

Proceedings of the Third 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 Thursday, the 10th April, 1958.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker in the Chair, the nine Ministers, the two Deputy Ministers and seventy-six Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Arm raid in Laharijan tea estate

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) asked :

*164. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware of an organised arm raid on the night of the 7th March, 1958 in the Laharijan tea estate of Mikir Hills and in some other adjoining villages ?
- (b) If so, whether the culprits have been detected ?
- (c) Whether it is also a fact that some employees of the tea garden were assaulted by the raiders and properties worth several thousands were looted ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the people of the locality have become panic-stricken and as a result many have left their homes ?
- (e) If so, what steps have been taken by Government to restore confidence on the people ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied :

164. (a)—Yes. There was an armed dacoity committed on three families of Laharijan tea estate on the night of 7th March, 1958. No adjoining villages were affected.

(b)—No.

(c)—The Manager of the above tea estate and his wife were assaulted and they sustained simple injuries caused by blunt weapon.

Properties including cash and a D. B. B. L. gun worth more than rupees three thousand were looted.

(d)—No family has left the garden out of panic.

(e)—The Army authority has taken all possible steps prevent any recurrence. The area is now under daily patrol land the situation is also under control.

***Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi)** : Is it a fact that these raiders were Naga gangsters ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : Yes, Sir. That is our report also.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar)** : What was the duration of the raid, I mean, how much time was taken to complete the raid ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : I think it was less than an hour, Sir.

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla)** : Whether any property was recovered, Sir ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : No, Sir.

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS** : What is the distance between the place of raid and the nearest Police Station ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** The nearest Police Station is the Dimapur Police Station, Sir. It will be, I suppose, about 2 or 3 miles from the place of occurrence.

***Shri CHATRA SINGH TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** Whether Government have got any information that two trucks were used by the gangsters in the raid ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** Our report is that they used jeeps and trucks.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar):** In spite of the telephonic information to the nearest Police Station, why did the army forces not reach the place of occurrence from the nearest outpost ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** The time of the raid was quite brief. It was about 45 minutes and therefore the army forces could not reach in time.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI :** Will compensation or relief be granted to the affected people, Sir ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** We have not agreed to the grant of compensation to any of the cases. We have only decided to give relief.

***Shri CHATRA SINGH TERON:** Whether it is a fact that the Intelligence Branch of the Naga Hills intimated to the Government that there was a probability of having such a raid within the radius of Dimapur Police Station in Laharijan Tea garden within a month or so ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** The Intelligence reports are there. It was reported that some gangsters were moving about in the district but with regard to that particular spot there is no such report.

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS :** When there was such a report what steps were taken by the authorities concerned to prevent the raid ?

†**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** : The army authorities intensified their patrol and also kept a close watch.

†**Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari)** : How long did it take for the Police to arrive at the spot ?

†**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : For exact time, I want notice, Sir.

†**Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla)** : Whether the panic stricken people have returned to their homes ?

†**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : I have already said that no person left the garden.

†**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi)** : Are Government aware that some gangsters are roaming about in the Dayang Reserve ?

†**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : Yes, Sir.

†**Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North)** : Have the Government found any information with regard to these jeeps and trucks ?

†**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : The matter is under investigation, Sir.

Assam Tourist Taxi Permits

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) asked :

*165. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) How Assam Tourist Taxi permits have been granted by the Government for convenience of the tourists in the months of November, December and January ?
- (b) How many of these permits are for Shillong and Gauhati ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that permits are issued for 2 to 3 months only ?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that most of these taxis are new and purchased at a considerable amount ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that in spite of petitions, extension of time has not been given to them ?
- (f) How many tourist traffic permits have been granted extension of times ?
- (g) What are the names of these taxi holders and what are their addresses ?
- (h) Whether Government are aware that tourist traffic has greatly increased in Assam ?
- (i) Whether Government are aware that for insufficient number of such permits the tourists are put to great inconvenience ?
- (j) Whether Government will be pleased to grant extension of time to all the tourist taxi permit holders for the convenience of the tourists ?
- (k) Whether Government will see that a good number of such tourist taxi permits are granted ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

165. (a)—The Tourist taxi permits were issued (which permitted the permit holders to go to any part of the State while carrying tourists as against ordinary taxis which can ply for hire within the region or a specified part thereof only) for 12 big and 14 baby taxis by the State Transport Authority for a period of two months from 16th December 1957 to 15th February 1958. Out of these ten permits (2 for big taxis and 8 for baby taxis) were availed of.

(b)—All the taxis for which temporary permits as tourist taxis were issued were based at Gauhati for the duration of these permits. The original places of residence of the permit holders were as under—

Town	Permits issued		Permits availed of	
	Baby Taxis	Big Taxis	Big Taxis	Baby Taxis
Gauhati	7	2	Nil	3
Shillong	5	3	1	3
Jorhat	2	Nil	Nil	2
Dhubri	Nil	3	1	Nil
Other places	Nil	4	Nil	Nil

(c)—Yes, as the permits were issued only for coping with the additional traffic arising out of the Congress Session.

(d)—Out of the ten persons who availed of the permits, six were Baby Taxis of 1957 model and one Baby Taxi of 1956 model and can, therefore, be said to be new. The other three vehicles were of 1950 (two of them) and 1948 models respectively and cannot, therefore, be considered as new vehicles.

(e)—Yes, only two of the temporary permit holders applied for extension and this was not allowed as the permits were issued specifically for the duration of the Congress Session but the Government are prepared to review the position as stated in the reply to (j) and (k).

(f)—None.

(g)—Does not arise in view of reply to (f) above.

(h)—Yes.

(i)—Government have no such information.

(j)—The permits in question were issued only for the duration of the Congress Session to meet with the extra traffic arising out of the same. As such, the question of granting extension to all the temporary permit holders does not arise. In fact only two of them applied for such extension.

However, Government will be pleased to refer the matter to the Transport Authority concerned for further consideration.

(k)—This will be considered.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Will the Government be pleased to issue at least two permits permanently ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport): This will be taken into consideration and the matter will be referred to the Regional Transport Authority.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Improvement of Rural Road Communication in Nalbari Thana

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

543. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings), be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that no work of improvement of rural communication has been taken up in Nalbari Thana except the North Trunk Road in spite of provision in the Budget for 1957-58 ?
- (b) Whether all money for improvement of rural road communication has been proposed for diversion elsewhere in Nalbari Subdivision as a result of which all roads of the area have become unfit for traffic ?
- (c) The total estimate sanctioned for improvement and maintenance of road communication in Nalbari Subdivision for 1957-58 for each road ?
- (d) The total amount of works executed for improvement, maintenance and flood damage repair work for 1957-58 (to be shown separately for each road) ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that gravels once collected for Nalbari Subdivision for preparation of Bill was ultimately removed to Hajo Subdivision for preparation of another Bill there ?

- (f) What is the reason for constant removal of stocks of gravel, metals and boulders from one section to another and from one Subdivision to another?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, P.W.D. (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied :

543.(a)—There is no specific provision for Rural Communication in the Budget for 1957-58. Hon. Member perhaps means projects in the rural areas provided for in the Budget. If so, these works are in progress according to programme and availability of funds.

(b)—No. Works on many of the roads are in progress and hence some difficulty for easy and smooth running of traffic is inescapable. However, the officers have been instructed to keep the roads fit for traffic as best as possible.

(c)—Original work estimates for roads so far sanctioned in Nalbari Public Works Department Subdivision during 1957-58 amounts to Rs.8,79,000 (approximately). For maintenance the consolidated estimates sanctioned in Nalbari Public Works Department Subdivision for 1957-58 amounts to Rs.3,00,000 (approximately).

(d)—A statement has been placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S.16)

(e)—No. About 2,000 cft. of gravels collected for Nalbari Public Works Department Subdivision for which payment has also been made were transferred to Hajo Public Works Department Subdivision, (carriage being done departmentally) for some urgent work, crediting the expenditure incurred already against the work of Nalbari-Hajo Road in Nalbari Public Works Department Subdivision and debiting the same against the work of Hajo-Mukalmua Road in Hajo Public Works Department Subdivision.

(f)—As different contractors are engaged for works in different portions and as the progress made by them vary, necessity arises sometimes for transferring materials from one portion to another where the progress of collection is poor and where they are required for some urgent purpose.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East): With reference to (f) why the urgency could not be met from the same Subdivision ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, P. W. D. (R. and B. wing)]: The answer is given practically in (f).

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY: Whether the amount was adjusted before the question was put or after it ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: That information is not available.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): With regard to (e), does it not involve additional expenditure if carried departmentally ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Yes, it involves little more expenditure.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Does the Government approve that this system if enlarged is bad ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: This would be strictly limited to the exigency of time.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY: Do Government propose to give up this uneconomic habit ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Government do not take to removing these gravels and other materials from one place to another usually, but in exceptional circumstances where these materials are not available nearby or cannot be collected, such a practice is resorted to.

Suspension of the Train Communication between Dangari and Saikhowa

Sri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA, (Saikhowa) asked :

544. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether it is a fact that train communication between Dangari and Saikhowa has been suspended in Dibrugarh Sadiya zone of the N.-F. Railway after the great earthquake of 1950 ?

- (b) Whether Government are aware that people of Saikhowa-Sadiya area have been experiencing inconveniences for the suspension of the Railway beyond Dangari ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that due to the suspension of railway the producers are getting less price for their products in comparison with Talap and Doom Dooma ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to move the Central Government to re-introduce the railway up to Saikhowa ghat again ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

544. (a)—Yes, as an after effect of 1950 Earthquake, since 1951 the Rly. Line between Dangari and Saikhowaghat has been subject to inundation during monsoons leading to prolonged discontinuation of train services.

The train services on the Section have been discontinued since 22nd March 1955.

(b)—No. Because the State Transport Services upto Dhola serve the area adequately and the number of public carriers for transport of goods by road has also shown an increase.

(c)—The Government have no such information.

(d)—The matter is now under the examination of the Government and the matter would be taken up with the Central Government if the enquiries reveal the necessity for retention of this line.

Shri JOGA KANTA BARUA (Jaipur): The answer to (e) is that the Government have no such information. Is the Hon'ble Minister trying for any information at all ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: In fact we have collected information from the Deputy Commissioner concerned and the reply is "It is not so".

Office buildings of the Executive Engineer at Mangaldai

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Mangaldai) asked :

545. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government have any proposal to construct the Office buildings of the Executive Engineer at Mangaldai within this financial year ?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied:

545. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Administrative approval to the project has already been accorded and necessary fund for the purpose has been provided in the Public Works Department Budget for the year 1958-59.

Shri DANDIRAM DUTTA (Mangaldai): Administrative approval কেতিয়া পোৱা হৈছিল ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: অলপতে পোৱা হৈছিল।

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA: ইয়াৰ আগতে কামৰ কাৰণে কিবা tender call কৰা হৈছিল নেকি ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Tender call কৰা হৈছিলনে নাই কব নোৱাৰো, কিন্তু অহা খৰালিতহে এই কাম আৰম্ভ কৰা হব বুলি আশা কৰা যায়।

Inspection Bungalow at Kakapathar or Lazumgaon

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

546. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there is no Inspection Bungalow at Kakapathar or Lazumgaon within a radius of about 15 miles ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that for want of an Inspection Bungalow in that area Government Officers belonging to Revenue, Rural and other Departments could not stay in the locality to come in close touch with the people under Kakapathar Rural Panchayat ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that the people of that area are comparatively backward and that no Minister during the last few years ever visited the area ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to construct an Inspection Bungalow there ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

546. (a)—Yes.

(b)—This Department has neither any information nor received any representation.

(c)—It is a question of opinion whether the people of that area are comparatively backward. Regarding visit of Ministers to that area during the last few years the information is not readily available.

(d)—The proposal will be submitted before the next meeting of Assam Road Communication Board for their consideration.

Construction of ringwells in Gobardhana N. E. S. Block

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

547. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Projects be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether construction of some Ringwells were allotted to some Congressmen in Gobardhana N. E. S. Block in 1957 ?
- (b) If so, what are their name ?
- (c) Whether works in Projects such as construction of roads, bridges, culverts, etc., can be given to contractors ?
- (d) If not, what disciplinary action will be taken against the Projects Officer of Gobardhana N. E. S. Block ?

Mr. A. THANGLURA (Parliamentary Secretary)
replied :

547. (a)—Construction of Ringwells in Gobardhana N.E.S. Block in 1957 was allotted to the lowest tenderer by inviting tenders. We have no information if the lowest tenderer belonged to the Congress or any other political organisation.

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

(c)—In the matter of construction of roads, earth-work is to be done by the people on self-help basis. Bridges and culverts on roads constructed by Shramdan are paid from the project funds. Construction of bridges and culverts may be given to the contractors by inviting tenders but preference be given to Local Bodies, Panchayats and Village Development Committees, if they come forward with tenders to undertake such works.

(d)—Does not arise.

Bihpuria-Badati Road

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked :

548. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware of the deplorable condition of the Bihpuria-Badati Road, which is main supply route of the entire Sub-division ?

- (b) Whether Government is aware that if the road is submerged this time, the wild river Dikrong may take its course through this breach and cause serious havoc to a prosperous area of Bihpuria Mauza, damage the Sobonsiri dyke and Badati steamerghat may be cut off for good ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

548. (a)—This road was breached at places by the floods of 1957. The breaches have since been repaired and the road is being raised above flood level.

(b)—This Department does not feel that any breach in Badati-Bihpuria road near Jhap Jhup may result in the Dikrong river taking its course through the breach and damage the Sobonsiri dyke.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [(North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes))]: বদতি বিহপুৰীয়া বাস্তাটোক ১৯৫৭ চনৰ বানপানীয়ে ডঙাৰ পিছত Public Works Department এ যি ধৰণে flood level ৰ কাম লোৱা কথা আছিল সেই ধৰণে কাম কৰা নাই। গতিকে চৰকাৰে যিটো উত্তৰ দিছে সেই উত্তৰটো একেবাৰে ভুল উত্তৰ বুলি মই কব পাৰোনে ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: আনি শুদ্ধ বুলিয়েই উত্তৰ দিছে।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY : এই বিষয়ে মই challenge কৰিব পাৰোনে যে যিটো উত্তৰ চৰকাৰে দিছে সেইটো শুদ্ধ নহয়, কাৰণ এই বাস্তাদি মই প্ৰায় অহাযোৱা কৰি আছো। সেই বাস্তাটোৰ কাম একো হোৱা নাই বুলি মই জানো যেতিয়া; মই চৰকাৰৰ উত্তৰটো একেবাৰে ভুল বুলি দাবি কৰিব পাৰোনে ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order, আপুনি challenge কৰিব নোৱাৰে, সেইটো unparliamentary হব। “Challenge” is not actually a parliamentary practice. Now as the matter has been brought to the notice of the House, and I am sure, it will receive consideration by Government.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): আলিটোৰ যি অঞ্চলত কোনো বিপদ নাই বুলি কৈছে সেই অঞ্চলটো নৈ খনে ইতিমধ্যে ভাঙি পেলাইছে বুলি গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে জানেনে ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: এই খবালি নৈ খন উঠি আহি আলিটো ভাঙিছে বুলি ভাবিবলৈ টান পাইছে।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): যোৱা বাৰিষাতে আলিটো ডিব্ৰুং নৈয়ে ভাঙি নৈ গৈছে সেই কথা গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে গম পায় নে ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister P. W. D.): এই প্ৰশ্নটোৰ বিষয়ে মই নিজে চান গৈ।

Bridges on the rivers on the National Highway from Bijni to Barpeta Road

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

549. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there are bridges on the rivers on the National Highway from Bijni to Barpeta Road ?
- (b) If not, what are the rivers between Bijni and Barpeta Road where R. C. C. bridges are required for all weather traffic ?
- (c) When these bridges will be constructed ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that these bridges are required to be completed immediately ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

549. (a) & (b)—Semi—permanent bridges exist across all the waterways on the North Trunk Road West from Bijni to Barpeta Road, except across Manas, Bhalukadoba and Benki.

At present ferry marboats are maintained across Manas and Benki throughout the year and a cold weather bridge is constructed across Bhalukadoba during winter and ferry boats maintained during the rains.

(c)—The proposal will be placed before the next meeting of the Assam Road Communication Board for their consideration and work could be taken up when this meets with their recommendation and funds are available for the purpose.

(d)—Government appreciate the necessity of bridging all the unbridged rivers within the State but can only take them up in order of availability of resources in funds, materials and other resources.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): Do the Government consider that a bridge over the Beki river is as important as a bridge over the Jia-Bharalu ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department): Yes.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR: Will the Government give preference to this Bridge ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: The question of preference does not entirely rest with us. We have also to follow the opinion or advice given by the Assam Roads Communication Board.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Whether the North Trunk Road is already a National Highway or is proposed to be made a National Highway ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: There was a proposal to declare it National Highway but was not accepted by Government of India.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: Are the Government aware that there are two other rivers on the North Trunk Road near Bijni ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Matters of records or of common knowledge are generally not discussed in this House. That will be only taking away the time of the House.

Establishment of an Emporium at Sorbhog

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

550. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether an emporium will be established at Sorbhog ?
- (b) If so, when ?
- (c) How many emporium are there in Assam ?
- (d) How many Co-operative Weaving Societies are there for each emporium ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries) replied :

550. (a)—There is no such proposal at present but the matter will be considered in due course.

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

(c)—30 (thirty) excluding 2 in Naga Hills.

(d)—The question is not clear. A statement showing the number of Weaving Co-operative Societies within the jurisdiction of each emporia is given below.

Name of the Government Emporium and Marketing Organisation Centres.	Number of Co-operative Weaving Societies.
1 Barpeta	32
2 Pathsala	30
3 Gauhati	85
4 Marketing Organisation Centre, Nalbari	65
5 Sualkuchi	16
6 Goalpara	30
7 Dhubri	6
8 Kokrajhar	11
9 Hailakandi	19
10 Karimganj	42
11 Badarpur	30
12 Marketing Organisation Centre, Silchar	52
13 Marketing Organisation Centre, Nowgong	121
14 Aijal	5
15 Tura	7
16 Jowai	5
17 Diphu	4
18 Haflong	6
19 Dibrugarh	31
20 Tinsukia	20
21 Doom Dooma	15
22 North Lakhimpur	56
23 Digboi	13
24 Tezpur	49
25 Mangaldoi	37
26 Jorhat	83
27 Sibsagar Marketing Organisation Centre...	40

Name of the Government Emporium and Marketing Organisation Centres.

Number of Co-operative Weaving Societies.

28 Nazira	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
29 Golaghat	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
30 Lungleh	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Grand total ...							966

P.W.D. and Road-cum-Embankments in Majuli

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the repairing works of the breaches of P.W.D. and Road-cum-Embankments in Majuli have not yet been started ?
- (b) If so, whether Government are aware that the said breaches are harmful and dangerous to the entire area of Majuli ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps towards the completion of the repairing works of the roads and Bunds in Majuli ?
- (d) If not, why not ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.) replied.

551. (a)—No. Works have been started.

(b)—The question does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c)—Every endeavour is being made to complete the work of P.W.D. roads in Majuli.

