

Proceedings of the Twelfth Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled after the Second General Election under the Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitution of India.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 A.M. on Monday, the 25th September, 1961.

PRESENT

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY, B.L., Speaker in the Chair, Seven Ministers, Three Deputy Ministers and Seventy Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

(Starred Question No. 1 Standing in the name Shri Hemdhan Mohan Haplangbar was not put and answered as the Questioner was absent).

Re: Grievances of Gaonburas

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

*2. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government propose to examine the grievances of the Gaonburas represented from time to time ?
- (b) Whether Government propose to review the Gaonbura system of the State according to prevailing circumstances ?
- (c) If so, whether Government propose to remunerate the Gaonburas keeping in view the volume of work they are to discharge ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that many Gaonburas having scanty lands or no lands at all cannot avail of the benefit given by the Government ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to give equivalent cash grant to the Gaonburas ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

2. (a)—In the years 1959 and 1960 Government received two representations from the Gaonbura Association containing certain grievances. Those grievances were duly examined by Government and in view of the new set up in the local administration consequent upon the setting up of the Gaon Panchayats, it was decided not to extend the concessions beyond those already made available to the Gaonburas.

(b)—Yes. Government propose to review the existing system of Gaonburas in the light of the present administrative set up.

(c)—This will depend upon the result of review stated in (b) above.

(d) - Gaonburas are entitled to annual remission of land revenue upto 20 bighas of cultivated land of the best quality. Those who have land less than 20 bighas will get remission proportionately. Government have also instructed the Deputy Commissioners to settle land with such Gaonburas to make up the deficiency wherever possible.

(e)—No.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) : Whether in view of the reply to (a) Government propose to discontinue the Gaonbura system or to reorganise the system ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Sir, that will depend upon the result of the review.

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEV SARMA (Digboi) : চৰকাৰে জানেনে যে ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাৰ বহুত গাঁওবুঢ়াই চৰকাৰে দিয়া এই remission সুবিধা এতিয়াও পোৱা নাই ? তেওঁলোকে লিখা-লিপি কৰিও চৰকাৰৰ পৰা কোনো জবাব পোৱা নাই।

Mr. SPEAKER : The Minister has replied in (d).

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEV SARMA মই সুবিছা যে চৰকাৰে যি সুবিধা দিছে সেইটো বহুত গাঁওবুঢ়াই পোৱা নাই এই কথা চৰকাৰে জানেনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : চৰকাৰে জানে আৰু information পালেই instruction দিয়া হব সুবিধা দিবৰ বাবে।

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEV SARMA গাঁওবুঢ়াৰ মাটিও আছে আৰু কামো কৰি আছে কিন্তু যি remission পাব লাগে তাক পোৱা নাই।

Shri HARESWAR DAS সেইটো information পোৱা নাই খবৰ পালেই enquiry কৰা হব।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Is it the intention of the Government to abolish the Gaonbura system after the establishment of the Panchayats ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister): That is exactly the point which is under review.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj): What are the grievances that have been put forward by the Gaonburas ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Can you reply to this question ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Their grievances were put forward by two petitions.

In the 1959 petition these were the grievances :

- (1) That the Gaonburas should be given the status of Government servants.
- (2) That they should be paid a monthly salary of Rs.60 each.
- (3) That the Gaonburas who do not possess sufficient land should be given a cash equivalent to the remission of land revenue for 20 bighas of land.
- (4) That free studentship should be allowed to the children of Gaonburas from M. E. standard to the end of their college education.
- (5) That the Gaonburas should be nominated as member to village Panchayats.
- (6) That the Gaonburas should be allowed the facilities to associate themselves in small saving schemes, Co-operative movements and all other similar rural Development activities.

In the 1960 petition these were the grievances :

- (1) That the Gaonburas should be allowed allowance of Rs.700 per annum instead of remission of Revenue as all of them do not have 20 bighas of land.
- (2) That free studentship should be allowed to the children of Gaonburas upto the higher education.
- (3) That a scheme for upliftment of the village school buildings should be taken up by Government.
- (4) To pay the arrear cost of maintenance of Notice Boards.

(Rate is Rs.2 per Gaonbura per annums

(5) To increase the award of Gold rings and distribute them with the suggestion of their Sanmilan.

(6) To provide them paddy at Rs.12 per maund.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether the Government has given to the children of Gaonburas free education ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): The matter is under consideration.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): What is the total number of Gaonburas in the State and what is the percentage of Gaonburas who are deriving benefits as enunciated by the Minister ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS I want notice for that question.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): ৪নং demand ত যি বোৰ grievance ব কথা মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে সেই ক্ষেত্ৰত যোৱা বিধান সভাৰ সময়ত এই টকা pay কৰিবৰ বাবে S. D. O. বিলাকক নিৰ্দেশ দিয়া হৈছে বুলি কৈছিল। কিন্তু এতিয়ালৈকে এই ১৩ বছৰ টকা পোৱা নাই।

Shri HARESWAR DAS : চৰকাৰী অফিচাৰ সকলক arrear clear কৰিবলৈ নিৰ্দেশ দিয়া হৈছে। তাৰ পিচত গাওঁবুঢ়াৰ পৰা কোনো অভিযোগ পোৱা নাই।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): আজি বহুদিনৰ পৰা এই গাওঁবুঢ়া সকলৰ আপত্তি বিলাক ইতিমধ্যে দুখন কাগজৰ জৰিয়তে চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত দাখিল কৰিছে সেইবিলাকৰ বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে কি সিদ্ধান্ত লৈছে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: ইয়াৰ উত্তৰ 2(a) ত কোৱাই হৈছে। তেওঁলোকে উল্লেখ কৰা Gold Ring ব সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি কৰা হৈছে। (voice তাৰ নামে কিমান) Money Value is not much. It is the honour which it gives.

