

Proceedings of the Third Session of the Second Assam Legislative Assembly assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935.

(First Sitting of the Assembly in Free India)

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 11 A.M., on Thursday, the 4th September, 1947.

PRESENT

The Hon'ble Mr. Debeswar Sarmah, Speaker, in the Chair, the six Hon'ble Ministers and forty-five Members.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is an hon. Member who has to take oath.

The following Member was sworn in:—

Mr. C. W. Morley.

Discussion re: observance of 'Bengal time'

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, যুদ্ধৰ সময়ত প্ৰবৰ্ত্তন কৰা সময় আমি এতিয়াও অনুসৰণ কৰি চলি আছে। সেই সময় আমাৰ সময়তকৈ এমন্টা আগ। এই সময় লৈ এতিয়াও চলি থাকিবনে? ভাৰতত ক'তো এতিয়া আৰু এই সময় চলা নাই।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It is up to the Hon'ble Prime Minister to consider the matter.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: This is a matter which we shall take into consideration. As a matter of fact I had thought about it already. But we do not know what benefit and what loss there will be on account of the new timing of the rest of India. But it seems that to maintain uniformity with other parts of India it may be necessary to change the timing. We are giving consideration over the matter, and surely the public will get notice before any change is introduced.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: যিটো সময় আমি ইয়াত পালন কৰোঁ, সেইটো ইয়াৰ সময় নহয়—সেইটো বঙ্গদেশৰ সময়।

Mr. HARENDRA NATH SARMA: Sir, the position has become a bit anomalous. The time we are now observing is known as the "Bengal time" but it is a misnomer to call it so as in Bengal itself it has since been discontinued and the Standard time reverted to from 1st September. So, if we say we shall sit at 11 o'clock we must say that we shall be sitting according to "Assam time" and not "Bengal time".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble the Prime Minister has assured that he will look into the matter and see what he can do.

Discussion re : taking of oath by Members

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: I raise a point of order, Sir. Mr. Morley has taken the oath of allegiance to-day but he has been sitting from the 1st September and is participating in the debate, and his speeches will be found in the proceedings of the House. How will Government reconcile this ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The position was this. By the Independence Act and Adaptation Orders, the position of Provinces as well as Dominions has been made anomalous by a stroke of pen, and for no fault of the European Planting Group they were going to be disenfranchised all on a sudden. It got seven Members, but now they can return only one and that one had to be elected, because the electorate should have a chance to send their own nominee. It would be undemocratic, I think, to allow the Group to nominate one of them or His Excellency to nominate one of them. But for no fault of theirs, they were going to be deprived of taking part in the deliberations of the Assembly as indeed no time was left for holding the elections after Adaptation Orders were published. Therefore after consultation, I thought the best thing was to allow the Leader of the European Planting Group to participate in the debate, so that the House may get the benefit of his counsels. So it was a discretion exercised by the Speaker which is allowed under the Act and the Rules and this discretion is exercised in the best interests of all concerned—the European Planting Constituency, the Assembly and Democracy.

Now he has been duly elected and therefore has taken oath.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: According to the Adaptation Orders the territorial constituency of the European Planters has been abolished; but one member has been allotted to the European Tea Planters, just as one member has been allotted to the Indian Tea Planters. In case of the Commerce and Industry also one member has been allotted to the European Group and one member to the Indian Commerce and Trading interest.

This is the position. I do not think that any proceedings of the Assembly in which Mr. Morley took part can be vitiated on account of his being present then. On the other hand, under the provisions of the Rules of the Assembly as I can read them, nor can his speeches and his participation in the debates be excluded from the proceedings of the Assembly.

Mr. C. W. MORLEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude and also the gratitude of my Group to you and the Government for the attitude which has been adopted both by Government and the Chair in this matter ? It has always been our intention, and we also desire, to take part in the Assembly proceedings and when we had been excluded on this particular occasion we felt it rather badly. Thank you, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is provision in the Act also, which reads thus: "A Chamber of a Provincial Legislature shall have power to act notwithstanding any vacancy in the membership thereof, and any proceedings in a Provincial Legislature shall be valid notwithstanding that it is discovered subsequently that some person who was not entitled so to do, sat or voted or otherwise took part in the proceedings".

As I said, I exercised my discretion and allowed Mr. Morley to participate in the proceedings both in public interest and for mutual benefit. That is the position.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, আমাৰ অনুগত্য শপত লোৱা সম্বন্ধে কি হ'ল ?

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: This was discussed the other day.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member wants to know about his point regarding taking of the new Oath by all the hon. Members after 15th August.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Sir, can we take time in matters like these during Question Hour? We have already taken a good deal of time from the Question Hour.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes, some hon. Members mentioned that the proceedings might be vitiated for certain reasons. The hon. Member is right to the extent he has stated, but Messrs. Sinha and Roufique thought that if the points they raised were not discussed and regularised the subsequent proceedings would be vitiated.

All right, we come to questions.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Re Petrol position of the Province and the condition of Assam Transport

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA asked :

370. Will Government be pleased to state the petrol position of the Province and by what time the rationing of petrol may be abolished?
371. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the present condition of the Assam Transport and if they are going to maintain the same?
- (b) Is it a fact that the Public Works Department have been ordered by the Government to use only the Assam Transport trucks for carriage of materials?
- (c) Are Government aware that this is causing heavy loss to the Department and great difficulties to the Truck owners?
- (d) Are Government aware that a loss is being sustained by the Assam Transport Department without anything to do except serving the Public Works Department?
- (e) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have come to any decision about taking over the Shillong-Pandu Road Transport by Government?
- (f) Will Government be pleased to state what price was fetched by the sale of some dumps of Assam Transport vehicles in Nowgong during the last year?
- (g) Is it a fact that the dumps were sold at much less price than they were offered for by private persons?
- (h) If so, why?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied :

370.—The petrol consumption in the Province has increased 84 per cent. over the allotment of 1940. It is not known when the Government of India will lift rationing.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA : Can we know the present petrol position of the Province ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : The Government of Assam cannot have any independent petrol policy ; it is always governed by the policy of the Government of India.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA : Can we know whether the petrol position has improved as regards the quota for Assam ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : If the hon. Member refers to the reply to his Unstarred Question No.371 the position will be clear.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA : Questions Nos.370 and 371 are quite different. Question No.370 relates to the petrol position while Question No.371 relates to Assam Transport.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : As far as I remember, I had already replied to these Questions elsewhere, probably in reply to some other hon. Member's Questions.

Mr. C. W. MORLEY : Are Government aware of the delay in the issue of petrol coupons to the general public ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : Yes, Sir, there was delay at one time, but I think it has been set right by now.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA : অনেক সময়ত coupon ও নাথাকে ।

Mr. C. W. MORLEY : I have to inform Government that even now there is a big delay in so far as lorries are concerned, and lorry traffic is being held up. Would Government please look into the matter and see whether anything can be done to expedite this matter ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : I shall look into the matter. My own impression was that things were going on regularly in so far as the issue of coupons in this Province is concerned. There was acute shortage of petrol in Delhi on account of the stoppage of petrol from Karachi to Delhi, but I do not think there was any shortage in this Province for which issue of coupons might have been withheld.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : What was the last question of Mr. Morley ?

Mr. C. W. MORLEY : Sir, my question was whether Government were aware of the delay in the issue of coupons to the general public and if so whether they would take steps to expedite this.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: I have already said that I had no information about this ; but as the hon. Member has brought this to the notice of Government we shall see that the difficulties are removed.

Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV: মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয় কি জানেন যে অনেক সময় coupon থাকেনা ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: আমি জানি যে অনেক দিন আগে সেটা ছিল, কিন্তু আমার বিশ্বাস প্রয়োজন মত coupon এখন বোধহয় পাওয়া যায়।

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: এতিয়াও coupon নাথাকে। যোৰা মাহত ধুবৰীতো coupon নাছিল।

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: মই ঠিক কব নোৱাৰোঁ। গতিকে Mr. Morley ৰ প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰত মই আগেয়ে কৈছো যে এই সম্বন্ধে চোৱা যাব।

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied :

371. (a)—The matter is under consideration of Government.

(b)—All Government Departments have instructions to use Assam Transport Vehicles in preference to those of private owners wherever possible.

(c)—No.

(d)—A loss is being incurred at present. The Assam Transport fleet does not serve the Public Works Department alone, but other anticipated work has not developed to expectation.

(e)—Not yet.

(f)—Rupees 12,535 (Rupees twelve thousand five hundred thirty-five).

(g)—The dumps in questions contained 15 lots: one lot was sold by auction for Rs.2,700 but the rest were not disposed of by the Deputy Commissioner under whose supervision the auction was held as the offer received by him was less than the reserved price. Subsequently two other post-auction offers were received from private persons who after acceptance backed out. The vehicles were received put to auction again and were finally disposed of for Rs.9,835.

(h)—Does not arise.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: With regard to Question No.371 (g), were not the offers by private persons higher than the amounts realised by public sale ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: I am not aware of that, Sir.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: Is it not a fact that while arrangements were made with private persons they offered much higher prices to Government than what was realised by public sale ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: That may be a fact but it requires looking into.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: Are Government aware that in public auction at Rangamatty, it fetched less than half the amount of what was offered by private persons ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLAI: That is not the information, at any rate, supplied by the reply to Question No.371(g).