(d)—The question does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: মই জানিব খুজিছো এই মঠাউৰি মেৰামতিৰ কাম চৰকাৰে কেতিয়া আৰম্ভ কৰিছে ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department): তাৰিখ মোৰ মনত নাই।

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): Bund ৰ কাম কেতিয়া সম্পূৰ্ণ হব বুলি অশা কৰিব পাৰি ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: এইবাৰ বানপানী অহাৰ আগে আগে পূৰা কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰা হৈছে।

Shri CHATRASING TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: তাত বিলাক natural water passage আছে সেই বিলাক খোলা বাধিবলৈ ব্যবস্থা কৰা হৈছেনে ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: আৱশ্যক বুজি ঠায়ে ঠায়ে খোলা বখা হৈছে।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে এইবাৰ বানপানীৰ আগতে কাম পূৰা কৰাৰ কথা কৈছে। মই জানিব পাবোনে এইবাৰ কেতিয়া বানপানী আহিব বুলি তেখেতে খবৰ পাইছে।

(হাস্যধ্বনি)

(No reply).

Appointment of Superintendents and Assistant Director of Cottage Industries in 1957-58

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

552. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Superintendents of Cottage Industries were appointed in 1957-58 ?
- (b) How many of them were appointed under Regulation 3 (e) of the Assam Public Service Commission (Limitation of functions) Regulations, 1951 ?
- (c) Whether any candidates from Plains Tribal were appointed under the above Regulations ?
- (d) If so, what are their names ?

- (e) How many candidates from Plains Tribal applied and how many of them were appointed in 1957-58 ?
- (f) Whether the posts of Superintendent of Cottage Industries were advertised ?
- (g) If so, what was the date of advertisement ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries) replied :

552. (a)—Twelve.

(b)—None.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Government are not aware, as the appointments were made on the recommendation of the Assam Public Service Commission who received the applications.

(f)—The posts of Inspectors of Cottage Industries subsequently re-designated as Superintendents of Cottage Industries were duly advertised by Assam Public Service Commission.

(g)—26th March 1957.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: মই জানিব পাৰেনে যে, পাবলিক চাৰ্ভিচ কমিচনৰ নামত যে চৰকাৰে একো কব নোৱাৰা হৈছে—পাবলিক চাৰ্ভিচ কমিচন অসম চৰকাৰৰ তলত নহয়নেকি ?

Mr. SPEAKER: এই কথা সংবিধানতেই আছে। আপোনাৰ বেলেগ প্ৰশ্ন থাকিলে কৰক।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: মোৰ এই (e) প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰত চৰকাৰে কৈছে—Government are not aware, as the appointments were made on the recommendation of the Assam Public Service Commission who received the applications—এতিয়া মোৰ প্ৰশ্ন হৈছে প্লেইনচ টাইবেলৰ কিমান প্ৰাৰ্থীয়ে দৰ্খাস্ত কৰিছিল আৰু কিমান তাৰ ভিতৰতে লোৱা হ'ল—এই কথা চৰকাৰে কব নোৱাৰাৰ কাৰণ কি ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries): অসম পাবলিক চাৰ্ভিচ কনিচনলৈ দৰখাস্ত কিমান আহে আৰু নাজানো। পাচে দৰ্শাস্তকাৰী সকলৰ ভিতৰত নিশ্চয় টাইবেলো আছে।

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon): যিবিলাক Inspector of Cottage Industries Advertise কৰা হৈছিল তেওঁ-বিলাকৰ pay কিমান আছিল আৰু Superintendent বিলাকৰ pay কিমান হৈছে?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: যিমান দুৰ সম্ভব ইয়াৰ কোনো সালসলনি হোৱা নাই—একেই আছে বুলি ধাৰনা।

Shri CHATRA SING TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Regulation 3(e)ত appointment নিদিবলৈ চৰকাৰে কিবা চিন্তা কৰিছেনে?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: সাধাৰণতঃ এনেকৰা নহয়। জৰুৰী বিবেচনা কৰিলেহে Regulation 3(e) appointment দিয়া হয়।

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: বিজ্ঞপ্তি মতে Inspector of Cottage Industriesৰ pay ১২৫১—২৫০১, আৰু Superintendentৰ pay ১৭৫১—৫০০১ টকা ধাৰ্য কৰা হৈছে—এই কথা সঁচানে?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: এইটো পিচত জনাব পৰা হব।

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Inspector বুলি Advertise কৰি পিচত Superintendent লোৱাটো অন্যায় হোৱা নাই নে?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: ইনিচপেট্টৰ বুলি কোৱা হৈছিল যদিও পিচত এওঁলোকক 'চুপাৰিণ্টেণ্ডেণ্ট' নামাকৰণ কৰা হ'ল।

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: Superintendent আৰু বৰ্দ্ধিত নিবিখৰ দৰ্শহা বুলি বিজ্ঞপ্তি দিয়া হলে যিবিলাক প্ৰাৰ্থী এতিয়া পোৱা হৈছে তাতকৈ ভাল আৰু যোগ্য প্ৰাৰ্থী পোৱা গলহেতেন বুলি চৰকাৰে ভাবেনে?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: এইটো এটা মতৰ কথা। সম্ভব পোৱা গল হেতেন।

Mr. SPEAKER: প্ৰশ্নটো হৈছে—'চুপাৰিণ্টেণ্ডেণ্ট' বুলি জাননী দিয়া হলে—ইয়াতকৈ যোগ্যতাৰ প্ৰাৰ্থী পালে হেতেন।

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: অৱশ্যে ভাল পোৱা গল হেতেন।

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon):

অনুসন্ধান কৰি যদি কথাস্বৰ সঁচা হয় তেন্তে তাৰ আৱশ্যকীয় ব্যৱস্থা লৈ চৰকাৰে এনে খামখেয়ালীৰ অবগাণ ঘটাবনে ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari): Inspector বিলাকৰ কিবা technical knowledge থাকিব লাগেনেকি ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries): কুটীৰ শিল্পৰ বিষয়ে জ্ঞান থাকিব লাগে আৰু বেভিনিউ আৰু কাৰখানাৰ (workshop) জ্ঞান থাকিব লাগে।

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): Is it not unfair when advertisement has been made for one category of post and appointment has been made for another post ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: সেইটো নামৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তন।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): প্রশ্ন হৈছে—যদি চৰকাৰে অনুসন্ধান কৰি চায় তেন্তে পাব যে—আচলতে পদ দুটাৰ Pay Scaleৰ পাৰ্থক্য আছে—এটা ১২৫০ টকাত আৰম্ভ হৈছে আৰু আনটো ১৭৫০ টকাত আৰম্ভ হৈছে। এই সম্পৰ্কে চৰকাৰে কিবা ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লবনে ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA হয়, এই সম্বন্ধে অনুসন্ধান কৰি জনোৱা হব আৰু বিবেচনা কৰি চোৱা হব।

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Sir, my question remains un-answered.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think this question will explain much more to the hon. Member.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon): Designation বদলি কৰোতে Public Service Commission ৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰা হৈছিল নে ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: অনুসন্ধান কৰি পিচত জনাব পৰা হব।

Appointment of Assistant Directors for Cottage Industries

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

553. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some Assistant Directors for Cottage Industries are going to be appointed ?

- (b) If so how many ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that some of them have already been appointed under Regulation 3(e) of the Assam Public Service Commission (Limitation of functions) Regulations, 1951?
- (d) If so, what are their names and technical qualifications ?
- (e) What will be the minimum qualification required for the posts ?
- (f) Whether there was any applicant from Plains Tribal and Scheduled Castes ?
- (g) If so, how many of them were appointed under Regulation 3 (e) of the Assam Public Service Commission (Limitations of functions) Regulations 1951 ?
- (h) If not, why no proper representation have been made in spite of Circular issued by the Government in this connection ?
- (i) Whether Government propose to maintain proper representation while making appointments under Regulation 3 (e) ?
- (j) Whether the persons, if any, appointed under Regulation 3 (e) have joined in their posts ?
- (k) If so, date of their joining and names of headquarters where they are working ?
- (l) Whether it is a fact that the persons appointed has not yet gone to their respective headquarters ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries) replied :

553. (a)—Yes.

(b)—(Twelve) 12.

(c)—Yes. Three persons have been appointed to meet the immediate need of the Department.

(d)—1. Shri Syamapada Sarma, B.A. Served as Supply Inspector, Procurement Inspector, Manager, Government Emporium, Kalimpong and Marketing Superintendent, Gauhati under Cottage Industries Department.

2. Shri Dhirendra Nath, Das, completed B. A. Course. Served as Office Superintendent, Cottage Industries Department and Statistical Officer, Handloom, Sericulture and Weaving Department.

3. Shri Rathindra Kr. Goswamy, M.A., LL.B., Post Graduate Certificate in Industrial Administration in Manchester, England.

(e)—Qualification required in order of preference.

(i) Graduate or equivalent in any branch of Engineering or Technology.

(ii) Graduate in applied Physics or Chemistry.

(iii) Graduate in Business Management or Commerce.

(iv) Graduate in Arts or Science.

In addition to above, preference will be given to post graduate experience as well as experience in :

(a)—Administrative, Teaching or Research.

(b)—Knowledge of Cottage Industries and Small Scale Industries and Marketing.

(c)—Experience in Revenue matters.

(d)—Workshop experience.

Academical qualification prescribed is relaxable in respect of candidates possessing special qualification as at (a), (b), (c) and (d) above.

(f)—At the time of appointment there were three applications from Scheduled Castes and one from Scheduled Tribes.

(g)—One from Scheduled Castes.

(h)—Does not arise in view of the fact that the appointments are under Regulation 3 to meet the immediate minimum need and in view of the fact that the Tribal candidate was not found suitable for this purpose.

(i)—Yes ; consistent with maintenance of efficiency and provided they possess minimum qualification.

(j)—Yes.

(k)—At the first instance they were posted at Shillong and attached to the office of the Director of Cottage Industries, Assam where they except one Shri S. P. Sarma, Marketing Superintendent, Gauhati joined on 3rd February, 1958. Thereafter they were posted to the following headquarters:—

(i)—Shri S. P. Sarma, B. A., Gauhati—joined on 1st March, 1958.

(ii)—Shri D. N. Das, Silchar—joined on 19th March, 1958.

(iii)—Shri R. K. Goswami, M. A., L.L. B., Jorhat—joined on 15th March, 1958.

Shri S. P. Sarma, Marketing Superintendent, Gauhati could not be relieved to join as Assistant Director, Cottage Industries as there was no suitable person to take over the charge of his office at the fag end of the Financial Year. As such he was allowed to hold charge of the office of the Marketing Superintendent in addition to his office as Assistant Director.

(l)—Does not arise.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰত শ্ৰীধীৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ দাসে বি, এ, কৰ্ত complete কৰিছে বুলি কোৱা হৈছে। মই জানিব পাৰোনে কেতিয়া তেওঁ complete কৰিলে ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries): তদন্ত কৰি পিচত জনাব পৰা হব।

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) এই কামৰ কাৰণে প্ৰথমে গ্ৰেজুয়েট বিচাৰি পিচত কিয় under গ্ৰেজুয়েট ক লোৱা হ'ল ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries): এই বিভাগত বহুত বছৰ ধৰি তেওঁ কৰা কামৰ পৰা যোগ্যতা আছে বুলি ধৰা হৈছে।

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigoan): চৰকাৰে experience আৰু academic qualification দুয়োটা একে বুলি ধৰিছেনেকি ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Experience is also a qualification.

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: দুয়োটাৰে প্ৰয়োজন আছে।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) যি জনক এই কামত লোৱা হৈছে তেওঁৰ revenue works অথবা workshop ৰ কি অভিজ্ঞতা আছিল ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: তেওঁ বহুদিন ধৰি চুপাৰিন্টেণ্ডেণ্ট কাম কৰি থাকোঁতে বেতিনিউৰ কিছু অভিজ্ঞতা হৈছে বুলি ধৰা হৈছে।

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) শ্ৰী বীৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ দাস বি,এ, কৰ্চ complete কৰিছে বুলি কৈছে তাৰ মানে তেওঁ বি;এ, পাচনে ফেল ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Completed B. A. course মানে I. A. পাচ।

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: কিয় এই post কেইটাৰ advertisement এতিয়ালৈকে কৰা হোৱা নাই ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: P. S. C. লৈ দিয়া হৈছিল।

Shri CHATRA SING TERON [Mikir Hills (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Advertise কৰা হৈছিল নে নাই ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: জৰুৰী অৱস্থাৰ হেতু Regulation 3(e) মতে নিয়োগ কৰাৰ কথা পূৰ্ণৰ উত্তৰত আছে।

Shri RAM NATH SARMA (Lumding): শ্ৰী বীৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ দাস গ্ৰেজুৱেট নাই আৰু additional qualification ও তেওঁৰ নাই অথচ এই মান হাজনক কিয় বিজ্ঞপ্তিৰ বিৰুদ্ধে কামত নিয়োগ কৰা হল ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: ইতিপূৰ্বে কোৱা হৈছে যে তেওঁৰ কুটিৰ শিল্প বিষয়ত বহুদিন কাম কৰি অভিজ্ঞতা অৰ্জন কৰিছে।

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) Graduation যদি নিম্নতম qualification হয়, তেনেহলে B. A. pass নেহোৱা মানুহ এজন কিয় লোৱা হল ?

Shri RAM NATH SARMA: সেইটো জাননীৰ পৰা আঁতৰি যোৱা নহলনে ?

Mr. SPEAKER: তেখেতে স্মৃতিছে যে জাননীৰ পৰা এইটো ব্যতিক্ৰম হোৱা নাইনে ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: কিছু হৈছে।

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):
সেইটো regularised কৰিবনে ?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):
এই কৰ্মচাৰী জনক কামত অপাৰগ বুলি এবাৰ suspend কৰা হোৱা নাইনে ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries): হয়, এওঁৰ এবাৰ Proceeding draw কৰা হৈছিল।
(বিপুল হৰ্ষধ্বনী)

Suspend কৰা হোৱা নাছিল, ৩ বছৰৰ বাবে প্ৰমোচনৰ এটা bar আছিল বুলি জনা হৈছিল।

Calling attention regarding abolition of Compulsory M. E. Examination from High Schools

Mr. SPEAKER : The questions are over.

There is a calling to attention notice by Mrs. Barua and Mrs. Chanda. Under Rule 54 a Member may, with the previous permission of the Speaker call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance. In this case I have got notice from two Members, Mrs. Komol Kumari Barua and Mrs. Jyotsna Chanda. I shall now call upon Mrs. Barua, who is first in the list, to make her statement.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: (Kotonigaon):
Mrs. Chanda will do it, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER : All right. I hope the hon. Member is acquainted with the Rule, which says "A member may, with the previous permission of the Speaker, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement or ask for time to make a statement at a later hour or date. There shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made".

So, the hon. Member may make a statement but it must not be very long.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বাধ্যতামূলক মধ্য ইংৰাজী পৰীক্ষা গত ৫ বৎসৰ ধৰে আমাদেৰ আসামে চলে আসছে তাতে আমাদেৰ ছেলেমেয়েদেৰ উপৰে কি রকম জুলুম কৰা হছে, সে সম্বন্ধে আমি সরকারেৰ দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ কৰছি।

আমাদের যে সব ছেলেমেয়েরা এই মধ্য ইংরাজী পরীক্ষা দিতেই বিশেষ করে সহরের ছেলেদেরা তাদের বয়স খুব বেশী হলে ১১/১২ বৎসর। এই পরীক্ষায় যে সব বিষয় ও নানা বিষয়ে পরীক্ষা দিতে হচ্ছে তাতে এই অল্প বয়স্ক কোমলমতি ছেলেদের মস্তিষ্কের উপর অত্যাচার চলছে। কর্তৃপক্ষ বলতে চাইছেন যে, মধ্য ইংরেজী পরীক্ষার্থীর বয়স ১৪ বছর হওয়া উচিত কেননা, বিলাতে ও অন্যান্য পাশ্চাত্যদেশে Higher Secondary স্কুলের পরীক্ষার্থীদের বয়স ১৮ বৎসর। কিন্তু আমাদের ভুলে চলবে না যে বিলাত বা অন্যান্য পাশ্চাত্যদেশের লোকেরা দীর্ঘায়ু। গড় পড়তা লোক আমাদের দেশে বাঁচে মাত্র ৩০ বছর অল্প বয়সের মধ্যেই তাদের শিক্ষা শেষ করতে হবে। এটাও চিন্তার বিষয়, মধ্য ইংরাজী পরীক্ষা ১৪ বছরে উত্তীর্ণ হলে Higher Secondaryতে বয়স হবে ১৯ বছর এবং ২২ বছরে তারা Degree পরীক্ষা দিবে। সরকার যেসব পরীক্ষা I. A. S., I. P. S. পরীক্ষা চালু রেখেছেন তাতে ছেলেদের বয়সে কুলিয়ে উঠবে কি না। আসাম ছাড়া ভারতের আর কোন রাজ্যে বাধ্যতামূলক M. E. পরীক্ষা নেই তাই বলেই অন্যান্য রাজ্যের ছেলেদের শিক্ষার মান আসাম থেকে নীচু।

কর্তৃপক্ষ বলছেন যে, মধ্য ইংরাজীতে উত্তীর্ণ হওয়ার পর ছেলে মেয়েরা Special বা Vocational শিক্ষা গ্রহণ করবে; সকলে সাধারণ শিক্ষা গ্রহণে উৎসুক হবে না। আমরা দেখছি যে, সরকার থেকে কোন বিশেষ বা Special শিক্ষা, অথবা Vocational training বা কারিগরি শিক্ষার ব্যবস্থা কিছুই করা হয় নাই। যে দেশে শিক্ষা নাই সেখানে শিক্ষায় বাধা জন্মানোর কী সার্থকতা রয়েছে বুঝতে পারছি না। আরো যুক্তি দেখানো হচ্ছে যে, গ্রামাঞ্চলে রাতারাতি High School গজিয়ে উঠছে (mushroom growth)। এটা বন্ধ করতে হলে একটা বাধা বা check দরকার ও তাই এই পরীক্ষার ব্যবস্থা। আমি বলতে চাইছি যে, উপযুক্ত supervision ও inspection ছাড়া mushroom growth বন্ধ করা সম্ভব নয়। যে সব স্কুলে উপযুক্ত শিক্ষক নাই বা উপযুক্ত শিক্ষা দেওয়া হয় না সেই সব স্কুল সরকারী সাহায্য পেতে পারে না; শুধু ছাত্রসংখ্যা সাহায্য পাওয়ার একমাত্র যোগ্যতার কারণ হতে পারে না।

মধ্য ইংরাজী পরীক্ষা সম্পর্কে বলতে চাইছি যে, বাংলা ইংরাজী ব্যাকরণ পাঠনীয় বলে যে Curriculum রয়েছে Matric পরীক্ষার ব্যাকরণও সেই একই শ্রেণী, নানা বিষয় বা Subjects ও অনেক। অঙ্ক সম্পর্কেও একই কথা সে সব মৌখিক প্রশ্ন অঙ্ক দেওয়া হয়েছে সেইবিষয়ে আমি আমার Budget speech এও বলেছি এবং এখনও বলছি যে আমাদের মধ্যে অনেকের পক্ষেই সে উত্তর দেওয়া সম্ভব নয়। আমি প্রশ্ন সঙ্গে নিয়ে এসেছি। সদস্যরা ইচ্ছা করলে দেখতে পারেন তবে বিষয় অনেকেরই জানা আছে কারণ অনেকের ছেলেমেয়েরাই ভুক্তভোগী। ১১-১২ বৎসরের ছেলেমেয়েদের পক্ষে এই সব প্রশ্নের উত্তর দেওয়া কী সম্ভব? এদের কতটুকু অসুবিধা হয়েছে সে কথা মন্ত্রীমহোদয়গণ বা উচ্চপদস্থ কর্মচারীদের পক্ষে বোঝা সম্ভব পর নয় কেননা, তাদের ছেলেমেয়েরা ইংরাজী স্কুলে St. Edmunds, Loreto Convent ইত্যাদিতে পড়ে। কিন্তু মধ্যবিত্তসমাজের অভিভাবকেরা যাদের ছেলেমেয়েরা এই পরীক্ষার আওতায় বসেছে তারা বুঝতে পারবেন কী অত্যাচারই না চলেছে ছেলেদের উপর।

