

Assam Legislative Assembly Debates



OFFICIAL REPORT

FIRST SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE ELEVENT
GENERAL ELECTIONS UNDER SOVEREIGN
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NO. 2

Dated, the 31st MAY 2001

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DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY Thursday, The 31st May, 2001

The House met at 4 P.M. of the Clock in the Assembly Chamber at Dispur with **Shri Prithibi Majhi**, Speaker in the Chair.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Member present, the Governor is addressing the House today at 4.10 P.M. He is ariving in the main Porch of the Assembly premises at 4.05 P.M. Myself, the Chief Minister and the Secretary will be going to receive him at the porch. The instructions as to how the Governor is to be received in the House have been laid on each Members' table. As soon as the Governor arrives in the House I think we should comply with these instructions. In the meantime, the Address will be distributed to the Members.

With your permission, I now leave the House to receive the Governor at the Main Porch.

(Hon'ble Speaker then leaved the House to receive the Governor along with Honourable Chief Minister and the Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly.)

(The Hon'ble governor arrived in the House accompanied by Hon'ble Speaker, Hon'ble Chief Minister and Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly and the National Attention was played. Attention National Attention Hon'ble Governor occupied his allotted chair and everybodys took their respective seats.)

Mr. Speaker: Now, I request the Hon'ble Governor to Address the House.

(Hon'ble Governor start delivering his written Address)

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS:-

Hon'ble Governor Mr Speaker and Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Assembly,

I welcome all the Honourable Members to this firs session of the eleventh Assam Legislative Assembly. I hope through our collective efforts we will be able to take Assam forward from one milestone to another.

My Government has come with a massive mandate from the people to bring about rapid economic development and to be responsive to the needs of the people. My Government will bring in transparency at all levels. It is pledged to ensure that corruption is checked and people are provided with a clean administration.

Assam today is in the midst of a multitude of problems. While the problem of under development is assuming alarming proportions, a severe financial crisis is restricting its capacity to intervene effectively through planned development. With the problems of low agricultural productivity, little prevalence of multiple cropping and industrial backwardness, the rate of capital formation in Assam is low. The consequent unabated increase in unemployment is a matter of serious concern for all us. We need to address this problem squarely not only for improving the quality of life of our people but also for ensuring that unemployment does not become a reason for fuelling insurgency.

Apart from the maintenance of law and order, arresting the deterioration of the finances of the State is perhaps the greatest challenge facing my Government today. Although the tax and non-tax revenue collections have increased considerably in recent years, the continuous growth of revenue expenditure has caused an actual strain on the financial system. This is reflected not only in the substantial revenue and fiscal deficits that we have at present, but also on the increasing reliance on borrowed funds for financing the revenue gap. This trend is not sustainable and has to be reversed. My Government proposes to augment its tax

collections through tax compliance, rationalisation of taxes and widening of the tax base. It also proposes to review the existing user charges for service endured to the public and adopt expenditure management measures to arrest the growth in current expenditures.

Availability of finances alone is not sufficient to guarantee accelerated development. Other issues of governance will have to be addressed also. We will have to ensure that the government machinery becomes more efficient, transparent people's participation in the development process interalia, through the setting up of decentralised but accountable structures. Civil Society Organisations will have to be encouraged and involved more deeply in the process of development. To bring more transparency in the administration we seek to introduce a Right to Information Bill soon.

LAW & ORDER SITUATION

Assam is going through a turbulent phases with extremism continuing unabated and killings, abduction and extortion becoming the order of the day. We consider our foremost responsibility of bring back peace and stability to our State. We are to the firm view that the problem of extremism cannot b solved through the exercise of state force alone. It will need a more golistic approach inclusive of opening up of political dialogues with the extremist organisations. At the same time, my Government is committed to motivate and inspire the people of the State to ensure that an environment of trust and mutual confidence is built-up amongst the different sections of the people.

