Act.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved is that in sub-clause (a) of clause 2, delete the ‘semicolon’ at the end and add the following:

“other than homestead land”.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, although it will narrow down the scope of operation of the Act, I have no objection to accept the amendment if the hon. Members want that the homestead lands should not be touched.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that in sub-clause (a) of clause 2, delete the ‘semicolon’ at the end and add the following:

“other than homestead land ;”

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that clause 2 of the Bill, as amended, do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: As there are no amendments to clauses 3 and 4 I put the question. The question is that clauses 3 and 4 of the Bill do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that at the end of sub-clause (b) of clause 5 add the following proviso:

"Provided that in the case of vehicles or vessels such period shall not exceed 24 hours".

In this case, Sir, it has been provided that anybody taking out or carrying any forest products in his own or others' vehicle can be held up and the vehicle detained. In the case of hired vehicles or vessels it will cause a great hardship to the carrier and the owner if such vehicles are kept detained with the forest products for a long period. We, by this amendment, seek that in such cases the vehicles or vessels should not be kept with the seized forest products for more than 24 hours. These carriers should not be left at the mercy of the officers of the Department. That is why we want to fix a time-limit of 24 hours.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved is that at the end of sub-clause (b) of clause 5 add the following proviso:

"Provided that in the case of vehicles or vessels such period shall not exceed 24 hours".

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry I cannot accept this amendment because it will be quite impossible on the part of the officers to dispose of the cases within such a short time. If you permit, and if the hon. Mover agrees to put the time-limit at three days by another amendment, I shall have no objection.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: In that case some other hon. Member will have to move an amendment.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: If I accept the suggestion of the Hon'ble Minister there is no necessity for moving another amendment.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: There is no such amendment before the House. It is only a suggestion by the Hon'ble Minister.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that at the end of sub-clause (b) of clause 5 add the following proviso:

"Provided that in the case of vehicles or vessels such period shall not exceed three days".

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: On a point of information, Sir. Has the hon. Member taken leave of the House to move the amendment?

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: The hon. Member must obtain leave of the House to move his amendment, because time for submitting amendments is long past.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Yes, the hon. Member must obtain leave of the House.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg leave of the House to move my amendment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The hon. Member will move his amendment now.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : Sir, I beg to move that at the end of sub-clause (b) of clause 5 add the following proviso :

“Provided that in the case of vehicles or vessels such period shall not exceed three days”.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Amendment moved is that at the end of sub-clause (b) of clause 5 add the following proviso :

“Provided that in the case of vehicles or vessels such period shall not exceed three days”.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA : I accept the amendment, Sir.

(The amendment was put by the Chair as a question before the House, and adopted.)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is that clause 5 of the Bill as amended do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is that clause 6 of the Bill do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA : Sir, I beg to move that in clause 7 substitute the word “it” for the words “the State Government” occurring in the second and the third lines.

It is purely clerical and printing mistake and therefore we have to substitute the word “it” for the words “the State Government” occurring in the second and third lines.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Amendment moved is that in clause 7 substitute the word “it” for the words “the State Government” occurring in the second and the third lines.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : Sir, I have no objection to accept this because it is meant only to avoid repetition.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is that in clause 7 substitute the word “it” for the words “the State Government” occurring in the second and the third lines.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is that clause 7 of the Bill as amended do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that clauses 8 to 14 of the Assam Forest Products (Acquisition) Bill, 1950, do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that the Title and Preamble of the Assam Forest Products (Acquisition) Bill, 1950, do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Forest Products (Acquisition) Bill, 1950, as amended be passed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the Assam Forest Products (Acquisition) Bill, 1950, as amended be passed.

(The question was adopted.)

The Assam Drugs (Control) Bill, 1950.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There are 5 amendments to this Bill, *i.e.*, the Assam Drugs (Control) Bill, 1950.

The first amendment in clause 2 stands in the name of Maulavi Md. Nazmal Haque.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (2)(i) of clause 2, a 'semicolon' be inserted after the word 'person' occurring for the first time in the 2nd line and the subsequent words be deleted.