মহোদয়, এই পরীক্ষা হয় নবেম্বর মাসে এবং ফল বেরায় মার্চমাসে—তাও ১৫ তারিখের পর। এই কয়মাস পাঠ্যপুস্তকের সঙ্গে ছাত্রছাত্রীর কোন যোগাযোগ থাকে না! উচ্ছলতা আনে সেটুকু শিখেছিল মুখস্থ করে (Cramming) তাও ভুলে যায় এটাই স্বাভাবিক (হর্ষধ্বনি) (voice বলুন সব কিছুই ভুলে যায়)।

বলা হয়। এই বাধ্যতামূলক পরীক্ষা দ্বারা ছেলেমেয়েদের শিক্ষার মান উন্নত করা হচ্ছে। কিন্তু এরকম অবস্থায় শিক্ষার মান উন্নত না হয়ে নেমে যায় কেননা ৭ ম শ্রেণীতে মাত্র কয়েক মাস পরে কী করে মান উন্নত হ'তে পারে অনুসন্ধান করলে সহজেই সরকার জানতে পারবেন।

অধ্যক্ষমহোদয়, থানাঞ্চলে পরিবহনের ব্যবস্থা নাই, পরীক্ষাকেন্দ্রও দূরে কাছাড়ের চিবিটাবিচিয়া অঞ্চলের পরীক্ষার্থীরা ১৯৫৬ ইংরাজীতে 'শ্রীকোনো' কেন্দ্রে নিয়ে পরীক্ষা দেওয়ার ব্যবস্থা করতে না পেরে পরীক্ষা থেকেই বঞ্চিত হয়েছে। কেননা, 'শ্রীকোনো'য় থাকা খাওয়ার কোন ব্যবস্থাই সম্ভব হয়ে উঠেনি। এসব অবস্থাও সরকারের বিবেচ্য।

এসব নানা অসুবিধা ভোগকরেও প্রায় ৩৪,০০০ ছেলেমেয়ে এই বছরে পরীক্ষা দিয়েছে। পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্র ও কর্তৃপক্ষের বিশৃঙ্খলার জন্য অনেকেরই প্রশ্নোত্তরের কাগজ হারিয়ে গিয়েছে শোনা যাচ্ছে। এমনও হয়েছে পরীক্ষার ফল প্রকাশিত হওয়ার পর-নাম না থাকাতে ফল প্রকাশ না হওয়ার কারণ জানতে গিয়ে খবর পেলে যে তৃতীয় বিভাগে উত্তীর্ণ হয়েছে (হর্ষধ্বনি) হয়তো সেই ছেলে প্রথম বিভাগে পাশ করার যোগ্য।

এবছরে অনেক বিষয়ে Objective ও Reasoning এর প্রশ্ন এসেছে। এই প্রশ্নোত্তর গুলি পরীক্ষাবোর্ডের কর্মচারাই পরীক্ষা করেছেন। (voice সত্য কথা বলেছেন) এরফলে শুধু যে বিশৃঙ্খলা ঘটেছে তা নয় পরীক্ষার্থীর প্রতি অত্যন্ত অন্যায় অবিচারও করা হয়েছে।

সতরাং আমি মাননীয় শিক্ষামন্ত্রীকে অনুরোধ জানাচ্ছি, যেন, তিনি আমাদের দেশকে বিলাত বা অন্যান্য পাশ্চাত্যদেশের সমতুল্য মনে না করে অবিলম্বে বাধ্যতামূলক মধ্য ইংরাজী পরীক্ষা তুলে দিয়ে, গরীব জনসাধারণের কল্যাণ সাধন করেন। আমি মনে করি এই ছেলেমেয়েদের যোগ্যতা নিণয় করতে স্কুল কর্তৃপক্ষ যথেষ্ট সক্ষম কেননা অন্যান্য শ্রেণীর পরীক্ষায় জন্য তারাই একমাত্র উপযুক্ত Authority. উপরোক্ত অসুবিধা ও পরীক্ষার অযৌক্তিকতাবিবেচনা করে সরকারকে এই পরীক্ষা তুলে দিতে পুনরায় অনুরোধ জানাচ্ছি।

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education): Sir, I am aware of the intense feeling of this question which exists in this House and outside the House and also with regard to the way in which the Middle English examination has been conducted. There was a question in this House to which I had to reply that our arrangements for Middle English examination had broken down. Therefore, I am one with the hon. Lady Member in thinking that we should be able to find out what should be done with regard to this examination. I have already asked our Department to enquire into the matter and put up suggestions as to what should be done, whether we can improve the arrangement of the examination

or abolish it. In that I have not given direction that it should be abolished. I have merely said that in view of the arrangements for conducting the examination is inadequate, the Department should examine and put up whether adequate arrangements can be made and if adequate arrangements are possible, suggestions should be put up and if adequate arrangements are not possible, whether the examination should be abolished. I think, towards the end of this month it will be possible for me to make another statement in this House on the result of the enquiry which will be completed by then. I hope, till then the House will bear with me. The next examination will be in the month of November. In the meantime there is plenty of time to take proper examination of this question.

So far as the question which has been raised that the examination itself is unnecessary particularly in our children not having the same expectation of longevity in comparison to the children living in other countries. I have got quite a different opinion as at the age in which the children are expected to appear in the examination. There is no difference between our children and the children in the West. On the other hand, I have found the arguments of our Department involving this examination to be quite sound. I am quoting figures of the Middle English examination for the last few years:—

Year	Candidate appeared.	Percentage of pass
1952 ...	30,000	55.4
1953 ...	33,500	... 57.4
1954 ...	38,000	... 58.8
1955 ..	41,000	... 60.2
1956 ...	46,000	.. 66.5

From these figures it is evident that ever since this examination was introduced in 1952 the percentage of pass has increased gradually. So I hold that there is no preventable wastage from this examination. Therefore, in a system of examination where the percentage of pass is increasing, the progress

is towards success rather than failure. It has been brought to my notice that before this examination there was no real restriction in admitting students upto Class X, *e. g.* if a student fails in a school in Class IV he goes to another School and gets himself admitted Class V, if he fails in that school in Class VIII he can easily get admission in another School in Class IX. This is because the schools depend mostly on fees. Since there is no check below Matriculation, the teachers also do not find it worthwhile to put pressure on the students to learn properly. From the introduction of this examination it appears that there has been increased efforts of the teachers to teach the students with earnestness and the students also study hard to face this examination. We do not send our children to schools only to pass examinations but to acquire knowledge and the introduction of this examination has shown that our children are really acquiring knowledge.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj North): I hope the hon. Minister will give the percentage of Matriculation examination of these boys and girls who passed out in 1952 Middle English Examination and appeared in Matriculation examination.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member should consult the rules. In this there is no right for a Member to speak.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister, Education): We have only got the result of Matriculation Examination for the 1952 batch who appeared in Middle English examination. In this there was 50 per cent passed. The failure in that year was 50 per cent in Matriculation were of not only of the batch of Middle English examination of 1952 who have passed regularly from 1952 and appeared in Matriculation that year but of also those who failed in the previous year in Matriculation and appeared again. The number of pupil who appeared in the previous year and failed and in the next year vitiate the result. From one year's result we cannot come to definite conclusion about the effect of Middle English examination in the Matriculation and other examinations, but for this purpose we will have to study the question on the result of a few years to come. Before we reject this system of examination, we should consider all these things.

The lady Member has spoken about the objective tests. It is true that we have introduced these objective tests because early type of tests if introduced in such huge examinations involving about 48 thousands of students its number being higher than the Matriculation examination, it would be difficult. Therefore, we want to have a system of examination which could be examined by anybody. We do not require expert to examine objective tests, because these objective tests are such Sir, that the answer can be either "yes" or "no" ; from the answer itself a student can either get full marks or none at all. Again, Sir, these objective tests avoid the necessity of highly qualified examiners. My Friend was suggesting as to what kind of examination is used for the purpose of Middle English examinations when examination papers can be examined by Lower Division Assissant and so on. There is nothing surprsing in these type of examination. These objective tests are planned in such a way that anybody can examine them. As I have said, we do not need highly qualified examiners for these type of examinations.

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope we should not introduce objective activity in this House.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister, Education): As a matter of fact Sir, there is a great deal of objective activity in this House also (*Laughter*).

Now Sir, another suggestion is that we should have only compulsory examination in three subjects and to have a lottery about other subjects as to which subject should be examined at the end of the session so that the schools may not have any inkling as to what subjects would be examined in addition to three compulsory subjects and so that the students should work hard on all subjects taught.

I understand that such a system prevails in Holland and other places. So from this it is noticed that there are two thoughts running simultaneously. One is, abolition of Middle English examination, the second, is adjustment of this examination. Again, that the fiscal should be such that there should be adequate time so as not to entail all these difficulties which have been detailed by the lady Member. I think Sir, I cannot make further elucidation at this stage. I hope the House will bear with me till I am in a position to come to the second stage.

Application of Shri Mody K. Marak for leave of absence

Mr. SPEAKER: I have here an application from Shri Mody Marak, Member representing Tura constituency. He has requested for leave of absence from the House under Rule 185 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly on grounds of ill health. If the House decide to grants him this leave of absence, they can do so. Is it the sense of the House to grant Shri Marak leave of absence from the House till he is in a fit position physically to do so ?

(Voices of "Yes" from all sides of the House)

Leave of absence is granted by leave of the House.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker accupied it),

Private Members' Resolutions

Resolution to move the Government of Assam to adopt and execute a Scheme of dairying an milk supply on experimental basis at least from the current year.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigoan): Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do adopt and execute a scheme of dairying and milk supply on experimental basis at least from the current year with a view to (i) supplying abundant pure milk in the State, (ii) raising the standard of living of the people who are earning their livelihood by dairying or selling milk, and (iii) improving the cattle wealth of the State.

Sir, I beg to move this Resolution because of the fact that though milk is a vital food for all the people including children, old, sick and mothers and it is the basic necessity of the State, we are very short of it. On the other hand we shall have to beg and buy million pounds of powdered milk at a huge expenditure. Sir, pure milk in Assam has become a thing of the past because of adulteration, appearance of milk powder, lack of fodder grass, frequent epidemics of cattle population, disapearence of better breeding of cattle and negligence of the Government.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTAKHARYA (Gauhati):
Milk মানে কিহৰ গাখীৰ ? গৰুৰ নে মহৰ ?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon): All kinds of milk, both cows and buffaloes and goats, Sir, as I am sying pure milk in Assam is a using of the past. Unless something is done, we shall continue to take adulterated milk. Sir, adulteration of milk is a known fact to all. Our people are not getting pure and proper supply of milk and whatever small quantity they can get that is also adulterated. This is so because the people who keep cattle have no sense of responsibility at all and who are totally uneducated. So Government should think seriously over the matter and do something to ensure supply of pure milk to the people and to prevent adulteration of milk for the welfare of the State.

Sir, we have got P. G. Rs and V. G. Rs. where the people feed their cattle population. Specially there are favourable places for growing fodder, health of the cattle and for marketing purposes.

At present the condition of our P. G. Rs. and V. G. Rs are not at all satisfactory. Government is realising grazing tax from the P. G. Rs. but nothing has been done for its improvement. They are not properly maintained at all. Now, if fodder grown is methodically and scientifically in these P. G. Rs. and V. G. Rs for grazing purposes, I think they will be sufficient for the cattle population of Assam. Sir, I want to draw the attention of Government to the matter for improving the cattle population. For supply of pure milk, measures must be taken for cultivation of fodder grass, with, out any delay.

Sir, we have seen that many P. G. Rs. are full of water hyacinth which is detrimental to the health and vigour of our cattle population. Consequently cattle are dying daily for want of proper food and nourishment. Another thing is that one section of our people known as graziers, the people from whom we are to get pure milk have been completely neglected. They have to spend their lives in great difficulties and shall have to undergo all sorts of troubles. Sir, if we think for a while the conditions of these graziers specially during the rainy season and in time of floods, we shall be able to imagine how they shall have to spend their lives in areas which is full of refuses with abnoxious smell, and bad smelling rotten mud, etc. Some of our brethren have to spend their whole lives in such conditions, which can be termed as hell

on earth So, if some thing is done for the improvement of the lot of these graziers, we should not expect anything good from them. So something must be done to improve the lot of these people. At least there must be provision for their education on the line and they should be taught a out their responsibility to the society for feeding this vital food, milk, to the people, their minds should be enlightened from all sides.

Sir, another thing is that the cattle of Assam are generally weak and sick and are living in most degenerated conditions. In many villages we have scen not cows but skeletons with skins on them are searching for food where there is no food or litle food for them. As a matter of fact we in hope of getting little vigour to our ill health are taking the milk from these weak and sickly cows and by doing so we are advancing towards our untimely death. Another thing, Sir, is that as our graziers are very poor, they shall have to sell their milk to the milk dealers who, in turn, make the milk fake and adulterate and generally sell it to the tea stalls from which our public shall have to purchase. This milk, which is full of germs can be termed as poison because adulterated milk is most dangerous thing to our health and is potent vehicle of diseases. Disease like T. B is spreading through this adulterated milk in our State. Sir, another thing is that in the jungles we have seen that several maunds of animal hides skins and bones, etc. are wasted, daily, though they are valuable things for manuring, tanning, etc., If they are properly collected, it can be said that some industries like bonemeal, fertilizer, and tanners can be started easily. So I think Government should look into the matter so that something will be done without any delay. Sir, India is an agricultural country and Assam, too without manure agriculture means nothing. We have seen that cowdung, though useful for cultivation, is wasted. I hope that if these cowdungs are also collected in a methodical way, it will serve the purpose of our fileds to some extent. Sir, Assam is a tropical country with high lands and low lands and the application of scientific instruments for ploughing will not be possible in all places. As a matter of fact the people will require some bullocks for ploughing purposes also. But now as the price or these bullocks are very high, it is not possible for our poor cultivators to purchase them. I hope that if something is done for the improvement of the health and vigour of our cattle good bulls for our fields, will be available our State and accordingly the price will come down and our cultivators

will be able to purchase bulls at a lower price Sir, cattle breeding in Assam, also is a peculiar one. I hope this matter should also be tackled by the Government official experts on the line with the co-operation of the graziers and people who possess cattle. With these few points. I beg to draw the attention of the House to this vital problem in order to improve the lots of the graziers, the supply of pure milk and proper use of the bones and other materials which are beneficial for agriculture and some cottage industries and that is why I commend my resolution for the acceptance of the House.

Sir, I think that if such a scheme is adopted, it will yield good results with less expenditure and best satisfaction of the Government and the people within the jurisdiction of our State. From my personal talk with the graziers I come to understand that they will too glad if such a scheme is initiated, and they lend their full support and co-operation. I hope, Government will not make any delay in piloting such a scheme. If such a scheme proves to be successful similar schemes can be launched for the health and wealth of our State, With these few words, I once again commend my Resolution for the acceptance of the House for the benefit of our State.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Resolution moved is that the Government of Assam do adopt and execute a scheme of dairying and milk supply on experimental basis at least from the current year with a view to (i) supplying abundant pure milk in the State, (ii) raising the standard of living of the people who are earning their livelihood by dairying or selling milk and (iii) improving the cattle wealth of the State.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय ! वहन श्रीकमल कुमारी बरुवानी जीनें सदनकी सेवा में जो प्रस्ताव पेश किया है मैं अपन । एक संशोधन पेश करना चाहता हूँ और इस प्रस्तावपर दो चार बातें बोलना चाहता हूँ ।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Patwary, please move your amendment first.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY : I beg to move : Delete the words "on experimental basis at least" and put in their places the words "in all urban and semi-urban places of the State."

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश की जनता गोपालन और दूध उत्पादन आज ही से नहीं बल्कि प्राचीन काल से ही करती आई है ! हमारी जनता अच्छी तरह जानती है कि देश में प्रचुर तथा अच्छा दूध कैसे उत्पन्न किया जा सकता है। किन्तु यह बड़े खेद की बात है कि आज न हमारे देशमें गोपालन के प्रति विशेष स्पृहा है और न दूध उत्पादन के प्रति मनोनिवेश। इस कारण आज हमारे देश में दूध की कमी है। दूध की इस कमी का बहुत बड़ा प्रभाव पड़ रहा है।

केवल अर्थनैतिक जीवनपर ही नहीं, बल्कि हमारे राष्ट्रीय खाद्य और राष्ट्रीय जीवनपर भी पड़ रहा है। इस लिये हमें इस समस्यापर गंभीरतापूर्वक विचार करना चाहिये और इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये कि हम कैसे दूध की कमी के दूर करें। इस कमी को दूर करने के लिये हमें गोपालन और गोसुधार पर ध्यान देना चाहिये। क्यों कि गोसुधार के बिना दूध उत्पादन अशंभव है। इसलिये गोसुधार पर हमारी सरकार और जनता की विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये।

बिना दूध के हम स्वास्थ्यवान नहीं हो सकते। मैंने देखा है कि दूध की कमी के कारण इस सदन के ही अधिक संख्यक सदस्यों का स्वास्थ्य अच्छा नहीं है। दूध के अभाव के कारण हमारी जनता का स्वास्थ्य भी अच्छा नहीं है। और हम इस दुर्बल जनता के दुर्बल प्रतिनिधि के रूप में यहाँ बैठे हुए हैं। मुझे आश्चर्य होता है कि हमारे Veterinary Department के मंत्री महोदय इतने मोटे ताजें क्यों हैं? मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि उन्होंने काफी दूध पिया होगा और इसलिये वे इतने मोटे ताजें हैं।

(Laughter)

हमारी जनता को भी अगर दूध मिले तो वह जरूर स्वास्थ्यवान हो जायगी और हमारे मंत्री महोदय की तरह मोटे ताजें बनेंगी।

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY : (Minister, Food and Agriculture): पटवारी जी को भी जरूर अच्छा दूध मिलता होगा किन्तु वे क्यों इतना दुर्बल हैं?

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): जी हाँ, मुझे अच्छा दूध मिला था और मैं भी काफी मोटा ताजा था। किन्तु दुख है कि मेरी सारी गायें मर गयीं बीमारी में और अब मुझे दूध बिलकुल नहीं मिलता है।

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY : क्या सदस्य महोदय अपने उस समय की कोई फोटो हमें दिखाने की कृपा करेंगे ?

