

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

GOVERNOR OF ASSAM

Shri BRAJ KUMAR NEHRU

Mr. Speaker

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah, B. A., B. L.:

Mr. Deputy Speaker

Shri Golok Rajbanshi, LL. B.

Members of the Council of Ministers.

1. Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha, Appointment, Home, Political Chief Minister Finance, General Administration, Secretariat Administration, Statistics, Minority Affairs, Flood Control and Irrigation, Health and Family Planning, Matters relating to Election, Information and Public Relations, Planning and Development, General Co-ordination of all Departments and any matter not allotted to any other Minister.
2. Shri Syed Ahmed Ali, Minister Law, Relief & Rehabilitation, Municipal Administration, Town & Country Planning, Panchayat including Community Development, Parliamentary Affairs, Registration & Stamps.
3. Shri Paramananda Gogoi, Minister Revenue, Social Welfare, Sericulture and Weaving and Forests.
4. Shri Gajen Tanti, Minister ... Labour, Co-operation, Livestock & Veterinary.
5. Shri Mahammed Idris, Minister Industries including Cottage Industries, Power, Mines and Minerals, Excise, Trade & Commerce and Wakf Property.
6. Shri Mohitosh Purkayastha, Minister Supply, Printing & Stationery, Jail, Khadi & Village Industries & Political Sufferers.
7. Dr. Lutfur Rahman, Minister ... P; W. D. (R & B)g

8. Shri Upendra Das, Minister ... Agriculture and Fisheries.
9. Shri Uttam Chandra Brahma, Minister Tribal Areas Department, Welfare of Backward Classes and Soil Conservation.
10. Shri Harendra Nath Talukdar, Minister Education, Students and Youth Welfare, Cultural Affairs, Transport and Tourism.

Ministers of State

11. Shri Hiteswar Saikia ... Home, Health, Family Planning, Information & Public Relations, Youth Welfare & Cultural Affairs.
12. Shri Bishnu Prasad ... F. C. & I., Power & Industries, Trade and Commerce.
13. Smti. Swarna Prava Mahanta ... Social Welfare, Sericulture and Weaving.

Panel of Chairmen

1. Shri Lila Kanta Borah
2. Shri Giasuddin Ahmed
3. Shri Indreswar Khaund
4. Shrimati Renuka Devi Barkataki

Secretary

Shri U. Tahbildar, B.Sc., B. L.

Deputy Secretary

Shri P. D. Barua, B. A., L L. B.

Chief Reporter-cum-Editor of Debates

Shri Bhuban Chandra Baruah, M. A., LL. B.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY 1972

Serial No.	Names of Constituency	Names of Member
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Ratabari ...	Shri Suranjan Nandy
2	Patharkandi ...	Shri Bishwanath Upadhyaya
3	Karimganj North ...	Shri Abdul Muqtadir Choudhury
4	Karimganj South ...	Shri Sudarsan Das
5	Badarpur ...	Maulana Abdul Jalil Choudhury
6	Hailakandi ...	Shri Abdul Rahman Choudhury
7	Katlicherra ...	Shri Santosh Kumar Roy
8	Silchar ...	Shri Mahitosh Purkayastha
9	Sonai ...	Shri Nurul Haque Choudhury
10	Dholai (Scheduled Caste);	Shri Digendra Chandra Purkayastha

Serial No	Names of Constituency	Names of Member
(1)	(2)	(3)
11	Lakhipur ...	Shri Shubhankar Singha
12	Udharbond ...	Shri Jagannath Sinha
13	Borkhola ...	Dr. Lutfur Rahman
14	Katigora ...	Shri Abdul Hamid Majumdar
15	Haflong (Scheduled Tribe).	Shri J. B. Hagjer
16	Bokajan (Scheduled Tribe).	Shri Sai Sai Terang
17	Howraghat (Scheduled Tribe).	Shri Chatrasing Teron
18	Baithalangso (Scheduled Tribe).	Shri Dbaniram Rongpi
19	Mankachar ...	Shri Nurul Islam
20	South Salmara ...	Shri Bazlul Basit
21	Dhubri ...	Shri Mohammad Umaruddin
22	Gauripur ..	Shri Syed Ahmed Ali
23	Golakganj ...	Shri Kabir Chandra Roy Pradhani
24	Bilasipara ...	Shri Giasuddin Ahmed
25	Gosaigaon ..	Shri Mathias Tudu
26	Kokrajhar West (Scheduled Tribe).	Shri Charan Narzary
27	Kokrajhar East ...	Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha
28	Sidli (Scheduled Tribe)	Shri Uttam Chandra Brahma
29	Bijni ...	Shri Golak Chandra Patgiri
30	Abhayapuri (Scheduled Caste).	Shri Ayodhya Ram Das
31	Bongaigaon ..	Shri Dhruba Barua.
32	Goalpara West ..	Shri Sahadat Ali Jotder
33	Goalpara East ...	Shri Balabhadra Das.

Serial No.	Name of Constituency	Name of Members
1	2	3
34	Dudnai (Scheduled Tribe).	... Smti. Anandi Bala Rava.
35	Sorbhog	.. Smti. Pranita Talukdar
36	Bhabanipur	... Shri Ghana Kanta Boro
37	Patacharkuchi	... Dr. Krishna Kanta Lahkar
38	Barpeta	... Dr. Surendra Nath Das
39	Jania	.. Shri Aatur Rahman
40	Baghbar	... Shri Jalaluddin
41	Sarukhetri (Scheduled Tribe)	... Shri Kandarpa Kumar Das
42	Chenga	... Shri Abdul Hannan Choudhury
43	Boko	... Shri Probin Kumar Choudhuri
44	Chaygaon	... Smti. Satyabati Goswami
45	Palasbari	... Shri Harendra Nath Talukdar
46	Gauhati East	... Shri Atul Chandra Saikia
47	Gauhati West	... Shri Biren Ram Phookan
48	Jalukbari	... Smti Rebati Das
49	Hajo	... Smti. Renuka Debi Barkataki
50	Nalbari West	... Dr. Bhumidhar Barman
51	Nalbari East	... Shri Badan Chandra Talukdar
52	Borbhag	... Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya
53	Barama (Scheduled Tribe)	... Shri Surendra Nath Das
54	Tamulpur (Scheduled Tribe)	... Shri Ambarish Chandra Lahari
55	Rangiya	.. Shri Manabendra Nath Sarma
56	Kamalpur	... Shri Girindra Chandra Choudhury
57	Panery	... Shri Ramesh Chandra Saharia
58	Kalaigaon	... Shri Laksmi Kanta Saikia

1972

Seriat No.	Names of the Constituency	Names of Member
1	2	3
59	Rangamati (Scheduled Caste) ..	Shri Upendra Das
60	Mangaldai ...	Smti. Syeda Anwara Taimur
61	Dalgaon ...	Shri Hasimuddin Ahmed
62	Udalguri (Scheduled Tribe) ...	Shri Bahadur Basumatari
63	Dhekiajuli ...	Shri Hiranya Bora
64	Missamari ...	Shri Bijoy Chandra Sarmah
65	Tezpur ...	Dr. Robindra Kumar Goswami
66	Balipara ...	Shri Golok Rajbanshi
67	Sootea ...	Smti. Swarna Probha Mahanta
68	Biswanath ...	Dr. Kosheswar Bora
69	Gohpur ...	Ram Chandra Sarmah
70	Marigaon (Schedule Tribe) ...	Shri Pitsing Konwar
71	Bokani (Schedule Caste) ..	Shri Jagadish Das
72	Laharighat ...	Shri Abul Kasem
73	Raha ..	Shri Gunendra Nath Pandit
74	Dhing ...	Shri Abul Hussain Mir
75	Rupohihat ...	Shri Mahammad Idris
76	Nowgong ...	Shri Lila Kanta Bora
77	Barhampur ...	Shri Kehoram Hazarika
78	Kaliabor ...	Shri Golap Chandra Barua
79	Samaguri ...	Shri Bishnu Prasad
80	Jamunamukh ...	Shri Debendra Nath Bora
81	Hojai ...	Shri Idris Ali Fakir
82	Lumding ...	Shri Santiranjana Dasgupta
83	Bokakhat (Schedule Caste) ...	Shri Tulsi Das

22nd March

Seri No,	Names of the Constituency	Names of Member
1	2	3
84	Sarupather ...	Shri Chatra Gopal Karmakar
85	Golaghat ...	Shri Soneswar Bora
86	Dergaon ...	Shri Nagendra Boruah
87	Majuli (Schedule Tribe)	Shri Mal Chandra Pegu
88	Jorhat ...	Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique
89	Charaibahi ...	Shri Dulal Chandra Barua
90	Titabar ...	Shri Joy Chandra Borz
91	Mariani ...	Shri Gajen Tanti
92	Teok ...	Shri Dulal Chandra Khound
93	Amguri ...	Shri Pushpadhar Chaliha
94	Sibsagar ...	Shri Promode Chandra Gogoi
95	Thowra ...	Shri Narad Kumari
96	Nazira ...	Shri Hiteswar Saikia
97	Mahmara ...	Shri Khogen Gogoi
98	Sonari ...	Shri Janakinath Handique
99	Bihpuria ...	Shri Premodhar Bora
100	Naoboicha (Scheduled Caste.)	Shri Lilakanta Das
101	North Lakhimpur ...	Shri Govinda Chandra Bora
102	Dhakuakhana (Scheduled Tirbe)...	Shri Lakshyanath Doley
103	Dhemaji (Scheduled Tribe) ...	Shri Romesh Mohan Kouli
104	Moran ...	Shri Tarun Chandra Chutiya
105	Dibrugarh ...	Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah
106	Lahowal ...	Shri Dipak Moormoo
107	Tengakhat ...	Shri Indreswar Khaund
108	Tingkhong ...	Shri Rajendra Nath Phukan
109	Joypur ...	Shri Kshirode Chondra Saikia
110	Bogdung ...	Shri Upendra Nath Sanatan
111	Tinsukia ...	Shri Paramananda Gogoi
112	Digboi ...	Shri Chandra Bahadur Chetri
113	Doom Dooma ...	Shri Malia Tanti
114	Saikhowa ...	Smti Tarulata Boroi

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE ASSAM
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE
FIFTH GENERAL ELECTIONS UNDER THE
SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

The Assembly met in the Assam Chamber, Shillong,
at 10 A.M. on Wednesday, the 22nd March, 1972.