Re Publication of a half-yearly list of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN asked :

372. Do Government propose to publish a half-yearly list of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons like that of Medical Department and make the same available to the public at a nominal price ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

372.—Government will consider the suggestion.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে উত্তৰ দিছে যে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে consider কৰিব। কি বকমে consider কৰিব বুজিছে নই জানিব খোজোঁ ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: The list of the kind may be printed, Sir ; but before doing so the financial aspect of the question will have to be considered.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: What the Government is going to consider ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: The utility of the list to the public and the financial aspect of the question.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: একো বুজিব নোৱাৰিলো।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: একো বুজিব নোৱাৰিলে ? আপুনি অনুগ্রহ কৰি অলপ ব'ব। The hon. Member says that he has not been able to follow the reply. The point is that the question was put long ago. This is an adjourned Session ; a long time has elapsed since the question was put and even then Government has not come to any decision.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Sir, the question is a long-standing one but nothing could be done even now.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: ইতিমধ্যে কিবা কৰিছেনে নাই ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Did not the Hon'ble Minister look into the question and answer before coming to the Assembly ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Yes, but it was not possible at the time I looked into the question to have all the aspects examined.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: এই ডিপাৰ্টমেণ্টৰ চিভিল লিষ্টিত নাম নথকাৰ কাৰণে ডাক্তৰ বিলাকৰ বহুত অসুবিধা হৈছে। আগেয়ে এই বিষয় কেবাবাৰো

represent কৰা হৈছে আৰু service sheet ত ভাল কাম কৰা বুলি লিখা থকা স্বত্বেও বহুতে প্ৰমোচন পোৱা নাই আৰু প্ৰমোচনৰ সময়ত ইচ্ছামতে favouritism, nepotism চলাব লাগিছে। এই বিষয়ে মই গৱণ মেণ্টৰ ওচৰত কেইবাবাৰো represent কৰিছো আৰু বহুতো example দি দেখুৱাই দিছোঁ। তাৰ পিচত এতিয়া কৈছে যে এই বিষয়ে consider কৰিব। এইটো মোৰ মনেৰে কেৱল to evade the issue (আচল কথাটো এৰি যাবৰ নিমিত্তে) কৰা হৈছে। মই এই উত্তৰত satisfied হোৱা নাই। মোক definite answer (সঠিক উত্তৰ) লাগে।

I am not satisfied with the answer.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: আপুনি মোক এই বিষয়ে কি কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰে ?

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: মোৰ পুশ্ৰ সম্পৰ্কে তেখেতৰ পৰা যি উত্তৰ পোৱা গৈছে তাতে বুজা গল যে এতিয়ালৈকে এই বিষয়ে একো কৰা হোৱা নাই। মোৰ মনেৰে আপুনি এই বিষয়ে মোক সহায় কৰিব পাৰে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member should remember that the theory is that the Government, and for the matter of that an individual Minister, is responsible to Legislature and through them to the people. If the Ministers do not satisfy the hon. Members, it is for them to take such steps as they deem fit and proper.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: অনাৰেবোল মিনিষ্ট্ৰে কৈছে যে তেখেতে বিবেচনা কৰিব। বিবেচনা কৰিবলৈ কিমান দিন লাগিব ? এইটো পূৰ্বণি question তথাপি ইমান দিনেও বিবেচনা কৰা হোৱা নাই।

Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE: মই জানিব খুজিছো, ইমান দিনে বিবেচনা কৰিছেনে নাই ? যদি কৰা নাই, কিয় কৰা নাই ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: আৰু কিবা আছে নে ?

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: যদি question টো পিচত discuss কৰিবলৈ দিয়ে, তেনেহলে দুই চাৰিটা example দিব পাৰো।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: আজি অইন জৰুৰী বিষয় আছে, আজি দিব নোৱাৰোঁ। Rule চাওছোন কাইলৈ দিব পাৰোনে নোৱাৰোঁ।

(After a pause)

Rule 40 of the Assembly Rules reads:—

“Provided that on notice given to the Speaker at question time, the Speaker may, in his discretion, allow half an hour after 4 p.m. or after the conclusion of the business of the day, whichever is earlier, to enable a member to raise a debate on any matter of urgent importance which has been the subject of a question on that day”. Mark the words “on that day”. “No division shall be taken on such debate, and such time shall not be available for the transaction of any other business.”

এইটো বোধ কৰোঁ সভ্য গৰাকীয়ে জানে যে আজি সময়ৰ অনাটন হব। কাইলৈ দিব নোৱাৰি—কাৰণ Rule এ allow নকৰে।

Mental Hospital at Tezpur

Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS asked :

373. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether they contemplate to consider a scheme for improvement and re-organisation of the Mental Hospital at Tezpur ?
- (b) What were the improvements suggested by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals in the years 1945 and 1946 during his visit to this Hospital ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to improve this Mental Hospital by turning it into a centre of research of Mental diseases and also into training centre for Post-Graduate studies ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS replied :

373. (a)—Yes. There is a scheme for the improvement of the Tezpur Mental Hospital in the Government's five-year plan and in the current year's Budget, funds have been provided for partial implementation of that Scheme.

(b)—The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals did not visit the Mental Hospital in 1945. In his inspection notes, dated the 26th January, 1946, he suggested improvement in respect of providing nursing facilities, up-to-date buildings, more staff, improved water-supply, etc.

(c)—At present there is no such proposal. The matter will be considered in future after the present scheme under Post-War Plan is fully implemented and more funds become available.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বিষয়টো অতি দৰ্কাৰী বুলি নেভাবেনে ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS: Sir, Government will consider about this.

Re transfer of Dharmapur and Khetri-Dharmapur Mauzas from Tihu to Nalbari Circle

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR asked :

374. (a) Are Government aware that the inhabitants of the Dharmapur and the Khetri-Dharmapur Mauzas falling within the Nalbari Police Station in the Kamrup District, have to undergo great inconvenience and hardship in attending the Sub-Deputy Collector's Office at Tihu on account of distance and bad communications ?

(b) Are Government aware that the Nalbari Circle Office is more convenient for the people of these two mauzas—the distance being lesser and the communication being much better ?

(c) With a view to remove these hardships, do Government propose to take away these two mauzas from the Tihu Circle and amalgamate them with the Nalbari Circle ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

374. (a) & (b)—Yes.

(c)—The matter is under consideration.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Will Government be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken up till now in furtherance of the proposal ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Yes, the views of the local officers and the views of the public have been asked for. These views when received will be taken into consideration by Government.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Will Government be pleased to expedite the matter ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: As far as possible under the existing machinery.

Barpeta Government High School

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY asked :

375. (a) Is it a fact that classes of Barpeta Government High School are held in scattered houses ?

(b) Are Government aware that for this arrangement the discipline of the school has greatly suffered ?

(c) If so, do Government propose to re-arrange the buildings for better management of the School ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied :

375. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise.

Amounts spent for Primary and Secondary Education

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA asked :

376. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The amounts spent by them directly or indirectly, for Primary and Secondary Education during the last three years ?

(b) How were the amounts distributed to different Subdivisions of the Province ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to give a comparative statement of these allocations to different Subdivisions and how the same work out per capita of population of the respective Subdivision ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied :

376. (a)—The statement of amount spent for the last three years is shown below :—

	<i>Secondary—Non-Excluded Areas</i>		
1943-44	1944-45		1945-46
Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
16,32,759	16,82,279		20,54,451
	<i>Excluded Areas</i>		
1943-44	1944-45		1945-46
Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
52,496	47,262		96,752
	<i>Primary—Non-Excluded Areas</i>		
Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
13,22,710	14,67,186		23,37,976

Excluded Areas

Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
78,162	86,376	1,19,715

These figures are excluding the amount spent for scholarships.

(b) & (c)—The figures cannot be supplied as the Subdivisional figures are not maintained in the Director of Public Instructions Office.

Cases of Tuberculosis at Mankachar

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM asked :

377. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there were any cases of Tuberculosis at Mankachar in Goalpara District within a year ?

(b) Do Government propose to ascertain the number of persons now suspected to be suffering from Tuberculosis at Mankachar and how many have expired this year from this disease ?

(c) Do Government propose to take necessary steps to save the people of Mankachar from further attack of Tuberculosis ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS replied :

377. (a)—No Tuberculosis patient attended the Mankachar dispensary last year either for treatment or for advice.

(b) & (c)—It is not possible to ascertain the number of persons suspected to be suffering from Tuberculosis and the number of deaths so far occurred at Mankachar unless a thorough survey is made. A survey is however not necessary as hospital accommodation for Tuberculosis cases available at present is very limited. Government is aware that there is a fairly good number of such cases all over the Province. This problem will be gradually tackled when the scheme for establishment of Tuberculosis Clinics and Wards at Dhubri, Goalpara and other places materialises under the Post-War Development Programme.

Mr. HARENDRA NATH SARMA : Sir, do Government maintain that the answer as given to Question No. 377(a) is a correct answer and not an evasive one ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : Sir, before supplementaries are allowed I want to modify the answer to Questions (b) and (c). Government have decided to carry on survey in the Province and are proposing to start some clinics. They have also decided to increase the number of beds in the hospital for chest treatment of Tuberculosis cases.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ROUFIQUE : Has Government decided the number of clinics to be started ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : We have not yet decided the number, Sir.