This clause explains how drug shall be deemed to be in the possession of a person when it is held on behalf of that person by any other person; but I do not understand what is the idea meant by adding the same words "or when...person" when it has already been mentioned. I hope this amendment will be accepted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved is that in sub-clause (2) (i) of clause 2, a 'semicolon' be inserted after the word 'person' occurring for the first time in the 2nd line and the subsequent words be deleted.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Sir, I myself was very much puzzled by the wordings of this provision in the clause but when I looked into the history of the provision before it was passed by Parliament, I found that the Ordinance of 1949 did not contain this last sentence—"or when held by that person on behalf of another person." An Ordinance which was promulgated by the Government of India did not have that sentence. But in the Act of 1950 passed in Parliament this year this last sentence was added. There must have been some reason for this additional sentence. The reason it appears is this. A drug shall be deemed to be in possession of a person even if that person does not physically possess the drug but when it is held by another person on his behalf, that person will be deemed by the Court that he possesses it. The additional sentence refers to a person who is in actual possession of the drug on behalf of another person. Both these persons are deemed to be in possession of the

drug and are liable under this clause. It appears for this reason that this sentence was added by the Parliament afterwards. We have also put in this Bill this additional sentence following the Act passed by Parliament in 1950.

On the reasons stated by me, I hope, the hon. Member will withdraw his amendment.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: I am sorry, I could not follow the Hon'ble Minister, but although it is not clear to me, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the amendment.

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

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

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (2) of clause 6, for the word "publish" in the 2nd line, the word "published" be substituted.

Here is a mistake made by the word "publish," but it should be "published."

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved is that in sub-clause (2) of clause 6, for the word "publish" in the 2nd line, the word "published" be substituted.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: It is only a printing mistake. I have accepted it as will be seen from the correction slip.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that in sub-clause (2) of clause 6, for the word "publish" in the 2nd line, the word "published" be substituted.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that clauses 1 to 5 of the Bill do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that clause 6 of the Bill, as amended, do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: As there is no amendment to clauses 7 to 10 I put the question.

The question is that clauses 7 to 10 of the Bill do stand part of the Bill.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in the 8th line of clause 11, for the word "Ordinance" the word "Act" be substituted.

Now it appears from the correction slip that Government have accepted it.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that in the 8th line of clause 11, for the word "Ordinance" the word "Act" be substituted.

The question was adopted.

The question is that clause 11 of the Bill, as amended, do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: I beg to move, Sir, that the figure and the brackets "(1)" of clause 12 be deleted.

Government have accepted this amendment.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Yes, Sir, we have also found the mistake and have corrected it.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that the figure and the brackets "(1)" of clause 12 be deleted.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: All the other amendments, Sir, are really printing mistakes. We have already accepted them excepting this—that in sub-clause (1) of clause 12, instead of "the Government" it should be "they". Because the word "they" means "the Government".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved is that in clause 12, for the word "he" in the 2nd line, the word "they" be substituted, and in sub-clause (b) for the word "search" in the 1st line the word "such" be substituted.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Government have already accepted them. There is another correction for the word "him" occurring in line four of sub-clause (b) of clause 12, the word "them" be substituted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that in clause 12, for the word "he" in the second line, the word "they" be substituted; in sub-clause (b) of clause 12, for the word "search" in the 1st line the word "such" be substituted; for the word "or" in the 4th line of sub-clause (b) the word "as" be substituted; and for the word "sanction" in the 6th line of that sub-clause the word "section" be substituted.

(These were agreed to).

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: There is another amendment moved by the Hon'ble Minister. In the fourth line of sub-clause (b) of clause 12, the word "him" should be substituted by "them".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved is that in the fourth line of sub-clause (b) of clause 12, the word "him" should be substituted by "them".

The question was adopted.

The question is that clause 12 of the Bill, as amended, do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (3) of clause 13, for the word "section" in the second line, the word "Act" be substituted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved is that in sub-clause (3) of clause 13, for the word "section" in the second line, the word "Act" be substituted.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have just followed the provision of the Act of Parliament, 1950. I have examined the Acts of other States. They have put the very same word "section" and we have

followed that. It is considered that it would be best to follow them. The Uttar Pradesh Act has followed the wording of the Government of India Act, and we have done the same.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will the hon. Member withdraw his amendment ?

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: May I know whether the word is correct or not ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: We are advised that it is not wrong—it is all right. As the Government of India Act passed by Parliament has this word "section" and the Uttar Pradesh Act also has this word "section" it must be considered to be correct.

Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE: On hearing the Hon'ble Minister, though I am not satisfied with the answer, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that clauses 13 to 19 of the Bill do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The question is that the Title and Preamble of the Assam Drugs (Control) Bill, 1950, do stand part of the Bill.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: I beg, Sir, to move that the Assam Drugs (Control) Bill, 1950, as amended, be passed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the Assam Drugs (Control) Bill, 1950, as amended, be passed.

I put the question. The question is that the Assam Drugs (Control) Bill, 1950, as amended, be passed.

The question was adopted.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10-A. M. on Saturday, the 7th October, 1950.

SHILLONG:
The 15th December 1950.

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