Present :

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah, B.A., F.L., Speaker in the cha
nine Ministers, three Ministers of State and one hundre
Members.

**Appointment of a person to discharge the duties of
Speaker and also for administration of oath or affirmation
to Members.**

স চৰ, বিধান সভা :

অসম বিধান সভা, সচিবালয়

অ ধি সু চ না

তাৰিখ ১৫ মাৰ্চ ১৯৭২ চন

নং, ১০৬৫৩ বিধান সভা—১৯৭২ চনৰ ১৫ মাৰ্চ তাৰিখৰ অসমৰ ৰাজ্যপাল
নিম্নলিখিত হুকুমটো সৰ্বসাধাৰণৰ জ্ঞাতাৰ্থে প্ৰচাৰ কৰা হ'ল :

ৰাষ্ট্ৰভৱন,
শ্বিলং

হুকুম

অব্যৱধি সংশোধিত ভাৰতীয় সংবিধানৰ ১৮০ অনুচ্ছেদৰ দফা (১) মতে না
মতা অনুসৰি মই, অসমৰ ৰাজ্যপাল, ব্ৰজ কুমাৰ নেহৰুৱে অসম বিধান সভাৰ সদস্য
শ্ৰীপুস্পধৰ চলিহাক অধ্যক্ষৰ পদ খালি থকালৈকে উক্ত বিধান সভাৰ অধ্যক্ষ পদ
কাৰ্যনিৰ্বাহ কৰিবলৈ নিযুক্তি দিলো।

১৫ মাৰ্চ, ১৯৭২ চন।

ব্ৰজ কুমাৰ নেহৰু,
অসমৰ ৰাজ্যপাল।

Appointment of a person to discharge the duties of Speaker and also for administration of oath or affirmation to members.

সচিব, বিধান সভা : অসম বিধান সভা, সচিবালয়

অ ধি সূ চ না

তাৰিখ ১৫ মাৰ্চ ১৯৭২ চন

নং. ১০৬৫৪ বিধান সভা--১৯৭২ চনৰ ১৫ মাৰ্চৰ অসমৰ ৰাজ্যপালৰ নিম্নলিখিত কৰ্মটো সৰ্বস্বাধাৰণৰ জ্ঞাতাৰ্থে প্ৰকাশ কৰা হ'ল :

ৰাজভৱন,
শিলং ।

হুকুম

অদ্যৰশি সংশোধিত ভাৰতীয় সংবিধানৰ ১৮৮ অনুচ্ছেদ মতে ন্যস্ত কৰ্মতা অনুশ্ৰী অসমৰ ৰাজ্যপাল, ব্ৰজ কুমাৰ নেহৰুৱে অসম বিধান সভাৰ সদস্য শ্ৰীপুশ্পধৰ চাহিহাৰ অধ্যক্ষ নিৰ্বাচিত নোহোৱা পৰ্য্যন্ত তেওঁৰ সম্মুখত অন্যান্য সদস্যসকলে তেওঁৰ শপত বা প্ৰতিজ্ঞা গ্ৰহণ কৰিবৰ ব্যৱে নিযুক্তি দিলোঁ ।

বিধান সভাৰ অধ্যক্ষ নিৰ্বাচনৰ পিছত সদস্য সকলে অধ্যক্ষৰ সম্মুখত আৰু অধ্যক্ষ অনুপস্থিত থাকিলে উপাধ্যক্ষৰ সম্মুখত আৰু অধিবেশন চলি থকা কালত অধ্যক্ষ অনুপস্থিত থাকিলে আৰু যদি উপাধ্যক্ষ পদ খালি থাকে অথবা অধ্যক্ষ আৰু উপাধ্যক্ষ যোগ্যজন যদি অনুপস্থিত থাকে তেন্তে যি পৰাকী সদস্যই সভাত পৌৰোহিত্য কৰে তেওঁৰ সম্মুখতেই শপত বা প্ৰতিজ্ঞা গ্ৰহণ কৰিব ।

ব্ৰজ কুমাৰ নেহৰু
অসমৰ ৰাজ্যপাল ।

১৫ মাৰ্চ, ১৯৭২ চন ।

Oath or affirmation by members

Mr. CHAIRMAN (Shri Pushpadhar Chaliha) : Now I take up the procedure that will be followed about making and subscribing of oath or affirmation. The procedure will be : The Secretary will call out the names of the Members one by one. He will first call the Leader of the House and then other members of the Cabinet. The names of other members will then be called by him in alphabetical order. Hon. Members will please come up to the Secretary's table, one by one, make and subscribe the oath or affirmation, sign the Roll of Members, put the date, shake hands with the chair and then will please resume their seats. If any member is for some reason or other absent, at the time when his name is called, he will please wait till the Secretary calls out his name for the second time which he will do again in the same alphabetical order after the list is exhausted.

The following Hon. Members took their oath:

Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha, Shri Syed Ahmed Ali, Shri Gajen Tanti
Shri Md. Idris, Shri Paramananda Gogoi.

Shri Mohitosh Purkayastha

Dr. Lutfur Rahman

Shri Upendra Das

Shri Uttam Chandra Brahma

Shri Harendra Nath Talukdar

Shri Hiteswar Saikia

Shri Bishnu Prasad

Smti Swarna Probha Mahanta

Shri Abdul Hamid Mazumdar

Shri Abdul Hannan Choudhury

Moulana Abdul Jalil Choudhury

Shri Abdul Muqtadir Choudhury

Shri Abdul Rahman Choudhury

Shri Abul Hussain Mir

Shri Abul Kasem

Shri Ambarish Chandra Lahari

Smt. Anandi Bala Rava

Shri Ataur Rahman

Shri Ayodhya Ram Das

Shri Badan Chandra Talukdar

Shri Bahadur Basumatari

Shei Balabhadra Das

Shri Bazlul Basit

Dr. Bhumidhar Barman

Shri Bijoy Chandra Sarmah

- Shri Benoy Krishna Handique
 Shri Biren Ram Phukan
 Shri Biswanath Upadhaya
 Shri Chandra Bahadur Chetri
 Shri Charan Narzari
 Shri Chatra Gopal Karmakar
 Shri Chatra Sing Teron
 Shri Debendra Nath Bora
 Shri Dhaniram Rangpi
 Shri Dhruba Barua
 Shri Dwigendra Chandra Purkayastha
 Shri Dipak Moormoo
 Shri Dulal Chandra Barua
 Shri Dulal Chandra Khound
 Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya
 Shri Ghana Kanta Boro
 Shri Giasuddin Ahmed
 Shri Girindra Chandra Choudhury
 Shri Golap Chandra Barua
 Shri Golok Chandra Patgiri
 Shri Golok Rajbangshi
 Shri Govinda Chandra Bora
 Shri Gunendra Nath Pandit
 Shri Hashimuddin Ahmed
 Shri Hi anya Bora
 Shri Idris Ali Fakir
 Shri Indreswar Khaund
 Shri Jagadish Das

- Shri Jagannath Sinha
Shri Jalal Uddin
Shri Janakinath Handique
Shri Jay Chandra Bora
Shri Joybhadra Hagjer
Shri Kabir Chandra Roy Pradhan
Shri Kandarpa Kumar Das
Shri Kehoram Hazarika
Shri Khogen Gogoi
Dr. Kosheswar Bora
Dr. Krishna Kanta Lahkar
Shri Kshirode Chandra Saikia
Shri Lakshmi Kanta Saikia
Shri Lakshya Nath Doley
Shri Lila Kanta Bora
Shri Lila Kanta Das
Shri Mal Chandra Pegu
Shri Malia Tanti
Shri Manabendra Nath Sarma
Shrs Mathias Tudu
Shri Md. Umaruddin
Shri Nagendra Baruah
Shri Narad Kumar
Shri Nurul Haque Choudhury
Shri Nurul Islam
Shri Pitsing Konwar
Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury
Smti. Pranita Talukdar

Shri Premadhar Bora
Shri Promode Chandra Gogoi
Shri Rajendra Nath Phukan
Shri Ram Chandra Sarma
Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah
Shri Ramesh Chandra Saharia
Smti. Rebati Das
Smti. Renuka Devi Barkataki
Dr. Robindra Kumar Goswami
Shri Ramesh Mohan Kouli
Shri Sahadat Ali Jotdar
Shri Sai Sai Terang
Shri Santi Ranjan Dasgupta
Shri Santosh Kumar Roy
Smti. Satyabati Goswami
Shri Subhankar Sinha
Shri Soneswar Bora
Shri Sudarsan Das
Shri Suranjan Nandy
Dr. Surendra Nath Das
Shri Surendra Nath Das
Smti. Syeda Anwara Taimur
Smti. Tarulata³ Bora
Shri Tarun Chandra Chutia
Shri Tulsi Das
Shri Upendra Nath Sanatan

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Shri Atul Chandra Saikia is absent. Excepting him, I think, nobody is left out (Voice—No.). Now it is 12.30 P. M. and I think the leader of the House and the leader of the Opposition will agree that the Assembly will be adjourned after finishing the 3rd item. (Voice—Yes).