তেওঁলোকৰ মতে তেওঁলোকক Government servant হিচাবে লব লাগে সেইটো কৰা নহয়, কিয়নো Gaonburas are non-official village leaders. So we cannot bring them in the category of Government Servants.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: তেওঁলোকৰ অন্যান্য আপত্তি সম্পৰ্কে কি সিদ্ধান্ত লৈছে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: এইবিলাকেই তেওঁলোকৰ আপত্তি। এই Gold, Ring ২৪টাৰ পৰা ৪৪ টা কৰা হৈছে।

Mr. SPEAKER: এই বিলাকত নো কিমান সোণ থাকে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): একোটা ৩৪ টকামান হব। তেওঁলোকে ৬০ টকা দৰমহা খুজিছে। কিন্তু বৰ্তমান ব্যৱস্থাত Gaonburas are not Government Servants, দৰমহা দিব নোৱাৰি। তেওঁলোকক ২০ বিঘা মাটিৰ খাজনা remission দিয়া হয় এতিয়া প্রশ্ন হল, যিবিলাকৰ ২০ বিঘা মাটিতকৈ কম আছে—সেইসকলে পুৰা Remission নাপায় কিন্তু Deputy Commissioner সকলক সুবিধামতে মাটি থাকিলে ২০ বিঘা পুৰাই দিবলৈ নিৰ্দেশ দিয়া হৈছে; নাথাকিলে দিব নোৱাৰি কাৰণ গভৰ্ণমেন্টে মাটিৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিব নোৱাৰে; মাটি পালেই দিয়া হব।

তেওঁলোকৰ লবা ছোৱালীৰ লেখা পঢ়াৰ কাৰণে সুবিধা দিয়া বিষয়টো Revenue ৰ কাম নহয়, Education Department ক refer কৰা হৈছে।

Maintenance of Sign Board ৰ কিছুমান arrear আছে বুলি ডানি Local Officer বিলাকক তদন্ত কৰি pay কৰি দিব লাগে বুলি নিৰ্দেশী দিয়া হৈছে।

গাওঁবুঢ়া সকলৰ Small Savings Schemes, Co-operative movement, Rural Development Activities ত অংশগ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ গভৰ্ণমেন্টৰ Permission নালাগে। They are quite free to do it.

স্থানীয় পঞ্চায়তৰ নিয়মতে গাওঁবুঢ়াসকলে পঞ্চায়ত Election ত ইচ্ছা কৰিলে Seek কৰিব পাৰে।

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla): মন্ত্ৰীমহাদেয়ে কৈছে যে ২০ বিঘা মাটিৰ Remission দিয়া হয়, যিবিলাকৰ ২০ বিঘাতকৈ কম মাটি আছে সেইবিলাকক মাটি পালে ২০ বিঘা পুৰাই দিব কিন্তু যদি মাটি দিব নোৱাৰে তেন্তে তাৰ কাৰণে Compensate কৰাৰ কথা ভাবিছেনে?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : মাটি পালে মাটি দিব কিন্তু মাটি নাথাকিলে Compensation দিয়া নিয়ম নাই।

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East): May I know whether the volume of duties of the Gaonburas has reduced after the establishment of the Panchayats, and, if so, what are the duties that have been reduced?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : I read out the functions of the Goanburas. The hon. Members will decide how much of them have gone to the Panchayats and how much remain with the Goanburas.

These are the functions of the Goanburas :—

(1) to work as a mouthpiece of the people of their villages ;

It is for the hon., Members to judge how for their work as a mouthpiece of the village has been taken away by the establishment of the Panchayats.

Then (2) to assist the mauzadars in the collection of land revenue and the mandals in the annual correction of village maps and records and in the maintenance of survey marks.

(3) to report to the mauzadar vital statistics, outbreak of epidemics serious destruction of crops and breaches of embankments

(4) to publish official notices of all kinds on the notice-boards in their charge.

(5) to assist the police in the investigation of crime occurring within their charge.

(6) to watch the village water supplies and sanitation and all works of public benefit.