Economic backwardness and unemployment are amongst the primary cause leading to the growth of extremism. We will need to devise special scheme to give productive employment

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

to the youth in different areas. My Government proposes to continue with the approach of providing proper rehabilitation to the surrendered militants. It will however not tolerate any acts of terrorism or extortion an is committed to uphold the liberty and freedom of individuals.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSAM ACCORD

My Government is committed to the implementation of the Assam Accord. The promotion of the cultural heritage of the indigenous people of Assam will receive priority attention. The first and second phase of the work for the modernisation of the Jyoti Chitraban Film Studio has already been completed and the Government of India moved for taking up the works relating to the third phase.

Steps are being taken to ensure that all contentious issues are resolved and that the Gas Cracker Project takes off at an early date. The Numaligarh Refinery has commenced commercial production.

My Government will take comprehensive measures to ensure that illegal infiltration is checked. It will make registration or birth and deaths mandatory and pursue the matter of issuance of photo identity cards to voters. It will also take up wit the Central Government to speed up the illegal migrants. My Government is committed to detect and deport illegal immigrants. It is however opposed to the repeal of the IMDT Act as it feels that this Act provides adequate safeguards through judicial process so that genuine Indian citizens are not caused any harassment.

AGRICULTURE

In a primarily agrarian economy, agriculture has been identified as the most important core areas for promoting

accelerated economic development in the State. It shall be the endeavour of my Government to provide required infrastructure to the farmers. While doing so, we shall continue our efforts to increase the irrigation potential in our State. Where Shallow Tube Wells are not technically feasibly we shall take recourse to outer means of irrigation like Flow irrigation and Low Lift Point. For increasing the cropping intensity, introducing multiple cropping and improving the economic condition of our farmers, we propose to take up mechanisation, along with associated training and demonstration, on a large scale.

While we shall continue to give stress to the production of Summer (Rabi) rice, we also intend to increase the productivity of Kharif (Sali) rice by taking up suitable programmes. We expect that by the end of 2001-2002 the production of rice will go up to 43.30 lakh MT against an estimated requirement of 40.0 lakh MT in our State. In order to avoid a glut in the market due to increased production of paddy, a strategy is being worked out to divert land to make it available for the cultivation of wheat. In order to avoid distress sale by the farmers on the one hand my Government will endeavour to build-up storage and marketing facilities, on the other hand we will take up with the central Government to provide special packages and subsidy to our farmers on the lines being provided to Punjab and Haryana.

Fruits and vegetables, which are the main horticultural products of our State, suffer colossal wastage for want of cold storage facilities. We propose to make a special effort for setting up cold storages and also for encouraging private entrepreneurs in setting up cold storages. Due emphasis will continue to be laid on improving the marketing network by tying up with nodal agencies like NERAMAC, TRIFED, NAFED etc.

My Government will make special efforts to provide self-

employment to the educated unemployed youth in various activities of agriculture. A special dispensation shall be made while implementing the Scheme on Tractors and Power Tillers to ensure that the educated unemployed youth get a preference by using these machineries for custom services. The educated unemployed youth shall also be given preference while leasing out the departmental farms and Progeny Orchards.

IRRIGATION

Against an estimated irrigation potential of 27 lakh hectares in the State, so far the Irrigation Department has taken up schemes achieving a coverage of 6.6 lakh hectares. Though our State has not been able to take full benefit of schemes under ARIASP due to paucity of resources, irrigation schemes are being taken up under ARIASP and the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & VETERINARY

My Government will take steps to improve the quality of livestock for increasing the production of milk and milk products. It will also take steps to increase the production of meat and eggs. The ARIASP Project of the World Bank in under implementation. Under the town Milk Supply Scheme clean wholesome milk is being supplied in selected towns. The Integrated Dairy Development Project is also under implementation.

FISHERIES

With the demand of fish being assured within the State and vast water resources available, fishery forms an important component of the rural economy of Assam. It has a vast potential for improving the livelihood of the poor people dependent on it. While we are self-sufficient in fish seed production there is yet a

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long way to go in respect of meeting the demand for fish in the State. To increase fish production a number of scheme for the development of Farmers Ponds, Community Tanks, Beel Fisheries as well as Open Water Fisheries are presently under implementation.