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY : अच्छी बात है। मैं आपको दिखला दूंगा।

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY : श्रीगोस्वामी जी का क्या हाल है? वे तो काफी मोटे ताजें हैं।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : वे तो गोस्वामी हैं। हमारे देश में यह रिवाज था कि कपिला गायका दूध ब्राह्मण को पिलायें। उनकी पुरखों ने निश्चय कपिला गायका दूध पिया होगा। और उसीका असर आज भी उनपर पड़ा है। इसिलिये वे इतने मोटे ताजे हैं। लेकिन मैं तो वैश्य हूँ। मुझे कहाँ कपिल गाय का दूध मिला था कि मोटा ताजा वनूँ।

(Laughter)

खैर! कुछ भी हो! दूध हमारे लिये बहुत ही जरूरी चीज है। दूध का उत्पादन करने के लिये हम विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये और इसी उद्देश्यमे म अपना संशोधन पेश कर रहा हूँ कि Urban और Semi-Urban area में दूध उत्पादन की ऐसी कोई अच्छी योजना प्रचार करें जिससे हमारे देश में दूध की कमी दूर हो। इसके लिये मेरा सुझाव यह है कि सरकार गैरसरकारी एक कमेटी कायम करें जो इस समस्यापर विचार विमर्श करें और ऐसा कोई रास्ता ढूँढ निकालें कि किस तरह हमारे प्रान्त में अधिकाधिक दूध पैदा हो सके। इस कमेटी में ऐसे आदमी लिये जायें जो इस विषय म काफी दिलचस्पी रखते हों।

अच्छा और प्रचुर दूध उत्पादन करने के लिये अच्छी गाय और अच्छा बैल वगैरह की आवश्यकता है। अच्छे गाय-बैल पर हमारे देश की अर्थनैतिक समस्या का बहुत बड़ा संबन्ध है। अच्छी गाय हो तो हमारे देश में अच्छा दूध उत्पन्न होगा। अच्छा बैल हो तो देश में प्रचुर खाद्यान्न के उत्पादन में बहुत बड़ी सहायता होगी। अच्छी खेती हो और साथ ही दूध का भी उत्पादन हो तो हमारे किसानों का हाल सुधरेगा और देश की अर्थनैतिक स्थिति की उन्नति में सहायता पहुँचेगी। मैंने हिसाब लगाया है कि अच्छा दूध उत्पन्न हो और साथ ही बैल अच्छा हो तो हमारे नवयुवकों को माहवार कम-से-कम सत्तर रुपये की आय होगी। इस तरह सारे देश का लाभ होगा।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय! और एक बात की ओर मैं आप का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि दूध शक के साथ "खाँटी" या Pure आदि विशेषणों का प्रयोग नहीं होना चाहिये। दूध तो दूध ही है। अगर इसके "खाँटी" या Pure शब्द का प्रयोग करें तो उसके साथ ही "मिश्रण" शब्द का प्रयोग होना स्वाभाविक है। खाँटी शब्द के प्रयोग से दूध की शुद्धता लोप हो जाने की शंका भी रहती है। इसलिये इन शब्दों का प्रयोग नहीं करना चाहिये। आशा है इस सम्बन्ध में Veterinary Department के लोग इस बारे में सुझाव देंगी।

हमारे प्रान्त में गाय के वारे में बांधकर रखने की प्रथा नहीं है। हमने देखा है कि हमारे यहाँ के लोग अपनी गायों को खोल देते हैं। इसका बहुत बुरा परिणाम होता है। भारत के किसी दूसरे प्रान्त में ऐसा नहीं होता है। दूसरे प्रान्तों में गायों को अपने अपने घरमें बांधकर रखा जाता है और उसकी सेवा की जाती है। जो गाये बेकार है उन्ही को गोपचरों में भेज दिया जाता है। इस प्रकार गायों को छोड़ देने से स्वास्थ्य की हानी होती है। और दूसरी ओर दूध की भी कम उत्पन्न होता है। इस ओर हमें ध्यान देना चाहिये। हमारी जनता में यह प्रचार करना चाहिये कि वे अपनी गायों को

बेकार न छोड़े। उनको यह शिक्षा देनी चाहिये कि गायों को बांधकर रखने में ही भला है। इस दिशा में काम करने के लिये एक गैर-सरकारी संस्था का होना अत्यन्त आवश्यक है। दूसरे राज्यों में इस ओर विशेष ध्यान दिया जा रहा है कि कैसे गोजाती की उन्नति साधन किया जा सके। दूधका उत्पादन बढ़ा सके। कैसे हम गोजाती की उन्नति में मदद पहुँचा सके। हमारे राज्य में इस तरह की एक संस्था का होना बहुत जरूरी है। क्यों कि गोपालन और दूध उत्पादन में हम सब से पिछड़े हुए हैं।

केवल हमारे स्वास्थ्य की दृष्टि से ही नहीं बल्कि मानसिक विकास की दृष्टि से दूध अत्यन्त आवश्यक है। मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि दूध की कमी के कारण हमारे प्रान्त के बालकों का स्वास्थ्य अन्य प्रान्तों की तुलना में खराब है। मण्डिस्क के विकास में भी दूध का स्थान महत्वपूर्ण है। और शायद यही कारण है कि हमारे प्रान्त के बच्चों में फेल होनेवाले विद्यार्थियों की संख्या बहुत काफी होते हैं तथा Percentage of Pass कम होते हैं। इसके अलावा ये विद्यार्थी ज्यादातर 3rd या 2nd division में ही पास करते हैं।

गोसंपद की उन्नति में या इस ओर ध्यान देते समय किसी सांप्रदायिक भावना का स्थान नहीं देना चाहिये। गोपालन और गो की सेवा करना हरेक मनुष्य का कर्तव्य है। मैंने देखा है कि हमारे यहाँ के Immigrant Muslim भाई गोपालन और गोसेवा में किसी और जाति से कम नहीं है। ये मुसलमान भाई जिस तरह अपनी गायों की सेवा करते हैं ऐसा हम भी नहीं कर पाते हैं। ये लोग जैसा अच्छा दूध उत्पन्न करता है वैसा दूध दूसरा कोई भी उत्पन्न नहीं कर सकता होगा। इसी तरह गोरखा लोग भी, अर्थात् गोरक्षा करनेवाले नेपाली भाई भी निपुण गोरक्षक और गोपालक हैं। इस प्रस्ताव पर मेरे मित्र श्रीविष्णुलाल उपाध्याय जी भी बोलेंगे। उनका इस विषय में काफी अनुभव है। वे इस विषय में काफी दिलचस्पी रखते हैं। वे सदन में अपना वक्तव्य देकर हमारे इस समस्या का समाधान करने में मदद पहुँचायेंगे।

आखिर में मैं अपने मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वे इस बारे में उचित कारवाई करेंगे तथा दूध उत्पादन करने में हमारी सहायता करेंगे ताकि हम सबका शरीर उनका जैसा मोटान्ताजा हो।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The motion moved is :

Delete the words "on experimental basis at least" and put in their places the words "in all urban and semi-urban places of the State."

Shri BISHNULAL UPADHYAYA (Gohpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following amendment to Resolution No.9 standing in the name of Shrimati Kamal Kumari Barua—

(1) Insert the word "Pilot" between "a" and "Scheme" in the second line.

(2) Delete the words "on... ..at least" in the third line and substitute the words "in suitable area" in their places.

(3) Delete the words and figures “(ii) raising the standardor selling milk” in the 5th, 6th and 7 lines.

(4) Substitute the figure “(ii)” for the figure “(iii)” in the seventh line.

The amended Resolution will stand as follows:

“This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do adopt and execute a Pilot scheme of dairying and milk supply in suitable areas from the current year with a view to (i) supplying abundant pure milk in the State and (ii) improving the cattle wealth of the State”.

Sir, this Pilot project scheme is a step in advance of the existing dairies maintained by the Government. The existing dairies are run on deficit. If my amendment is adopted, it will afford bigger scope to go into details of actual progress and to ascertain whether such schemes are feasible to start everywhere in the State. In the latter part, Sir, I propose to show that it is entirely feasible to put such a scheme into operation. The Resolution is very important in as much as it is inter-connected with the grow more food campaign for producing more food. Because without cattle cultivation, in the present order of things is unthinkable in our State and without pure milk the health of the nation cannot be developed.

Sir, we have passed a provision of Rs.47,85,600 under the Head Veterinary the other day. Our end is to have abundant supply of pure milk in our State, for dairy consumption and to produce health bullocks for cultivation of land. Sir, with such a big amount we have been able so far to establish many beautiful Pucca Veterinary dispensaries and appointed as many veterinary field assistants and Doctors as are available. Moreover cattle farms, fodder farms, Hay-making centres, Education and Research, breeding centres, artificial insemination centres, and training centres have been opened during these years. In spite of spending of so much money, if we take a comprehensive view we must unhesitatingly say that the main problem has still remained unsolved. This deterioration in the cattle wealth, to my humble opinion, is partly due to the changed circumstances and also partly due to the lack of help and patronage of the Government in regard to it to the people who carry on this business either in the hills or in the plains of this State. Let me analyse the causes. The old method of rearing cattle in the jungles by letting them roam there is out of date, and out

of order, because the luxuriant and natural growth of fodder in the Grazing Reserves is no more to-day. The P.G.R.S and V.G.R.s are themselves encroached daily and thrown open for cultivation. To some extent this is unavoidable. So is it not time that the people should change their outlook and take to new scientific improved methods? I think the following methods should be adopted:

(1) Straws or grass grown in paddy fields, marshy places and grazing lands should be stacked and utilised.

(2) Green fodder of maize and similar crops should be cultivated and preserved by the method of silage making

(3) Stall feeding over and above natural grazing should be adopted.

(4) Better bulls should be made available in the herd for better breeding and thereby better yield of milk will be possible.

(5) Timely medical help should be taken whenever necessary.

(6) Co-operative dairies should be formed at the people's own initiative.

No amount of scientific knowledge is required to follow them. It is only the outlook which has got to be changed.

On the other hand, Sir, Government is not up and doing to mitigate the sufferings of the cultivators and specially the grazers who are practically carrying on this business in the hills and plains and who sustained a heavy loss last year due to rinderpest disease. Some of these people have been reduced to the state of street beggars. They have neither land to cultivate nor any other profession for their livelihood. They are at the mercy of God.

The Veterinary Director after an extensive tour to the affected areas of Tezpur and Behali and other places submitted a report to the Government and suggested to Government to give: (1) Relief (2) livestock loans (3) exemption from Grazing tax at least for one year. Not to speak of relief, even the Livestock loan was not given. The Minister of Veterinary was impressed to see the hardship of the people who assembled in a public meeting at Behali and who requested the Minister to

consider their case and grant the loans and other concessions. We the M. L. As of Tezpur Subdivision submitted a joint petition to the Government but to no effect. Had they been conscious they would have surely started a peaceful movement for rehabilitation. But thanks to these poor fellows, they have submitted to their fate calmly!

Along with the Government managed farms it is essential that private individuals should be encouraged with loans to start such farms. They should also arrange for their training in the new methods. Unless they are enthused and encouraged in this aspect, we shall be far behind to achieve the object as anticipated and planned.

The Government cattle farms are not upto the mark, Sir. They are running in deficit. From the reply to the unstarred question No.472 of the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary it is evident that the Khanapara cattle farm supplies only 2.1 per cent of the dairy requirement of milk of the Gauhati town. The total number of pedigree bulls supplied last year was only 6. Total expenditure was Rs.2,18,565. 10 Naiya Paise against the total income of Rs.97,395 only. with a net deficit of Rs.1,21,170.10 Naiya Paise.

The Upper Shillong Cattle Farm has the same tale to tell. A sum of Rs.1,20,000 was spent in 1956-1957 and the income under all heads came only to Rs.62,000 only. The same is the case with all Government Farms. The main difficulty so far I have learnt is dearth of fodder. The farm has to spend more than Rs.50,000 only in purchase of fodder. It purchased green grass from the adjacent Agricultural Farm @-/12/- plus cutting and conveyance charge @-/5/- per maund and hay @ Rs.2/8/- per maund. Sir, at present out of 113 cattle only 26 are milking. The rest of the cattle which are not productive at this stage have to be fed in the stalls, therefore, the expenditure will be great. Hence some grazing reserves are essentially necessary in the vicinity of the farm. The stock of cattle should be provided there after long experiments otherwise any and every type of cattle may not be suitable for different climatic condition and for yielding great quantity of milk. Therefore, Sir, it is quite necessary that a Pilot Scheme to go into all the necessary experiments as regards the species of cows and buffaloes, the quality of fodder to be used and the method and management, etc., should be adopted by Government. In this connection I like to inform the House that two European Managers of the Manabari and Halen Tea Estate started Dairy

Farm. They purchased Mura buffaloes as also English and Sindhi cows for this purpose but the result was that all these cattle except the Sindhi cows died. Therefore, from this example we can say that the Sindhi cows will be the best for giving greater quantity of milk. So, Sir, it is necessary that the Pilot Project should immediately be started in order to go into the details of experiments so that the best cows and buffaloes may be selected for our dairy farm. So it should be the endeavour of the Government to make it paying and educative to the interested people in this regard. In this connection it is also essential that cattle shows and demonstrations of better results of the experiments should be arranged. Therefore, experts of this trade should be consulted. Training should be given to some persons in such places like Bombay, Mysore, Punjab, Utter Pradesh, etc., so that our young men can learn the new methods and the same can be adopted in our State. I suggest that the Pilot Projects should be started in such places near about certain Grazing Reserves so that the people can have free access to the Pilot Projects and therefore they can learn a good deal as far as dairy farms are concerned. Along with it, Sir, another colossal problem has come up before us and that is the question of grazing reserves. Some of our Friends have said during the discussion of the budget and food problem that grazing reserves are the wastage of Government resources. This statement is partly right, Sir, but wholly wrong. If all grazing reserves are dereserved then where is the food for our cattle and how and where to feed our cattle the number of which according to the Census of 1951 was 51,000. The dwarfish type of cattle must be improved not by wholesale replacing which is not desirable but this should be done by gradual improvement of the stock that is cross-breeding by better bulls. If the grazing reserves are dereserved then how can we supply a pair of bullocks to each cultivator as some hon. Members suggested this on the floor of this House. Even to Government and private Co-operative farms grazing lands will be necessary. Therefore, Government should try to improve the grazing lands so that not only the Government farms but some farms started by private enterprise may have some lands in order to feed their cattle and in order that this industry—that is dairy farms may also be flourish. Therefore, I suggest to the Government to make a comprehensive examination of this matter for the improvement of our cattle wealth and this can be done by starting a Pilot Project. With these few words I support the motion moved by Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua

Shri ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Hailakandi).
 Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to make a few observations with regard to this Resolution about supplying abundant pure milk in the State. The Resolution contemplates to deal with many problem, but I am afraid whether we shall be able to do justice even to one problem. First let us see, Sir, whether pure milk is available in the whole of the State and in this connection I may say that except the Government farms, there is very little scope to get pure milk from another place. Even in the Government farms as soon as the milk goes out of the farm, no body can say that it is not adulterated. This is the order of the day. Sir, once I went to Teok, there was a discussion about milk and there I was told that milk is mixed with water. I may say that even in my own bungalow, between the cow shed and my bungalow my own servant mixed some water in the milk.

(Voices.....What is the distance ?)

It is between 50 and 100 yards. Therefore unless you keep a strict watch, even your own servant will try to mix some water in the milk not to speak of other.

Shri HIRILAL PATWARY (Panery): এই কাৰণেই ভূত পূৰ্ব নন্দী মহোদয়ৰ চোহৰাটো ইমান কীৰ্ত্তি। (Laughter)

Shri ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Sir, even at 64 my health is still better than my Friend Patwari's health. So I say, Sir, that pure milk is not available unless great care is taken by the persons concerned. Therefore, in order to make arrangement for supply of pure milk throughout the whole State, I would suggest that we should make assessment about the percentage of our people who really take milk. I have seen and I had discussion with people and have found that in some areas the people do not want to take milk at all. In some places there was a question whether milk should be taken or what is called *loapani* should be taken. I enquired of some Tribal people, why don't you take milk ? I was told that there was some conflicting effect on the system if the same man takes *loapani* and milk.

Shri HARILAL PATWARY: It may be that for want of milk they are drinking *loapani*

Shri ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Certainly not. I have ascertained myself that they do want to take milk. If you take a census, Sir, you will find that people who really want to take milk in our State will not exceed 20 to 25 per cent. In the hill areas, our tribal brethren do not take any milk except with tea in some places like Shillong. This is one problem. Now, if the State wants to supply milk the Government must send their officers either to Haringhata in Calcutta

or Aarey colony in Bombay from where milk is supplied to the city and the suburbs. Of course, they have taken up big schemes there. The Aarey colony has taken up a 4 crore scheme and they are extending. The possibility of adulteration has also been eliminated as everything is done mechanically, bottles are self-filled and they supply to the customers direct by their servant. Similar is the case in Haringhata. So, if the Government want to supply pure milk themselves, they can do so, but I doubt whether our Government would be in a position to take up such comprehensive schemes. Sir, a beginning in this direction has been made by establishing some dairy farms near big towns, for example, the Khanapara farm supplies milk to town and the suburbs, Mura buffaloes were introduced there and Government have been supplying milk as far as possible. Similarly, there is a scheme to establish a farm near Jorhat, about 12 or 13 miles from the town. and I think there are schemes with the Animal Husbandry Department to start such farms near all the headquarter towns of the State. If these are implemented, the needs of the headquarter town and the suburbs will be partially met, gradually these farms may extend their activities and supply milk to nearby areas. It is possible to do it that way, but that will also take time. So, if the Government wants to accept the Resolution and want to give milk supply to the whole State, this is the only way, first establish big dairy farms near about headquarter towns and gradually extend their activities to other areas. If that is not possible then to do it by establishing demonstration farms here and this will be a very Herculean task because our people are not milk-minded. Even those who cry for milk really do not want any milk. As the Hon'ble Minister for Community Development said the other day, unless you can bring about a Psychological change, unless you can make our people feel that milk is a necessary item of food and must be taken at all costs, it is difficult to make them take milk. Sir, in a country like ours where 70 per cent people are agriculturists, we can expect that every household has some cattle. I have noticed myself that in almost every household there are cattle and among them there are cows also. But if you enquire you will find that these cows do not give any milk. There was an impression even in high circles. I heard one day that one of the Ministers was saying that Assam cows do not give any milk. I at once contradicted him and said that it was not a fact. Even Assam cows at least 50 of them—will give six to seven seers of milk every day if they are properly fed and kept. That brings us to the other question as to how can our cows be properly fed and kept. Stall-feeding will not be done unless a man feels that he must

have some milk from cow. He will simply let her at large with other cattle, she will graze in the field and return in the evening and in that case she will not give any milk. In my own case, Sir, I found that my cow which gave me 30 to 40 seers of milk daily suddenly stopped giving milk. (*A Voice*—Was it Assam cow? No, Frezian. For some time she was not conceiving and I thought this might be due to the oil-cake with which I fed her. But with the stoppage of oil-cake, the milk supply also stopped. So, Sir, it is said in our country that milk is not in the under of the cow but in her mouth. If she is properly fed and kept even Assam cows will give about 3 to 5 seers of milk, which is sufficient for one household. So, Sir, as I said, that people do not really want to take milk; if they thought that milk was a necessary commodity of food, they would have properly fed and maintained their cows. Where there is a will there is a way and not only from the Frezian cow, Sir, but even from the Assam cow I got five to six seers of milk daily when I was a pleader.