These are the functions. Now many of these functions are not performed by the gaonburas because there are other agencies. So, Government is reviewing the entire position. Up till now they are giving reports of vital statistics. They also publish all notices in the notice boards under their charge. They are doing these two functions. So, as I said, the entire matter is now under review.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery): মন্ত্রীমহোদয়ে কৈছে যে গাওঁবুঢ়া বিলাকক পঞ্চায়ত নিবৰ্বাচন seek কৰিবলৈ বাধা দিয়া নহয় কিন্তু গাওঁবুঢ়া সম্মিলনৰ President যে টংলাৰ পৰা সেই মৰ্চে ১৯৬০ চনৰ জুন মাহত Telegram এখনৰ উত্তৰত গাওঁ বুঢ়া সকলক বাধা কৰিছে।

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Concrete instance নহলে মই কেনেকৈ কওঁ ?

Shri HIRALAL PAWARI: মঙ্গলদৈ মহকুমাৰ কথা Telegram কৰিছিল আৰু চৰকাৰে কলে তেওঁলোকে ভাগ লব নোৱাৰে।

Shri HARESWAR DAS: সেই বিষয়টোত L. R. ৰ Opinion লোৱা হৈছে তেখেতৰ মত হৈছে যে গাওঁবুঢ়া সকলে ২০ বিঘা মাটিৰ যে খাজানা remission পায় সেইটো profit আৰু গাওঁবুঢ়াৰ পদটো এটা office of profit।

Mr. SPEAKER: আপুনি আগতে কলে যে গাওঁবুঢ়া বিলাক Public Leader এতিয়া কৈছে যে তেওঁলোক Government Servant. Virtually কোনটো কথা ধৰা হব ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Legal opinion মতে সকলো কথা বিবেচনা কৰিব লাগিব।

Shri MAHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: গাওঁবুঢ়া বিলাকৰ দুই এখন কাগজ পত্ৰ পঠাবলৈ সপ্তাহে যি খৰচ হয় সেইটো দিয়াৰ নিয়ম আছে নে নাই ?

Mr. SPEAKER: বছৰে ২ টকা পাব, যিবিলাকে পোৱা নাই সেই-বিলাকেও পাব।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery): প্রত্যেক মহকুমাতে ২১ টকাটকৈ পাইছে নে নাই মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে জানেনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minisier, Revenue): কোনটাইব কথা কৈছে ?

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI: মই মঙ্গলদৈৰ কথাই যদি কওঁ ?

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): অন্যান্য জিলাৰ গাঁওবুঢ়াৰ function আৰু গৌৰলপাৰা জিলাৰ চৌকিদাৰৰ function একে । একে ধৰণৰ সুবিধা চৌকিদাৰক দিয়া হৈছে নে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: গৌৰালপাৰাৰ চৌকিদাৰ বিলাক Goalpara Chawkidary Actৰ অনুসাবে নিয়োগ কৰা হৈছিল এই গাঁওবুঢ়াৰ নিচিনা function নহয় ; এতিয়া Panchayat Actৰ পিচত সেই আগৰ চৌকিদাৰী আইন abolish কৰা হৈছে এতিয়া সেই function পৰায়তে কৰে ।

Maulavi JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): Under the Chowki dari Act the Chowkidars were required to report about deaths and births. After the abotition of the Chowkidari System, to whom has this work been entrusted.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Now it has devolved upon the Panchayats.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI: যদি সকলো মহকুমাৰ কথা মন্ত্ৰী-মহোদয়ে তদন্ত কৰিব নোৱাৰে তেন্তে উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰ, তেজপুৰ, আৰু মঙ্গলদৈৰ কথা তদন্ত কৰিবনে ?

Mr. SPEAKER: যিবিলাকে ২১ টকা পোৱা নাই সেই বিলাকে চৰকাৰক জনালেই পাৰ ।

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Re: Umsning-Jagi Road

U JORMANIK SYIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

1. Will the Minister-in-charge, P.W.D. (R. and B.) be pleased to state -

(a) Whether it is a fact that the work of the Umsning-Jagi Road is being suspended ?

(b) If so, what is the reason ?

- (c) The amount allotted for this road during the Second Five Year Plan, and the amount so far expended ?
- (d) The amount allotted for this road for the Third Five Year Plan ?
- (e) Whether the Government is going to consider the representation submitted by the local people living along the proposed road ?
- (f) If not, why not ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied :

1. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise in view of reply to question 1(a) above.

(c)—The total amount of Rs.5,34,700 only was allocated for this road during the Second Five Year Plan period, out of which a sum of Rs.78,666 was spent during the period in question.

(d)—A sum of Rs.4,56,034 is being provided for the road during the Third Five Year Plan period.

(e)&(f)—The last Assam Road Communication and Board entrusted the Sub-Committee consisting of M.L.As. of each Subdivision to select roads for inclusion in the Third Plan, but this particular road was not recommended by the Sub-Committee.

***U JORMANIK SYIEM** [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: May I know why the recommendation of the Road Board was necessary for continuing this scheme ?

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI**: It was necessary. Many of the roads were left incomplete at the end of the Second Five Year Plan period and the recommendation of the Board was necessary as to which should be taken up first.