PANCHAYAT & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

My Government is committed to hold the long overdue panchayat that effective elections ithin this year. It firmly believes that effective implementation of various rural development schemes and programmes can only be done by empowering these grass root level institutions and with the active involvement of the people through the Gram Panchayats and the Gram Sabhas. My Government has accorded a very high priority for rural development. It is committed to the proper utilisation of rural development funds and will look into the cases where this has not been done so in the past.

My Government will implement various rural development programmes for self-employment and wage employment for eradicating rural poverty and improving the quality to life of the rural poor. It accords high priority to rural connectivity.

COOPERATION

Cooperatives are an important vehicle for development in the areas of Agriculture, Cottage Industries, Fisheries, Housing, Processing, Handlooms and Handicrafts. There has been a trend of declining interest in the cooperative movement that has become discernible in the State for some time past. My Government is firmly committed to reversing this trend and making cooperatives into efficient vehicles for the transformation of the economy, especially in the rural areas. In addition to the normal work of PDS in rural areas, they would encouraged to take up other activities

There are a number of apex level cooperative societies in the State, like STATEFED, HOUSEFED, FISHFED etc. whose functioning needs improvement. My Government propose to take all necessary action to strengthen these societies and make them efficient tool for delivery of the required services.

SOIL CONSERVATION

During 2001-2002, it is proposed to take up soil conservation schemes like, river training forestation, gully control and land development which will generate an employment of 20.70 lakh mandays.

FOREST

My Government is committed to maintaining the environment and the ecology of the State. The rice bio-diversity of the areas will stand future generations to advantage. Even while our forests continue under severe biotic pressures, it is our endeavour to conserve them and to simultaneously take measures for the welfare of those dependent on forest resources. During 2001-2002, an area of 95.50sq km is proposed to be brought under the cover of forests and 25 lakh seedlings proposed to be distributed. My Government will bring out a Forest Policy for rationalising the use of and for regeneration of the forest produce.

PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

There are 49 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) working under 22 Departments of the State Government. During the current year, it is proposed to continue with review of PSUs, monitor progress of implementation of the projects approved, monitor updating of accounts and organize human resource development programmes so as to inculcate professional work culture in the management of State Enterprises.

INDUSTRY

My Government will take steps to invite private investment in the State and do away with the license/permit system to set up industries, wherever any such license/permit was necessary from the state government. The sick but viable PSU's will be revived, if necessary, by private sector participation and non-viable sick units will be closed down. The interest of the employees will be protected even if sick units are closed down.

As a priority My Government will concentrate on small scale, tiny and rural industries where self-employment potential is maximum.

My Government will purse with the Government of India and the private Co-promoter for the early implementation of the Assam Gas Cracker Project. The main role of the Government in the industries sector would be that of a facilitator.

Special facilities will be provided to the educated unemployed for entrepreneurship training and for taking up industrial activities. Steps will be taken for facilitating the establishment of modern industrial units based on locally available raw materials. We will move the Government of India to declare a special package so that the problems faced by small tea growers are ameliorated. Efforts will be made for the expansion of new international trade routes for expansion of trade and commerce.

HANDLOOM & TEXTILES

To bring in more weavers into the commercial fold My Government will give top priority to modernisation of looms, production of high value cloth and diversification of products. It will also assist poor weavers by providing them opportunity to upgrade their skills. All endeavours will be mad to exploit the national and international markets to make handloom industry a major source of employment and income generation. The

organisations like Khadi Board, ARTFED and AGMC will be revitalised to take up the marketing of handloom products and to make available raw materials to the weavers.