Election of Speaker

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Now we take up item No. 3, and proceed with the election of the Speaker. Members are aware that under Article 178 of the Constitution of India every Legislative Assembly shall, as soon as may be, choose a member of the Assembly to be the Speaker of that Assembly and under rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, the Governor is to fix a date for holding the election to the office of the Speaker. The Governor of Assam had accordingly fixed the 22nd day of March 1972, as the date on which the aforesaid election is to be held. According to rule 7 (2) any member may nominate another member for election by delivering to the Secretary a nomination paper signed by himself as proposer and by a third member as seconder and stating :

- (a) the name of the member nominated;
- (b) that the proposer has ascertained that such member is willing to serve as Speaker, if elected;
- (3) The nomination paper should be delivered to the Secretary either by the candidate himself or by the proposer or seconder in person.

For the convenience of all, I shall read out the relevant rules in this respect :—

7. (4) In the case of a new Assembly, the member appointed by the Governor to perform the duties of the office of Speaker pending the election of a Speaker and in any other case the Deputy Speaker or other member presiding shall read out to the Assembly the names of the members who have been duly nominated together with those of the proposers and seconders and if only one member has been so nominated, shall declare that member to be elected.

(5) For the purpose of sub-rule (4), a member shall not be deemed to have been duly nominated or be entitled to vote if he and his proposer and seconder have not, before the reading out or the names by the person presiding, made the oath or affirmation as members of the Assembly.

Now, till 3-30 P.M. yesterday altogether two nomination papers were received proposing the name of Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah. Both the nomination papers have been found to be in order. I shall read out the particulars of the nomination papers. The first nomination is proposed by Shri Chatrasing Teron and seconded by

Shri Syed Ahmed Ali. This nomination paper is in favour of Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah. The second nomination is proposed by Shri Indreswar Khaund and seconded by Shri Mohammad Idris which is also in favour of Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah.

Now, as there is only one validly nominated candidate, I have much pleasure in declaring, under sub-rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah to be duly elected as the Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly unanimously.

Before I request Shri Barooah to occupy this chair, I heartily congratulate him for having been elected to the exalted office of the Speaker of this House. It is a fitting tribute to a man who has devotedly served the people throughout his long political career. Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah needs no introduction to you or to the people of Assam. He has all along been in the forefront of our political life. Lately, as Minister of Supply he has steered the State ably through a very difficult period of acute scarcity of essential necessities of life. His honesty of purpose, spirit of sacrifice and amiable disposition have earned him a place in the hearts of our people, who, I am sure, will rejoice at his elevation to this high office. I have absolutely no doubt that the rights and privileges of the Members of this august House will be safe in his worthy hands and he will not only conduct the deliberations of this House in the great traditions of his illustrious predecessors but will also set new heights in our parliamentary life.

With these few words, I have great pleasure in requesting Shri Barooah to occupy this Chair.

(The newly elected Speaker, Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah was then escorted by the Chief Minister, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharjee, Shri Promode Chandra Gogoi and Shri Soneswar Bora to the Chair.)

Felicitations to the Speaker on his election

শ্রীশৰৎ চন্দ্ৰ সিংহ (মখ্য মন্ত্ৰী) :

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি আপুনি অধ্যক্ষ পদৰ বাবে নিৰ্বাচিত হোৱাত মই মোৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা তথা সদনৰ দলপতি হিচাবে অন্যান্য সদস্য সকলৰ হকে আপোনালৈ আন্তৰিক ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপন কৰিলো। আজি আপুনি এই আসন অলঙ্কিত কৰাৰ গৰিতে আপোনাৰ মহান গুণ গৰিমা আৰু যোগ্যতাৰ স্বীকৃতি। আপুনি আপোনাৰ প্ৰশাসনীয় কাৰ্যদক্ষতা আৰু অভিজ্ঞতাৰ কাৰণে এই আসন অলঙ্কৃত কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম হৈছে। মোৰ বিশ্বাস এই অভিজ্ঞতাৰ দ্বাৰা আপুনি এজন সংসদী সদস্য হিচাবে আপোনাৰ এই ন্যায় অধিকাৰ অটুট থাকিব আৰু এই সদনৰ মান স্বৰ্ঘ্যদা অটুট ৰাখিব পাৰিব। এই আসন অলঙ্কৃত কৰি আপুনি সদনৰ প্ৰতি থকা দায়িত্ব যাতে সুকলমে বহন কৰিব পাৰে তাৰ কাৰণে আপোনাক আন্তৰিক সহযোগ আগবঢ়ালো। এই সদনত বহুতো কথা আলোচনা হব আৰু নানা বকমৰ বাৰ্ণ বিতলা চলিব আৰু সকলোখিনি কথা আপোনাৰ দক্ষতাৰে আৰু ৰাজনৈতিক বিচক্ষণতাৰে সুকলমে পৰিচালনা

কৰিব। আজি আপুনি কংগ্ৰেছ দলৰ পৰা নিৰ্বাচিত সদস্য হৈ এই আসন অলঙ্কৃত কৰাৰ লগে লগে আপোনাৰ আমাৰ দলৰ লগত সম্পৰ্ক নাথাকিব। আপুনি আপোনাৰ সুদক্ষতাৰে গুবুভাৰ, দায়িত্ব পালন কৰিব পাৰিব বুলি মোৰ বিশ্বাস আছে। আৰু সেই বিশ্বাস অন্তৰত ৰাখি আপোনালৈ শুভেচ্ছা জ্ঞাপন কৰিলো।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I on behalf of myself as well as this side of the House offer my heartiest congratulations and felicitation on your unanimous election to this exalted position. The unanimity with which you have been elected is significant and we do hope that you will kindly remember this. Your task in this House I know will be greatly difficult and embarrassing because in this House as well as in many other States in India we have to-day "steamroller democracy." The opposition in the legislature has become much smaller in number and therefore you are one who has been selected by the Majority Party, the party which commands overwhelming majority. Unlike the Mother of Parliaments and many other Parliaments the Legislatures in India do not have Speakers who are non-party members. In India Speakers even after their election continue to have connections with the ruling party and that creates at times embarrassing situations. We hope that you will be above prejudice and discharge your duties and responsibilities without fear and favour. Though the Opposition is smaller in number we don't seek any pity from you, we shall demand of you and we shall expect from you the justice, even-handed justice. Even though the opposition might be small in number it is a significant part of the Parliamentary democracy and we do hope that you will remember this. From our side we can assure you, we shall reciprocate your feelings, your conduct and also your opinions and judgement.

শ্ৰীপ্ৰমোদ চন্দ্ৰ গৰ্গৈ : অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়া, আপুনি অসম বিধান সভাৰ অধ্যক্ষ পদত অপ্রতিদ্বন্দিত ভাবে নিৰ্বাচিত হোৱাত আপোনাক আমাৰ দলৰ ফালৰ পৰা আন্তৰিক অভিনন্দন জ্ঞাপন কৰিছো। আপোনাৰ প্ৰশাসনীয় দক্ষতাৰে এই দায়িত্বভাৰ গৃহন কৰি সুখ্যাতিৰে এই কাম কাজ পৰিচালনাত খ্যাতি লাভ কৰিব। আশা কৰিছো আমাৰ পূৰ্বৰ যি সকল অধ্যক্ষই এই বিধান সভা পৰিচালনা কৰিছিল তেখেতসকলৰ যোগ্যতা বক্ষা কৰাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত যি দুৰদৰ্শিতা দেখুৱাই থৈ গ'ল, আমি আশা কৰিছো সেই দক্ষতা আপোনাবো অটুট থাকিব। এইবাৰ বিধান সভাত আমাৰ বিৰোধী পক্ষৰ সদস্য সংখ্যাত কম যদিও আমাৰ যি অধিকাৰ বিধান সভাৰ বিধিমেতে সেই অধিকাৰ মৰ্য্যদা বক্ষাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত আপুনি সুবিবেচক হব। যোৱা বিধানসভাত স্বৰ্গীয় হৰেশ্বৰ গোস্বামী দেৱ, শ্ৰীমহীকান্ত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই তেখেত সকল অধ্যক্ষ থকা সময়ত বিৰোধী পক্ষই যি সুবিচাৰ পাইছিল মই আশা কৰো সেই সুবিচাৰ আপোনাৰ দিনতো পাম আৰু সেই ক্ষেত্ৰত আপুনি মনোযোগ দিব। এই বিধান সভাৰ কাৰ্য্য পৰিচালনা কৰাত সকলো প্ৰকাৰে সহযোগিতা দিয়াৰ চেষ্টা কৰিম। পুনৰ আপোনাক আমাৰ দলৰ ফালৰ পৰা ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপন কৰিলো।