So, there are two sides to this question. If Government want to accept the Resolution and implement it, they must draw up a scheme and should send their officers either to Haringhata or Aarey, who will study things there and draw up a comprehensive scheme for supplying milk to the whole State. This is one side of the thing. If that cannot be done, then our activities should be directed in such a manner and we should do such propaganda which may reach our people and enthruse them to get milk out of the cows. We should try to effect a psychological change in them so that there may be a craving for milk as a commodity of food. If that can be done, gradually we may have pure milk. I have thought over the problem but as yet I do not see my way how we shall be able to give milk to the people of the State, unless we do any of the following things and make successful, *i. e.*, firstly Government should start dairy farms and run them in a comprehensive scale. In that case in a State like Assam where population is not very dense we can do so. Secondly, if you want people should make their own arrangement that will be a hopeless task and it will require years and years to make our people conscious that milk is an important commodity for good health and must be taken. I considered this problem seriously but I was disappointed as this is a vast one and it is not meant for a Subdivision or a district alone so that you can concentrate in one place and make it successful, but it concerns the whole State.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I hope you will conclude.
Shri ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Hailakandi): Thirdly raising the standard of living of the people who are in the profession of rearing cattle for dairy and selling milk. Unless a cow or buffalo gives more milk and they know the tactics of how to improve the yield of milk the condition of these people cannot be improved. But, Sir, there are other problem also for which you cannot expect to improve their condition. In this connection, I want to mention about a class of people, why I do not like to name, they do not allow you to see milking a cow as they say that this a religious practice and thus they keep it secret but in fact they do not want to divulge the secret of adulterating milk with water while milking. They do not allow others to see the milking for the fear that they will be detected. These people should be properly taught so that they do not adulterate milk.

Fourthly improving the cattle wealth of the State. That is another thing. The breed must be improved. They must be protected from disease and death and they must be given sufficient fodder, grass and food. We have already discussed about giving fodder and some of our hon. Members are of the opinion that the grazing reserves should be maintained in order to give sufficient fodder and grass to our cattle, but, Sir, whether we should keep such vast areas of land as grazing reserves or should utilise them for improved fodder cultivation or cultivation of food crops, this is a serious question which we should take into consideration. I have expressed my opinion in many places that these must be thrown open, as I am afraid, a time is coming when our people will be hungry of land for homestead and for cultivation when they will not care for fodder for cattle in these reserves but they will try to occupy them illegally also. Of course, if we can induce our people to take to intensive cultivation with the present methods by applying fertilisers and using improved types of implement, in that case of course land will not be so much in demand. Otherwise within a decade our people will encroach these reserves for homestead and cultivation. First comes the question of proper feeding of the cattle and next the question of Veterinary Doctors come in. First thing is if you do not maintain your cattle by giving proper food they are liable to catch diseases at any time. If you do not keep them in proper health by giving them good food, grass and fodder cattle are liable to catch diseases at any time. If you give them proper food they will sustain for a long time and they will be more useful. Next comes the question of doctors for protecting against diseases. Unless we ourselves carefully maintain our cattle there is no use having dispensaries here and there and

crying that there is no doctor to give medicine to the diseased cattle. Therefore, if we keep cattle it is our first duty to see that they get good fodder and grass and are properly maintained.

These are the problems, but the Government have not been able to solve any of them because of difficulties. In concluding my speech, I support the Resolution and hope that Government will see their way to meet the object of the Resolution either by establishing dairy farms throughout the State near headquarters or in central places so that they can supply milk to the whole population of the State or in the alternative they must have agencies for proper propaganda amongst our people who deal in milk in such a way that they are actuated to maintain their cattle properly so that they may supply good milk.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I must at the outset confess that I have not much experience either as a giver or as a taker of milk and my observations will therefore bound to be observations of a bystander. So far as the underlying spirit of the Resolution is concerned that is sound, but the Resolution, even if it is amended, either in terms of the amendment of Shri Patwari or Shri Upadhya, will not be practical at least for the next ten years to come even if I take charge of the Veterinary Department and I am given wide powers. As a matter of fact, Shri Abdul Matlib Mazumder had the charge of the Department and he also is a very good keeper of cows but if the question is impersonal as a keeper of the cows of the State, he was also totally a failure and I do not expect that the present Minister will be able or nearly able to create wonders in this respect and yet this Resolution underlines certain very important things. The first thing is the importance of milk as food for our people. The second thing is the improvement of cattle and the third thing is improvement of the people who keep cattle, who earn their livelihood by keeping cattle.

Now, Sir, with regard to the food value of milk, there are so many ideas in our State. Shri Majumdar was perfectly correct when he said that if we take it as a routine food, it is a very small minority in our State who take milk as routine food. I for one do not get milk as a part of routine food. I do not get sufficient milk even now due to my pecuniary circumstances. I think, Sir, majority of our people have not the means to take milk as a part of their daily diet. On the other hand there are people of certain nationalities and tribes in our State who think it is wrong to take cow's or buffalo's milk

because God has ordained them to take only one kind of milk and that is their mother's milk. There are people who think like that. It may be somebody is superstitious and some are not; but that feeling is there. And I think that is one of the reasons why they do not feel much enthused for keeping cows. For example, here in the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills there are vast meadows where fodder grass can be grown or where dairy farms can be established for improvement of milk supply, but that is not done and all these meadows are left vacant because the people even for part of their food prefer to purchase cattle from Chhaygaon and nearby places, drive them along the Gauhati-Shillong road mostly at night and sell them in Shillong. These people think that it is more economical to purchase cattle in that way than keeping them themselves. So unless and until something is done to educate the mass people with regard to the necessity of cattle and their unkeep and with regard to their value in the economic life of the nation, simply by starting a pilot project here or there or by starting dairy farms this problem will not be solved.

Now, Sir, I have seen nearabout my home there is a dairy farm at Khanapara. Shri Mazumdar spoke about Mura buffaloes-whether they are Mura buffaloes or Mara buffaloes, I cannot say. The Minister sent a party to Delhi for purchasing these types of buffaloes. The contractors there know of a certain drug or a particular food which if given to the animal a day or two before they are milched these animal give abundant supply of milk and so the buffaloes were purchased. When these animals were brought to Gauhati these contractors also accompanied the party and surreptitiously at night managed to give the same drug or food to the animals, but the quantity of milk was not as much as it was in Delhi, but they say that this might be because of the strain of the journey from Delhi and so on. However, the buffaloes were purchased by the Government. The result is that at present the quantity of milk that these buffaloes give is going down by about 50 per cent in spite of the food that our Government give to these animals according to the calculated standard. So I don't think, Sir, that there will be a great deal of improvement by bringing some Mura buffaloes or foreign breed cows or some Sindhi bulls and so on. Now, how many breeding bulls do we have in our State? In previous days in almost every village there was a kind of bull which it was mythologically believed came from God and that bull used to be let loose in the name of God Shiva. This is the bull that bred the village cows. Now, Sir, from the month of Baishakh to the month of Ashhar these village cows are let

loose and who should be their breeder? Those ricketty bulls because all the healthy big bulls are castrated and made bullocks. So only those ricketty ones are left to breed our cows. The result is that the calves grow smaller and smaller from year to year. It is said that the village cow now is almost as big as a goat! In production of milk the result is the same. You can hardly get half a seer or even one powa of milk. Besides that I was really astounded to hear one doctor friend telling me that if you examine the cow's milk now-a-days under a microscope you will find a lot of blood in it. That is so because the emaciated cow due to want of food cannot give proper quantity of milk; so it has to give some of its blood also along with the milk. I don't know how our people will feel if they are told that now-a-days if they take milk they also take cow's blood.

So, Sir, I think in an agricultural country like India good cows and breeding bulls are very necessary. Necessary as an economic unit also. In improving or cattle population we should also think of eliminating the dangerous type. I know some of my friends will rebel against me when I say these things—even my father if he was here would be astounded to hear me saying these things—but I am speaking the truth. Unless and until we can exterminate the useless ones there will always be a vicious circle and this vicious circle is bound to continue in spite of our best effort to improve the cattle population of our State. Sir, as I have already said that the cows are let loose from the month of Paus to the month of Jaistha, and it is the time for the cows and for many other animals to mate. So, Sir, that aspect also should be considered, and if we consider it only from the point of view of milk, then I should also like to request the Government to examine the possibility of goats—because when I questioned the mover of the Resolution as to what type of milk she meant, I did not say it as a jest. So far as immediate solution say within three years is concerned, some Members say that goats thrive better in Assam than cows. There are rinderpests and other diseases; and so far as these diseases are concerned, the cows are more susceptible to them than goats. Moreover, as a variety of meat also, I think goat is universally accepted and about meat of the cows, *viz.*, beef, there may be some objection among some section of our people, there may be religious bias but so far as mutton is concerned there is less objection. So, I think we should consider that aspect also and we should see, specially for the supply of milk to the school children and babies, whether goats' milk can be to a certain extent used. I don't think that it will be possible

for the Government, at least within the term of the present Ministry, to embark upon a scheme whereby they will be able to give an assurance to this House that Government will supply milk for the urban and semi-urban areas as my Friend, Shri Patwari, wants. I think this is too ambitious a plan. Government may make some effort and we cannot ask the Government to become the Government of the cow-herds. We have got our Second-Five-Year Plan. These industrial undertakings and other things shall have to be done and if we ask Government to put all resources only in the Go-Shala then other things will be left out. After all, though at present, Assam is an agricultural State, we aspire it to be an industrially developed country. So I do not propose that big amounts of money should be withdrawn from the branch of industrial development for the purpose of Go-Shalas. After all these Go-Shalas shall have to be done by the people themselves. I quite agree with Shri Majumdar when he says that it is the primary duty of the people to develop them. So far as dairying and other things are concerned, they should be left to the private capitalists; let these industries be not State-owned industries. Let these be owned by the private sector. If we want a State monopoly in this respect, let the State control and supervise to see that good milk is supplied. But let the private sector do it, and for that purpose, let the Government arrange facilities. By facilities I do not mean only grazing reserves. I am not in favour of professional grazing reserves. These grazing reserves should not also be 'Bakari', that is to say, a place which is not fit for anything—a place which does not grow anything. It is called 'Bakari' in Upper Assam and in Kamrup we call it 'Bakra'. The village grazing reserves should be properly fenced, properly manured and maintained and there should be space for the fodder to grow quickly and luxuriantly which have got a lot of food content. I am not saying that Government should send some personnel to make a fence. But Government may help the villagers with some amount of finance, some amount of advice, some amount of technical knowledge and some amount of demonstration. Government may also lend the services of demonstrators and the rest should be done by the people themselves. If this is done, something like a community organisation becomes necessary. From another angle, Binibhaji is trying for the Gram Raj where the entire village should consider a village grazing reserve as a common property. But one point must be made clear and that is not to allow the cattle to move freely hither and thither. One part must be kept for growing fodder. Apart from what I have said, there is another danger. Some specialists

say that if a milched cow is allowed to move too much, then the milk begins to diminish. That is what they say. But those cows which are used primarily for beef should be allowed to move freely. So, in our country, when some cattle are used for the purpose of milk, some for the purpose of beef and some for the purpose of drawing ploughs or carts, for such different types of cattle different arrangements should be made. I do not understand why Government should not embark upon a plan for keeping the cattle which are meant for beef, in the meadows of Khasi and Jaintia Hills, because after all it is a matter also of belief. With regard to religion, it is a fact that some people consider it a great sacrilege to kill a cow and that such killing creates revolting spirit in the minds of some people. Some people say so when they see herds of cows are driven on the Gauhati-Shillong Road for being butchered in the Barabazar in Shillong. If these cows are kept here in the meadows of Khasi Hills, then perhaps the position would have been otherwise. So, I place these suggestions before Government and request them to make such arrangement that there will be no withdrawing of cows from the plains to the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills, Garo Hills or other areas for the purpose of beefs.

With regard to the position of the village grazing reserves, as I have said, if these reserves are Bakari, then encroachments are bound to take place as my Friend, Shri Majumdar, has said. I am not here to foment lawlessness. But when the question for them is life or death, the people will never care for our laws. If they are hungry and get no land, they must try to live somehow and they must think that there is no sacrilege for living their life. When the problem of land in our State is very acute, in the name of grazing reserves lands have been kept lying fallow. So what is to be done? (Bell rang.) While there is time, let Government keep some parts properly fenced and let other parts be utilised for other purposes.

My point is, so far as Reserves are concerned, it is not necessary to keep vast areas intact, keep them scattered throughout the State so that different village communities may use them and the village communities themselves may take the initiative of improving these places. So far as supply of cheap milk is concerned, Government may try this in the lower primary schools or in the lower strata of schools for the time being. Because, if the little boys of these schools are kept confined there for six long hours or so, they need some intermediary meal. Even if pure milk cannot be supplied, let them be supplied with milk mixed with some amount of powder-milk. If

at least some quantities of milk can be supplied to these little children, that will be very good.

So far as the Veterinary or the Live-stock Department is concerned, they should give more stress on the propaganda and exhibition side. It may not be possible for them to train the entire people, but they can at least train up a considerable section of our peasantry as to how our cattle wealth can be well preserved, well looked after, how the sanitary condition can be improved. They can also make propaganda about the food value of milk. In this way there might come some consciousness among the people when they will themselves take the initiative, and may be, within a period of 20 years, we shall be in a position to be out of the wood. I do not think we will be so in course of 5 or 6 years because, that is very complicated process and will take about 20 to 25 years for a sound and effective solution of the problem. So, I call upon the Government to take a long term view of the whole matter so that we may make a start now so that the purpose for which the Mover has brought this Resolution will be served.

Shri JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, on a point of information, Sir, Mr. Bhattacharyya stated at the beginning of his speech that is not a giver of milk, nor does he take milk. May I know from him, Sir, whether during his child-hood, he did not take mother's milk ?

(Laughter)

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I am very unfortunate, I lost my mother when I was yet a very little boy.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think myself very fortunate that I have been allowed the opportunity to participate in the debate on a subject which I consider to be very vital. Because, Sir, I feel so long as we cannot ensure supply of adequate quantity of milk to our people, a healthy nation cannot be formed. Therefore, I appeal to all to give this matter most serious consideration and I also wish that this matter should be dispassionately considered by every hon. Member of this House and also by the Government. I listened to the speeches of the various hon. Members who participated in this debate with great interest and I am, indeed, very glad to note that everyone of them is very anxious to see as to how the milk supply in our State can be increased and also for the valuable suggestions they have given. Now, Sir, the last part of the speech of my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya,

dealing with the question of propaganda—on which I also lay very great stress—is very important. There is much work to be done in this respect. We have seen that Government have set up a number of farms in different parts of the State, such as Barapeta, Khanapara, Dibrugarh and Upper Shillong, with a view to supply good milk to the people living in urban areas. In Shillong milk is supplied at annas eight or ten per seer. Price of milk supplied by the Government farm is, I am told, similar at Gauhati and Barpeta. But these few farms alone cannot cater to the needs of the entire State. Nor it is expected of them. These are only humble attempts on the part of the Government to hold an example before our people how pure milk is essential for the health of the people. Here in Shillong also the farm at Upper Shillong has not been able to supply milk to the entire population of the town in adequate quantities. Fortunately for us, at Shillong we have a good number of very good cattle rearers and it is due to this that milk at reasonably reduced price is available to the people living in Shillong. But what we get at Tezpur in the name of milk at annas fourteen a seer, cannot be taken. It is mixed with powder milk. Even by paying one rupee a seer if we get a seer of pure milk at Tezpur we have to thank our fortune. Same is the case at Jorhat also. But as a matter of fact, at fourteen annas a seer we are not getting pure milk, it is only adulterated milk mixed with powder obtainable from the market in any quantity. Now as regards the question of educating the people in the entire State, one sided effort of the Government is not adequate to educate all our people in the matter of improved method of rearing our cattle. We have a number of schemes in the Second Five-Year Plan, one at Tezpur and another at Nowgong, another at Silchar and one at Jorhat. But they are not enough. These are only sample schemes adopted with a view that our people can also emulate them and take up similar scheme. We have also a number bull depots. The purpose of these bull depots is to help in the increase of milk, improvement of the local breed on which we have also a number of artificial insemination centres. The purpose of all these is to increase the capacity of supply of milk of our indigenous cows. These artificial insemination centres are very essential factors for improving the local breed. Sindhi bulls, Hariana bulls, Thaparkar bulls are imported to these centres for the purpose of improving the breed of our indigenous cattle and also to increase the capacity of milk supply of our local cows. It is for this purpose that we have these insemination centres. At one time, of course, there was some prejudice of our people against artificial insemination either from the religious point of view or due to ignorance. But that prejudice is now fast disappearing. We have such centres at

Tezpur and other places. People are now frequenting these centres and are having the services of the Haryana, Thaparkar or Siddhi bulls and thereby we are now having better bulls.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 2 P. M.

After lunch

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): In my speech I have indicated the various provisions and schemes that have been adopted by the Government for the purpose of increasing milk supply. Of course there may be certain defects in the schemes here and there. My Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, said that 'Mara Buffaloes' are seen in the Khanapara (*laughter*). I do not know if he has said it sarcastically or not. Perhaps he meant that the buffaloes are emaciated. That is not so. It is not correct to say that we have got 'Mara buffaloes' *i.e.*, dead buffaloes in our Farms. Any honourable Member may visit the farm and see them.

Sir, he has pointed out that the production of milk has gone down. It may be so, Sir. Some of the causes leading to this reduction have been also noted by the different officers who visited the Farms and they have recommended steps which should be taken for the improvement of the position. There is no doubt that there are certain difficulties which should be removed. Some irrigation scheme should be adopted so that fodder cultivation may be further extended. The arrangement of water supply should be adequate. At present there is difficulty in this respect. These are some difficulties which should be attended. They should be removed and if they are removed I believe it would ensure better supply of milk. So far as my suggestion in regard to Bull Depot are concerned, I would suggest that the bulls should be attached to the nearest veterinary dispensaries where they should be taken care of by the veterinary doctors. At present these bulls are not taken care of properly by the officer-in-charge and they are not kept in health and potency. Therefore, I suggest that in order that better supervision may be exercised over these bulls these may be attached to the nearest veterinary dispensary and placed under the full control of the doctor-in-charge. Then in order to get more milk in our State every family must rear cows. Every family must have a sufficient quantity of milk for consumption. Sir, when we compare the figures of milk consumption in various States with that of ours, we find our State is the poorest. In our State *per capita* consumption of milk is only a little over an ounce. This is very sad state of affair. We must devise method by which we can increase the production of milk and we should see how our people can be made milk-minded-cow rearing minded. That is very important. For this purpose as far as the funds permit, the

Government should increase the number of farms, number of artificial insemination centres on which depend the good breeding of cattle. A good number of good bull should be kept at the disposal of the villagers for better progeny. There should be fodder farms for demonstration purposes attached to every veterinary dispensary. Our Friend, Sri Abdul Matlib Mazumdar, who himself is a good cow rearer said that on fodder alone depends the yield of milk. Even our ordinary cows in the State will give more milk, provided they are fed more fodder. So steps, must be taken to increase the production of good varieties of fodder such as Nappier and others which will give us perennial supply of green fodder. We should educate our people by propaganda to adopt such methods. The Government, the M.L.As, the Members of the Local Boards and others should start a campaign throughout the whole State for growing fodder so that people may take up this question seriously. They should be made fodder-minded. Sir, those who are in the know of things realise the value of growing fodder. Unless fodder is grown, unless importance is given to the growing of fodder, there is no hope to increase milk supply in our State. Therefore, our Publicity Department should be engaged and utilised for the purpose of propagating the value of growing more fodder and thereby help increasing the milk supply in the State. Now we have our village grazing reserves and there we keep our cattle. We should make it a point that in these reserves only cattle of good breed are kept and if possible dairy farms should be established there. Of course it is true that there has been great pressure on land and it may be that in course of time these village grazing reserves may vanish. Even then, these village grazing reserves may be utilised for fodder farms, dairy farms and for other purposes for improving our cattle population. For this purpose co-operative societies should be encouraged by Government. People should be encouraged to form co-operative societies for the purpose of carrying on dairy activities. In some of our towns, for examples, at Tezpur there are such co-operative dairy societies and they are carrying on these activities quite nicely, but there is handicap as regards money. I hope Government will help and encourage such co-operative societies which are carrying on dairy activities so that our people may get good milk.