***U JORMANIK SYIEM**: Does not Government consider it a waste of money to abolish or suspend the continuity of the scheme ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** (Chief Minister): I think the hon. Member is referring to a particular road certain portion of which was taken up and included in the Second Five Year Plan and some amount of money was spent on that portion of the road; but now whatever remains out of that allocation has become a spill-over scheme for which no sanction or recommendations are necessary unless it is necessary to extend the road beyond what has already been taken up under the 2nd Plan.

***U JORMANIK SYIEM**: Is it a fact that certain letters were issued to all M. L. As. to submit suggestions for certain roads, if so, I would like to know whether such letter or notice was issued to me ? If not, why ?

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI** [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)]: The Assam Road Communications Board appointed a Sub-Committee for the purpose of informing all members concerned in this respect and it is the duty of the convener of this Sub-Committee to inform the hon. Member.

***Shri MAHAM SINGH** (Minister, Tribal Affairs Department): Sir, I am the convener of that Committee; if the hon. Member will remember, I have issued such a letter to him and he also attended two meetings of this Board. (U Jormanik Syiem—One meeting)

Re: Irrigation Project of Burisuta River

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

2. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (E. and D.) be pleased to state—

(a) When Government propose to take up the irrigation project from the Burisuta river within Ponbori Forest Reserve for the benefit of the people of Goalpara and Kamrup?

(b) When necessary survey will be made?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge Flood Control and Irrigation Wing, P.W.D.) replied:

2. (a) & (b)—Preliminary investigation reveals that Burisuti Irrigation Scheme will come under the Medium Irrigation Programme. The Scheme is not, however included in the list of scheme for third plan as already approved by the Planning Commission. However, Basic observation like collection of data and other investigations in respect of this scheme is being undertaken during third plan. Its execution during fourth and subsequent plans will depend upon its selection according to relative priority and availability of funds.

Re: The P. W. D. road from Gobardhana to Barpeta road

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

3. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. be pleased to state—

(a) Why the P. W. D. road from Gobardhana to Barpeta Road has not yet been implemented?

(b) Whether Government is aware that at Katejar vehicles cannot go during rainy season as result of mud?

(c) When this road will be improved?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied:

3. (a)—This is an existing P.W.D. gravelled road which is being properly maintained.

(b)—The road is in good condition except a portion in the 15th mile falling on a low-lying area and which was recently improved by raising the crest to its original formation level. This portion becomes muddy after constant showers, but there has been no dislocation of through traffic plying on the road.

(c)—Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

***Shri GHANSHYAM TALUKDAR** (Sorbhog): May I know Sir, when this 15th mile was last gravelled?

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI**: Before last summer.

Re: Burikhamar P. W. D. road

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR asked:

4. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Why the posts of the cold weather bridge at the Burikhamar P.W.D. ghat on Kamargaon-Kahitoma P. W. D. road have not yet been removed?

(b) Whether it is a fact that last year two persons died when a single boat of the lessee got drowned being dashed against dead tree at this Ghat?

(c) If so, why no precaution has yet been taken?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied:

4.(a)—The cold weather bridge was put to auction in May, 1961; but, due to sudden abnormal rise of water, some of the posts could not be removed, having gone under water and current being also very high. All possible attempts were made to remove those posts by crabwinch; but, due to high current head of posts could not be tied with wire rope and all attempts have failed.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Precaution has already been taken.

Re: Unification of the services of Assistant Surgeon II and Assistant Surgeon I

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

5. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that a deputation on behalf of the Indian Medical Association, Assam State Branch waited on the Government this year ?
- (b) Whether the Government has come to any decision as regards unification of services of the Assistant Surgeon II and Assistant Surgeon I ?
- (c) Whether Government has come to any decision as regards the question of promoting Assistant Surgeons II serving for more than ten years in the light of the recommendation of the Central Government ?
- (d) If not, when the matter will be finally decided ?
- (e) Whether Government is aware that these matters are being pressed by the Indian Medical Association since a long time ?
- (f) Whether Government is aware that great discontentment is prevailing amongst the service Doctors for not doing anything in this regard as yet ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister), replied :

5. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

(c)—No.

(d)—In course of the discussion, the Assam State Branch of the Indian Medical Association stated that Madras and West Bengal Governments have unified these two cadres. To ascertain this, Government have written to Madras and West Bengal Governments whose replies are being awaited. The questions raised at (b) and (c) above will be properly examined as soon as replies are received from these two State Governments.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—No.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS: May I know from the Hon'ble Minister when was this matter referred to the Madras and West Bengal Governments ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister): It was sometime in the month of May and a reminder was sent in the month of June but we have not yet received any reply thereto.

Shri MAHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Will Government be pleased to state when this deputation referred to in (a) waited upon the Hon'ble Minister?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I cannot give the exact date, but it was sometime back.

Shri MAHI KANTA DAS: Is it during 1961?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Yes Sir.