শ্রীসোনেশ্বৰ বৰা : অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়া, এই সদনৰ পৰা আপুনি অপ্রতিদ্বন্দ্বিত
হি চাবে নিৰ্বাচিত হৈছে আৰু এই অধ্যক্ষ পদৰ জৰিয়তে আপুনি এই বিধা সভাৰ
কাৰ্যবিধি পৰিচালনা কৰিবলৈ সুবিধা পাব।

আমি বিৰোধী দল হিচাপে খুউব কম সংখ্যক সদস্যইহে এই বিধান সভালৈ
নিৰ্বাচিত হৈ আহিছে। আমি আশা কৰো আৰু বিশ্বাস কৰো যে গণতন্ত্ৰৰ শাস
ব্যৱস্থাত নিৰপেক্ষ হিচাবে আমাৰ বিৰোধী দলকো বক্ষণাবেক্ষন আপুনি দিব
আমি সকলো ফালৰ পৰাই এই সদনত আপোনাৰ সহযোগিতা পাম বুলি আশা কৰিছো
আৰু আপোনাৰ নিৰপেক্ষ কাৰ্যদক্ষতাই আমাক আগবঢ়াই নিব আৰু অধ্যক্ষ হিচাবে
আপোনাৰ গুণ-গৰিমাৰ ওপৰত গণ-তন্ত্ৰৰ শাসন ব্যৱস্থাত বহুতখিনি আগবাঢ়িবলৈ
সুবিধা এই বিধান সভাই পাব।

তদুপৰি ভাৰতীয় গণ-তান্ত্ৰিক নীতি হিচাবে সবহসংখ্যক তথা সংখ্যাগৰিষ্ঠত
লাভ কৰা দলে আপোনাক নিৰ্বাচিত কৰিছে। গতিকে অধ্যক্ষ হিচাবে নিৰ্বাচিত
হোৱাৰ পাছত আপুনি দলীয়া সদস্য পদ ইস্তফা দি নিৰপেক্ষ নীতি অবলম্বন কৰিবলৈ
অধিকাৰ পাইছে। ভাৰতীয় পালিয়ামেণ্টৰী ব্যৱস্থাত এই পৰম্পৰা আৰু নিদৰ্শন আছে
আপোনাৰ প্ৰশাসনীয় দক্ষতাৰে নিৰপেক্ষ দৃষ্টিত সকলো কাম হব বুলি আমাৰ আশা
অসম বিধান সভাৰ অধ্যক্ষ পদৰ কাৰণে আপোনাৰ এই নিৰ্বাচনত সম্ভাষণ জনাইছে
আৰু আমাৰ ছচিয়েলিষ্ট পাৰ্টি আৰু বিৰোধী দলৰ পৰা নিৰপেক্ষ সহযোগিতা আগবঢ়াইছে।

শ্ৰীমতী বেণুকা দেৱী বৰকটকী : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আপুনি
অধ্যক্ষ হিচাবে অসম বিধান সভালৈ অপ্রতিদ্বন্দ্বী হিচাবে নিৰ্বাচিত হোৱাত আমি আটাইয়ে
আনন্দ প্ৰকাশ কৰিছো।

আজি আপুনি যিটো সন্মানিত পদ পাইছে এইটো আপোনাৰ নিজৰ গুণ গৰিমাৰ কাৰণে
পাইছে। যোৱা কেই বছৰত আপুনি এজন উপযুক্ত শাসক হিচাপে নিজকে প্ৰমাণিত
কৰিছে। তাৰ বাহিৰেও যোগান বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী হৈ থকা কালচোৱাত আপুনি আপোনাৰ
উপযুক্ততাৰ পৰিচয় দি আহিছে। তাৰোপৰি নিষ্কলঙ্ক কৰ্তব্যপৰায়ন নাগৰিক বুলি
পৰিচয় দি আহিছে। মই বিৰোধী দলৰ সদস্য হিচাবে আপোনাৰ ওচৰত সহানুভূতিৰ
প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি দিছো। কিন্তু সংখ্যাগৰিষ্ঠতা থকা শাসক কংগ্ৰেছৰ আগত
বিৰোধী দলৰ সংখ্যা লক্ষিততা ল্হান হৈ নাযায় যেন। আনহাতে বিৰোধী দলৰ ন্যায্য
অধিকাৰৰ বক্ষণাবেক্ষনৰ দায়িত্ব আপোনাৰ ওপৰত। এই বক্ষণাবেক্ষন আপোনাৰ পৰা পাম
বুলি আশা কৰিছো। আমি বিধান সভালৈ নিৰ্বাচিত হোৱা সদস্য সকলে যাতে
একেলগে কাম কৰিব পাৰে তালৈ আমাৰ বাইজে আশাবে চাই আছে। শেষত
আন্তৰিক ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপন কৰি বক্তৃতাৰ ভাগৰ মাৰিলো।

Shri CHARAN NARZARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am represen
ting the Plains Tribal Council of Assam and to-day on behalf of the
Plains Tribal Council of Assam and also on behalf of the vast multi-
tude of the Tribal masses, I congratulate you on your being elected
Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a representative of the down-trodden masses
we will have to raise a number of problems of great political impor-
tance and I do hope, as impartial judge of this august House you
will listen to our problems and grievances with patience. Sir, there is
a mistaken idea about the PTCA or the Plains Tribal Council of

Assam. On a number of occasions, this organisation has been characterised by some interested circles as a communal organisation. But I may inform this august House that the PTCA is not a communal organisation because the causes taken up by the PTCA are not the causes of the Tribal people alone.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not the proper occasion for making such remarks.

SHRI CHARAN NARZARY : Any way, Sir, at times we will have to raise certain problems of political importance and for proper consideration you will kindly take note of our grievances. I assure you our best and sincere co-operation in conducting the business of the House. Thank you, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : Hon. Chief Minister, hon. Members Shri Bhattacharyya, Shri Gogoi, Shri Bora, Shrimati Barkatky and Shri Narzary and hon. Members of the House. I thank you all for the signal honour you have conferred on me by unanimously electing me as the Speaker of this House.

I realise the dignity and responsibilities of this high office, at the same time, I am also conscious of my own shortcomings and limitations. But your unanimous choice, an indication of your faith in me, has given me courage and confidence to shoulder this high responsibility. In order to discharge the responsibilities of this high office, unstinted co-operation of the entire House is essential. I hope and trust, the Hon'ble Members sitting on either side will not be lacking in offering their whole-hearted co-operation to me in discharging my duties. You have spoken so many kind words. I only hope and pray that at the time when I lay down this office, these words will stand justified.

While discharging my functions as Speaker of this august House, I shall try to be fair to every hon'ble Member of this House. In other words, in deciding matters I shall try to hold the scales even between man and man, cause and cause, interest and interest.

I have before me not only a new House but also many new faces with new vigour side by side with my old colleagues. Let the wisdom of the old and the vigour of the youth combined together make this august House a temple of democracy. Before I conclude, I must express my deep gratitude on your behalf to Hon'ble Member Shri Pushpadhar Chaliha who was appointed to discharge the duties of the Speaker for administering the oath to the newly-elected Members, which duty he has discharged very creditably. I thank him on your behalf. With these words, I thank you for all the good words you have spoken about me

Adjournment

The House then adjourned for lunch till 2-30 p.m.

[The House reassembled at 2.30 P.M. with the Speaker in the Chair.]

Re : Notice of Adjournment Motion.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, I have given notice of an adjournment motion and I urge that before taking up the next item on the Agenda it may be taken up.

Mr. SPEAKER : It may be taken up to-morrow. Let us receive the Governor first and hear his address.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, the purpose of the adjournment motion is of special significance, and if the Governor embodies the matter in his address, it may satisfy us. Therefore, my submission is that considering the urgency of the matter, it may be decided upon now.

Mr. SPEAKER : I feel the hon. Members should not disturb the laid down programme of the House.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : The purpose of the adjournment motion is to disturb the programme of the House.

ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR

Mr. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Members present, the Governor is addressing the House to-day at 2.40 P.M. He is coming by the South Eastern Gate of the Assembly premises at 2.30. P.M. Myself, and the Secretary will be going to receive him at the gate. The instructions as to how the Governor is to be received in the porch and in the House have been laid on each Member's table. As soon as he comes I think, we should comply with these instructions.

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

(The Governor entered the Chamber 2.36 P.M.)

THE GOVERNOR : Mr. Speaker and hon. Members, I am.....