It is proposed to increase production of Eri, Muga and Mulberry silk so that the demands for yarn of the local weavers can be met. Steps will be taken to exploit the tremendous potential of Muga silk for export in the form of garments etc. steps would also be taken to attract the Bridges to RCC Bridges. Under the RIDF programme of the NABARD during 2001-2002, it is also proposed to take up 110 km of roads and convert 50 Nos. of RCC Bridges.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

My Government is committed to the provision of safe drinking water in the rural areas of Assam. During 2001-2002, it is proposed to cover 623 NC habitations and 6100 PC habitations through funding under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, PMGY and the 11th Finance Commission Award.

With a view to bring in community participation in the Operation & Maintenance of the existing Water Supply Schemes, 3 districts have been selected on a pilot basis and requisite training is being imparted to the grass root level beneficiaries.

EDUCATION

Assam ranks among the top few states where education accounts for more than 35% of the government expenditure. Yet the focus so far appears to have been on quantitative expansion. The education system has acquired an image as a source of employment rather tan a means for human resource development. My Government is committed to change this image and to focus on improvement of the quality of education at all levels so as to build a learning and productive society. It will focus on vocational

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education and give emphasis to science and technology as well as information technology.

My Government is committed to achieve Universal Elementary Education among children belonging to the age group of between 6-14 years. In the sphere of adult education, Total Literacy Programme is continuing in 2 districts except Morigaon.

My Government is committed to rationalise the availability of teachers at district level and to decentralise the education system with accountable District Boards of Education. It is committed to pursue a transparent recruitment and transfer policy and to improve the service conditions of the teachers.

In respect of higher education, my Government will encourage involvement of the private sector in the development of various educational avenues. It is proposed to introduce computer education in the Institutes of Higher Education.

SOCIAL WELFARE

My Government will implement various welfare and rehabilitation schemes for the physically handicapped, orphans, destitute children, women and under-privileged classes of the society. In the field of nutrition, the Integrated Child Development Project is presently being implemented in 107 development blocks and it is proposed to extend it to another 89 blocks.

FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES

My Government has decided to implement two welfare schemes, namely Annapurna and Antyodaya Annayojana, soon for old people and for poor families respectively. Another scheme namely Sarvpriya, will be started soon for distribution of selected items at reasonable i.e., no profit no loss, rates though different outlets.

My Government attaches importance to consumer awareness for which seminars and training programmes are being

organised. It i also proposed to establish full-fledged Consumer Courts in 15 districts during the current year.

BORDER AREAS

The constitutional boundaries of Assam with its neighbouring States are well defined. However some neighbouring States have been raising disputes over land and forest, which fall within the constitutional boundaries of Assam. Efforts to solve this vexed problem through discussions have not succeeded so far. In these circumstances, legal and constitutional relief has been sought in the Supreme Court involving the States of lasting solution to this problem. The matter is presently sub-judice.

In the inter state border areas, development works are being taken up under the Interstate Border Areas Development Programme. Under the centrally funded Border Areas Development Programme for international borders, development works are being taken up in the districts bordering Bangladesh and Bhutan.

WELFARE OF SC/ST & BACKWARD CLASSES

My Government will take up with the Government of India to ensure that Koch-Rajbanshis as well as Chutiyas, Morans, Mataks, Ahoms, Tea and Ex-Tea tribes are accorded the status of Scheduled Tribes. My Government is committed to speed up the activies for the welfare of SC/ST and OBC communities in the States. All efforts will be made to ensure that the Autonomous Councils created in the plain districts of the State become effective tools for the development of the tribal people and that they get full powers to decide their own course of development.

The problem faced by the Bodoland Autonomous Council in the past would be given series and urgent attention with a view to sort them out and hold elections of the Bodoland Autonomous Council as early as possible.

Smti. Pramila Rani Brahma: Sir, you are speaking about holding of elections of the Bodoland Autonomous Council as early as possible. But we are not demanding election of BAC. We want an agreement for seperate state. So, Sir, I request you to kindly consider the problems of Bodo people through negotiation, Sir, I also request you to kindly settle up and solve the matter. You are requested to kindly expunge few sentences or amend the speech.