Shri MAHI KANTA DAS: Are Government determined not to do anything in this matter unless the replies from the Madras and West Bengal Governments reach this Government?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: We are waiting for these replies and as I have stated earlier, we have also sent reminders to these Governments to expedite but if after sending these reminders Government do not get any reply from them, Government will take up the matter independently and examine it.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether it is a fact that the Indian Medical Association were pressing Government in this matter?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: It is true the Indian Medical Association, Assam Branch were pressing this matter but I cannot give the exact date when the deputation in question waited on Government. It was sometime back and it must be within 1961.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: There were certain recommendations from the Indian Medical Association, may I know whether these recommendations were considered by the Government?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I do not know from where the hon. Member got that information, what were the recommendations of the Indian Medical Association may I know from the hon. Member?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): When did Government write to the Madras and West Bengal Governments?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I have already stated it was in the month of May and reminders were sent in the month of June.

Shri MAHI KANTA DAS: After the recommendations of the Indian Medical Council in the year 1961 why this Government deemed it necessary to refer the matter to the West Bengal and Madras Governments?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: This matter was referred to the Secretary Committee. This Committee went into the matter and made

certain recommendations, and these recommendations were placed before the Cabinet and the Cabinet accepted these recommendations but this Committee did not recommend unification of the Cadres but they recommended to raise the quota of promotion.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Do not Government consider five months too long a period for getting a reply?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): We may send again another reminder if necessary.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur): Do Government propose to consider the question of unification of these cadres irrespective of the decision or recommendation of other Governments? Why cannot the Government do this independently?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I have already said that if we do not get a reply in this matter this Government will take up the matter and see what can be done thereto.

Shri RAM NATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: May I know from the Hon. Minister when the Madras Government and the West Bengal Government were referred to in the matter was it before the deputation waited on the Government or after?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: It was after the deputation.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI: Is the Hon. Minister aware that in reply to a question put by me I cannot exactly say when but the Hon. Minister has mentioned that this matter has already received the attention of the Government?

Mr. SPEAKER: This was passed on to the Assurance Committee.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether it is a fact that the deputationists represented to the Hon. Minister to implement the recommendations of the Indian Medical Council irrespective of the views of the West Bengal or Madras Governments?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I have already said Sir, that if we do not get any reply from these Governments we will take up this matter and examine sir.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): আজিকালি দেখা যায় বহুত চিঠি চবকাৰে চহি কৰাৰ পিচতো পোষ্ট নহয় এইটো সচানে ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: পোষ্ট কৰা হৈছে আৰু reminder ও দিয়া হৈছে।

Re: Guiya State Public Health Dispensary**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** asked :

6. Will the Medical Minister be pleased to state—

(a) When the Guiya State Public Health Dispensary was sanctioned ?

(b) When the public transferred the land to the Government ?

(c) Whether administrative approval has been accorded for construction of the buildings of the Dispensary ?

(d) Whether Government will be pleased to expedite the work so that the Dispensary may start functioning within the year ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

6. (a)—During 1960-61.

(b)—On 25th January, 1961.

(c)—Not yet as the plans and estimates are being prepared and scrutinized by Public Works Department.

(d)—Steps are being taken to expedite the matter.

Re: The Electricity Plant at Abhayapuri**Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]** asked :

7. Will the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Electricity plant will be started at Abhayapuri within the current year ?

(b) If not, why not ?

(c) When it is expected to be started ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister, Electricity) replied :

7. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—During the current financial year.

Re: The Office of Superintending Engineer, Dibrugarh

Shri RAMESH CHANDRA BAROOAH (Dibrugarh) asked:

8. Will the Minister-in-charge, P. W. D. (F. C. & I. Wing) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the office of the Superintending Engineer, Eastern E. & D. Circle, Dibrugarh has been made permanent?

(b) If not, the reason for not doing so?

(c) The total number of E. & D. Division offices throughout the State?

(d) The number of such offices not yet made permanent?

Shri HARESWAR DAS [Minister-in-charge, P. W. D., (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied:

8. (a)—No.

(b)—The staff position under the F. C. & I. Wing, P. W. D. is under review of Government. The question of making the office of the Superintending Engineer, Eastern E. & D. Circle, Dibrugarh, permanent, will be examined in the light of such review when completed.

(c)—At present there are 15 Divisional offices under the Department including four Divisions carrying on Investigation works.

(d)—Only five of them have not been made permanent.

Shri MAHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur): May I know from the Minister in charge of P. W. D. (F. C. Wing), what and how many Divisions are there under the Eastern Assam Circle?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: There are several divisions. For exact particulars I require notice, Sir.

Shri MAHANANDA BORA: As Upper Assam Districts are heavy working divisions of F. C. Wing, then why these divisions are under a temporary Superintending Engineer?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The last Pay Committee laid down certain principles as regards staff position under F. C. Wing which is under the review of the Government. The question of making the office of the Superintending Engineer, Eastern E. & D. Circle, Dibrugarh permanent will be examined in the light of such revision when completed.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): May I know from the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D., Flood Control whether after completion of 5 years those Divisions will be made permanent?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: As I have said just now, it is under review, no time can be indicated.

Re: Bridge over Puthimari**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** asked :

9. Will the Minister-in-charge, P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) What steps have been taken by the Government to construct the bridge over Puthimari at Soneswar Ghat on Kamalpur-Morwa Road ?