শ্রীসোনেশ্বৰ বৰা : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় ৰাজ্যপাল মহোদয়ে এই বিধান সভাতে অসমীয়াত ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণ খনি পাঠ কৰিলে আমাৰ দাবীমতেই—। কিন্তু আজি আকৌ কিয় অসমীয়াত পাঠ কৰাৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তে ইংৰাজীত আবৃত্তি কৰিছে বৰ পৰা নাই।

Mr. SPEAKER : সংবিধান মতে অসম বিধান সভাত ৰাজ্যপালে চাৰিটা স্বীকৃত ভাষা—অসমীয়া, ইংৰাজী, হিন্দী আৰু বঙালীত ভাষণ দিব পাৰে।

শ্রীসোনেশ্বৰ বৰা : সেই ফালৰ পৰা অসমীয়াতে ভাষণ পাঠ কৰিলে আমি বেয়া নাপাওঁ।

Mr. SPEAKER : কিন্তু তেখেতক কোনোবা এটা নিৰ্দিষ্ট ভাষাত ভাষণ দিয়াবলৈ আমি বাধ্য কৰাৰ নোৱাৰো।

THE GOVERNOR: Mr. SPEAKER and HON'BLE MEMBERS

I am happy to have this opportunity of once again addressing this august House following its reconstitution after the fifth General Elections. General elections were held in our State this year along with the rest of the country. It is highly gratifying to note that the elections in our State have passed off smoothly and peacefully. It is also significant that the people came forward in large numbers to freely exercise their democratic right to choose their own Government. This only confirms that healthy democratic principles have struck deep roots in our body-politic thereby strengthening the foundation of a democratic and egalitarian society.

The country is passing through momentous times and the Hon'ble Members of this Assembly will have to play a vital role in shaping and guiding the destiny of our people. In welcoming the Hon'ble Members I also offer my very best wishes for a fruitful period of constructive work in the service of our country and the people.

Since I addressed this House last March momentous developments have taken place across our borders. With the emergence of Bangladesh as a sovereign democratic republic, the long cherished aspirations of 75 million freedom loving people for a free and democratic way of life have finally come to fruition. It is a matter of great joy that after months of bitter struggle and untold sufferings the brave and determined people of Bangladesh could establish their right of self-determination to build a free and democratic society. We also feel happy at the thought that in their hour of trial and sufferings, we, on our part, could come to their help under the inspiring leadership of our beloved Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I join the Hon'ble Members in sending our very best wishes for a happy and prosperous life for the great people of Bangladesh who are now strug-

gling with determination for the speedy reconstruction of their devastated country. Let us also hope and pray that the emergence of Bangladesh will open a new era of mutual good-will and friendship leading to close economic co-operation in the larger interest of both the countries.

✓ In the wake of the happenings in Bangladesh, our borders had to be thrown open to a large body of suffering humanity to ensure security of their life, honour and property. The influx was unprecedented and within a short time as many as 9,55,854 helpless evacuees including 6,27,507 in Meghalaya had to be provided shelter and relief. 7,20,718 of them were accommodated in camps and 2,24,134 stayed with friends and relations. I have great pleasure in mentioning that the State administration met this challenge and successfully assisted in extending quick and necessary relief and succour to this large number of evacuees. Within a short period of cessation of hostilities in Bangladesh arrangements were made for the speedy and smooth return of this large body of men and women to their homes in Bangladesh.

As Hon'ble Members are aware, a large number of saboteurs, spies and anti-social elements also entered into our territory along with the genuine evacuees for the avowed purpose of disrupting normal life particularly by causing disruption of vital communication links. The Cachar border was the scene of wide-spread sabotage activities. From the middle of August 1971, there were as many as 39 attempts at dislocating vital communication links to create panic and demoralisation. These menacing developments imposed a heavy strain on our limited Police and Security Forces. In the evacuee camps also, Police and Security Forces had to maintain peace and order and deal with subversive elements. In spite of these heavy odds, the internal law and order situation could be kept under control during this difficult period.

The political map of the State has undergone a significant change with the passing of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971. Meghalaya has since attained full Statehood and the erstwhile Mizo District has become the Union Territory of Mizoram. It is not-worthwhile that such momentous political changes have come about in an atmosphere of mutual good-will and understanding for which the entire people of this area deserve to be congratulated. I would like to join hands with the Members of this House in extending our sincere good wishes for all-round progress and prosperity of Meghalaya and Mizoram.

✓ The Assam-Nagaland border continues to cause anxiety. To examine the questions relating to this long boundary the Government of India appointed Shri K. V. K. Sundaram as Adviser to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Adviser has visited the areas involved and has held discussions with the Governments and officials of the two States. The State Government have instructed all concerned to extend fullest possible co-operation to the Adviser in this difficult and vital task of finding a satisfactory solution for this long-standing problem which has caused so much anxiety, tension and unhappiness all-round. It is unfortunate that clashes have recently taken place despite significant progress in the work undertaken by the Adviser. It is to be hoped that with good will and understanding on all sides it will be possible without delay to evolve a satisfactory solution for this difficult problem.

The over-all law and order situation was by and large satisfactory except for some isolated activities of lawlessness. Some agitations took place on issues like price rise, unemployment, distribution of land to the landless, etc. Naxalite activities were also in evidence in some parts of the State during the year. By and large, the situation arising out of these activities could be kept in check.

Incidents with some communal overtones occurred at Lumding and Tezpur which were promptly and effectively dealt with. In connection with these troubles, 346 persons were arrested in 160 cases.

The Anti-Corruption Department made notable progress in detection and prevention of corruption. Altogether 780 cases came up for enquiry during 1971 out of which 193 cases were disposed of during the period under review. Departmental action was recommended against 42 gazetted and 45 non-Gazetted officers in 37 cases. In 156 cases charges could not be substantiated. At the close of the year, 587 cases remained pending, and adequate steps have been taken for their speedy disposal.

From March, 1971 the State experienced unusual drought conditions for several months. Large areas of Barpeta, Nalbari and Mangaldai Subdivisions and the areas on the north bank of the Gauhati Subdivision were seriously affected. About 65 per cent of the population in Mangaldai Subdivision, 30 per cent in the Gauhati Subdivision, 10 per cent in Nalbari Subdivision and about 42.5 per cent in Barpeta Subdivision were affected by this unusual phenomenon. Raising of Sali seedlings was badly affected and a large number of power pumps were harnessed for irrigating the seed beds. A sum of Rs. 92.09 lakhs has already been spent in dealing with the problems created by drought conditions. At the instance of my Government, the Government of India sent a team of officials to visit the affected areas and on their recommendation, Rs. 57.26 lakhs under grant and Rs. 42.23 lakhs under loan on specified items have been prescribed as ceilings of expenditure reimbursable by the Central Government.

Floods which are a regular annual feature also occurred in five waves affecting 6,73,730 people. The most seriously affected Subdivisions were Dhemaji and North-Lakhimpur. Apart from damage to crops, road communications were disrupted and embankments breached. Damage caused by the floods was assessed at about Rs. 5.68 crore. For flood relief and repairs of flood damages, an amount of Rs. 54 lakhs has already been spent. The Government of India have agreed to give Rs. 32.20 lakhs under grant and Rs. 32.00 lakhs under loan on specified items as ceilings of expenditure eligible for reimbursement.

I am glad to mention that significant progress has been made in the sphere of industrialisation following sustained efforts at mobilising the State's resources and industrial potential. The foundation stone of the Bongaigaon Refinery has recently been laid by the Prime Minister. The total cost of the project along with the petro-chemical units has been estimated at about Rs. 100 crores. Construction work of the cement factory at Bokajan with a daily capacity of 600 tonnes has begun. A sugar mill with a crushing capacity of 1,250 tonnes per day is being established in Cachar. A Company has been floated by the Ass

Industrial Development Corporation for an adhesive plant at Namrup for effective utilisation of natural gas. The Corporation is also establishing another Company for producing caustic soda and chlorine for the Jogighopa Paper Mill. Work on the Paper Mill at Jogighopa is in progress. This Company has already received a letter of intent for obtaining loan from the Industrial Development Bank of India and the Civil work on the complex has started. The Hindustan Paper Corporation will establish two more paper mills in Nowgong and Cachar.

I am happy to note that the Tea Auction Centre recently established at Gauhati has successfully completed its second year of working with significant improvement in volume and standard of sales.

The recently introduced scheme of transport subsidy for raw materials and finished goods produced by industrial units of the State is expected to provide valuable incentives for rapid industrialisation of this region.

Schemes for extending and developing requisite facilities in various educational institutions are being continued with a view to improve the quality of education. Rules for departmental recognition have been amended to prevent mushroom growth of institutions. A scheme has been taken up for introducing free primary education in most of the villages. Tea garden schools and other private schools are also being taken over by the Board of Elementary Education in a phased manner. Under a scheme for providing employment to the educated unemployed, the Government of India have sanctioned 2000 posts of L. P. School teachers with some more posts for Middle Schools and Sub-inspectors.

The Ways and Means position was assessed and reviewed in August, 1971. It has been found that the deficit on non-plan projects during the Fourth Plan period would be of the order of Rs. 165.32 crores against Rs. 115 crores assessed earlier. No decision has been taken on the State Government's request for additional special accommodation of Rs. 50.32 crores.

Schemes for the welfare of the plains tribal population were continued during 1971-72 and a provision of Rs. 61.30 lakhs was made in the Annual Plan. The State Government is also paying due attention to the all-round development of the Scheduled Caste population.