WELFARE OF MINORITIES

My Government is committed to improving the socioeconomic conditions of the people living in char areas and for the welfare of the minorities. Schemes relating to agriculture, veterinary and dairy, provision of drinking water, cottage industry and education are presently being implemented in the Char areas.

The Assam Board of Wakfs is presently not functional. My Government proposes to make it functional and the process of elections in it is presently under process. The Assam Minorities Development Board is engaged in activities relating to the welfare of minorities. Loans are being provided to people belonging to the notified minorities by the Assam Minorities Development & Finance Corporation.

A Minority Cell has also been created which is monitoring the implementation of various programmes taken up for the benefit of the minorities.

TOURISM

My Government lays emphasis on modern tourist amenities and up-gradation of the management of tourist lodges and wayside facilities. A number of schemes are currently under implementation for development of tourist infrastructure in the State.

My Government has decided to encourage private sector investments in tourism infrastructure and services. So far 12

X.

projects have been privatised and three major projects, namely Amusement Park at Amingoan, Ropeway at Kamakhya and Bird Sanctuary at Samaguri are being proposed as joint venture projects.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

My Government is committed to preserve, protect and promote the rich cultural heritage of Assam. It will actively encourage building up harmonious relationship among different sections of the people through the medium of cultural activities and interactions.

The Sangeet Natak Academy has been moved to take up a comprehensive project for the development and promotion of Sattriya Dance. A scheme is also being taken up for the construction of the Srimanta Sankardeva Kalashetra.

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING AND GUWAHATI DEVELOPMENT

During 2001-2002, My Government proposes to continue the implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IFSMT) and National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) as well as the State Plan scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums. A Water Supply Scheme for the Eastern Part of Guwahati City is proposed to be taken up with loan assistance from HUDCO. An amount of Rs 1,528 lakhs is also proposed for the Guwahati Metropolitan Area Storm Drainage Improvement Project. With a view to improve its financial position, the GMC has reassessed the holding taxes and re-fixed the trade licence fees.

The Assam State Housing Board has taken up various Housing schemes in the rural and urban areas. It is also taking up schemes wit loan assistance from HUDCO. Janata Housing

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Scheme has been taken up for the Economically Weaker Sections under PMGY.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

During 2001-2002, My Government proposes to implement scheme for the Construction of Markets in 8 Urban Local bodies, for Solid Waste Management in 5 Urban Local Bodies and for taking up development works under the Award of 11th Finance Commission. It also proposes to continue providing self and wage employment as well as skill development training under the Swarna Jayanti Shaharia Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY).

The Assam Water Supply & Sewerage Board proposes to commission 4 Nos. of ongoing Water Supply Schemes during 2001-002 Under he Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, 4 schemes out of the 12 ongoing scheme are proposed to be completed and 3 new scheme are proposed to be taken up.

TRANSPORT

Railways communication in Assam needs to be strengthened. We will taken up with the Government of India for early completion of the on-going scheme and for taking up further schemes for upgrading and extending the existing network. We will also pursue the early completion of the fourth bridge over the Brahmaputra at Bogibeel. Adequate measures will be taken to open up the Stilwell Road so that new avenues for trade and commerce with South East Asian countries are created.

Commercial Cargo services for Bangladesh as well as other states of India via Kolkata are presently under operation. For development of Commercial Services the construction of a river terminal is being taken up at Badarpur under NEC finding.

The Assam State Transport Corporation (ASTC) is

presently facing serious economic problems. A scheme has been taken up for the restructuring of ASTC. The matter has been taken up with the Government of India for providing required funds for this scheme.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

In this sector the schemes are being implemented in the areas of science & technology, remote sensing, environment and non-conventional energy. It is the aim of my Government, to improve the socio-economic condition of the people through the popularisation of science and technology. It is also working for providing and conserving a healthy environment.

HILL AREAS

My Government is fully aware about the need and is committed to accelerate the pace of development in the Hill Areas. For this reason, all actions will be taken so that the Hill Plan provisions are protected and funds released timely.