Mr. HARENDRA NATH SARMA : Sir, my question remains unanswered.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question was "Will Government be pleased to state whether there were any cases of Tuberculosis at Mankachar in Goalpara District within a year ?" The answer is : "No Tuberculosis patient

attended the Mankachar dispensary last year either for treatment or advice." The hon. Member's supplementary was "Is it a proper reply or is it evasive"?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : The straight answer is that Government has no knowledge of this because there was no scheme for survey, at that time. Now as we have decided to carry out a survey, such cases will come to the notice of the Government.

***Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS :** Did not the question devolve upon the Government the duty of instituting an enquiry which is not very difficult ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : Yes, as such we have decided to carry out a survey and find out how many cases are there in the Province.

***Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS :** Why some enquiry was not made before giving the reply ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : Who are to carry on the enquiry ?

***Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS :** Is it not the duty of the Government to make the enquiry for the sake of the health of the people ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : We have appointed an expert very recently who will carry out the survey.

***Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM :** Will the Hon'ble Minister please send this officer to Mankachar to make an enquiry ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : When I have said that we will start a survey throughout the Province, Mankachar will also be included.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Have the Government the necessary scientific equipment to carry out the survey ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : We have appointed an officer and he will carry out the survey in the Province.

***Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM :** In view of the fact that there is a large number of such cases in Mankachar, may I request the Hon'ble Minister to send his survey staff there ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS : That will be considered, Sir.

Cultivation of Mustard seeds, Sugarcane and Pulses

Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS asked :

378. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they have adopted any scheme for self-sufficiency in the matter of food in their Post-War Planning ?

*Speech not corrected.

(b) Whether they have adopted any scheme for extending the present acreage under cultivation of Mustard seeds, Sugarcane and Pulses ?

(c) The additional acreage they have fixed as target for the next year ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY replied :

378. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Additional acreage targets under different crops are as follows :—

						Acres
Paddy	...	...	...	...	...	1,00,150
Pulses	...	...	...	...	...	43,000
Oilseeds	...	...	...	...	...	2,883
Millets	...	...	...	...	...	166
Potato	...	...	...	...	...	1,291
Sugarcane	...	...	...	...	...	2,160

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS : Will Government be pleased to state whether the cultivation of mustard seeds, sugarcane and pulses will be undertaken on the land which will be newly settled with the cultivators or Government will carry on this cultivation in their own farm land ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : I require notice of this question, Sir. I am not acquainted with that at present.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS : Then how could such an elaborate reply be given ? Is it not a fact that Government replied to the question after a thorough enquiry ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : Yes, there is a scheme, I suppose, of the Agriculture Department to increase the output of mustard seeds, sugarcane and pulses by extension of the present cultivation, and no doubt there will be people who will take up new land for this cultivation.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Will new land be provided if any one starts this cultivation ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : That will be considered by the Government when there are applications of that kind.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : The Hon'ble Minister made a definite statement that one taking up this cultivation will be provided with new land.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : There may be people who have applied for new land but I am not aware of that.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : The Hon'ble Minister has deviated from his position now. What will be the probable output of pulses from the cultivation of 43 thousand acres ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : I cannot give that answer. I require notice of the question.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Has the Hon'ble Minister any idea as to the quantity of pulses that is required in Assam ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : I have no idea of that just now.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I think the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture can enlighten us on that point. The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy has taken charge of the portfolio only the other day, so he is not able to give that information. The subject relates to the Agriculture Department.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : These questions were dealt with by the Post-War Planning Department. On this I am sorry, I am not able to enlighten.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Has the Hon'ble Minister any idea as to the quantity of pulses that used to be imported into the Province before the war ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : I have already stated that I took charge of the portfolio only the other day, so I have not been able to study the question.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLAI : I think, I could give some idea. The import of these commodities like pulses and things of that sort, before they were actually brought under control, was about 26 to 30 thousand tons. But the quota that was allotted to the Province from time to time during the control period has been between 15 to 22 thousand tons. Not that all the quota has been possible to be imported on account of the conditions which had already been mentioned by me in the House to-day, but this has been the normal quantity that has been allotted to us.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : One thing I have not been able to follow. I think, this question relates to the "Grow More Food" and this is under the Post-War Scheme as they call it ; but this relates to the Agriculture Department. Was there no co-ordination between the Agriculture Department and the Post-War Development Department ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : When the shortage occurred as it has occurred now, the Supply Department impressed on the Agriculture Department the necessity of increasing these commodities and the Planning and Development Department was particularly instructed to take up these schemes, but the actual working of them is in the Agriculture Department, and these figures were supplied by them.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :: Then how can the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture say that these are dealt with by the Post-War Development Department ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : These informations might have been given to the Supply Department by the Agriculture Department ; but it is the Agriculture Department which actually work them.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : These questions were dealt with by the Post-War Development Department and these informations were collected from the office of the Director of Agriculture.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Were these figures not drawn up in co-ordination and consultation with the Agriculture Department ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : These were collected from the records of the Agriculture office and it is not for me to answer off-hand about these.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Is it a fact that Assam is more than self-sufficient for paddy ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : It appears so, but it is not known what is going to happen now.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Why this additional acreage of 1,00,150 for paddy ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : The more food we grow the better for the cultivators and the people of the whole of India.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Is it not a fact that requirements of pulses and other necessities of daily diet are very short and so the Government ought to increase the area of cultivation of pulses ? In the pre-war period we used to import every year 11 lakh maunds of *dal*. Has the Government increased the production of *dal* in Assam ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : Well, Sir, I could possibly give the reply on the whole subject in a nutshell. Pulses are undoubtedly necessary for the provincial need and therefore effort has been made to increase the pulse acreage to such an extent as would cover the need of the Province. But there are some difficulties of growing pulses. The selection of suitable site for growing pulses is difficulty number one. Apart from this, how far it is desirable to cut down the acreage of rice, is a matter for serious consideration. The thing is that we are now passing through a food crisis and the Grow-More-Food Department of the Government of India is particularly anxious that the acreage of cereal cultivation should be increased. It has given direction officially, and the present proposal is contained in the increased acreage of rice cultivation in accordance with the desire of the Government of India for increased cereals in all the provinces for the purpose that more food crop is grown throughout India. The second thing is that it is only through paddy cultivation that the cultivators in Assam get some cash money. Therefore, increased rice production from the point of view of the cultivators as well as from the point of view of India economy or world economy, is very important. Therefore, the Agriculture Department is proposing to do this ; but I do not know how far they will be successful in the end. It has undertaken to increase the rice acreage ; but surely it has also given more attention to the cultivation of pulses. As regards export of pulses, which used to be done from this Province before the War, it was only in respect of *Mati Kalai*. We used to grow *Mati Kalai* sufficiently but used to import, as I said just now, a quantity near about 30 thousand tons of pulses from other provinces of other varieties, such as, *Moong*, *Masur* and *Arhar*. This was the position and I do not think the Agriculture Department is narrow in their outlook and has done anything wrong, provided they can reach the target.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: The Hon'ble Prime Minister's reply is wellcome, but it is perfectly irrelevant that we should grow more paddy for feeding the outside world out of Assam. The question is as to whether they have taken steps to make Assam self-sufficient in the matter of food in their Post-War-Plan.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: The arrangement between P. and D. and the Agriculture Department is in this way.....

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: No abbreviation please.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Planning and Development Department deals with this question of production and they sent the question to the Director of Agriculture to supply with information and the Director of Agriculture gave the information without sending it through the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and that is what I find from the file. Here I find the figures of acreage of pulses in the file.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: What figures ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: The figures for pulses and about the additional acreage of different crops.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Is it meant that the proposition for increased acreage in the file was arrived at without consulting the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: This reply was given by the Director of Agriculture.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This House is not concerned in this case with the practice of dealing with the file but it wants to know the progress made. Is it to be presumed that the Director gave the reply without consulting the Minister ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Well, that is the information given by the Department. The Director of Agriculture gave the information as to how much acreage for pulses is going to be under cultivation for the year 1947-48. About 12,978 tons of pulses is the target aimed at by the Department. Yesterday I was having a discussion with some officers about the great necessity of getting more *dals* and that we should grow more *dals* and we should distribute seeds among the cultivators.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the Government has any scheme now in hand as to in which districts this cultivation will be undertaken ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: That I cannot reply off-hand. I shall have to make investigation about it.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: May I request the Hon'ble Speaker, so that the question may be better answered, to allow the questions to stand over for another day. We want to get reply about the acreage of proposed cultivation in different districts and we want also different figures for different

districts for growing pulse, sugarcane, mustard seeds, etc. We also want to know whether the lands going to be settled for the purpose will be thrown open to all communities ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: To collect these figures it will take some time and I am afraid that these figures will not be available when the session is going on as they will have to be collected from all the districts. If the hon. Member insists we will call for these figures and these will be made available in the next session.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Is it not a fact that all these figures were collected when the whole of Sylhet was part and parcel of the Province of Assam and therefore these figures cannot be accepted as correct at the present moment ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Yes, Sir, that is the correct position. These replies were furnished long ago and I am not in a position to give correct information of the present position. It was collected for the last Budget Session. These figures are really old figures.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: Are Government aware that seeds for pulses and mustard oil have not been distributed among the people up till now ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: That question could be replied by the Agriculture Department better than I can.

Srijut MOTIRAM BORA: Seeds should be distributed as early as possible.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: The time is ready for cultivation and if seeds are not distributed now, the cultivators will not be able to complete their cultivation in time. We have been asked by the villagers as to when they will get this seed ; and so far as my information goes, when I asked the Agricultural Demonstrators, they said that nothing had been done by the Government for distribution of seeds.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Does the hon. Member mean pulses or paddy ? Regarding paddy, the time is not yet late. There is some discussion between the Agriculture Department and the Post-War Planning Department as regards assistance to be given to the cultivators in this respect but no decision has been arrived at.