Resettlement operations in the Districts of Dibrugarh, Lakhimpur and Darrang are in progress. The special feature of these resettlement operations relates to the survey and classification of tea land according to the pattern of use.

The broad policy on settlement of land with the landless enunciated in 1968 continued to be followed during the year. Special care has been taken to ensure that only genuine landless people are given lands for agricultural purposes. It was also decided to settle all available semi-permanent and char lands with landless agriculturists on annual patta basis and necessary instructions have been issued.

An allocation of Rs. 57 lakhs has been made for the Community Development programme in the Annual Plan for 1972-73. Blocks with large tribal population and declared as Tribal Development Blocks would be entitled to additional grants under the Centrally sponsored scheme. The Applied Nutrition Programme sponsored by the Government of India in collaboration with the UNICEF and WHO covered 32 C. D. Blocks during 1971-72. A special nutrition feeding programme has also been in operation since the middle of 1970-71 with a target of 65,000 beneficiaries.

I am happy to mention that a new Crash Scheme for rural employment introduced in 1970-71 continued during the year under review. This is a 100 per cent Centrally Sponsored scheme which aims at providing employment through a net work of Rural Development schemes like improvement and construction of wells, tanks and roads. A sum of Rs. 12.50 lakhs is available for each District under the scheme.

The Health Department continued its efforts to prevent epidemics and extend health facilities besides improving the quality of services. Doctors could be posted to all the 109 Primary Health Centres. Incidence of small-pox has recorded significant decline and only 35 cases with 12 deaths were reported throughout the State in 1971. Cholera which broke out in epidemic form in some of the camps for Bangladesh evacuees was effectively checked and controlled. The National Malaria Eradication Programme also made steady progress. Facilities for anti-rabic treatment have since been extended to all the Primary Health Centres. A Primary Health Centre is proposed for every C. D. Block by the end of the Fourth Plan.

Significant success was achieved in the Family Planning Programme in 1971-72. As against 17,301 sterilisations performed in 1970-71, the target of 31,500 fixed for 1971-72 has already been exceeded. Performance in IUCD insertion has also been quite satisfactory.

Schemes for agricultural production, minor irrigation, etc., taken up earlier continued in 1971-72 as well. Many additional schemes are also proposed in 1972-73. The special scheme for development of small and marginal farms is in operation in four districts and is gaining momentum.

Institutional finance from the Nationalised Banks started flowing increasingly for implementing agricultural project. Despite floods and drought conditions, it has been possible to maintain the foodgrains production in 1971-72 more or less at the previous year's level. An area of 2,14,000 hectares was to be covered by high yielding varieties in 1971-72 against an achievement of 1,50,510 hectares in 1970-71. It is also to be noted that two projects for pineapple processing are now under consideration of the World Bank.

General industrial relations were, on the whole, peaceful despite a few strikes and lockouts in some establishments in both the sectors. Efforts were continued to ensure that labour legislations were fully enforced both in letter and spirit.

At the end of March 1971, there were 80,173 employment-seekers in the live registers of the Employment Exchanges. The number

Increased by 25.3 percent during the year. Significant unemployment has also recorded among Engineering Degree and Diploma-holders. 13 Degree-holders and 403 Diploma-holders were registered in the Employment Exchanges till 30th June, 1971. Unemployed tea garden labour increased by more than 22 percent over the previous year. However, my Government have spared no pains in tackling this burning problem.

The Assam State Electricity Board took up new generation projects besides construction of high-tension transmission lines, low voltage distribution lines and electrification of small towns and villages. The total installed capacity upto 1970-71 was 153 MW. Umiam Stage II with a capacity of 18 MW was added during 1971-72. Further increase in generation capacity has been planned through the Gauhati Thermal Project, the Garo Hills Thermal Project, the Namrup Thermal Extension Project and the 12.5 MW Thermal project at Namrup besides Umiam Stage III.

The Cultural Affairs Wing has been separated from the Information and Public Relations Directorate to make information services more positive and comprehensive. The newly created Directorate of Cultural Affairs will devote itself to the long-term needs of cultural development in the State.

The Co-operative movement has made headway during the period under review. In the field of co-operative marketing, 136 Co-operatives are functioning successfully. So far 30 rice-mills, 4 oil mills and one fruit processing Unit have been set up and 28 rice mills and 4 oil mills have gone into operation. The Assam Co-operative Jute Mills Ltd., the first in the Co-operative sector and the Co-operative Sugar Mill at Sargaon worked satisfactorily during the period.

In paddy procurement, the area of operation of the Apex Marketing Society has been extended by adding the surplus Subdivision of North-Dakshimpur previously with the Food Corporation of India.

At the end of the Third Five-Year plan composite Assam's road mileage under the P. W. D. including National Highways stood at 11,602 miles. The plan provision for 1972-73 stands at Rs. 260.00 lakhs for the general areas and Rs. 101.52 lakhs for the hill areas. The Fourth plan provides for improvement of approximately 460 K. M., metalling and black-topping of 170 K. M. and construction and improvement of 50 K. M. of new roads besides new over-bridges.

Although the position relating to rice and wheat was generally satisfactory, acute scarcity had been felt with consequent price rise in respect of many essential commodities like sugar, salt, pulses, mustard oil, etc., during 1971-72. The floods in parts of Bihar and West Bengal severely disrupted both rail and road communication resulting in substantial reduction in the movement of these commodities. Due to increased demands on the available transport resources during the National emergency, non-availability of wagons for movement of foodgrains into the State posed a serious problem. Ad-hoc movement programmes in special trains had to be arranged for bulk movement of these commodities with the special assistance of the Railway Board. Although some improve-

ment could be effected, the position continued to be unsatisfactory for a long time. Despite commissioning of the Parakka Barrage and through movement of trains, movement of essential commodities like sugar, salt, cement, pulses, etc., has not improved appreciably due apparently to other heavy demands on the available transport resources. The supply position of cement continues to be acute and it has seriously affected many development projects and the large civil works programme. My Government have been making serious efforts to substantially increase the tempo of goods movement into Assam and the feasibility of moving cement by river from Calcutta is also being explored.

In the wake of the National Emergency, the Food Corporation of India, at the request of the State Government, undertook a scheme for building up within the State sizeable buffer stocks of essential commodities like salts, sugar, edible oils, etc. The scheme continues to make satisfactory progress and has been of great assistance to this area during periods of scarcity and high price.

Hon'ble Members are aware that the State Government constituted a Pay Commission in August last to look into the structure of emoluments of the employees, their conditions of service and to submit recommendations for changes, if any. The Commission was also called upon to consider the demand for relief of and interim character. My Government have accepted the recommendation of the Commission and sanctioned interim relief at rates varying from Rs. 10 to Rs. 21 per month with effect from 1st September, 1971. In spite of the very difficult ways and means position, the State Government undertook this liability with a view to ameliorate the hardship of the State employees and also of certain categories of aided educational institutions. This is likely to cost approximately Rs. 3.12 crores per year.

Besides the usual financial and other bills my Government will place before you the following legislative measures during the current session—

1. The Assam Urban Areas Rent Control Bill, 1972.
2. The Gauhati University (Amendment) Bill, 1972.
3. The Dibrugarh University (Amendment) Bill, 1972.

Before I conclude, I would like to assure the House that my Government which has recently assumed charge will address itself most **in**cerely and urgently to the vital task of shaping the future of the State.

I am fully aware of the immensity of the problems which will have to be confronted by my Government. To ensure rapid, all-round economic progress and to appreciably improve the standard of living of the common man, my Government will effectively tackle the growing menace of acute unemployment and take necessary steps to eliminate poverty. My Government will also introduce necessary policy and administrative measures to remove from the mind of the common man any feeling of injustice and insecurity with a view to ensure fuller participation in the affairs of the State. The great resurgence generated

by the imaginative and progressive policies of the Prime Minister will, with the people's co-operation, be harnessed to give a new sense of destiny. I have no doubt, whatsoever, that with co-operation and good-will from all quarters and constructive and helpful support of this House my Government will prove equal to this great task of helping our people to forge ahead to progress and prosperity.

JAI HIND

[Speech concluded and the Governor left the House at 3.08 P. M.]

Motion to discuss the Governor's Address

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, Under rule 13, sub—rule (2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I now report that the Governor has been pleased to make a speech. A copy of the speech has been placed on the table. Copies of the speech have been distributed to the hon'ble Members also.

I have also received the following notices of motions for discussing the Governor's Address—from Shri Lila Kanta Bora.

His motion is—"that this House do now discuss the Address of the Governor of Assam which he has been pleased to make just now and adopt the same."

Shri LILA KANTA BORA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this House do now discuss the Address of the Governor of Assam which he has been pleased to make just now and adopt the same.

SHRI LAKSHMI KANTA SAIKIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Motion.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move an amendment to this motion. "That at the end of the Motion moved by Shri Lila Kanta Bora on the Governor's Address, the following be added :—

'But regrets that the Address has failed to properly appreciate and underline the urgent and specific politico-economic and developmental needs and aspirations of the people of Assam'

SHRI PROMOD CHANDRA GOGOI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move an amendment on the motion moved by Shri Lila Kanta Bora. "The Governor's Address has failed to give a clear picture of the economic and political situation of the State and to point out the directives for their solutions."