The two Hill Districts of Assam have been selected by the Government of India for implementing the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme. Another project to Community Resource Management in 6 Hill Districts of the North Eastern Region includes the two Hill Districts of Assam.

POWER, MINES & MINERALS

The power sector in Assam is presently facing serious problems like, very low Plant Load Factor, high T&D losses and an uneconomical gap of Rs 4.50 per unit between the average cost of supply and the average tariff. To make the sector more efficient the process of reforms and restructuring has been initiated. Steps have already been taken to set up a State Electricity Regulatory Commission.

For improving the generation capacity and improving the

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hydel thermal mix the long languishing Karbi Langpi Hydro electric Project (100 MW) has been taken up for implementation. Action has also been initiated for taking up the Amguri Gas Based Power Project (90MW) and the Borgolai Coal Based Thermal Power Project (120MW) through the Independent Power Producer (IPP) route.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Industrial relations in the State have remained by and large peaceful. Minimum wages in respect of 74 scheduled employments have been revised.

To augment and improve the quality of training at the ITIs, the Government of India has approved schemes for the upgradation and modernisation of 17 ITIs and for the establishment of 4 new ITIs. The scheme for the up-gradation of ESI hospital and Dispensaries has also been approved.

FLOOD CONTROL

Flood are a recurrent problem in Assam. In the view of experts, these can be contained only by taking up suitable Multi-Purpose Dam Projects in the North Eastern Region. After prolonged persuasion, the Government of India has agreed to taken up the Pagladiya Dam Project within the 9th Plan Period. This will benefit large areas in the Nalbari district. My Government will pursue with the Government of India to recognise the flood problem of Assam as a 'National Problem' and provide liberal financial assistance to contain it. The Government of India has in the meantime agreed to provide funds under the Central Sector Flood Management Schemes with a 90% grant component.

SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

My Government gives great emphasis to channelise our

youth into sports, youth welfare and other extra-curricular activities. It is involved in actively promoting sports and building sports infrastructure.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS & TRAINING

The Assam Administrative Staff College and the Secretariat Training School are engaged in making public services more effective through various types of training. Special emphasis will be provided for coaching and training of students so that they can get into All India Services and other competitive services.

REVENUE

Assam is a flood prone State and suffers large-scale damage to standing crops, cattle and other assets every year. For the current year a corps of Rs 106.56 crore has been provided under the Calamity Relief Fund for providing gratuitous relief, rehabilitation grant and repairing the damage to public assets.

In view of the need to generate resources, all out efforts are being made to augment the collection of land revenue. The process of modernisation has also been initiated. For this the Central Sector Scheme for Computerisation of Land Records is under implementation in 4 districts and is proposed to be extended to the rest of the State.

RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

The districts of Kokrajhar, Bongaigoan and Dhubri have witnessed repeated ethnic clashes over the past few years since 1996. Refugee camps had to be set up for the affected people. At present there are 1.8 lakh people in the different relief camps in Kokrajhar and Dhubri districts. The process of rehabilitation of the people has been slow with only 4,000 families being rehabilitated during the last year. My Government is committed to the speedy rehabilitation of the people living in the refugee camps

and to take all necessary steps to ensure that they live a normal life.

PENSION & PUBLIC GRIEVANCES

It is the endeavour of my Government to ensure that the State Government Pensioners are provided quick relief and their pension cases disposed off expeditiously. For better monitoring of the pension cases computer facility in the Directorate of Pensions and Public Grievances has been provided and it is proposed to extend this facility also for monitoring of petitions for the redressal of public grievances.

EXCISE

My Government would strive for increasing the excise revenue and check effectively the production and sale of illicit liquor. It would also endeavour to ensure that unnecessary expansion of retail outlets, both of IMFL and country spirit, does not take place.

DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN

We are committed to providing equal status to women in all areas. We will relentlessly pursue for the adoption of the bill for reservation of seats in the Bidhan Sabha and the Lok Sabha. We will ensure that women's representation in district and state level is made mandatory.

Improved economic status of women has a positive effect on population control. We propose to take up various self-employment schemes for women. Community work centres will be established for the poor and homeless women. Women hostels will also up in different urban centres. We also propose to take up various schemes for the welfare of women in collaboration with NGOs.

Hon'ble Members, I have placed before you the policies and programme of My Government. My Government will make

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all efforts to implement the policies and programmes that have been outlined and would endeavour to secure all round development of the State. It would accord high priority for bringing peace in the State and for providing economic and social justice to the people. I hope your deliberations in the House will help achieve this objective.

Joi Hind.

(Then the Hon'ble Governor took his seat and the National Anthem was played again. After the National Anthem, the Governor left the House).

Mr. Speaker: Now under sub-rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I hereby report that the Governor has been pleased to make a speech. A copy of the speech has already been laid on the table and copies of the speech have been distributed to the Hon'ble Members also.

Tea and snacks have been arranged in the Central Hall of the Assembly Building in honour of the Hon'ble Governor.

I therefore, request the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Hon'ble Ministers, Hon'ble Ministers of State, Hon'ble Members of the House, Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, DGP, DIGs and other senior Police Officers and the Head of the Departments present in the Officers' Gallery, Gentlemen of the Press Gallery including electronic media person, official reporters to join the Hon'ble Governor at a tea arranged in Central Hall.

The House stands adjourned for 30 minutes.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

The House reassembled at 5-30 P.M. after tea break with Hon'ble Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Speaker: Item No.2. I have received a notice of Motion of Thanks on the Governor's address from Shri Ripun Bora, Now,

2001 MOTION OF THANKS ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

I request Shri Ripun Bora to move the Motion.

- * Shri Ripun Bora- Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the members of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled this session are grateful to the Governor for the address he has been pleased to deliver to this House today, the 31st May, 2001.
- Mr. Speaker: Now, I request Dr. Haren Das to second the Motion of Thanks.
- * Dr Haren Das: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second the Motion of Thanks moved by my esteemed colleague, Shri Ripun Bora on the address delivered by the Hon'ble Governor.
- Mr. Speaker: The Motion has now been moved. Debate on the Governor's Address has been allotted on 1st June, 2001. Amendments to the motion of Thanks will be received by the Assembly Secretariat upto 11.30 am on 1st June, 2001. Hon'ble Members may submit the notice of amendment on the Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Address on the time and date fixed above to the Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly or in the notice of office if they do desire.

CONSTITUTION OF PANEL OF CHAIRMEN AND COMMITEES

- Mr. Speaker: Now, Item No.3. There is an announcement. Under Rule 9(i) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly I nominate the following Members to constitute the panel of Chairman for the First Session of the Eleventh Assembly, 2001
 - 1. Shri Dileswar Tanti
 - 2. Shri Hitendra Nath Goswami
 - 3. Shri Bimalangshu Roy
 - 4. Smt. Pranati Phukan.

Now, Item No.3 (ii)

In pursuance of Rule 28 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly as amended

upto-to-date, I nominate the following Members to constitute the Business Advisory Committee.

- Shri Sarat Barkataky, Minister, PWD, Assam Member
- Shri Bharat Chandra Narah,

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- Minister, Parliamentary Affairs etc. -Member
- Shri Ardhendu Dey, Minister, 3.
 - Food & Civil supplies. -Member
- Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita, MLA -Member 4.
- Shri Pankaj Bora, MLA-Member
- 6.4 Shri Ripun Bora, MLA-Member
- Shri Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, MLA -Member
- 8. Shri Hitendra Nath Goswami, MLA -Member
- Shrimati Pramila Rani Brahma, MLA 9. -Member
- 10. Shri Kali Ranjan Deb, MLA -Member
- 11. Shri Shadeed Mjumdar, MLA-Member 12. Shri Daramsing Teron, MLA -Member

The Speaker shall be the Chairman of the Committee. There is an announcement.