(b) When the work will be started ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied :

9. (a)—Due to paucity of funds, the project could not be included in any of the Third Five-Year Plan Schemes. The matter will be taken into consideration if fund position improves subsequently.

(b)—Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI : Is it a fact that this project has been included in the Third Five Year Plan and an amount has also been allocated for this bridge ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI: Yes. But due to paucity of funds this project is not going to be taken up now.

Re: Recurring Flood in Moderkhat Mauza**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)** asked :

10. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to refer to Memo. No. CAQ.378/69/12, dated 10th/12th January, 1961 issued by the Secretary to the Government of Assam, P. W. D. (R. & B.), Shillong to the questioner and state—

(a) What action Government have taken to save the 1,138 bighas of paddy land from recurring flood in Moderkhat Mauza for want of adequate outlay of water in Ghagrajan Ali ?

(b) Whether arrangement of a bridge or outlay has since been made to drain out water adequately ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied :

10. (a)—On enquiry by the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, it has been found that 3 out of 8 timber bridges were completely closed by the Ghograjan Tea Estate authority as a result of which the paddy fields on either side of the road were heavily water-logged. Out of the 3 bridges closed, one has since been re-opened and extended to 10' to ensure free flow of water. There is now no apprehension of the 1,138 bighas of land being affected by flood water.

(b)—In view of the above, it is not considered necessary to provide further outlet in this vicinity.

Re: The Superintendents of the Assam Secretariat**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri)** asked :

11. Will the Minister, Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Superintendents of the Assam Secretariat are getting a scale of pay which is much lower comparing with that of their compeers in the Central Secretariat ?
- (b) Whether the Superintendents are to deal with matters relating to the policy of the Government ?
- (c) If so, whether Government propose to up-grade the scale of their pay in view of the nature of work done by them ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

11. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It is not the Superintendents alone who may have to deal with matters relating to policy but the other clerical staff also may have to deal with such matters.

(c)—There is no such proposal.

Re: Supply of Rice to Amguri**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA** asked :

12. Will the Minister, Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that to feed the people of Amguri of Sib-sagar Subdivision, the rice-dealers of Amguri are to purchase rice at Golaghat, Nowgong, Darrang, etc. ?

(b) If so, why ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED [Minister Finance (in-charge, Supply)] replied :

12. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

Re: Demarcation of Bogidera P.G.R.**Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDER (Sorbhog)** asked :

13. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Why demarcation of Bogidora P. G. R. in Kamrup District has not yet been made ?

(b) When the Assam Surveys will complete demarcation ?

(c) When the Forest Department will be evicted from the encroached portion of the Bogidora P. G. R. ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

13. (a)—Deputy Director of Surveys, Assam has already been requested to take early steps for demarcation of the boundary.

(b)—It is expected to be done in the next field season.

(c)—Unless and until the fact of encroachment is determined the question of its removal does not arise.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDER (Sorbhog) : May I know when the Deputy Director of Survey was requested to take steps for demarcation of the boundary?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : On 10th July 1961.

Re: M/s Produce Exchange Corporation, Gauhati

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

14. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) What action has been taken by the Government against M/s. Produce Exchange Corporation, Gauhati for selling 60 bags of sugar without any authority to Shewkumar Brajanglal who is a fictitious person as was replied to Unstarred Question No.730 asked by the questioner on 7th April, 1961 ?

(b) What action has been taken by the Government against Padumsuk Agarwalla of Sarupathar from whom the black marketed sugar was seized ?

(c) What is the result of the enquiry as the case was stated to be under enquiry ?

(d) What is the name of the officer who conducted the enquiry ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED Minister, [Finance (in-charge of Supply)] replied :

14. (a)—Departmental action is being taken against M/s Produce Exchange Corporation, Gauhati as the ingredients for a successful criminal prosecution are lacking.

(b)—A criminal prosecution is being started by the Subdivisional Officer, Golaghat.

(c)—As at (a) & (b) above.

(d)—Subdivisional Officer, Golaghat.

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery)** : May I know from the Hon Minister whether the Government has already finalised the case or not ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Supply)** : May I know whether the hon. Member wants the reply to question (a) or (b) ?

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARI** : I want the information in connection with the question (a), Sir.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : In this connection I may inform the hon. Member that in 1959 Apex Marketing Societies were given the monopoly of lifting sugar. But since they failed to fulfil the public demand, the question of giving licence was reviewed and ultimately the licence was given to agents and private dealers. In the present case, the dealers have been asked to show cause.

***Shri RAM NATH SARMA (Lumding)** : May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the licence dealer's case is still under enquiry ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : As I have said just now, show cause notice has already been served to the dealers.

***Shri MOTI RAM BORA (Laharighat)** : Does the Government know if there is any material for the successful prosecution in the present case ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : The matter was placed before the Legal Adviser who advised us that prosecution would not be required in the present case.

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARY** : May I know from the Hon. Finance Minister whether the Produce Exchange Corporation of Gauhati was black-listed in 1959 or not ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : As the Member is aware, we are trying to take such steps in this connection.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI** : Is it a fact that illegal sugar was found in possession of the Produce Exchange Corporation and if so, whether proper steps have been taken against him ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : As I have pointed out before, he has been asked to show cause.