শ্ৰীসোণেশ্বৰ বৰা : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ এটা সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ আছে।
ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণত কাৰ্য্য পৰিচালনা বিধি ১৫ নিয়ম অনুসৰি মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীলীলাকান্ত
বৰা আৰু সমৰ্থক শ্ৰীলক্ষীকান্ত শইকীয়াৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ আমি সংশোধনী দাঙি ধৰিছোঁ।

[এই সংশোধনীত শ্ৰীনগেন্দ্ৰ বৰুৱাৰ নামো থাকে।]

‘অসম ৰাজ্যখনৰ নগা সমস্যা, ভূমি সমস্যা, নিবনুৱা সমস্যা, আৰ্থিক সমস্যা আদি সমূহ সমস্যা সমাধান কৰাত অসম চৰকাৰ বিফল হৈছে।’

Mr. SPEAKER : The motions have now been moved. I allot 23rd March 1972, 3rd April, 1972, 5th April 1972, 6th April 1972, and 7th April 1972 for discussion on the motion referred to in the Address.

The Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1971.

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Minister, Transport) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay out the Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1971.

The Assam Urban Areas Rent Control Ordinance, 1972 (Assam Ordinance 1 of 1972)

Shri PARAMANANDA GOGOI (Minister, Revenue) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay out the Assam Urban Areas Rent Control Ordinance, 1972 (Assam Ordinance I of 1972).

The Gauhati University (Amendment) Ordinance, 1972 (Assam Ordinance I of 1972)

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Minister Education) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay out the Gauhati University (Amendment) Ordinance, 1972 (Assam Ordinance I of 1972).

The Dibrugarh University (Second Amendment) Ordinance 1972 (Assam Ordinance No. VI of 1972)

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Minister, Education) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay out the Dibrugarh University (Amendment) Ordinance, 1972 (Assam Ordinance II of 1972). I also beg to lay out the Dibrugarh University (Second Amendment) Ordinance 1972 (Assam Ordinance No. IV of 1972).

Obituary Reference to the demise of Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Shri Khagendra Nath Nath, Shri Durgeswar Saikia, Shrimati Chandraprabha Saikiani and King Mahendra of Nepal

Shri SARAT CHANDRA SINHA (Chief Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of deep regret that a great Scientist D. V. A. Sarabhai is no more. He was a brilliant scientist and contributed a great deal to the growth of scientific research and atomic development

in this country. Sir, he was born in August, 1919. Dr. Sarabhai was educated at Gujarat College, Ahmedabad and St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took his Natural Sciences Tripos in 1939. During World War II he did research work for five years (1940-45) on cosmic radiation under Sir C. V. Raman at the Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore, and on Physics at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, in 1946 where he obtained his P. D.

Dr. Sarabhai was associated with the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad since its inception in 1948, as Professor of Cosmic Ray (Physics). He was a visitor to the Laboratory of Nuclear Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1958 and in 1961. His interest in research centred round the astrophysical implications of cosmic ray time variation. Dr. Sarabhai trained many doctoral students and published papers in international journals.

Dr. Sarabhai was a member of the Cosmic Ray Commission of the International Union of pure and applied physics and Secretary of its sub-commission on Cosmic Ray Intensity Variation. He was a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences and member of its Executive Council. He was also a Fellow of the London Physical Society, and the Cambridge Philosophical Society and was a member of the American Physical Society.

Dr. Sarabhai was also connected with the development of the chemical industry. He was Chairman of the Panel of Experts for the preparation of the U. N. Conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space and was also Vice-President and Scientific Chairman of the Conference held in Vienna in August, 1968. In early 1962 he took over the responsibility of organising space research in India and became first Chairman of the Indian National Committee for Space Research set up by the department of Atomic Energy. He was primarily responsible for setting up the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station. Dr. Sarabhai was Chairman of the Electronics Commission, Department of Defence Supplies, Govt. of India, Electronics Corporation of India Ltd. and Indian Space Research Organisation. He was unanimously elected President of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (I. A. E. A.) held in Vienna in 1971. He received the Santi Swarup Bhatnagar Memorial Award for Physics in 1962 and the Padma Bhusan in 1966.

Dr. V. Sarabhai, creator and leader of the Indian renaissance in science passed away on 30th December, 1971 at the age of 52. In him we lost a great scientist.

There was another unfortunate death of a revolutionary leader in Khagendra Nath Nath. He was a great revolutionary in the time of freedom struggle. In him we have also lost a social worker. Shri Khagendra Nath Nath was born in 1906. Late Nath was a life-long Congress worker and suffered various terms of imprisonment during the national movements in 1921, 1930-32 and 1942.

He was a member of the Assam Legislative Assembly till 1967 and a member of the A P C C and the AICC. He was also the President of the Goalpara District Congress Committee. He published a book 'Swadhinatar Sangramat Goalparar Abadan'. This patriot of Assam died on 9th January, 1972 at the age of 66.

Then, Sir, there was the unfortunate death of Shri Durgeswar Saikia who was a Minister of this House. He was a good social worker and in him we have also lost a labour leader. Shri Saikia was born at Selenghat, District Sibsagar in 1911, established himself as a true representative of the common masses, particularly the Kisans and the Mazdoors by dint of his perseverance and selfless social work, connected with the Indian National Congress since 1937, held responsible positions in the Congress party as the Secretary and the President, Sibsagar District Congress Committee, was General Secretary, Assam Chah Mazdoor Sangha for several years, Member, Assam Legislative Assembly since 1957 without any break, connected with a large number of social and cultural organisations of Sibsagar and Dibrugarh Districts, joined the Assam Cabinet as Minister of State, P. W. D. (R. & B).

This prominent leader of Assam passed away on 14th March, 1972 at the age of 61.

Then, Sir, very recently Shrimati Chandra Prava Saikiani died. She was a great revolutionary and she joined freedom movement when she was very young. She was born on March 16, 1901. She was the founder of Assam Pradesh Mahila Samiti. She was the General Secretary of the Samity from 1926 to 1963. A pioneer in Woman Welfare movement, Shrimati Saikiani is associated with a number of social organisations. She actively participated in the freedom movement and was imprisoned in 1932, 1939 and 1942. Shrimati Saikiani also contributed to the literary field and her novel, 'Pitribhitha' earned admiration from the readers. Some of her books are yet to be published among which "Eri Aha Din Bor" and "Aparajita" are noteworthy. She also edited a journal named "Abhijatri". Shrimati Saikiani was recently awarded Padmasree.

This selfless social worker passed away on 16th March, 1972 at the age of 72.

Then, Sir, in the demise of King Mahendra we have lost a great friend of India. King Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva was born in 1920.

He studied extensively to equip himself for the role of a modern ruler. He himself wrote some verses. He was a keen sportsman and hunter too.

The King successfully introduced the Panchayati system in Nepal.

In April 1971 Nepal signed a trade and transit agreement with India which replaced the 10 years agreement signed in October, 1960.

The king passed away on 31 st January, 1972 at the age of 51.-

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we associate ourselves with the condolences at the sad demise of the persons mentioned by the leader of the House, namely, Shri Khagendra Nath Nath, Ex-M.L.A., Shri Durgeswar Saikia, Ex-Member of this House and a renowned Trade Union leader, Shrimati Chandra Prova Saikiani, a great patriotic lady of Assam and a pioneer in Women movement of the State and Dr. Vikram Sarabhai who was a great atomic scientist not only of India but also of the world, and King Mahendra of Nepal. We express our deep sense of sorrow and condolence at the demise of these persons.

শুভ্রমোদ চন্দ্ৰ গগৈ : অধ্যক্ষ ডা বীয়া, ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ এজন বিশিষ্ট বৈজ্ঞানিক বিক্ৰম চাৰাভাইৰ মৃত্যুত আমাৰ দেশখনৰ তথা বিজ্ঞান জগতত এটা ডাঙৰ ক্ষতি হ'ল আৰু পাৰমানৱিক শক্তি আহৰণৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ভাৰতবৰ্ষক আগুৱাই নিবলৈ যি সকলে প্ৰচেষ্টা চলাইছিল সেই সকলৰ নায়ক হিচাবে তেখেতৰ অৱদান ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ মানুহে চিৰদিনেই স্মৰণ কৰিব। তেখেতৰ মৃত্যুত আমি এজন মহান বৈজ্ঞানিক হেৰুৱালো আৰু তাৰ কাৰণে তেখেতৰ শোক সন্তপ্ত পৰিয়াললৈ মোৰ সমবেদনা জনাইছো।

স্বাধীনতা আন্দোলনত একনিষ্ঠ ভাৱে কাম কৰা গোৱালপাৰাৰ নেতা শ্ৰীখগেন্দ্ৰ নাথ নাথৰ বিয়োগত অসমে স্বাধীনতা আন্দোলনৰ এজন যুজাৰু হেৰুৱাই নহয় বৰ্তমান সময়ত আমাৰ দেশখনক আগুৱাই নিয়াৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত যি নতুন ভাৱধাৰাৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে সেই ক্ষেত্ৰত তেখেতৰ মৃত্যুত আমি এজন মহান কৰ্মী হেৰুৱাইছো :