Srijut MOTIRAM BORA: We find, Sir, that the Planning Department is fixing the scheme, but we do not know which Department is responsible for carrying out that scheme—the Agriculture Department or the Planning Department.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: The Agriculture Department, Sir.

Srijut MOTIRAM BORA: But the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister does not know that he will have to carry out the scheme.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Am I to know by heart every figures that are in the records ? There is a mass of records out

of which figures were collected presumably by the Planning Department, and the schemes are there which will in due course be carried into execution.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will the Hon'ble Minister please say whether on account of the loss in distribution of seed paddy last year, seeds will not be distributed this year ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: I submit, Sir, that distribution of seeds entails great loss to Government without doing any great benefit to the people. My idea is that the cultivators can more easily procure seeds locally and privately.

*** Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** I understand the Deputy Director urged the people to raise money but when the people approached the Agricultural Demonstrators with money for the seeds, they said they were unable to accept the money because they knew they could not supply seeds to the people. I want to remove the grievance of my constituency. May we know what steps Government are taking to supply paddy seeds to the cultivators ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: As I have submitted, Sir, this whole question whether Government should take up the matter of supplying seeds to the cultivators is under consideration of Government. As soon as it is decided, of course, action will be taken. But if it is decided that no paddy seeds will be distributed by Government, of course, Government will not distribute.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: How will the Hon'ble Minister reconcile this with his statement made a moment ago when some hon. Members were objecting regarding the loss in paddy last year ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: It is quite consistent, Sir. As I said this matter is under consideration of Government. We are considering the objection put forth by some other Departments that when the Agriculture Department distributed seeds in some past years, great losses to Government were sustained. It is under consideration whether this question of supply of seeds should not be left to the cultivators themselves who can procure the seeds from private dealers or from the market.

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** Have not the Government yet decided whether paddy seeds should be distributed to the cultivators or not ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: It has not been decided, Sir.

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** Is it a fact that subordinate officers of the Agriculture Department were approached by thousands of cultivators for seed potatoes and that those subordinate officers were demanding Rs.5 per maund as advance money ? Are Government aware of that ?

* Speech not corrected,

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Government have no such information.

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** Will Government please enquire whether a large number of cultivators was approaching their officers for seed potatoes and that advance money of Rs.5 per maund was demanded?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Government are aware that there is demand from the cultivators for seed potatoes; but as I have already stated, whether Government will take up the supply of seeds or not, it has not been decided.

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** Are Government aware that seed potatoes supplied to the district of Kamrup last year were found to have been destroyed by a kind of weevil? I have placed this matter before the Agriculture Department to remove the grievances in my constituency and I requested them to enquire and find out that at least 80 per cent. of the seeds supplied were found to have been destroyed. Will Government please enquire whether there is a demand on the part of cultivators for seed potatoes?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Sir, I have already stated that this matter is under enquiry. If it is found that the cultivators can get good seeds by themselves, of course, Government will not take any action; but if it is found that the cultivators find difficulty in getting good seeds, of course Government may take some action for that. I have already said that this matter is still under consideration; we have not arrived at any final decision as yet.

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** Do Government realise that non-supply of seeds in time is very disastrous and that.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Disastrous to whom?

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** Disastrous to the cultivators concerned.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Disastrous to the entire Province.

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

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** Will Government come to a decision as early as possible because the cultivating season is going to be over (Voices—Yes, yes!)

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: It will be expedited, Sir.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: যোৱা বছৰ আলু গুটি বিতৰণ কৰাত গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ক্ষতি হৈছে বুলি কৈছে। কিয় সেই ক্ষতি হল?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will the hon. Member please repeat the question in English as the Hon'ble Minister is not able to follow ?

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: Will Government please enquire into the loss incurred by Government last year in the matter of distribution of potato seeds ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Yes, Sir, Government have enquired into the matter as to the loss sustained in the past year.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA. I see, Sir, that the time is up. Can we not let this matter stand over ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes, it can stand over till to-morrow.

Discussion re: taking up of Model Provincial Constitution and the private Members' Bills

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I would like to seek the indulgence of the House in a small matter. When we discussed about the procedure to be adopted while taking up the Model Provincial Constitution as to how we should proceed, whether clause by clause or otherwise, some observations were made, in the course of the discussion, which I think, were not strictly necessary for the purpose and do not add to the dignity of the proceedings and so they need not go down into the proceedings. I think the House agree to that.

There is yet another matter. We have two Bills from an hon. Member who submitted them when he was a private Member but who is now a Parliamentary Secretary to the Government. I want to know if there is any objection to his moving those Bills as a private Member.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: Naturally there might be objection, Sir. The Parliamentary Secretaries are more or less part and parcel of the Government machinery ; but these Bills were submitted as private Bills. Therefore before they are made Government measures, I suggest that those Bills may be allowed to be scrutinised by Government and introduced in the House after they are scrutinised by Government, if they so desire.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does an hon Member cease to be a Member when he becomes a Parliamentary Secretary ? Will the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition please enlighten the House ?

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : When these Bills were sent to the Assembly Department by the hon. Member they were sent as private Bills and the provisions under the Bills reflect his own ideas. Now the hon. Member has become a part and parcel of Government, though remaining as an hon. Member. If he is to be allowed to move his Bills as a private Member, although he is now a Parliamentary Secretary to the Government, it is for the House to consider. There is a world of difference not only in the procedure but also in substance between Government and private Members' Bills. If the hon. Member wants to move his Bills now as a Parliamentary Secretary he cannot

be allowed to do so. I suggest at the same time, Sir, that the Government scrutinise these Bills whether they can accept the idea of the Bills and then alone they can take them up.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Does the hon. Member want to move his Bills ?

Srijut MOHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY : I do not propose, Sir, to move them.

RESOLUTIONS

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : There are no other Motions. We can take up Resolutions. The first Resolution stands in the name of an hon. Member who is no more a Member of this House. No. 2 stands in the name of Srijut Rajendra Nath Barua.

Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA : Sir, I beg to move that—
This Assembly is of opinion that the non-official members of the Village Liaison Committee for food-stuffs and cloth be vested with powers of search and arrest as may be deemed fit by the Government.

সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, মোৰ প্ৰস্তাবটো হৈছে এই যে আমি দেখিছোঁ যে যি সকল Vigilance Committee—বিশেষকৈ Liaison Committee ৰ মেম্বৰ তেখেত সকলে কৰ্তব্য কৰি যাওঁতে অনেক সময়ত ভালদৰে তেখেত সকলৰ কৰ্তব্য পালন কৰিব নোৱাৰে। এই Vigilance Committee আৰু Liaison Committee ৰ মেম্বৰ সকলক বৰ্ত্তমানে যি ক্ষমতা দিয়া হৈছে সেই ক্ষমতা হৈছে কেৱল distribution অৰ্থাৎ বিতৰণ তেখেত সকলে চাব পাৰে। কিন্তু বহুত সময়ত দোকান আদিলৈ যাওঁতে পোৱা যায় যে কিছুমান চোবাং মালো সেই দোকানত থাকে। সেই চোবাং বস্ত্ৰ বিলাক ধৰিবৰ কাৰণে বা সেই মানুহ জনক ধৰিবৰ কাৰণে তেখেত সকলক কোনো ক্ষমতা দিয়া হোৱা নাই। মই ভাবো যে এই কমিটিৰ মেম্বৰ সকলক যদি তেনেকুৱা ক্ষমতা দিয়া নাযায় তেনেহলে তেখেত সকলে ভালদৰে কাম কৰিব নোৱাৰে। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে মই গোলাঘাটৰ এটা কথা কব পাৰোঁ। এজন Liaison Committeeৰ মেম্বৰ শ্ৰী বৈকুণ্ঠ সিং বৰ্ম্মাই এজন মাৰোৱাৰীৰ কিছুমান কাপোৰ ধৰোতে বহুত খিনি অসুবিধা ভোগ কৰিব লগীয়া হৈছিল। তেখেতে মাৰোৱাৰী জনক ফুচুলাই গোলাঘাটলৈ আনিব লগা হৈছিল, কাৰণ তেওঁক ধৰিবৰ কোনো ক্ষমতা তেওঁৰ নাছিল। সেই মাৰোৱাৰী জন মটবত আহি থাকোতে মটবৰ পৰা জাপ মাৰি পলাই গল আৰু এতিয়াও বোধ কৰোঁ মাৰোৱাৰী জনক বিচাৰি পোৱা নগল। যদিও মাল বিলাক পুলিচক আনি দিলেহি তথাপি আচামী জনক নোপোৱাৰ কাৰণে সেই case টো ভালদৰে বিচাৰ নহল বুলি ধৰিব পাৰি। এইদৰে অন্যান্য ঠাইতো গম পাওঁ যে মেম্বৰ সকলৰ ক্ষমতা নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে কৰ্তব্যত বহুত সময়ত বাধা পৰে। সেই কাৰণে মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ দ্বাৰা গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ওচৰত এইটো বিচাৰিছোঁ যে তেখেত সকলক কিছু ক্ষমতা দিব লাগে। যদি গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে ভাবে যে Vigilance Committee বা Liaison Committee ৰ মেম্বৰ সকলৰ সকলোকে সেই ক্ষমতা দিব নোৱাৰে, তেনেহলে বাচি বাচি তাৰ ভিতৰৰ কিছুমান মানুহক—যি সকলে ক্ষমতা ব্যৱহাৰ কৰিব পাৰে তেনেকুৱা মানুহক—সেই ক্ষমতা দিব পাৰে। সেই কাৰণে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙ্গি ধৰিলোঁ। বোধ কৰোঁ সকলোৱেই এই

প্ৰস্তাৱ সমৰ্থন কৰিব। মই জানো যে বহুত District Congress Committee ৰ পৰা তেনেকুৱা ক্ষমতা বিচাৰি গৱণমেণ্টলৈ প্ৰস্তাৱাদি পঠিয়াইছে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিলো।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Resolution moved:—

“This Assembly is of opinion that the non-official members of Village Liaison Committee for food-stuffs and cloth be vested with powers of search and arrest as may be deemed fit by the Government.”

Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA: May I point out one thing, Sir? There is a printing mistake. Here it is ‘Village Liaison Committee’. It should be ‘Vigilance and Liaison Committee’.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: You ought to have moved like that. Now an Amendment will be necessary.

Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA: It should be Vigilance Committee in villages and Liaison Committee in towns.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: That materially alters the scope of the Resolution and expands it.

Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA: I beg to point out that I have used the words “as may be deemed fit by Government”.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Village Liaison Committee do not exist.

***Srijut MOTIRAM BORA:** There is no such Committee as Village Liaison Committees. There are Vigilance Committees in the villages and Liaison Committees in the towns.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I am powerless unless some Amendment, properly drafted, comes up.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: Who is responsible for the printing mistake?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I am not sure if there is a printing mistake really. All right I am sending for the original.

Mr. HARENDRA NATH SARMA: The wordings of the Resolution are that non-official members of the Village Liaison Committee for foodstuffs and cloth be vested with powers of search and arrest as may be deemed fit by the Government. The English is incorrect. There ought to be a word ‘such’ before the word “powers”.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The original reads of course slightly differently. “The Assembly is of opinion that the non-official members of the Village and Liaison Committee etc. ‘and’ was dropped in printing. What is a Village Committee?”

*Speech not corrected.

***Srijut MOTIRAM BORA:** It can be amended like this. The Vigilance and Liaison Committees be vested with such powers as may be deemed fit.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is no such thing as Village Committee.

***Srijut MOTIRAM BORA:** Village Committee is the Vigilance Committee. My Friend has the idea of Vigilance Committee in mind.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: If a properly drafted Amendment is submitted the Resolution may be taken up. The rules attracted will be rules 80 and 81. "After a Resolution has been moved, any member may, subject to all the rules relating to resolutions, move an amendment to such resolution".

"If a copy of such amendment has not been sent to the Secretary two clear days before the day fixed for the discussion of the resolution, any member may object to the moving of the amendment, and such objection shall prevail, unless the Speaker, in his discretion, allows the amendment to be moved."

"The Secretary shall, if time permits, cause every amendment to be printed and send a copy for the information of each member".

Now if an Amendment is moved, it will be considered.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I submit that no Amendment can be moved. The Resolution, by its very wording becomes infructuous, as we have just now heard. In the original Resolution, he did not use the word 'vigilance' but 'village committee'.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Suppose somebody comes up with an Amendment that the word 'village' may be dropped and substituted by the words 'vigilance and' then the Resolution may be considered.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** That will change the whole aspect of the Resolution. The Resolution does not contemplate Liaison Committee in the towns and Vigilance Committee in the villages.

***Srijut KAMESWAR DAS:** Liaison Committees are meant for subdivisions, and Vigilance Committees in the villages.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Let us all correct our copies. There is a printing mistake, the word 'and' being dropped. Let us all insert the word 'and' and proceed on that basis.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: To avoid all troubles, Sir, I would request my hon. Friend, Srijut Rajendranath Barua to withdraw his Resolution.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cutting the "Gordian Knot"?

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Yes, Sir, the reason why I make the request is that the powers, the hon. Member seeks to vest on the Vigilance and Liaison Committees will seldom be exercised.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Let us proceed with the Resolution. It has been moved and put to the House.

*Speech not corrected.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR : It will be necessary for us to consider before if the Vigilance Committee will agree to accept the power. As for myself, I do not agree to exercise this power.

I am sure a large number of members will not like to exercise these powers even if they are vested with such powers. Moreover, Sir, from past experience I have seen that for various reasons the Liaison Committees have not been able to improve the condition of food and cloth supply in the province to that extent as was expected. Even if new powers are extended, I do not think that we shall be able to serve our people better than we are doing at present.

I would, therefore, request my hon. Friend to withdraw his Resolution and to request the Government to take some other steps as may serve his purpose that led him to move this Resolution.

Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA : Sir, I beg leave to withdraw the Resolution. At the same time I beg to tell Government that under the Rules they can give certain powers to selected persons, and so far as I remember, the Deputy Commissioners and the Subdivisional Officers have been empowered to give certain powers to the members of the Vigilance and the Liaison Committees for certain purposes. That might be looked up by Government and if I get an assurance that Government will examine the position in the light of what I have said, I am willing to withdraw my Resolution.

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

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

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was necessary to make some statement on behalf of Government.

Sir, there are certain difficulties in accepting a proposal of this kind. Of course the hon. Member has every right to make a representation. I had some hand in bringing into existence these Liaison and Vigilance Committees. The whole idea that inspired me at that time was one of service to the people. It is true, Sir, it is necessary for Government to exercise certain powers by exercise of force so that honest men may be protected and mischief-mongers punished. These are the functions of a State which were enunciated long ago by our *Rishis*. As a matter of fact, the State has two clear functions, one is the function of inflicting punishment, and even the function of *zoolum* in some cases, and the other is the function of service by non violent methods. And in organising the Liaison and Vigilance Committees the latter idea, *i.e.*, one of service, was predominant in our mind. Accordingly the Liaison Committees in towns and Vigilance Committees in villages were set up. On the side of the administration, it is not quite easy to give powers to a body over which Government may not have any control and the power to take disciplinary action. This Resolution seeks certain powers, exercised by the Police, to be invested on the members of the Liaison and Vigilance Committees. But certain responsibilities and obligations have been put on the police ; and not only they, but their superior staff and ultimately the Government are responsible for any act done by the Police. The question naturally arises whether the members of the Liaison and Vigilance Committees are ready to undertake those responsibilities and obligations and submit themselves to the discipline of the Police Department. These are questions which actually came for our consideration when we had thought of these organisation ; and we came to the conclusion

that our members of the Liaison and Vigilance Committees would not submit to such discipline, nor would it be congenial to them. It was therefore decided that these would only be bodies which would strive to serve society in a purely non-violent way, by creating public opinion, when necessary, by rendering help to the people in helping equitable distribution, and such other ways. If it is now proposed that these persons should be empowered with these powers of the Police, then the House must also agree that those persons should also come under some discipline. These are the observations, Sir, which I have to place before the House before we could take any action on the lines suggested by the hon. Mover of the Resolution.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We pass on to Resolution No.3. I think I have to point out that this Resolution was sent for the last Budget Session, and therefore the words "beginning from April 1947" were put. Of course this becomes meaningless now for no fault of the hon. Member. Therefore I will allow him to put any other date when he moves his Resolution so that we need not have to go through the complicated process of amendments.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: I do not want to move the Resolution, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: No.4. (*After a pause*)—No.5.

Srijut MOTIRAM BORA: As the Second Chamber has already been abolished there is no necessity to move this Resolution.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: No.6.

Srijut BIJOY CHANDRA BHAGAVATI: মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো দাঙি ধৰিব খুজিছোঁ।

"This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to take up the project of damming and training the river Bharali immediately in the Tezpur subdivision, district Darrang, Assam, with the ultimate idea of producing Electricity for multi-purpose developments."

প্ৰাগ্ ঐতিহাসিক যুগত মানুহ আছিল প্ৰকৃতিৰ খেলাৰ পুটলা। তাৰ পিচত সভ্যতা, শিক্ষা আৰু বিজ্ঞানৰ উন্নতিৰ লগে লগে ক্ৰমে মানুহে প্ৰকৃতিক নিজৰ বশলৈ আনিলে আৰু সেই মতে নিজৰ সকলো বকমৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিলে। কিন্তু, আমি আমাৰ দেশত আজিও প্ৰাগ্ ঐতিহাসিক যুগৰ অৱস্থাতে পৰি আছোঁ।

দৰং জিলাৰ তেজপুৰ মহকুমাৰ ভবলী নদীখনে সেই তাহানিখন দিনৰ অৱস্থাতে এতিয়াও তাৰ মানুহক অশেষ বকমৰ যত্ন দিব লাগিছে। এই নদীখনৰ শক্তি যদি নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিব পৰা যায় তেনেহলে নিশ্চয় হাজাৰ হাজাৰ মানুহৰ অশেষ কল্যাণ হব পাৰে। কিন্তু তাকে কৰা নোহোৱাত সেই নদীখনে সেই অঞ্চলৰ বাহিৰৰ কাৰণে এটা ডাঙৰ বিপদৰ কাৰণ হৈছে। মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ দ্বাৰা এই বিষয়ে গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিব খুজিছোঁ। মই আশা কৰোঁ যে আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে এই নদীখন নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিবলৈ আৰু নদীখন বান্ধি বিদ্যুৎশক্তি উৎপন্ন কৰি তাৰ সহায়ত যাবতীয়