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARY** : May I know whether there was any public allegation against this firm in 1959 ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Supply)** : I am not aware of it, Sir.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur)** : May I know from the Hon. Minister in charge of Supply whether the dealer has been put to suspension ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : Being lawyer Mr. Goswami should know the principle and nature of the case. We cannot take any action before hearing.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI** : Being a lawyer Shri Ahmed should also know that one can be suspended pending hearing of the matter on the basis of so-called notices and such suspension is not for punity.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : That case will be decided when we get the report.

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery)** : I want to know in how many similar cases pending hearing of the matter on the basis of showcause notices, the suspension has been affected ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : I want notice, Sir.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati)** : I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether Government has blacklisted the black-mailers ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : This will create further complication, Sir.

***Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled castes)]** : May I know when the notice has been served on the party ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : I have not got it now. I will furnish it later on.

Re: Educational Loan

***Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDER (Sorbiog)** asked :

15. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) How many schools have been granted educational loans in Assam ?
- (b) If the reply to (a) above is in the negative, what is the reason for not granting the educational loans ?
- (c) When the schools will be given educational loans ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

15. (a)—None.

(b)—President's sanction to creation of the Fund is still awaited.

(c)—Loan will be given after receipt of President's sanction.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) : May I know from the Minister-in-charge of Education whether there is any time limit creating the loan fund?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : It will be included in the Third Five-Year Plan.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) : Whether there is provision of this loan in Third Five-Year Plan before the receipt of the President's sanction ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Provision of funds is there.

Maulvi JAHAMUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) : Has Government written for the President's sanction ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Yes. I have written to the Accountant General and the Accountant General told me that he has already sent reminder. I have also personally written a letter to expedite the matter.

Maulavi JAHAMUDDIN AHMED : When it was written ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : About 15 days ago.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : যেতিয়া লৈকে education loan ব ব্যবস্থা নহব তেতিয়া লৈকে আগৰ নিচিনাই স্কুল বিলাকক grant দিয়াৰ ব্যবস্থা কৰিব নেকি ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : That question does not arise, Sir.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY : Whether any rules have been finalised in respect of issue of loan to the Educational Institutes ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Yes.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question hour is over.

**Obituary Reference on the death of Shri Hem Chandra Chakravarty
a sitting Member of the Assembly and assassination
Dr. Imkongliba Ao, the Chairman of the Interim Body of
Nagaland**

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I like to make a reference with regard to the loss of one of our Hon. Members *viz.*, Shri Hem Chandra Chakravarty.

It is with a heavy heart and profound sense of grief, I refer to the sad demise on 17th April, 1961 of Shri Hem Chandra Chakravarty, B. L., M. L. A. an eminent member of this august House.

Born in 1908, educated in Hailakandi and Calcutta, Shri Chakravarty enrolled himself as an Advocate of High Court Bar in 1933. He joined the Silchar Bar in the same year and was practising there till the time of his death.

A great social worker and a leader, Shri Chakravarty was elected President of the Silchar District Congress in 1949. In appreciation of his services to the organisation, he was re-elected President of the Silchar District Congress Committee in 1951 and 1954. He was actively connected with various welfare organisations, such as Harijan Sevak Samaj and the Bharat Sevak Samaj. Shri Chakravarty was elected leader of the deputation that represented the case of Cachar before the Radcliffe Commission in 1947.

In the death of Shri Hem Chandra Chakravarty we have not only missed an esteemed colleague but also lost a great leader, social worker and an able legislator.

I hope, Sir, hon. Members of this august House will associate with me in expressing profound grief at the sad death of Shri Hem Chandra Chakravarty and in conveying deep condolence to the members of the bereaved family.

Sir, with your permission I would like to make another reference.

With a shock and sorrow I refer to the brutal and tragic assassination of Dr. Imkongliba Ao, the Chairman of the Interim Body of Nagaland, who died on 23rd August, 1961 at Kohima.

Educated at Shillong and Dibrugarh, Dr. Ao, took his L. M. P. from the Berry White Medical School, Dibrugarh. He served for 15 years in the Government Hospitals in the Naga Hills till he resigned in 1955. Though initially a member of the Naga National Council, he soon fell out as he did not support the violent and unconstitutional policies adopted by the the followers of Shri Phizo. He was fully convinced of the danger and futility of following the policies of the hostile Nagas and was largely instrumental in organising peace loving Nagas in the Naga People's Convention. As is known his approach to the problems of Naga land was peaceful and constructive. Dr. Ao was elected President in 1957 and subsequently twice re-elected President of the Naga People's Convention.

In spite of great personal risks to life, with undaunted valour Dr. Ao succeeded in rallying round him the peace loving Nagas and become the first Chairman of the Interim Administrative Body of the separate State of Nagaland. Under his leadership Naga land was making steady progress when he was brutally assassinated.