Another thing which we should take upon ourselves is to educate our people in stall feeding. Up till now it is unknown in our State. In some other States of Indian Union, for instance, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, and some other place there is no letting loose of cattle in the grazing grounds like us in Assam. In those places they give stall feeding to

their cattle and therefore the milk yield is high and cattle are free from epidemic disease. So our V. G. Rs. should be converted into fodder grounds, and our people should be educated in stall feeding. As you know, Sir, our cattle are dying in thousands due to their grazing in the fields which are full of germs. So we can save our cattle wealth from total annihilation if we educate our people about the benefits of stall feeding. It is said in the Sastras : “ঘৃতং আয়ুঃ”.

‘Ghee is life.’

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : “ঋণং কৃদ্বা ঘৃতং পিবেৎ বুলি শাস্ত্রত কৈছে নহয় ?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchella) : হয়, টকছে । ঋণং সুখংজীবেৎ । ঋণং কৃদ্বা ঘৃতং পিবেৎ ॥

That was philosophy of life in the past “when you live you live like a man full of health, courage and brain”. Our ancestors were brave and healthy men because they used to take good quantity of milk and Ghee. In the Ahom days there was a popular belief that in Bokaghat area or Kakilamukh, milk was so nice that when the hand is put into a pitcher containing curds it cannot be easily brought out (*Loud laughter*).

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Have you got that experience of not being able to drag out your hand ?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Now-a-days such curd is not available. It seems all those milk and *dohis* have gone to Holland and Switzerland to come back to our country in the shape of powdered milk. Some of my hon. Friends, suggested that we should take good care of our children and students. I also feel that we should take care of our children, otherwise they will have no brain, their heads will be full of ‘gobor’. What is their food now ? They have no milk, no Ghee, no fish, no fruits, no vegetables to eat. They have only some rice, dal, potato, and ‘dhekiasak’ in their dishes. Therefore, we should consider this question very seriously so that we can improve their diet. We can produce all these necessities of life which can make a healthy and wealthy nation. So greater responsibility rests on us. I beg to state that the people should be educated about all these matters. We should also make a point to move from place to place and educate the people about the necessity of improving their diet, including milk and if that is done, I am sure within a short time health of

nation will be restored, otherwise this nation will be a nation of weaklings who cannot be expected to defend the borders of the country. In the village we find some sheds have 13 or 14 cows, but when in the morning the cultivator goes to milk his cows he gets a powa or two. Still they are maintaining these cows. Instead of that, we should educate our people to keep on two or three good cows and give them proper food and care so that a better yield may be obtained. What is the good of keeping some useless cows when they neither give milk nor breed? It is said in our Sastras—

‘কিন্‌ দ্বয়া ক্ৰিয়তে বেগ্ণা,
যা ন সুতে ন দুগ্ধদা ।’

‘What is the necessity of those cows if they do not give milk? Therefore all such cows should be disposed of. Each family should not maintain more than two or three good cows. But what our people usually do? They keep many number of useless cattle and that too in a cow-shed which is never cleaned except on the occasion of Bohag Bihu. Only that day we clean our cow-sheds and for the whole year we leave them as they are. Only on this occasion of Bohag Bihu we take our cows to the tank or Nullah and wash them once a year. If these things are allowed to continue, we cannot expect any improvement of our cattle wealth. Therefore, my appeal is that all my hon. Friends would be pleased to take this matter very seriously and take upon themselves the responsibility of educating our people where ever they go so that with their co-operation and the measures taken by Government we can increase the milk supply in the State. Thank you.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) :

So far as these amendments are concerned I feel that the amendment tabled by Mr. Upadhayaya will be good and therefore I agree to accept it.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Food and Agriculture) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to Mrs. Barua for bringing this Resolution, although as has been pointed out, there are very many factors in it which cannot be decided in a Resolution like this. Sir, this Resolution has focussed a very important point in this House and I am extremely grateful to the hon. Members who have taken part in to-day's debate. They have sincerely considered the whole situation and I find they have also appreciated the difficulties in this connection. First of all, Sir, I would like to reply to my Friend, Mr. Patwari, who seems to be very envious of my physique. I don't want to be as light as he is. Fortunately my

parent made me to drink milk in childhood. It is true, Sir, every child should have sufficient quantity of milk, but what is the position to-day? This commodity, that is milk, is now very scarce in our State. I as a father want to give sufficient quantity of milk to my child but I cannot do that because milk has become a rare commodity to-day. This is a problem which should be considered very seriously by every citizen. Sir, my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya has very ably discussed the problem. Similarly some other Friends and Maulvi Abdul Matlib Mazumdar who himself is a very practical cultivator and who has said that he has got a cow giving 30 to 35 seers of milk, which is a record for us in Assam, have very ably discussed our problems. Certain vital facts used need be considered by us. In this connection I would like to tell the House a small incident. One day a Northern India friend told me that as far as cow rearing in Assam is concerned no investment is necessary. Everything one gets is profit pure and simple. Now my Friend, Mr. Das, said that here in Assam out of 13 or 14 cows only 1/4th seer of milk is available. But I say that this is all a profit without an investment. The forefathers might have purchased one or two cows and subsequently these two cows multiplied to 13 or 14 cows. Out of these cows certainly some two or three has already been sold thus getting bank all the investments or more. Now comes the time to earn profit. I say this is a profit because in the morning the cows are simply let loose from the shed; they roam about in the jungle or the V. G. R., for the whole day and in the evening they return to their sheds. Therefore without taking any trouble for the cows or spending anything for their fodder if one gets 1/4th seer of milk that is pure and simple a profit. But the position is quite different for the people in Northern India. Those people in Northern India stall feed the cattle in the cattle sheds, they clean them and take all sorts of care for the cattle. Those people in Northern India who keep cows go out, either collect or purchase fodder for their cattle, they not only take all sorts of care but feed the cattle in the sheds; so we find these people take a great deal of pains for their cattle. They actually make real investments on the cattle while rearing them. But in Assam these things are not done. The people in Assam do not spend any money on rearing their cattle, that is why the position in Assam to-day is like this. In this connection I would like to point out to the House that according to the census there is 58 lakhs of cattle in the State of Assam. The same census showed the population in the State at 90 lakhs. The other day I was telling the House that about 63 per cent of our

people have got either lands or they get lands from others for cultivation, the rest bring either agricultural labourers or there dependents. Now, if you work out this 66·32 per cent. as against the total population you will find that 58 lakhs of people are either actually working as cultivators or are included in the families of cultivations. If this class of population consists of 58 lakhs of people then approximately you will find that for each member of a cultivator family there is one cattle. If you take a family to consist of five members then that family has got five cattle ; if it is a family of ten members then that family has ten cattle and so on, Sir, this would show that we are suffering from over population of cattle. No cultivator can possibly maintain such a big population of cattle economically. Sir, it has also been said that we should improve the V.G. Rs and P.G.Rs. I do not know whether it is possible for any body to do it because there are 5,54,000 and odds acres of land in the V. G. Rs and P. G. Rs, in Assam. Is it possible to improve all these V. G. Rs and P. G. Rs. ? Of course no body can deny, where there is sufficient supply of food there is chance of good supply of milk. But what is the position in Assam ? Here the people let loose their cattle in the morning and the cattle roam about in these V.G. Rs and P.G. Rs the whole day and return to their sheds in the evening. Now these V. G. Rs and P. G. Rs are not unmixed blessing unless they are properly maintained as somewhere in these V. G. Rs and P. G. Rs there may be some sort of germs of diseases or some worms and if the cattle happen to eat such things surely the cattle will suffer from one or the other diseases. For the last two years both the Revenue and Veterinary Departments could not make any improvement of these V. G. Rs and P. G. Rs because of the public opinion which is against it. Many of the Land Advisory Boards and the public bodies also do not like the idea of improving these V. G. Rs and P. G. Rs. Now referring to the condition of our cattle I may say that when a cattle eats the worms while grazing in the grazing lands, these worms remain in the body of the cattle and work there for generation after generation and they eat away the vital parts of the animal. Therefore the cattle become diminutive after some generations. This has already happened in Assam as our people here do not take care of their cattle, they do not feed them in the sheds, they do not even clean them, they simply let the cattle loose in the morning and in the Godhuli the cattle return to their sheds. That is what we are doing at present in this State. The bacteria lives for a longer time in our soil because the

atmosphere is damp. The bacteria live for a longer time here than, say, in Rajasthan desert or the Sind area, where it will die very quickly due to the heat. But in Assam due to rains and damp climate the bacteria would not die as early as they would in Rajasthan or Sind where there are good cattle. Sir, there are too many bacteria in the grazing fields in Assam. A diseased cattle might have grazed in the V. G. R. the previous year, even though the animal had died, the bacteria survived were there in that V.G.R. When other cattles go to the same field they come across the bacteria and get diseased and it becomes an epidemic particularly in view of weak health and the comparatively less power of resistance resulting in the terrible number of deaths of our cattle population. Then, Sir, the veterinary services in the State are rather meagre, we have got only one dispensary for 500 square miles to serve 54,000 cattle. It is therefore evident that the problem is really a very gigantic one. Sir, we shall have to reconsider the whole position. If we really want that our cattle population should improve we will have to give up the habit of letting loose the cattle in the morning and bringing them back to the house in the evening. We must behave as our brethren in the rest of India are doing, Sir, if you go beyond Bengal—Bengal also has to some extent our habit of letting loose their cattle, you will find in the northern and central India people do not allow their cattle to go out. In fact, there is no greenish patch of land for miles and miles together, yet their cattle are much better and much more healthy and many times more milk-yielding than ours. They feed their cattle in stalls. Sir, if we really mean business, we will have to educate our public opinion in this matter. Sir, when we talk about cattle, we speak in hyperbolic language, full of religious sentiments, but in reality we do not live our cattle wealth. I must say that our love for it is vitiated by crocodile tears than anything else. If we had really loved our cattle population, certainly we would not have behave in this way. I would appeal to every hon. Member of this House to kindly co-operate with us in this matter. We have got a great duty as guardians of our ward, as citizen and as representatives of the people, to educate them. In some way or other in the past they got a cheap benefit but that benefit has degenerated into a vice to-day. We must not be a party to it, we must educate public opinion. Unless and until we do that I feel it is not possible for us, to improve our cattle population.

The next question that confronts us, Sir, is this: that even

if we tackle the human metal and educate our people that they should behave in a different manner, the problem remains as to how to improve the breed of the present cattle population. It is not possible to improve the cattle population in a year's time or 20 years' time or even 50 years' time. Let us consider this. Supposing for every 5,000 cattle this Government decided to have one bull, though, as my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, said, it is not possible to do so for financial grounds alone unless we agree to give up all our other programmes of the Second Five Plan; let us for Arithmetic's sake say that for every 5,000 cattle we will distribute one good type of bull, for these 58 lakhs of cattle population we will have to provide 11,000 bulls and for these 11,000 bulls we will need at least 2 crores and fifty lakhs of rupees. Then, Sir, where to get the bulls? To-day, you know that portion of this country where the cattle population is the best, *viz.*, Sind and such other areas, form part of Pakistan. Unfortunately, to-day because of the foreign exchange *difficulties* and also for not having very happy relationship with Pakistan, we do not get any bull or any cattle from Pakistan. Then, Sir, it is difficult to get good bulls also. Apart from this, even if you could distribute 11,000 bulls at a cost of about two and half crores of rupees, still then the problem will remain. As has been pointed out by Mr. Bhattacharyya, in our State out of 58 lakhs of cattle population there may be possibly 20 lakhs of bulls or heifers and if they go on reproducing degenerated cattle the problem cannot be solved even if we distributed 11,000 bulls. We have to see what was done in other countries of the world. In other countries bad types of cattles were either castrated or destroyed before introducing better breed. But are we prepared to-day to destroy all over bad cattle or are we in a position to castrate them? The position as it is in India now, with a lot of religious and other sentiments involved, it is not possible to kill all our cattle population; nor it is possible to castrate all the animals. Sir, I visited a Gosala some time back and I found that they were keeping all the unproductive and bad type of cattle, including some of the heifers and bulls. I told them that I was ready to help the organisation provided they would agree to castrate all the bad bulls. The answer they gave me was that it was irreligious to do so. If for receiving help from Government they were to castrate all the bad bulls, they would rather forego the help as they considered it as an irreligious act and against the tenets of God. So, I say, Sir, in these circumstances neither the killing of the cattle nor castration is a feasible proposition. Then how can the cattle of the country be improved?

Simply pose this problem before the House but do not go to give my views as it is not always safe to give one's views in a matter like this. This is a problem which should be considered very seriously. To-day the Government cannot distribute bulls to stop all the areas and even if they distribute, it is not possible to stop reproduction of this diminutive type of animals known as cattle in Assem which are no better than goats. Therefore, Sir, this problem is really a very serious problem, which has got to be considered keeping it much above religious susceptibilities and such other considerations. In other countries of the world, for example, in Australia, how do they behave? They rear two types of cattle, one for eating and the other for milk production. Sir, why there is incentive for killing animals to-day? My Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, said that cattle from Kamrup and other areas are brought to Shillong for the purpose of slaughter. But why cattle of Shillong are not killed? I can tell the reason, Sir. When Mr. Woodford was the Director of this Department he brought a good bull of black and white variety to Shillong farm. This one bull had done such a good service in the Shillong area, that the breed of the cattle of this area was improved very much. The good weather and the congenial circumstances, the absence of V. G. R. and facilities they got in the Shillong farm somehow or other helped in the improvement of the cattle wealth of Shillong. The value of this mixed black and white variety of cattle thus increased so much so that at the moment they are much more costly than the cows we find in the plain areas like Kamrup, and such other places. Naturally this is an economic proposition. The cow giving 5 or 6 seers of milk will not be killed for the purpose of purchase a diminutive non-milk giving animal which will be cheaper. One of the incentives for taking beef is its cheapness. A person who eats beef will not like to kill a cow which would be worth Rs.1,000 or 2,000. My attention was drawn by some Members that we should purchase bulls from England for breeding purpose but the price of the same bull, which was purchased for the Upper Shillong Farm by Mr. Woodford, the then Director of Agriculture, at the present market will be about Rs.30,000. If one is the owner of such a bull he will not kill that bull however he may like beef but instead he will go for a diminutive and cheap cattle for beef, which you can purchase at Rs.75 or so. Therefore you find that beef is cheaper than any other meat. Because it is cheap, so it is popular. In view of all these problems you cannot possibly stop cheap cattles coming to Shillong for supply of beef.

My Friend, the Honorary Member from Hailakandi, was referring to Aray Milk Coloney in Bombay and the Haringhata

Milk Colony in West Bengal. Sir, I had the occasion to visit these Colonies. How the Aray Milk Colony came into existence? In Bombay city itself there were about 30,000 cattle kept in Khathal by professional milk-men. The Government of Bombay thought that in the interest of the health and sanitation of the city it was necessary that the cattle were removed outside the city. So they found out a place about 30 miles away from the city. There they started a co-operative venture of the Government and of the owners of these cattle. All cattle in the said Colony are owned by the professional milk men except a few for the purpose of demonstration or artificial insemination. The Government of Bombay by an Act compelled the professional cattle owners or milk-men of Bombay city to remove their cattle from the city to the Aray Colony. They are to pay certain rent and charges for keeping their cattle there in accordance with the provision in the Act. As by the Act nobody is allowed to keep cattle in the city area these people were bound to take their cattle to Aray. How the Government of Bombay initially financed it? Bombay City being a very big place is full of tea stalls where millions of pounds of powder milk were and are used. The Government of Bombay by an Act imposed a tax of Re.1 and anna eight only or so per pound of powdered milk to be used in these stalls. By this tax they collected huge sums of money and with this money they started the Aray Milk Colony and compelled the professional cattle owners to go there. There is a big pasturisation plant. It will not be possible for us to have a colony like Aray because we have no such big city or there is no way to augment this finance for starting such a colony. We have no such big milk yielding cattle population in one area to start with. If the Hon. Members agree, of course, in the 2nd Five Year Plan we can start raising a tax for the purpose of starting a milk colony later on. Apart from this, a cattle in Bombay Aray Colony on the average gives 8 seers of milk per day including the period of drying. You will not get such cows or buffaloes in Assam giving 8 seers of milk per day on the average. I have been thinking very seriously whether we can start such a colony, but I am sorry to say that considering all these things, the idea boils down.

Sir, I am extremely grateful to the Hon. Members for bringing in such a worthwhile discussion regarding making our people conscious or to make them milk minded. I entirely agree with the Hon. Members and I will request our Publicity Department to take up this work in right earnest. I am sure, my Friend, the Minister in-charge of Publicity, who is present in the House has taken a note of the suggestion. I assure that the Government have accepted the suggestion of the Hon. Members and will do their utmost in this connection.

Sir, now about the Resolution itself, the original Resolution as moved by Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua is such that if it is accepted by the Government it will be impossible to carry it out. The amendment that has been given by my Friend, Mr. Patwari, has made the position still more worse because he has suggested that the Government will have to be in a position to supply milk to urban and semi-urban areas of the whole State within one year's time. I find, Shri Bhattacharyya, hailing from the Opposition, also agrees with me. He was said the Government has not got the resources to carry out this Resolution.

Therefore, I would request, Shri Patwari, not to press his amendment. I know he is a lover of cattle and since he became a Member of this House he has been taking every opportunity to speak for the welfare of our cattle population. He has given some valuable suggestions; surely, his suggestions will be taken into consideration. I hope, he will not press his amendment.

Now, with regard to the Resolution, as it stands after the acceptance of the amendment of Shri Biswanath Upadhaya, by Mrs. Komol Kumari Barua, I am prepared to accept it. In that Resolution it is suggested that Government should start a Pilot project. Now, if it is a Pilot project of a considerably big size it will not be possible to have it within one year as is asked in the amended Resolution. However, we will try to have a beginning of a Pilot project in smaller scale this year. In the 2nd 5 Year Plan the schemes are there to improve Khanapara, Barpeta, and Dibrugarh Farms, but none of these farms are profit earning farms. I am thinking how they can be converted into profit earning ones. The first thing as has been said by Jonab Mazumdar Saheb is this that in two of these three farms the area for growing fodder is extremely limited. The greatest difficulty in Khanapara farm as well as in the Shillong farm is this that the area of these farms being extremely limited. There is extremely limited chance to increase the area under fodder. Therefore, these farms have got to purchase fodder at very high price. Another difficulty in Khanapara farm is, there is not sufficient drinking water. Up till now we have not been able to solve this problem. No land is available near about this farm as it is surrounded by hills and very low-lying areas. I am thinking how we can solve this problem.

Sir, as has been said by my Friend with regard to the Mura buffaloes, I admit they are not as good as was expected. It is a revelation to me that there was fraud at the time of

purchase of these animals, that fact was unknown to me. There may be some truth in it. It is quite possible that our officers might have been cheated as my Friend has said. The reason for reduction of milk yield of the Mura buffaloes as given by my Department is this that these buffaloes have deteriorated due to atmospheric conditions here. Whatever that may be, it is no use pursuing that matter to day. But I can tell my Friends that we are now seriously thinking of improving the local breed. As to what breed is suited to Assam there is considerable divergence even amongst the experts in the line. Ever since I became Minister for Veterinary I found these experts and semi-experts have been quarrelling amongst themselves as to which type is a good breed and so on and so forth and in this way the difference is going on. But as I have said, when we cannot get good breeding bulls from outside we are thinking how to improve our local breed. Recently when I had been to Delhi I attended the All India Cattle show and the scene that I had seen there is really a heartening one. For a man coming from Assam where the standard of cattle population is bad I was really enamoured of some of the specimen. I don't know what quantity of milk they produce, but from the size and grandour of the animals, I can say, Sir, that they were a splendid specimen. Even the worst one in the show possibly cannot be in found in any of our homes. I have cattle in my family also, Sir, but they cannot be compared with those I saw in Delhi.