শিল্পৰ উন্নতি কৰিবলৈ যথোপযুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লব। আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ৰাজহৰ অৱস্থালৈ চাই এই কামটো তেওঁলোকে নিজে হাতত লোৱাটো কিমান দূৰ সম্ভৱপৰ হব মই কব নোৱাৰোঁ ; কিন্তু এনেবিলাক কাম যে আজিৰ দিনত আমাৰ গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে হাতত লব লাগিব সেই বিষয়ে কোনো সন্দেহ থাকিব নোৱাৰে। কিয়নো, আমি যদি এখন নতুন ভাৰতবৰ্ষ, এখন নতুন আসাম প্ৰদেশ গঢ়িব খোজোঁ আৰু যদি আমাৰ দেশৰ দৰিদ্ৰতা দূৰ কৰিব খোজোঁ, তেনেহলে নিশ্চয় এনেবিলাক ডাঙৰ কাম আমি হাতত লব লাগিব। তাকে কৰিবলৈ যাওঁতে আৰ্থিক যি অসুবিধা আছে তাক দূৰ কৰিবলৈ আমি উপায় চিন্তা কৰিব লাগিব। আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বিষয়ে ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ সনোযোগ আৰ্হণ কৰা উচিত হব। আমাৰ ৰোধেৰে এমেকুৱা এটা বিষয়ে দায়িত্ব ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে লোৱা উচিত।

ৰাজহুৱা ভাবে তেজপুৰ মহকুমাৰ ভালেখিনি মানুহে ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ কৰ্তৃপক্ষৰ ওচৰত এই বিষয়টো দাঙ্গি ধৰিছে। ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ভাৰপ্ৰাপ্ত বিষয়া সকলে তেওঁলোকক জনাইছে যে যদি আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই কথাটো ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ওচৰত দাঙ্গি ধৰে তেনেহলে নিশ্চয় তেওঁলোকে সহানুভূতিৰে সকলো কথা বিবেচনা কৰিব আৰু এই কামটো হাতত লবলৈ চাব। সেই কাৰণে মই আজি আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ওচৰত নিবেদন কৰিছোঁ যে তেখেতসকলে এই বিষয়টোৰ গুৰুত্বলৈ চাই ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টক এই কাম হাতত লবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰিব। আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে নিশ্চয় ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ পৰা এনেবিলাক বিষয়ত সম্পূৰ্ণ সহায় পোৱা বাঞ্ছনীয়। যি হেতু ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে আমাক দিব লগীয়া বহুতখিনি টকা দিয়া নাই, যি হেতু আসামৰ পেট্ৰল, চাহ আদি শিল্পৰ export আৰু excise duty ৰ ন্যায্য ভাগ আমি পোৱা নাই সেই কাৰণে আমাৰ প্ৰদেশৰ যি বিলাক অতি প্ৰয়োজনীয় কাম সেই বিলাকৰ নিমিত্তে তেওঁবিলাকে আৰ্থিক হিচাবে আৰু বিশেষজ্ঞ আদি দি অসমক সহায় কৰা একান্ত দৰকাৰ। আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ তৰফৰ পৰা যদি জোৰকৈ এই বিষয়টো ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ চকুত পেলোৱা হয়, আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ ওপৰত এই কামটো হাতত লবলৈ হেঁচা দিয়া হয়, মোৰ বিশ্বাস আছে যে তেওঁলোকে এই কাম হাতত লবলৈ নিশ্চয় ৰাজী হব।

এই ভবলী নদীখনৰ উৎপাতৰ বিবৰণ আপোনালোকৰ আগত বৰ্ণনা কৰি মই সময় খৰচ কৰিব নোখোজোঁ। এই নদীখনে আজি কেই বছৰ মানৰ ভিতৰতে বহুতো গাঁও ধ্বংসৰ ফাললৈ লৈ গৈছে; কেইবাখনো গাঁও খহাই নাইকিয়া কৰি দিছে। খিলঞ্জীয়া মানুহৰ সাতামপূৰুষীয়া গাঁওবিলাক গৰাখহনীয়াত এখনৰ পিচত এখনকৈ ধ্বংস হৈ যোৱা যেতিয়া দেখোঁ তেতিয়া সচাঁকৈয়ে মনলৈ দুখৰ ভাব আহে। বিজ্ঞানৰ সকলো সম্বললৈও আজিকোপতি আমি কি এটা নিঃসহায় নিৰুপায় অবস্থাত থাকিব লগা হৈছে। বিজ্ঞানৰ উন্নতি, সভ্যতা সংস্কৃতিৰ উন্নতি, আমাৰ স্বায়ত্ত্ব শাসনৰ অধিকাৰ এই সকলো বিলাক নিৰর্থক যেন লাগে যেতিয়া নিঃসহায় হিচাবে এই বিপদৰ গ্ৰাসত পৰিব লগা হয়।

কাজেই, এই বিষয়ৰ গুৰুত্ব, মই আশা কৰোঁ, আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে বুজিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিব আৰু এই বিষয়ে নিজে যিমান পাবে ব্যৱস্থা লব আৰু ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টকো হেঁচা দি কামটো হাতত লোৱাবলৈ যত্ন কৰিব। ইয়াকে কৈ মোৰ এই প্ৰস্তাৱ আপোনাসকলৰ আগত দাঙ্গি ধৰিলোঁ।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Resolution moved :

“ This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to take up the project of damming and training the river Bharali immediately in the Tezpur Subdivision, District Darrang, Assam, with the ultimate idea of producing Electricity for multi-purpose developments ”.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA : মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, ভাগৱতী দেৱে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উত্থাপন কৰিছে, মই সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰোঁ। আজি শিল্প-বাণিজ্যৰ উন্নতিৰ যুগ। আমি ভাৰতৰ স্বাধীনতা লাভ কৰিছোঁ। কিন্তু যেতিয়া গাওঁবিলাকত ফুৰোঁ, তেতিয়া আমাৰ সেই স্বাধীনতা অৰ্থহীন বুলি ধাৰণা হয়। আমাৰ ভাৰতবৰ্ষ তথা আসাম বহুত পিচপৰি থকা দেশ। বহিজগতে যেতিয়া ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ কলকাৰখানা লৈ উন্নতিৰ পথত আগবাঢ়ি গৈছে তেতিয়া আমি পৰি আছোঁ। আমাৰ গাৱঁলীয়া সাধাৰণ অৱস্থাত। আজি পৃথিবীয়ে যেতিয়া আনবিক শক্তি লৈ কাৰাবাৰ কৰিছে, আমি তেতিয়াও নিজৰ ভিতৰত বন্দুক বা বাইফল্ তৈয়াৰ কৰিবলৈ অধিকাৰ পোৱা নাই বা তেনে ধৰণৰ কাৰখানা স্থাপন কৰিবলৈ সুবিধা পোৱা নাই। পৃথিবীয়ে যেতিয়া আনবিক শক্তি পাব হৈ গৈ অন্য শক্তিলৈ যাব তেতিয়াহে হয়তো আমি তেনেকুৱা শক্তিলৈ যাম। এনেকুৱা ভাবে আমি পিচ পৰি গৈছোঁ।

আমাৰ গাওঁবিলাকৰ উন্নতি আমি কৰিবই লাগিব। চৰকাৰৰ ফালৰ পৰা নানাকপ আপত্তি আহিব পাৰে যে আমাৰ টকা নাই। কিন্তু ইচ্ছা থাকিলেই উপায় হয়, টকা আমাৰ উলিয়াবই লাগিব। আমাৰ ইয়াত যেতিয়া ইংৰাজ বিলাক আছিল তেতিয়া তেওঁবিলাকৰ বিষয়ে আমি কৈছিলো যে ইংৰাজ বিলাকে আমাৰ ভাৰতৰ পৰা টকা স্ৰুহি লৈ গৈ আমাক দুখীয়া কৰি থৈছে। ভাৰতৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে তেওঁলোকে একো কৰা নাই। এতিয়া সেই ইংৰাজ বিলাক গ'ল। আমি যেনেতেনে এটা উপায় উলিয়াব লাগিব আৰু উপায় উলিয়াই গাওঁবিলাকৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিব লাগিব। সেই গাওঁবিলাকৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিবলৈ হলে এনে প্ৰস্তাৱ অতি প্ৰয়োজনীয়। এই নৈবিলাকৰ বানপানীয়ে আমাৰ খেতি পথাৰ নষ্ট কৰি আমাৰ বহুতো ক্ষতি কৰিছে। যদি এই নৈবিলাক নিয়ন্ত্ৰিত কৰিব পাৰোঁ তেনেহলে সেই নৈবিলাকে আমাৰ ক্ষতি কৰিব নোৱাৰিব আৰু তাৰ ওপৰিও এই নিয়ন্ত্ৰণৰ পৰা আমি যথেষ্ট উপকাৰ পাম আৰু তাক জনসাধাৰণৰ বন্ধাৰ কামত লগাব পাৰিম। আজি আমি যিটো ভাবিছোঁ হয়তো সেইটো সপোন বুলি বিবেচিত হৈছে, কিন্তু যি দিনা দেখিবলৈ পাম গাৱেঁ গাৱেঁ কেবাচিন তেলৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তে নদীমাতৃক দেশৰ নৈবিলাক নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰি বিদ্যুৎ তৈয়াৰ কৰি গাৱেঁ গাৱেঁ, যবে যবে বিদ্যুৎ চাৰ্কি দিব পাৰিছোঁ, আৰু আমি গাওঁবিলাকতো বিদ্যুৎ শক্তি নানা ভাবে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰিবলৈ শিকিছোঁ সেই দিনা ই সপোন হৈ নোথাকে। সেই অৱস্থা আমি পাব লাগিব আৰু সেই অৱস্থা চৰকাৰে আনি দিব লাগিব। ভাগৱতী দেৱে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উত্থাপন কৰিছে, সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটো অসমক সমৃদ্ধিশালী কৰি তুলিবলৈ অতি সমৰ্থনযোগী হৈছে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই তেখেতৰ প্ৰস্তাৱ সমৰ্থন কৰিলোঁ।