I hope, Sir, hon. Members of this August House will associate with me in expressing our profound grief for the death of Dr. Imkongliba Ao and in conveying our sincere condolence to the members of the bereaved family.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we associate ourselves with the Leader of the House in expressing our profound sense of sorrow at the sudden death of Shri Hem Chandra Chakravarty and Dr. Imkongliba Ao.

Shri Chakravarty was an able member of this House and was like a bridge between the people of this valley and Cachar. He was winning in his manners and had an outlook broad enough to cover the needs of the State. He was an able Parliamentarian and able lawyer, and nobody could imagine at the time of the last Budget Session that he would pass away so soon. We are really very agrieved at his death and we feel poorer by his absence in this House.

We have also lost a few days back another eminent brother of the Hill viz., Dr. Imkongliba Ao. Though Nagaland is separate from Assam, like uterine brothers after partition, we still feel the pangs of each other and we share also the sufferings of each other. Dr. Ao was an eminent Leader of the Naga people and he realised that the Nagaland was within India and that Naga people would realise this aspiration with the bron out of India and therefore, even at his personal risk he steered a policy which was not liked by a group of Naga rebels. He died in a most tragic situation and it is axiomatic to say that in his death, not only the Naga people, but we and whole of India, have lost a true friend.

We condole his death and express our sincere sorrow in his death.

Sir, I may also request the House through you that it will be in the fitness of things if this House adjourns as soon as the business of the day is finished or at 12-30 P.M. whichever is earlier as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we associate ourselves, with the feelings and sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House at the sad demise of our friends Shri Chakravarty and Dr. Ao.

Those who had the opportunity of coming in close contact with Shri Chakravarty knew very well that to know him was to love him, because he was such a fine gentleman and such an amiable personality. He was in fact one who not only acted as a bridge between the people of one district with the people of other districts, but he had an All-Assam view in all the matters and even sometimes before his death he was one of these untiring persons who had been moving about in the

districts of the Brahmaputra Valley showing sympathy and giving help to those people who were the victims of the ravages of July, 1960, and at the same time he was one who could appreciate the feelings and aspirations of the common people of the Assam Valley districts and this is clear from the speech, the last speech, he delivered on the floor of this House. If we refer back to his last speech delivered in this House we shall see what a great loss we have sustained in the demise of Hem Chandra Chakraborty.

So far as the death of Dr. Ao is concerned, it is not only extremely sad but also shocking because he was in the midst of great danger and there was extreme callousness for the protection of his life from the powers that be. The death of Dr. Ao should pull up those who are responsible for this callousness so that this sort of things may not recur again and the peace which is dawning in the hills inspite of pangs of separation may be lasting and so that there may not be repetition of this sort of brutal assassination for callousness on the part of the persons in power who hold the responsibility of keeping law and order. I, therefore, again associate myself with the feelings which have been expressed in this House and I support the proposal moved by my Friend Shri Goswami that you may be pleased to adjourn the business of this House by 12-30 or even earlier.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully associate myself with the feelings and sentiments expressed in this House by the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition at the death of two eminent persons. At the same time I also support the proposal made by the Leader of the Opposition Shri Hareswar Goswami for the adjournment of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: I whole-heartedly associate with what have been expressed by the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the Communist group and Shri Khogendra Nath Barbarua on the sad demise of Shri Hem Chandra Chakraborty, an erstwhile member of this House and Dr. Imkongliba Ao, Chairman of the Interim Naga Land Executive Council.

Shri Chakraborty was a loveable personality and was associated all throughout his life with various social service activities. He was quiet but effective. He was amiable and obliging and Assam has become surely poorer to-day by his sudden and premature death. He was a pillar of the Cachar Congress and he had to pilot many a storm in Cachar politics during his life time. We deeply mourn his loss and pray to God Almighty for the peace and rest of his soul. We send out heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family.

Dr. Ao was comparatively new in politics, but his meteoric appearance in Naga politics was a hope to all peace-loving people of Naga Land and Assam. He was a man of conviction and he could stick to his principle against threatening to his very existence of his life. Dr. Ao had died in harness and his martyrdom will undoubtedly help to bring round the misguided Naga rebels to right path. We all feel extremely sorry at his tragic and sudden death at the hands of an assassin. Let us join our hands in prayer for the peace of the soul of the deceased and convey our condolence to the members of the bereaved family.

With these words I move the resolution and I hope all hon. Members will accept it by standing in silence for two minutes.

“This Assembly deeply condoles the death of Shri Hem Chandra Chakrabarty, B.L., M.L.A. who was an able parliamentarian and a prominent leader of the country and Dr. Imkongliba Ao, the first Chairman, Interim Body, Nagaland, who lost his life as a martyr and deploras the great loss sustained by the country on their demise and conveys its heartfelt sympathy to the members of their bereaved families.”

(The House observed two minutes silence by standing).

As proposed by Shri Hareswar Goswami, Leader of the Opposition, as a mark of respect to the departed souls the House stands adjourned till 10 A.M. on Tuesday the 26th September, 1961.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Tuesday the 26th September, 1961.

R. N. BARUA,

Secretary, Legislative Assembly,
Assam.

AGP (LA) 429/61—225—31-10-61.