Under Rule 259 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the Rules Committee.

-Member

-Member

Staff

- 1. Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly- Ex-officio chairman.
- Shri Dvanand Konwar, Minister, Finance 2. -Member
- Shri Bharat Chandra Narah, Minister, 3.

Parliamentary Affairs

- Shri Rameswar Dhanowar, Minister, 4.
 - Labour & Employment
- Dr. Haren Das, MLA 5.

Constitution of Panel of Chairmen and Committees

Shri Misbahul Islam Laskar, MLA -Member
 Shri Hemendra Nath Brahma, MLA -Member
 Shri Wazid Ali Choudhury, MLA -Member
 Shri Bimalangshu Roy, MLA -Member

10. Shri Phani Bhushan Choudhury, MLA -Member11. Shri Bhima Tanti, MLA -Member

12. Shri Premadhar Bora, MLA -Member13. Shri Jagat Sing Ingti, MLA -Member

The First meeting of the Business Advisory, Committee will be held tomorrow i.e.1st June, 2001 at 10.30 am in the Speakers Chambers. All members are requested to attend.

LAYING OF STATEMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF BILL

Mr. Speaker: Now, Item No. 4:

Shri Tarun Gogoi (Chief Minister) Sir, I beg to lay the statement under Rule 69(1) Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly explaining the circumstances which had necessitated immediate legislation by ordinance.

Mr. Speaker: Now, Item No.5:

Shri Tarun Gogoi (Chief Minister) Sir, I beg leave to introduce "the Assam Non Government (Deficit) College Central Pension and Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2001".

MR. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the Hour to grant leave to introduce the Bill.

Voice - Yes, Yes

Leave is granted.

Now, Hon'ble Chief Minister to introduce the Bill.

Shri Tarun Gogoi, (Chief Minister) Sir, I beg to introduce "The Assam Non Government (Deficit) College Central Pension and Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2001".

Presentation of list Supplementary Demands for Grants and Supplementary Appropriations for 2001-2002

Mr. Speaker: Now, Item No. 6:

* Shri Devanand Konwar, (Minister), Sir, I beg to lay the statement under Rule 69(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly explaining the circumstances which had necessitated immediate legislation by Ordinance.

Mr. Speaker: Now, Item No.7: Hon'ble Minister, Finance to move the Motion for leave to introduce the Bill.

Shri Debanand Konwar, (Minister), Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Contingency Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2001.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to grant leave to introduce the Bill.

Voice - Yes, Yes

Leave is granted.

Mr. Speaker:- Now. item No 8:

* Shri Devanand Konwar, (Minister), Sir, I beg to introduce The Assam Contingency Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2001.

Mr. Speaker: There is a message of Governor.

RAJ BHAWAN GUWAHATI

ORDER

May 30,2001

Under the provision of Article 07(1) of the Constitution of India, I, Lt. Gen. (Retd) S.K. Sinha, PVSM, Governor of Assam, recommend that introduction of the Assam Contingency fund (Amendment) Bill, 2001 in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Sd/-(S.K. Sinha

Mr. Speaker: Now, Hon'ble Minister, Finance to introduce the Bill Shri Devanand Konwar (Minister) Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Contingency Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2001.

Presentation of list Supplementary Demands for Grants and Supplementary Appropriations for 2001-2002

Mr. Speaker: Now, Item No.8 Shri Devanand Konwar, (Minister), Sir, I beg to present the List of Supplementary Demands for Grans and Supplementary Appropriations for 2001-2002.

Mr. Speaker: I have an announcement. All members of the Rules Committee are requested to attend the meeting on 1st June, 2001 at 11.00 am tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned till 4.00 P.M. tomorrow, the 1st June, 2001

ADJOURNMENT

The House then stood adjourned at 5.40 P.M. till 4.00 pm on Friday, the 1st June 2001.

DISPUR

D.Talukder

The 31st May,2001,

Assam Legislative