Srijut MOTI RAM BORA : সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিবলৈ ওলাইছোঁ। ভাগৱতী ডাঙৰীয়াই এটা বৰ লাগতিয়াল আৰু দৰকাৰী প্ৰস্তাৱ আমাৰ আগত দাঙ্গি ধৰিছে। এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো কাৰ্য্যত পৰিণত কৰিব পাৰিলে যি সকল লাখ লাখ

অসমীয়া নবনাৰীক বছৰি বানপানীয়ে নানাবৰকমে উৎপীড়ন কৰে, সেই লাখ লাখ নবনাৰীৰ কি যে মহৎ উপকাৰ হব তাক বহলাই নকলেও সকলোৱে বুজিব পাৰিব। অকল সেয়ে নহয়, তাৰ দ্বাৰা আমাৰ শিল্প বাণিজ্যৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিবলৈ নানা সুবিধা হব আৰু অনেক জলাতক ভূমি কৃষিৰ নিমিত্তে উপযোগী হৈ কৃষক আৰু কৃষিৰ উপকাৰ সাধন কৰিব।

ভাগৱতী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো অকল ভবলী নদীতে সীমাবদ্ধ নকৰি অলপ বহলাই দি অসমৰ অন্যান্য নদীৰ কথাও ইয়াত যোগ দিয়াহেতেন আৰু ভাল হলহেতেন। কিয়নো, এনেকুৱা বানপানীৰ অত্যাচাৰ অকল তেজপুৰতেই নহয়, অসমৰ অন্যান্য জিলাতো হৈ থাকে। নগাঁও, কাছাৰ আদি জিলাৰ নৈ বিলাক আৰু দিহিঙৰ নিচিনা নৈ বিলাক নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰা বৰ প্ৰয়োজনীয় হৈ পৰিছে। নগাঁৱৰ কপিলী নৈৰ অত্যাচাৰৰ কথা আপোনা সকলে জানে। এই কপিলী নৈৰ বানপানীৰ ধ্বংশলীলাৰ নিমিত্তে গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে বছৰি লাখ লাখ টকা খৰচ কৰিব লগাত পৰিছে। যোৱা বছৰ বোধ কৰোঁ। গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে এই কপিলী অঞ্চলত প্ৰায় ৫ লাখ মান টকা খৰচ কৰিব লগা হৈছিল। এই বছৰো ঠিক তেনে অৱস্থা হববুলি আমি ভয় কৰিছোঁ। এইদৰে অসমৰ বিভিন্ন নদীয়ে বিভিন্ন জিলাত কি বৰকম অত্যাচাৰ কৰি আছে, সি কাৰো আবাদিত নহয়। সেই দেখি মই কওঁ অকল ভবলী নদীতে আবদ্ধ নাথাকি অসমত অন্যান্য যিবিলাক অত্যাচাৰী নদী আছে সেই সকলো বিলাক নদী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিবলৈ গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লব লাগিব। তেতিয়াহলেই আমাৰ শিল্প বাণিজ্যৰো বহুত সহায় হব।

আমি নগাঁৱৰ বাইজৰ তৰফৰ পৰা এই বিষয়ে কেন্দ্ৰীয় গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ দুটি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিছিলোঁ। তেতিয়া Post War Planning আৰু Developmentৰ মিনিষ্টাৰ মিষ্টাৰ ভাৰা আছিল। নগঞা বাইজে কপিলী নদী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰি মোৰ হাতেদিয়েই এখন দৰখাস্ত তেখেতলৈ পঠিয়াইছিল। আমি কেন্দ্ৰীয় গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ পৰা উত্তৰ পাইছিলো যে এই কথাটো কেন্দ্ৰীয় গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ বিবেচনাধীনত আছে আৰু সেই বিষয়ে তেওঁলোকে বিচাৰ কৰিব। এতিয়া মোট কথা হৈছে যদি আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে এই কথালৈ কেন্দ্ৰীয় গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ দুটি ভালকৈ আকৰ্ষণ কৰিব নোৱাৰে আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ হতুৱাই এইটো কাম কৰাব নোৱাৰে তেনেহলে নহব। আপোনালোকে জানে যে ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ অন্যান্য প্ৰদেশত এনেকুৱা project হৈছে যেনে দামোদৰ project আৰু উড়িষ্যাতে এনেকুৱা project হাতত লোৱা হৈছে যাতে নদী বিলাক নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰি দেশৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিব পাৰে। আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে কেন্দ্ৰীয় গৱৰ্ণমেন্টক এই বিষয়ে ভালকৈ ধৰিব লাগে যে বাস্তবিকতে আসামত যি কেইখন অত্যাচাৰী নদী আছে, সেই আটাই কেইখন নদী নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰি তাৰ দ্বাৰা বিদ্যুৎ শক্তি উৎপাদন কৰি দেশৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিব লাগে। মই আশা কৰোঁ আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে যদি এই বিষয়ে ভালকৈ কেন্দ্ৰীয় গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ ওপৰত হেঁচা দিয়ে তেন্তে নিশ্চয় এই কাম হৈ উঠিব। কিয়নো, Hydro electric development ৰ নিমিত্তে আসামত যি সুবিধা আছে ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ কোনো প্ৰদেশত তেনে সুবিধা নাই। মই দুই চাৰি জন expertক লগ পাইছিলো আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ electric development ৰ নিমিত্তে যিমান সুবিধা আছে ভাৰতৰ অইন কোনো প্ৰদেশতে সিমান সুবিধা নাই। তেওঁলোকৰ এজনে কৈছিল যে কপিলী নদীক যদি নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিব পৰা যায় তেনেহলে পাণ্ডুৰ পৰা তিনচুকীয়া আৰু লামডিঙৰ পৰা চিটাগঙলৈকে যি বেইল আছে সেই বেলত বিদ্যুৎ শক্তি যোগাব পাৰিব।

এই বিলাক কাম যদি হাতত নলয়, তেনেহলে দেশৰ উন্নতি কেনেকৈ হব ? বিশেষকৈ আজিকালি কথাৰ কথাৰ শুনা যায় যে গাৰ্বৰ উন্নতি কৰিব লাগে—শিল্প বাণিজ্যৰ উন্নতি কৰিব লাগে । কিন্তু শিল্প বাণিজ্যৰ উন্নতি বা গাৰ্বৰ উন্নতি কৰিবলৈ যদি এই বিলাক project হাতত নলয় তেনেহলে গাৰ্বৰ কি উন্নতি হব ?

সেই কাৰণে মই ভাগৱতী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ প্ৰস্তাৱ সম্বন্ধত কৰিছো আৰু তাতে অল্প যোগ দি কওঁ যে আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে যেতিয়া ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ ওচৰত এই প্ৰস্তাৱ দাখিল কৰিব তেতিয়া কেৱল ভবলীয়েই নহয়, অন্যান্য নদী বিলাকৰ কথাও কব লাগিব । আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে সম্ভ্ৰতি এই নদী বিলাক পৰীক্ষা কৰিবলৈ expert আনিবৰ নিমিত্তে যত্ন কৰিব লাগে । যাতে সোনকালে expert পঢ়িয়ায় তাৰ কাৰণে যেন আসাম গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে ভাৰত গৱৰ্ণমেন্টক ভালকৈ অনুৰোধ জনায় । ইয়াকে কৈ মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱ সম্বন্ধত কৰিলোঁ ।

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Resolution as it stands, first wants to emphasise this main point that electric power should be generated by controlling or harnessing the river Bharali so that it may be used for multi-purpose developments—perhaps he means industrial developments. But later on the hon. Mover made a digression that the controlling of the river is necessary for the purposes so that the river may not create havoc by excess flood water. Even then the main purpose remains there and the idea is quite a laudable one. But the very Resolution involves several other considerations. Firstly, whether it is such a river as can be used for the purpose for which it is wanted. Secondly, whether it has got sufficient flow or current so that by controlling it or harnessing it the river can be utilised for those purposes. Then about the digression which he has made that the river should be controlled or a dam should be put on it so that it may not create destruction to the villages and their crops and houses, it depends on the question whether the current is such as can be controlled. You know, Sir, that the river Brahmaputra cannot be controlled at all by putting a dam on it. But if it is a small river, of course, the current can be controlled to some extent and a dam may be put on it so that it can be utilised for the purposes or may be diverted to a different side or the current may be narrowed down. So these are matters which require the attention of the expert.

Another point which is involved in the question is cost. The hon. Mover did not give any idea about the cost, and he is not in a position to do that. Years ago, in the former Legislative Council, whenever any Member came up with a proposal to the Council when financial commitment for Government was necessary he was required to give some idea as regards cost, but no such practice is followed now.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA : Those days are gone. (*Laughter*).