Now, Sir, I have been thinking hard these days to allow the Manager of a Cattle Farm or an Agricultural Farm to remain at one place for a pretty long time, because I feel, if a villager is asked to run a poultry farm or a dairy farm of his own, profitably, why a Government farm should not and cannot be run with profit? I feel unless and until the Manager of a farm is made liable both for loss as well as profit, there will be no solution to this question. If Managers are changed every two or three years you cannot lay the responsibility on any one. Under the present service conditions there is no scope to fix responsibility for loss. For example, in a fishery the Manager of the farm reports that he can get five thousand fishes from that fishery but when another man takes over his place he would say he cannot get even two hundred fishes from the same fishery. So there is no way out unless we change the present service conditions by which we can fix responsibility for loss or profit on the Managers themselves concerned. If a Manager runs a farm with profit he should get commission and if he runs it at a loss he should be made liable for the loss.

It is necessary to consider the question of revising the present service conditions.

Sir, under the Second Five-Year Plan and also from our normal budget we have got proposals for establishing dairy farms at Gungoor in Silchar, at Nowgong, Jorhat, Tezpur, etc. For this purpose Government had already taken steps to requisition land in all these places. In this connection we are experiencing some difficulties. In Nowgong we require 900 bighas of land, but the people there said, "Why do you need 900 bighas of land for a dairy farm when 100 or 200 bighas would suffice"? As a matter of fact I think this is now one of the headaches of the Revenue Minister because the Deputy Commissioner came forward with a proposal whether the Veterinary Department cannot reduce their demand from 900 to 200 bighas so as to enable the rest of the land to be used as V.G.Rs. Similarly Sir, is the case with Jorhat. Of course I do not think there is any difficulty about land in Tezpur..... (Shri Mohi Kanta Das : Land is available in Tezpur) Thank, you. My point, Sir, is this that if we have to tackle this problem we must find land. I do not understand this opposition about more land from V. G. Rs, for starting our schemes. Sir, the Second Five-Year Plan is the Plan of the country, the Plan was voted in the Assembly and all of us, the representatives of the people, are associated with this Plan. Thus it is our duty to see to the successful implementation of the Plan ; we are in fact committed to implement the Plan. Therefore, I would appeal to all Members of this House—many of them are Members of the Land Advisory Boards—in their respective places to help us in getting lands particularly from V.G.R.s. to start our schemes and projects. In this connection I may inform the hon. Members of this House that there was a scheme for improving the V.G. Rs but for two years we could do nothing because of opposition from a small group of people supported by some of these Land Advisory Boards. When we approach them for land they would say, "Why should you require so much land"? In this way we do not get co-operation from a section of the people and also from some of the local Land Advisory Board. So I would again appeal to all Members of this House to co-operate with the Government in this matter. It is after all a scheme for all of us. As this is a scheme envisaged in the Second Five-Year Plan, so it is the duty of all of us to implement it. For the success of this scheme we require land and land has got to be secured to us by associating public opinion as well. I would invite the hon. Members of this House to kindly co-operate

in this respect. Sir, with regard to the rest of the resolution; if we really can improve the milk supply, it will greatly improve not only the lot of the cultivators, but it will be a subsidiary income for them. Although there is some provision in the Second Five-Year Plan for giving loans to the people who would start small dairy farms, I am really sorry to say that in the course of last two years very little of that loan had been distributed. I really feel very sorry about. The reason is this that there were no rules and in fact, these were not framed at all. Lack of officers and personnels and such other things were put forward as reasons for not being able to distribute the loans. I can assure the House that this matter has received my attention and I myself feel very sad about it. I will take every step to distribute the loans early. With these words, Sir, I accept the Resolution moved by Mrs. Barua as amended by Mr. Upodhyaya, I request Mr. Patwari to withdraw his amendment.

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA (Gohpur): But what about the cattle loan ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister Food and Agriculture): Cattle loan is given by the Revenue Department and not by the Veterinary Department. I was talking of the loan by which livestock are purchased for the purpose of improving milk supply. That would possibly satisfy my Friend.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): Sir, on a point of information

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You need not speak. You may indicate whether you would like to withdraw your amendment or not.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery): মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, seed farm সম্বন্ধে মই জানো sight selection কৰোতে যদি অফিচাৰ সকলে Local প্ৰতিনিধি সকলৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰি লয় তেনেহলে কোনো অসুবিধা বা dispute ৰ কথা আহিব নোৱাৰে। কিন্তু তেওঁলোকে সাধাৰণতে তেনে নকৰে। যদি ১৬০ বিঘা মাটিৰ পৰা ৭০ বিঘা মাটি seed farm ৰ কাৰণে টায়ায় তেনে হলে স্বাভাৱিকভে আপত্তি উঠিব, কিন্তু ৫০০ বা হাজাৰ বিঘাৰ পৰা যদি ৯০ বিঘা লৈ যায় তেনেহলে আপত্তি উঠাৰ কাৰণ নাই। গতিকে sight select কৰাৰ আগতে অফিচাৰ সকলে স্থানীয় প্ৰতিনিধি বা গাওঁৰ মুখীয়াল মানুহৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰি লোৱা উচিত। মোৰ সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱটো withdraw কৰা সম্বন্ধে মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে যদি মজলটে Dairy farm ৰ নামটো যোগ কৰি দিয়ে তেনেহলে withdraw কৰাত মোৰ আপত্তি নাই।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: এতিয়া অন্য কোনো নাম যোগ কৰা সময় নহয়।

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHUR (Minister) Food and Agriculture) চাৰ, চাৰডিভিজন basis ত consider নকৰি district basis ত হে কৰা হৈছে। গতিকে ইয়াত আপত্তি কি কাৰণ থাকিব পাৰে ?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: আপুনি withdraw কৰিবনে নকৰে ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): মাননীয় সদস্য মহোদয় এই বিষয়ে অলপ আগবাঢ়িলে এনেয়ে হৈ যাব তেখেতে আগ বাঢ়িলেই হয়।

Shri HIRALAL PATWRY (Panery): মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ পৰা আশ্বাস পাই মোৰ কৰ্ত্ত্বপ্ৰস্তাবটো withdraw কৰিলো।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The cut motion is withdrawn with the leave of the House.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): On a point of procedure, Sir, now that the mover of the Resolution has accepted the amendment, the original Resolution does not stand. The Resolution will stand in the amended form.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Resolution in the amended form is that: "This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do adopt and execute a pilot scheme of dairying and milk supply in suitable areas from the current year with a view to (i) supplying abundant pure milk in the State and (ii) improving the cattle wealth of the State".

(The Resolution was adopted).

Resolution to constitute a Committee with a view to make a comprehensive study of the problem of untouchability in its present form in the light of the report and recommendations of the Scheduled Castes Commissioner.

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA (Patharkandi [Reserved for Scheduled Castes]): Sir, I beg to move that with a view to make a comprehensive study of the problem of untouchability in its present form in the light of the report and recommendations of the Scheduled Castes Commissioner and to suggest ways and means for the best implementation of those recommendations along with specific measures commensurate with the specific problems of the Scheduled Castes people in Assam, this Assembly recommends that a Committee consisting of the following persons be appointed:—

- (1) One Cabinet Minister as Chairman.
- (2) Secretary, State Scheduled Castes, of Advisory Board, as Secretary ;

- (3) One member from the most representative Scheduled Castes Organisation in Assam ;
- (4) One member from among the Scheduled Castes member of Parliament elected by this House, and
- (5) The mover of this Resolution.

Sir, আমি এই প্রস্তাবের সমর্থনে আমার বক্তব্য উপস্থিত করবার পূর্ব্বে ভারতের সংবিধানের একটা বিশেষ অধ্যায়ের প্রতি এই সভার দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করছি। সংবিধানের Part XVIএ ৩৩০ ধারা থেকে আরম্ভ করে ৩৪২ ধারা পর্য্যন্ত কতকগুলি ধারা এবং উপধারাতে Sceduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes সম্পর্কে বিশেষ রক্ষা কবচ বা Special Provisions এর ব্যবস্থা রয়েছে।

Sir, সংবিধানের মুখবন্ধে আছে—

Justice, Social, Economic and political ; Liberty of thought, expression belief, faith and worship ; Equality of status and of opportunity and to promote among them all Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of the Nation.

যেখানে এই সমস্ত উদার এবং সাম্যনীতি ঘোষণা করা হয়েছে সেখানে আবার বিশেষ রক্ষা কবচ কেন ? মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাদের সংবিধানের রচয়িতা যারা তারা Scheduled Caste or Tribe, যারা তাদের বাস্তব অবস্থাকে বিবেচনা করেই তারা এই বিশেষ ব্যবস্থা সংবিধানের মধ্যেই রেখে গেছেন। তাঁরা জানতেন, এই পিছে পড়া সম্প্রদায়গুলিকে যদি অগ্রসর করে আনবার কোনো ব্যবস্থা করা না যায়, যদি তাদের “মূঢ় মুক স্তান মুখে” ভাষা ফুটিয়ে তোলা না যায় তবে বৃথা হবে সংবিধানের সাম্যনীতি ঘোষণা—ব্যর্থতায় পর্য্যবসিত হবে ভারতের জাতি গঠনের স্বপ্ন।

আমাদের আসামে এই সমস্যাটা কি ভাবে আছে আজ স্বাধীনতা প্রাপ্তি একাদশবর্ষে বিচার করতে হবে। বিচার করতে হবে আমরা এই পিছে পড়া সম্প্রদায়গুলিকে টেনে নিয়ে আসবার কি ব্যবস্থা করেছি এবং কতটুকুই বা সাফল্য লাভ হয়েছে আমাদের এক্ষেত্রে।

উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমরা অত্যন্ত গর্বিত যে আমাদের এই সমস্যা দক্ষিণ ভারত বা অন্যান্য অংশের মত অস্পৃতা বর্জনের সমস্যা নয়। আমাদের আসামের সমস্যা অন্যরূপ। এর বহু কারণ রয়ে গেছে। প্রথমতঃ আমি শ্রদ্ধার সঙ্গে স্মরণ করতে চাই সেই সমস্ত মহাপুরুষদের কথা যাদের নীতি এবং ধর্মপ্রচারে আসামে জাতি ভেদ প্রথা তত তীব্র হয়ে উঠতে পারেনি। প্রাতঃস্মরণীয় শ্রীমন্ত শঙ্করদেব, শ্রীচৈতন্যদেব প্রভৃতি মহাপুরুষ এক গভীর সংকট মুহূর্ত্তে রক্ষা করেছিলেন জাতিকে অস্পৃতার বিষক্রিয়া সম্পর্কে সচেতন করে দিয়ে। স্বামী বিবেকানন্দ, রামকৃষ্ণ মিশন প্রভৃতির ঐকান্তিক চেষ্টায় আমরা এর তীব্রতা থেকে অনেকটা মুক্ত।

তদুপরি আসামের গঠন বৈচিত্র এবং ভৌগোলিক অবস্থা এমন একটা পরিবেশ সৃষ্টি করে রেখেছে যে মানুষ আপনা থেকে এই কুপ্রথাকে বর্জনের চলেছে। আসামে আমরা দেখতে পাই সমতলের সঙ্গে মিশে গেছে পাহাড়ী গ্রাম—সেখানে পাশাপাশি বাস করছে

উপজাতি এবং অন্যান্য সম্প্রদায়। একই গ্রামে বাস করছে অনুসূচিত জাতি বা তথাকথিত উচ্চ বর্ণের লোক। ফলে একটা অর্থনৈতিক বন্ধন ক্রমে ক্রমে দৃঢ় হয়েছে উভয়ের মধ্যে। আমরা দেখতে পাই শিল্প এবং অর্থনৈতিক বিকাশের সঙ্গে সঙ্গে এই জঘন্য প্রথারও অবসান ঘটে। চা-বাগানে, রেল বা অন্যান্য কারখানায় এর কোন চিহ্ন পাওয়া যায় না—সেখানে বিভিন্ন custom এবং system নিয়ে সকলেই ক্রমে সংঘবদ্ধ হয়েছে একই শিল্পে। অবসরই নাই তাদের এ সম্পর্কে অনুসন্ধান লওয়ার। সবাই শ্রমিক, সবাই মেহাতি মানুষ—শুধু তাই পরিচয়।

আমাদের আসায়ে সমস্যাটা কি? এখানে আমি যতটুকু বুঝতে পেরেছি তাতে এই ধারণা হয়েছে যে সমস্যা এখানে জাতিভেদ প্রথা অবসান বা অস্পৃশ্যতা বর্জননের সমস্যা নয়, এখানকার সমস্যা শিক্ষাক্ষেত্রে অনগ্রসরতা এবং অর্থনৈতিক পশ্চাত্তমতার সমস্যা। আমাদের Scheduled Castes বা জনজাতি বা হরিজন সম্প্রদায় এত গরীব যে নিজের অতি সামান্য জীবনধারণের সমস্যার বাহিরে কোন কথা চিন্তাই করতে পারেনা। শিক্ষার ক্ষেত্রে এত পশ্চাত্তম যে—নিজের সংকীর্ণতা থেকে মুক্ত হয়ে ভারতের বৃহত্তর জাতিগঠনে নিজেদের স্থানকে বেছে নেওয়ার কথা তাদের স্বপ্নেও বোধকরি স্থান পায় না।

মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমি ছোট ছোট দু'একটা উদাহরণ দিতে চাই, এই সম্প্রদায়গুলি বেশীর ভাগই জমিহীন কৃষক, নানকার ভাগী প্রথায় বা দিন মজুরী করে এরা চাষ আবাদ করে। না হয় বিলের ধারে ধারে বসত করেছে মাছ ধরার জন্য। করিমগঞ্জের জমিদারী এলাকায় আজ জমি নিয়ে যত সংঘর্ষ এবং প্রজা উচ্ছেদ চলছে বেশীর ভাগই এই সম্প্রদায়ের লোক জমি থেকে বহুপূর্বেই এরা উচ্ছেদ হয়ে জমিহীন হয়েছে। আজ বিল থেকেও উচ্ছেদ হয়ে যাচ্ছে সরকারী নিলাম ডাকের নীতিতে। অধিক টাকা দিয়ে বড় বড় মহাজনরা সমস্ত বিল ডেকে নিয়ে যায়। তারপর সেই মহাজনের মজির্জর উপর নির্ভর করে মাছ ধরতে হয় তাদের।

আমি বলতে চাই যে এ অবস্থাকে দূর করবার জন্য সরকার কি ব্যবস্থা করেছেন? হ্যাঁ সরকার বলবেন আমাদের Instruction আছে জমি বিলীও ফিসারী মহাল ডাকে Special preference দিতে হবে।

আমি গভর্ণমেন্টকে অনুরোধ করি করিমগঞ্জ মহকুমার জমি বিলির List পরীক্ষা করুন এই কয় বৎসরের সমস্ত ধরা পড়ে যাবে, বিভিন্ন চাকুরীর অনুসন্ধান করুন যে উপযুক্ত প্রার্থী থাকা সত্ত্বেও দেওয়া হয় না চাকুরী প্রচুর জনসংখ্যা থাকা সত্ত্বেও বিভিন্ন বোর্ডে Nomination দেওয়া হয় না এই সম্প্রদায়কে। সেদিন School Board এর একটা প্রশ্ন করেছিলাম এবং R. T. A. Board এর একটা প্রশ্ন করেছিলাম, সেই থেকেই পরিষ্কার বুঝা যায় কতটুকু special preference দিচ্ছেন সরকার।

অন্যদিকে আমি যে কথা বলেছি, যে শিক্ষার ব্যাপক প্রসারের প্রয়োজন আজ এই সমস্ত সম্প্রদায়ের মধ্যে। Sir, আপনি আশ্চর্যান্বিত হবেন শুনে যে ৬০৭১০ পরিবারের এক একটা গ্রাম। সেই সমস্ত গ্রামে আজ পর্যন্ত পাঠশালা পাশ একজন লোক পাওয়া যায়না। অথচ যদি তাদের চেষ্টায় কোন প্রাথমিক বিদ্যালয় প্রতিষ্ঠা করা যায় তবে বোর্ড তা মঞ্জুর করেন না। ১৯৫১।৫২ ইংরাজীতে একটা পাঠশালা স্থাপন করেছিল এই রকম একটা গ্রামের লোক। ৬০ জন ছাত্র তার যোগ্য শিক্ষক থাকা সত্ত্বেও মাত্র ১৯৫৭ সালে সেই স্কুলে গ্র্যাণ্ট দেওয়া হয়েছে। এটাই Special Preference এর নমুনা। এরকম দৃষ্টান্ত অনেক দিতে পারব।

মাননীয় মন্ত্রী যদি এই বৎসরের Cyclone Damage স্কুলের গ্যাপ্ট দেওয়ার লিষ্টটা দেখেন তবে বঝতে পারবেন অবস্থাটা কি ? সমস্ত Scheduled Caste এলাকায় স্কুল গুলিকে মনে হয় এখন ইচ্ছা করে বাদ দেওয়া হয়েছে । অথচ আমি নিজে লিষ্ট দিয়েছি এবং আমি জানি D. I. ও দিয়েছেন । আমি করিনগঞ্জ মহকুমার কথা বলছি শুধু আমার নির্বাচন চক্রের কথা নয় । অথচ অনেক Bogus নামে অনেক স্কুলকে গ্যাপ্ট দেওয়া হয়েছে । কেন ? কোনখানে অস্পৃশ্যতা বর্জননের প্রয়োজনীয়তা দেখা দিয়েছে । আজ বিচার করে দেখতে হবে ।

উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাদের কৃষকরা উন্নত ধরণের চাষ জানেনা বলে সরকার গ্রাম সেবক পাঠিয়ে সার দিয়ে বস্ত্র দিয়ে সাহায্য করে মানুষকে শিক্ষা দিচ্ছেন । এই সমস্ত মানুষ বাদের শিক্ষা লাভের প্রয়োজনীয়তাটুকু নিজেরা বুঝেনা সরকারী কর্মচারী পাঠিয়ে তাদের প্রয়োজনীয়তা বুঝিয়ে দিয়ে সরকারী উদ্যোগে স্কুল প্রতিষ্ঠা করা কি উচিত ছিলনা ? সংবিধান কি এ দায়িত্ব দেয়নি ? শুধু কিছু Reservations of Seats থাকবে এটা তো উদ্দেশ্য হতে পারেনা—উদ্দেশ্য শুধু এটা হতে পারেনা যে আমাদের কয়জন পুরা মন্ত্রী হবেন—কয়জন উপমন্ত্রী হবেন—বা বিভিন্ন বোর্ডে Nomination কয়জন পাবে । অবশ্য এটার প্রয়োজন যে নেই আমি এটা বলছি না । এটার প্রয়োজন আছে । একটা আত্মবিশ্বাস বা Self Confidence থাকে যে আমার লোকও তো ঐ হতে পারে । আমিও চেষ্টা করলে হতে পারব কিন্তু মুখ্য উদ্দেশ্য তা নয় । মুখ্য উদ্দেশ্য সমস্ত সম্প্রদায়কে নিয়ে আসা উপরের স্তরে, যেখানে সে নিজের চিন্তার বাইরেও দেশ এবং জাতি সম্পর্কে চিন্তা করতে পারে।—নিজেকে নিরাপদ করতে পারে জাতি গঠনে । সংবিধান এই দায়িত্বই আমাদের দিয়েছে ।

এ সম্পর্কে চূড়ান্ত রিপোর্ট তৈরীর জন্য ভারত সরকার একজন কমিশনার নিয়োগ করেছেন । তিনি আসাম সম্পর্কে যে অভিজ্ঞতা নিয়ে গেছেন আমি তা তুলে ধরেছি “The Government of Assam have informed that Social disabilities are practically non-existent in that State. In order, however to properly deal with this evil where existing, a scheme of intensive propaganda for the removal of untouchability was launched by the State Government which included holding of social melas and inter-caste dinners, observance of “untouchability days”, issue of pamphlets, etc. In each Subdivision, a whole time officer has been appointed to co-ordinate the activities of both officials and non-officials. There is common messing in all hostels, attached to the Government Aided Schools and Colleges. There are 430 common wells in the three Subdivisions.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):

Will the hon. Member let me know the particular year of this Report ?