স্বৰ্গগত দুৰ্গেশ্বৰ শইকীয়া ডাঙৰীয়া এজন কেৱল ভূতপূৰ্ব সদস্য বা মন্ত্ৰীয়েই নাছিল, অসমৰ শ্ৰমিক শ্ৰেণী আৰু বিশেষকৈ মেহনতী মানুহৰ এজন সুযোস্য সংগঠক নেতা হিচাবে তেখেতৰ যি অৱদান তাক সকলোৱে সন্মৰণ কৰিব। তেখেতৰ মৃত্যুত অসমে এজন মেহনতী বিশেষকৈ অসম শ্ৰমিক আন্দোলনৰ এজন যোগ্য নেতা আৰু সংগঠক হেৰুৱালে। তেখেতৰ মৃত্যুত তেখেতৰ পৰিয়াল আৰু তেখেতৰ সহকৰ্মী সকললৈ মোৰ সমবেদনা জ্ঞাপন কৰিছো।

স্বৰ্গগতা চন্দ্ৰপ্ৰভা শইকীয়ানী আছিল অসমৰ জাতীয় আন্দোলনৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত যি সকল মহিলাই আগবাঢ়ি আহিছিল সেই সকলৰ ভিতৰত অন্যতম। তেখেতৰ মৃত্যুত অসমৰ স্বাধীনতা আন্দোলনত আগভাগ লোৱা মহিলা সকলৰেই যে ক্ষতি হৈছে এনে নহয়, গোটেই প্ৰদেশ খনৰেই যথেষ্ট ক্ষতি হৈছে।

নেপালৰ মহাৰজাৰ মৃত্যুত মোৰ সমবেদনা জনাইছো আৰু এই ক্ষেত্ৰত সদনৰ নেতা গৰাকীয়ে যি শোক প্ৰস্তাৱ কৰি সমবেদনা প্ৰকাশ কৰিছে তেখেতৰ লগত ময়ে একমত হৈ সেই শোক সন্তপ্ত পৰিয়াল সকললৈ মোৰ শোক সমবেদনা জনাইছো।

শ্ৰীসোনেশ্বৰ বৰা : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, পাৰ হৈ যোৱা সময় ছোৱাত আমি যি কেইগৰাকী নেতা আৰু নেতৃক হেৰুৱালো তাৰ ভিতৰত শ্ৰীদুৰ্গেশ্বৰ শইকীয়াক আমাৰ লগত যোৱা ৫ বছৰে এই সদনতে একেলগে বহাৰ সুযোগ ঘটিছিল আৰু শইকীয়া ডাঙৰীয়াৰ এটা কথালৈ মোৰ বেছিকৈ মনত পৰিছিল, যদিও মই বিৰোধী দলত আছিলো— তেখেতৰ আলোচনাত বহু সময়ত বস অৰ্জুন কৰিবলৈ সুবিধা পাইছিলো। তেখেতে কবলৈ উঠিলেই আমি পানীদিহিং বুলি কৈছিলো অৰ্থাৎ তেখেতে বিশেষকৈ পানীদিহিং অঞ্চলৰ কৃষক আৰু শ্ৰমিকৰ সমস্যা সমূহৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰি যি বসৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিছিল সেই বসত আমি বসিয়ালহৈ পৰিছিলো। সেই বন্ধু জনক মই ঘৰুৱা ভাৱে বেছিকৈ পাইছিলো। এই বছৰৰ বিধান সভা আৰম্ভ হোৱাৰ আগে আগে আমি তেখেতক হেৰুৱালো। তেখেতৰ আত্মাৰ প্ৰতি শ্ৰদ্ধা জ্ঞাপন কৰি তেখেতৰ শোক-সন্তপ্ত পৰিয়াললৈ মোৰ সমবেদনা জনাইছো।

স্বৰ্গগত চন্দ্ৰপ্ৰভা শইকীয়ানীৰ লগত মোৰ বিশেষ ভাৱে দেখা দেখি বা ঘনিষ্ঠতা নাছিল যদিও যোৱা বছৰ তেখেতৰ লগত মই খবৰ কাগজৰ যোগেদি বিষম বিবাদত উপস্থিত হৈছিলো। এই ক্ষেত্ৰত তেখেতক ভাল পাইছিলো যে ৰাজনৈতিক জীৱনত তেখেতে যুঁজি ভাল পায়। স্বাধীনতা আন্দোলনৰ অগ্ৰগণী নেতৃ হিচাবে তেখেতে বিশেষ ভাৱে কাম কৰিছিল। তেখেতৰ মৃত্যুত শোক প্ৰকাশ কৰিছো আৰু তেখেতৰ পৰিয়ালৰ-বৰ্গলৈ সমবেদনা জনালো।

শ্ৰীখগেন্দ্ৰ নাথ নাথ ডাঙৰীয়াক যদিও একেলগে পোৱা নাছিলো তথাপি তেখেতৰ গুণগৰিমাৰ কথা সুৱৰি তেখেতলৈ মোৰ গভীৰ শ্ৰদ্ধা জনাইছো।

আমাৰ ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ সীমান্তৰ প্ৰহৰীদেশ নেপালৰ ৰজা মহেন্দ্ৰক অলপতে হেৰুৱালো। তেখেতৰ পৰলোকগত আত্মাৰ প্ৰতি শ্ৰদ্ধাঞ্জলি জ্ঞাপন কৰিছো।

ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ মহান বৈজ্ঞানিক বিক্ৰম চাৰাভাইকো আমি হেৰুৱালো, তেখেতৰ বিয়োগত ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ বিজ্ঞান জগতত বহুখিনি ক্ষতি হ'ল। এই গোটেই কেইজন নেতা আৰু নেতৃক লৈ আমাৰ সদনৰ নেতা শ্ৰীসিংহ ডাঙৰীয়াৰ লগত একমত হৈ ব্যক্তিগত ভাৱে আৰু মোৰ পাৰ্টিৰ ফালৰ পৰা আৰু বিৰোধী দলৰ ফালৰ পৰা এই সকল লোকলৈ শ্ৰদ্ধা জনোৱাৰ লগতে পৰলোকগত আত্মাৰ প্ৰতি শ্ৰদ্ধা জনাই শোক সন্তপ্ত পৰিয়ালবৰ্গলৈকো সমবেদনা জনাইছো।

Mr. Speaker : I whole-heartedly associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the leader of the House and other members at the passing away of King Mahendra of Nepal, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Shri Khagendra Nath Nath, Shri Durgeswar Saikia and Shrimati Chandra Probha Saikiani.

Shri Durgeswar Saikia was born at Selenghat in Sibsagar. He was a veteran Congress worker and a member of the Assam Legislative Assembly for three consecutive terms. Shri Saikia was intimately connected with the INTUC and was a member of the Tea Board. Till recently he was a Minister of State, Public Works Department, in the Assam Cabinet. We all mourn his premature death.

Shri Khagendra Nath Nath was a prominent Congressman of Assam and was also a member of the Assam Legislative Assembly after the Third General Elections. He was the President of the District Congress Committee, Goalpara, and also a member of the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee and the All-India Congress Committee. Late Shri Nath was a veteran Congressman and courted imprisonment for several times. Assam is poorer today without him.

Dr. Vikram Ambalal Sarabhai was the man who pushed India to the space age. Educated at Ahmedabad and later in Cambridge, he did research on cosmic radiation first under Shri C. V. Raman. His space research began in 1953 establishing his international fame in the field. He was a member of both national and international scientific bodies and had also the membership of experts under the United Nations in the field of nuclear science in 1962. He became the first chairman of the Indian National Committee for space research. He was the recipient of Padmabhusan in 1966. At the time of his death he was the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India. In his death the nation has lost a dedicated scientist.

King Mahendra came to rule Nepal at a very critical period of her history. He did his best to modernise Nepal. He and his beloved Queen, Ratna Devi, travelled extensively all over the world. He was a believer in democratic ideals. In his death Nepal has lost a great and benevolent king, and India a true friend.

Shrimati Chandra Prabha Saikiani was born at Baluky in Kamrup. A selfless pioneer in woman welfare movement, Shrimati Saikiani was the founder general secretary of the Assam Pradesh Mahily Samiti and was upto 1963 in this post. As an active participant in the freedom movement of India, she courted imprisonment in 1932, 1939 and 1942. 'Tribhitha' a novel and 'Abhijatri, a timely edited journal earned a literary name for her. Shrimati Saikiani was awarded Padmasree on 14th January last by the President of India.

I now request the hon. Membrs to rise from their seats and observe silence for one minute to pray for the eternal rest and peace of the departed souls.

(The House observed one minutes prayerful Silence)

Re : Death of a Member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly.

SHRI DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, I have got a suggestion to bring before the House through you. If you permit me I can place it before you. It is a subject matter which does not concern this House. But somehow or other it has affected the House also. One M.L.A. of the Bihar Legislative Assembly was killed in a flat in Bihar. As I have already said, this is not a subject matter concerning us but on behalf of the House if you express your concern and write to the Speaker of Bihar Assembly I think that will be a good thing.

Mr. Spcaker : I will look into your suggestion.

Adjournment

The Assembly then adjourned till 10 A.m. on Thursday, the 23rd March, 1972,

Shillong,
The 2nd January 1973 }

U. Tahbildar,
Secretary,
Legislative Assembly, Assam,