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS : Certainly gone.

It is the duty of the Engineering Department to give their expert advice as to what the Government is required to help this province in this direction. The whole idea is a laudable and appreciable one ; but the question is whether the river Bharali should be harnessed for the purpose or not. Is there no better place or ideal river so that it may have all the amenities required for this purpose and then it should be able to be utilised by the Government, or the industrialists for factory owners for their purposes. It should be seen that this river should be able to help towards the growth of industry, trade, factories and so forth. So it lies entirely with the Government to select a better place. Of course, the idea has been good and noble one, and I think Government should take in hand a project so as to begin its

working in an ideal place and in an ideal river, where there are already some industrial centres, where there are industrialists, factory owners and so that it may be utilised for the greatest good of the greatest number. I do not know whether Bharali is a river ideal for the purpose. So before the Government accepts or does anything in this connection, I draw the attention of the Government to the simple point that I have raised. Of course, I support the idea of the Resolution.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: Do you support the Resolution ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes. He supports the spirit.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো অসমীয়া ভাষাত আমাৰ আগত উপস্থিত কৰা হৈছে আৰু মোৰো ইচ্ছা আছিল যে অসমীয়া ভাষাতেই ইয়াৰ প্ৰত্যুত্তৰ দিম; কিন্তু ইয়াত এনেকুৱা লোক থাকিব পাৰে যি সকলে হয়তো সম্পূৰ্ণৰূপে অসমীয়া ভাষা বুজিব পাৰে। যদি আপোনা সকলে অনুমতি দিয়ে ইংৰাজীতে মই ইয়াৰ উত্তৰ দিও

(Voices—'সকলোৱেই বুজিব')

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: যি সকলে অসমীয়া বুজে সেই সকলেই কৈছে 'সকলোৱেই বুজিব'।

(Voices—সকলোৱে অসমীয়া বুজিবলৈ যত্ন কৰা উচিত)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: বিষয়ৰ গুৰুত্বলৈ চাই ইংৰাজীত কলেহে ভাল হব।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The control of river system in Assam is a very important matter and there are many technical terms for which we have as yet no adequately expressive Assamese equivalents, so, I think, the Hon'ble Prime Minister may reply in English.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: The Resolution actually stands in two parts, although it has been combined into one. Actually the idea of river training and multi-purpose development schemes through electricity are, according to the opinion of the experts, independent propositions. They could surely be worked together but it is not necessary that they should be worked together. The necessity of my standing to reply to the Resolution has been due to the fact that it falls under two Departments of Government. One is Electricity which is in-charge of one Hon'ble Minister and the other is River Training of treatment of this particular subject, namely, the training for the purpose of River and also the multi-purpose schemes to be developed from the Bharali of Bharali, it is proposed to be taken by me on behalf of the river water

I am obliged to the hon. Mover of the Resolution for the opportunity he has given us to put before the House how Government are feeling about this whole question of River Training in Assam on the one hand and on the other what steps this Government are taking to meet this very trying and important problem of this Province as a whole. Well, the ravages of flood in Assam are being felt by every one of us almost in every part of the Province. It is a pity that the Government have to spend large sums of money in terms of lakhs every year to meet the distress of the people affected by these floods. Naturally, therefore, no Government could sit idle when it may be possible to solve this problem by scientific methods. You, of course, know that the machinery of the Assam Government to meet such a big question and solve such a big problem is almost

impossible. It is true that hitherto the Government have not yet been able to function properly, even as a Government of law and order only. But to have all these projects is something which Government with its ordinary revenues and ordinary machinery of administration could not be surely expected to cope with. Therefore, the Government had to take recourse to approaching the Government of India to take up this matter. Immediately after the last floods, I mean the flood of last year, the Government of India was approached to see what they could do in order to save the flood ravaged areas. The Government of India had of course in the beginning said that they would take up the matter but then it required some more application on our part to move them. Ultimately, however, they have decided at least for the present to examine the whole situation of rivers in Assam and so far as this particular project is concerned, I mean, the multi-purpose schemes of Bharali River by damming, it has been particularly taken up. I can let you know for your information that the whole matter in reference to multi-purpose schemes in Tezpur by damming the Bharali River was done at the instance of that hon. Member himself. He brought it to the notice of the Government. He knows very well, as many other hon. Members know, that we were sending our own officers in the Public Works Department to visit these areas to do temporary make-shift arrangement for the purpose of investigating and preventing ravages this river is causing in the lower part of its stream. We also know how these measures were not effective and how we had to drop the only course left to us, namely, for some help from the Government of India. The Government of India in reply..... ✓

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: How long the Hon'ble Prime Minister will take? Should it stand over?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: I may finish it within 5 minutes.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: Five minutes we can wait, Sir.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: We can sit for 5 minutes more.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: We represented to the Government of India this whole situation, but the Government of India wanted that we should collect certain data regarding certain matters of scientific nature, like observation of river discharge for a series of gauge reading, the soil conditions, not merely where the river floods but from where the river starts and so forth and so on. For the collection of all these data the Government of India want that some officers be appointed; accordingly, after a search for some officers we have appointed one Mr. Ray to do this preliminary work before the matter was actually taken up by the Government of India. Some data have already been prepared and on the basis of that data the Government of India have now been informed to take up this matter.

You will be glad to hear that the Government of India are proposing to send very soon, it may be, I think, towards the end of this month, one Mr. Khosla, who is working in the Central Water-ways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission, set up by the Government of India to enquire into matters like these. (The Hon'ble the Speaker—only on this river?)..... Other rivers in general but this river in particular. But this, as I said, is in reference to River Training only. I said just now, according to experts, River Training need not necessarily be connected with multi-purpose scheme, which aims at

generating electric power for multi-purposes. I think that matter also will be enquired into by Mr. Khosla who is coming here shortly. It may be that this scheme of multi-purposes might be accepted or he might recommend other schemes also ; but I want to make it clear to you that they are independent projects and they should be dealt with independently. The question of River Training is linked up with many other things, like soil erosion, drainage of silt from the hills which has been largely due to *jhuming* in the areas occupied by the Tribal people. It is also connected with some problem of drainage on river banks and many other things which would be necessary to put the rivers on their proper channel.

The question of generation of electricity will have to depend on many factors, the finance of the scheme, the height of the water-fall and bunding and dams on rivers and other such things, but I am unable to explain all these things to you more than what I have done. It will be the duty of experts to do it. But on the whole, I think, I have been able to present to you the steps that Government are taking. It is undoubtedly one of the biggest problems of Assam. The ravages by rivers, silting up of the same and flooding are not common in one place only ; it is a feature of almost all the hill streams that are flowing through Assam. Therefore, it must be a matter of grave concern to every one of us and you will realise how anxious the Government must be in order to meet this problem. This problem has got also to be thought out in terms of finance. The multi-purpose scheme like the one adopted for the Damodar Valley, was estimated to involve an expenditure of 80 crores of rupees, and another the Hirakud Scheme (this one is in Orissa and proposed to be taken up) would involve an expenditure of forty-five crores of rupees. So, it is clear to us that unless the Government of India help the Provincial Government in such a way that the Province can put into effect such schemes, it will be difficult for the Province alone to take up such big projects. Even in regard to it there are two ways for the matter of development of electricity. The original advice of the Government of India was that we can develop in small units and then combine it with higher powers from certain big schemes. But there is also another opinion, *viz.*, whether there should be one central big scheme which should be able to feed all parts of the country with electricity. There is also the question whether such a big generating scheme, could find proper industries or applications for their utility, as otherwise the scheme itself will simply mean expenditure and no income and, therefore, as a recurring proposition, a failure.

Sir, I think, I have said enough on the Resolution. In view of what we have done, I think, it will not be necessary to send the Motion to a division. The hon. Member may kindly withdraw the Resolution in view of these facts.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Does the hon. Member want to say anything ?

Srijut BIJOY CHANDRA BHAGAVATI : সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, গৰণ মেন্টৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা এই বিষয়ে যথোপযুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা লৈছে বুলি আশা দিয়াত মই মোৰ প্ৰস্তাব উঠাই ললে।

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

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

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: If the House agree, we shall not sit again to-day, Sir, as there is the meeting of the Provincial Congress Committee and some of the hon. Members would like to participate there. I think our work will not be hampered on account of that. It is, of course, the wish of the House that prevails and not my request; I want to make that clear to you.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I cannot follow the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Prime Minister requests that the House may be adjourned to-day as the Provincial Congress Committee is sitting and there will be some members of the House who are also members of that Committee.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Is the Hon'ble Prime Minister making his request to the Opposition?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: I have already made a request to the House. I said that possibly there would not be much loss of time if the House adjourned for the rest of the day on account of the sitting of the Provincial Congress Committee.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Prime Minister's request to the House tantamounts to a request to the Opposition, because the majority in the House is behind him, and I take it, that his request is backed by his own followers. I understand that the Provincial Congress Committee is sitting in Shillong for about two days without coming to any final conclusion, and as there is a great dearth of food-stuffs—if nothing else—I think the sooner they go down the better for us—(laughter). Under the circumstances and in view of the fact that a number of Resolutions stand in the name of Members who no longer are sitting in the House, we on this side do not oppose the request.

Adjournment.

The Assembly was then adjourned till 11 A.M., on Saturday, the 6th September, 1947.

SHILLONG:

The 18th October 1947.

A. K. BARUA,

Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Assam.