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: It is from first report 1955 at page 74. The new report was submitted by the Commissioner in the Lok Sabha in the present session. It is not yet received, Sir.

এই যদি তিনি এখানকার Scheduled Caste সম্পর্কে অভিজ্ঞতা নিয়া যান তবে কি recommendation করিবেন? আমরা সহজেই বুঝি, যার ফলে দেখি আসামের scheduled Caste দের সমস্যা সম্পর্কে কোন recommendation তিনি দেন নি বললেই চলে।

আসাম গভর্ণমেন্ট হয়তো বলবেন আমরা টাকা খরচ করছি। হ্যাঁ, অনেক টাকা খরচ হচ্ছে। কিন্তু গতকাল আমার একটা প্রশ্নের উত্তরে মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্রী মহোদয় বলেছেন “The list is not happy” চৌদ্দ হাজার টাকা গৃহনির্মানের সাহায্য হিসাবে দিয়েছিলেন। আর তখনকার কংগ্রেস M. L. A. এবং তার আন্দোলন স্বজন মিলে সমস্ত টাকা ভাগ করে নিয়ে গেছেন। এভাবে প্রচুর টাকা যাচ্ছে এবং তার অপব্যয় হচ্ছে Scheduled Caste Welfare এর নামে।

গভর্ণমেন্ট বলতে পারেন State Advisory Board আছে। কিন্তু আমি তো দেখেছি সেই বোর্ড এর অবস্থা। ১৫।২০ মিনিটের জন্য মিটিং বসেছে কতকগুলো টাকার অংক হাজির করা হয়। ২।১ জন সদস্য এদিক থেকে কেটো ওদিকে দেওয়ার সুপারিশ করলেন। ব্যস হয়ে গেল। এইতো। কোন সমস্যা নিয়ে আলোচনার অধিকার বোর্ডের বোধ হয় নেই।

মাননীয় উপধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় সংবিধানের বিশেষ রক্ষাকবচের ব্যৱস্থা চিরদিনর জন্য নয়। আমরা Scheduled Castes এরলোকরাত্ত ব্যবস্থা থেকে মুক্তি চাই। Special preference এর আওতাও নিজকে সংকীর্ণ করে রাখতে চাইনা। তাই আজ সমস্যার মূল অনুসন্ধান করতে হবে। এবং যত শীঘ্ৰে সম্ভব এই সমস্যাকে দূর করার উপায় নিদ্ধারণ করতে হবে। তাই এই আমার প্রস্তাব।

আজ সমস্ত Scheduled Castes মানুষ চায় মুক্তি—অর্থনৈতিক দাসত্ব থেকে চায় আলো—শিক্ষা এবং জ্ঞানের আলো। আশা করি এই প্রস্তাব গ্রহণ করে এই সভা সে পথের সূচনা করবেন।

Mr. Deputy SPEAKER: The Resolution is moved that with a view to make comprehensive study of the problem of untouchability in its present form in the light of the report and recommendations of the Scheduled Castes Commissioner and to suggest ways and means for the best implementation of those recommendations along with specific measures commensurate with the specific problem of the Scheduled Castes people in Assam, this Assembly recommends that a Committee consisting of the following persons be appointed:—

(1) One Cabinet Minister, Chairman ;

(2) Secretary, State Scheduled Castes Advisory Board, as Secretary ;

- (3) One member from the most representative Scheduled Castes Organisation in Assam ;
- (4) One member from among the Scheduled Castes members of Parliament elected by the House ;
and
- (5) The mover of this Resolution.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand to support the Resolution moved by my Friend Shri Namasudra. I would have been happier if such a Resolution would have come from a Member not belonging to the Scheduled Castes, because up till now we have been noticing even in this House that when the question of doing justice to the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribe for the Backward communities come, we see generally the Member belonging to that caste, or tribe or community alone take more interest. I wish all the Members of this House., particularly those who do not belong to those castes or tribe, evince more interest because this is not a problem only of a particular community or only of those few castes, this is a national problem. A duty was enjoined upon us by the Constitution itself. The preamble of the Constitution itself made it very clear that the Indians under freedom would stand for equality in every sense—social, political, economical, intellectual and in every sense. But unfortunately the position in our country is such that a vast section of our people live in darkness, not due to their fault, not because they are incapable, but because the circumstances where they find themselves are such that they cannot come out of that. Sir, it is a crime committed by our forefathers that when man was born free, when man was born equal, there should be unequal treatment, simply because one happens to be born in a particular family, or community or with a particular colour. All our sages, seers, all our national leaders have been exhorting that we must do away with this inequality and this inequity.

Sir, it was not thought enough to state in the Preamble of the Constitution that we stand for equality, it was considered necessary by the framers of the Constitution that certain extraordinary provisions should be there so that those who have been neglected, those who have been oppressed, those who have been unjustly treated, are given certain special attention so that they may come forward at a faster rate so that they may catch up with those who have found themselves in a more advanced, in a more favoured condition. So long as

this is not done, so long as there will be no equal opportunity and equal facility for every citizen of this country there will never be complete democracy—not to speak of political, even social democracy will not be completed. It is therefore a special responsibility of those who claim themselves to belong to the so-called higher castes or higher classes to understand more deeply than it appears to have been understood up till now. The very report from which Shri Namasudra quoted, shows that there is not up till now a proper understanding. I have gone through the report and I am constrained to say that I was dismayed to find that this report does not give a true picture of the Scheduled Caste or Tribe people of our State. I do not blame the Commissioner, I do not say he is a man with limited understanding or with limited sympathy. I am not accusing him in that way. What I complain of is that our Government, our Leaders, we ourselves have not been able to apprise the Commissioner about the real state of affairs here in this State. We have shown him only what we have done, we have not shown him what have not been done or where we have failed to do what we ought to have done. For example, take one instance—the question of rehabilitation of the Scheduled Caste people, I use the word 'rehabilitation' with a definite purpose because in the past they had certain vocations in life. In the past, rightly or wrongly, there was an idea that people should stick to certain professions according to birth and in certain scriptures also we find it is said—

“चतुर्वर्णं मया सृष्टौ गुणकर्म विभागश्च” or “सुधर्मनिधनं श्रेयः पवर्त्तान्निर्वाहः” ।

It was rather suggested to the mouth of one Incarnation by somebody who had the control over the society, that these things were God-made.

I don't think that God created different classes but all these things were put to the mouth of God, because it is said that God created things after his own image though really we create God according to our own image and convenience and also by certain ideas in the name of Shastra, Scriptures, etc., only to serve our own purpose, specially the class purposes. Sir, when there was Brahmanical reaction in our country, the Sudras who used to do the actual labours for the good of the country were looked down upon by the ruling power and those who used to produce were themselves deprived of their production and they were not respected with dignity, that is the irony of fate. But to-day the entire world situation has changed. The world of to-day is not the world

of Kings, Emperors, etc. The world is to-day very fastly going to be a world of toiling people and in principle we have accepted that and all the political parties have accepted it. What type of socialism will be that when the toiling and working people will not be respected, what type of socialism will be that when certain working people will be treated as untouchables, what type of democracy is that where if a man enters into my kitchen or the room where I am eating my food my food becomes inedible and unhealthy, although there is nothing wrong? What type of democracy is that where after the 10th or 11th year of freedom there should be this question of untouchability in our country? Just now, the mover of the Resolution said that untouchability in a literal sense, is not so very rampant in our part of the country that is in Assam. For example, it is not as virulent in Assam as in Madras. It may be so because the reaction against the Brahmins is not so very strong in our State to-day as it is in Madras. They have been reaping as they had sown. This is, to a great extent due to the teaching of the different social and religions reformers. Whatever that may be, it was due to the attitude of the ruling power that the workers are looked down upon. While discussing this matter in this House, some hon. Members say that 75 per cent of our people live in the villages, some say that 80 per cent live in the villages, at any rate, we may atleast say that 4/5th of our population live in the villages. Now let us see what is the condition in the villages. It is really idillic to say that with my Friend Shri Ramnath Das we can take food in the same dish, even my wife and Mrs. Das' daughter can take food from the same dish, but in the villages it is quite different, even a most ordinary villager will not take food served by a Scheduled Caste man. Sir, sometime there are some community feasts in which the Members of this House, the Ministers and other dignitaries sometime have to sit together and eat together when there is some sort of ceremonial functions, etc. In this connection, I remember about a feast here in Shillong itself where the Ministers, Members of the Assembly and others were to eat together with the scavengers. It was a feast no doubt but it was arranged in a different way. Ministers were given a separate row, the Members a different row and in this way there were different rows for different classes of people although it was supposed that there would be a common meal, so you will see that these sorts of things are there. If we wanted to solve the problem of untouchability there ought to be a common meal and there ought to be no separate arrangements made for different classes of people.

Therefore, I say that if we want to do away with untouchability these sorts of things should not be allowed to continue and the most important thing is the basic problem of economy and culture. I don't want to say that the Scheduled Castes are less cultured. In certain sense they are much more cultured than the so-called high-brow of the Assamese people. So far as language, literature, music, dance and all these things are concerned, I think the so-called untouchables have got greater contribution than the so-called high-brows but the point is that it is impossible to take the common man in our society because it is economically impossible for him to live together with a decent standard. Therefore, he has to suffer and is being neglected by the society. We find that we are ourselves in between two horns of a dilemma. The difficulty uptil-now is that false things have been spread that although some people however dignified he may be, however rich he may be, however well-placed he may be, if he happens to be born in a particular caste he is supposed to be debarred from the society of the so-called high-brows and that feeling has been put into the society. Secondly, due to the economic poverty of the people this has also created in them a state of inferiority complex, so these poor unfortunate people feel that it is too difficult for them to exert themselves and they feel that some amount of injustice has been done to them and although if they are found to be susceptible, if they are found to be respected they are not able to express anything forcefully but they are expressing themselves in their weakness and in their poverty. In the name of religion, in the name of Sastras, and in the name of scriptures and sermons, we approach these people and say "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for their's is the kingdom of heaven"! But if they put back "Well, let this kingdom of heaven be for you, Sir, and in this kingdom of earth let us have some happiness", then, of course, we will say "No, No, let you have the greater thing and not the smaller thing"! That is the type of propaganda, that is the type of preaching which is going on in the name of religion. This acts like opium to suppress the virility of the people. "God ordained it, so what can we do? Perhaps in some previous life you committed certain things which were bad and, therefore, God has given you birth in such a family"—this kind of preaching is made and he also is made to believe "perhaps it may be so; due to some sin committed in the past life I have been born so and not receiving the good things of life". It is high time when we must revolt against this sort of lullaby, this sort of opium habit and in doing that if sometimes we are to stand against tradition, we should be bold enough and revolutionary enough

to tear those traditions off because whatever has come from the past is not necessarily good. Many good things we have inherited from our forefathers, but along with them we have inherited many bad things also; everything is not either unmixed good or unmixed evil. Here is a thing where we can say it is preposterous, it is monstrous and, therefore, it should be eradicated in toto. If we want to do that we must go to the basic problem; that basic problem is that we must rehabilitate these people in their rightful place and if we are to do that it will not do if we only think that "here is a Minister coming from the Scheduled Castes, so the Scheduled Castes are represented in the administration; here are a few E. A. Cs. from them, so they are represented in the service;" and if some building loans are given to some M. L. As. and *ex-M. L. As.*, we have done our duty to the Scheduled Castes. Not that. I do not of course say, Sir, that these things have not got their utility. They have got the utility of giving them confidence, they have the utility of bringing into their minds a sense of self-respect, they have the utility to make them understand and feel not inferior to anybody in any sphere. They can be Ministers and capable Ministers too. They can be Magistrates, and so on and from that point of view there is necessity for these things. But that is not enough and that does not go the core of the problem; it only touches the fringe. Where is the core? Take for instance, the question of agriculturists. If there is some agriculturist belonging to the scheduled caste it is also a concomitant fact that here is one who is extremely impoverished; if he had some money at least he would some how have gone for a fishery mahal if he belonged to the Kaivarta or Namasudra community; at least he could be a sub-mahaldar under some benamdar. If he has nothing, no money even to purchase a net or some implement for fishing then he has no other way out than to be either an agricultural labourer or an adhiar and so on. So, when there is some allotment of land, and specially when in these Land Settlement Advisory Committees we find our responsible M. L. As. as members, why can they not make it a point that, instead of distributing favour to their kith and kin in spite of the fact that blood is thicker than water, they would follow the instructions of the Constitution? Why can't they think "Here are some applicants who belong to the Scheduled Castes, whom the Constitution guarantees help, and they must be given first preference". But is it being done! I think not. There has been a lot of land allotment; for example in my district, in the Gauhati subdivision. For the last five or ten years

many people have been allotted land. Can the Government say that even 10 per cent of these allottees belong either to the Scheduled Castes or backward communities or to the Scheduled Tribes of the plains? No. But even their population demands it, not to speak of the special guarantee given by the Constitution. In the ordinary course of things also, if we take their population, they ought to have got much more. Then how can we say that we have respected the Constitution when we have not given their normal share? The reason is very simple, Sir. They have not got sufficient pull in the Government and in the class which rules. That is the thing. Take my own town of Gauhati. Many allotments have been made during the last six or seven years, but how many allottees are Scheduled Caste people? Were there no applicants? There were. Even in the Kharguli area which till now happens to be a predominantly Scheduled Caste inhabited area, allotments are made, in 90 per cent of the cases, not to the Scheduled Caste people but to others. In the Uzanbazar Rajabari area, there was a tank, which came from the old Ahom Kings. This was a big tank, but now it has become shallow and just like a low-lying area. When this tank was useful it was used by the Scheduled Caste people; as a matter of fact, this was meant for the people of that area. When the tank became shallow and it was possible to fill it up with earth and build houses there, the Scheduled Caste people all in a body submitted a petition to the Deputy Commissioner and also made representation to Government that this should be left for them, at least as a common property. But, Sir Government did not allot it to them. Of course, one or two Scheduled Caste members got allotment, but the rest was given to others.

Then, Sir, take the instance of allotment of fisheries. The Minister other day gave an assurance that Government is considering the question of abolishing the system of bid and introducing the system of tender. Whatever that may be, if the present rate is taken as a norm, even the tender system will not be very helpful to the Scheduled Castes. I cite one instance, Sir. In the district of Nowgong the other day, perhaps about a month or two ago this story is also known to the Minister one man belonging to Hira community, who belongs to Scheduled Castes, had given a bid with another man who does not belong to Scheduled Caste. Both gave the bid but as the bid was higher in the case of the non-Scheduled Caste man the settlement was given to him. It was a small fishery. Then this Hira

man approached the Deputy Commissioner and said that as he belonged to Scheduled Caste community under the rules he was entitled to get 10 per cent. remission of the bid money and if that is so and he was to get the remission the amount of his bid would be higher than the amount of bid offered by the non-Scheduled Caste person and therefore he should get the settlement of this fishery. The Deputy Commissioner at the face of all these asked him to submit a petition of appeal to the Government at Shillong and gave the settlement to the other man in spite of the fact that this man belonged to a Scheduled Caste community and as such he was entitled to a remission of 10 per cent and he was fit to get settlement of the fishery. He was referred to Government as he was required to prove that he belonged to a Schedule Caste community. Now a man whose title is Hira is *prima facie* proved that he belonged to Scheduled Caste and yet he is coming to Shil'ong to engage M.L.A.'s and lawyers to move the Minister in order to get justice for a small fishery. If he is rich enough to spend Rs.200 or Rs.300 to make incidental expenses for coming to Shillong and representing his case he could have as well given a higher bid.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are given much details unnecessarily.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): This requires speaking in details as apparently Government say that they have made certain concessions to certain sections of the people in order to safeguard them but in actual implementation they do not go to the help of the needy man. Now, in this case, this man gave in writing that he belongs to the Scheduled Caste and he uses the title of Hira. In making this statement before the Deputy Commissioner if he was giving a false representation then the rival who belongs to non-Scheduled Caste could have immediately file a complaint before the Deputy Commissioner that he was giving out false statement. This involves a judicial notice and here the Deputy Commissioner could have taken judicial notice but since our administration is such he did not do so. The result is that in 10 years time we have promised and given lip sympathy to Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes but in fact there is a contrary tendency and people are impatient and say how long these things will continue? This is bound to continue so long as we cannot fulfil the task that is given by our Constitution. Now, the task before the people is that we must study the problem afresh and study it with the objective condition.

The other day, the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the Government of India came to Shillong. It may not be palatable to hear and I may be branded as a man of no good taste. And yet let me call a spade a spade. You cannot deny it. The other day when Shrikantji, the Commissioner came here, I would like to ask the Government to say to how many Scheduled Caste villages he was taken round? The time he was in Shillong, he spend it in taking lunch or dinner or having engagements with high dignitaries. He was here where there are the tribals. How many tribal villages he visited in Shillong? I cannot blame him. He comes here as a guest of the Government. In China and Russia there is a conducted tour for such persons. Here he should have been taken out on a conducted tour. Instead of spending his time in mere discussion, he could have visited the scheduled tribal and scheduled caste people's areas and could have gathered first hand information and on the strength of his personal visit he could have given a good report to the Government of India for the people who are living in miserable condition here and on the strength of his recommendation the Central Government would have considered to give more financial assistance to them through the State Government. But that was not done. My complaint is that our Government do not know how to move and the procedure how to get money from the Centre. Now, when the Commissioner did not have had the personal knowledge and experience of these people, he reported on the basis of his knowlege which he gathered from the officials whom he met during his stay here.

This question of untouchability is not only a thing physical but it has got many sides, it means in that sense that untouchability is as rampant in Assam as in any other part of India. I, therefore, beg to submit that it has become necessary to make a fresh study and a comprehensive study of the problem as it exists in Assam with all its particularities. There is no doubt that the problem is generally the same throughout India and that problem touches us as well.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is only one minute more. Will you finish within this one minute?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gaubati): No, Sir, I will not. I shall take it up again on the day the house reassembles.

Sir, taking for instance Madras, the Madras Government and the public men of Madras and those who want a basic solution of the problem have focussed the problem as existing there. In Saurashtra on the other hand the problem is something different, not like Madras. Similarly in Maharashtra. From the Report you will see that different regions underline the different aspects of the problem.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M., on Thursday, the 24th April, 1958.

Shillong :

R. N. BARUA,

Secretary,

The 29th August, 1959.

Legislative Assembly, Assam.

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