

**THE BUDGET (ASSAM) 1982-83  
GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.**

**II. THE ASSAM APPROPRIATION  
(VOTE ON ACCOUNT) BILL.  
1982—Contd.**

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BILL, 1982—Contd.**

SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI (Assam):  
Madam Vice-Chairman, the Assam Budget could have been discussed in the Assam Assembly itself, had not the Governor acted in a most partisan manner and recommended the dissolution of the Assam Assembly. The Left Democratic Alliance had the majority to form the Government and discuss the Budget in the Assembly itself. But the House has already approved the Proclamation yesterday. So I am not going into these matters today.

Madam, Assam is a most backward State in the country, and it has remained neglected up till now by the Central Government. We have got tea, oil, coal, forest wealth, immense hydel power potentiality, but still we are economically backward. In Assam, colonial exploitation is continuing, and unless this exploitation is stopped, the economy of the State cannot be improved. Money continues to flow out of the State. Unless we stop this flowing out of money from the State, the economy of the State cannot improve. No amount of money or grants by the Centre can stabilise the economy of the State. If the natural resources are properly utilised and radical measures for improvement of the economy are adopted, then Assam can be one of the richest State in the country. But what is going on in Assam? I have already said that we have got immense natural resources. In reply to a question dated August 7, 1981, hon. the Petroleum Minister said that about 6.5 lakh standard cubic metres of natural gas is being flared up daily in Assam and the value of that flared-up gas is estimated to be Rs. 1.44 lakhs per day. So the Govern-

ment has not tried to utilise the natural resources. How can the economy of the State be developed? This is the position. The country is facing energy crisis and we are burning Rs. 1.44 lakh worth of natural gas in Assam. My friend, Mr. Bipinpal Das, has said about immense potential of generation of hydel power. But that resource has not been tapped. When the Assam movement on foreign national issue was at its pitch, a number of promises were made in this House regarding improvement of railway communication. It was said that broad gauge railway line will be extended up to Gauhati immediately within a year, two bridges will be constructed over the river Brahmaputra and a broad gauge railway line will be constructed up to Dibrugarh touching the main towns. But now everything has been slowed down. Even the progress of extension of broad gauge line from Bongaigaon to Gauhati has been very slow. The Government perhaps thinks that the agitation is not in its pitch these days and, therefore, they can easily forget Assam. It was said that we have ordered for survey. But mere survey will not do. It was promised at that time that the bridge at Bhomoraguri will be a road-cum-rail bridge. It was promised in the House. But what has happened actually in Assam is that the truck owners' lobby is very powerful and that trunk owners lobby is influencing the Railway Board, etc. they do not want that this should be a road-cum bridge. Similarly, the question of Jogighopa bridge is also there. The expert committee appointed by the Railways gave its report that it should be a rail-cum-road bridge. But that recommendation is not going to be implemented and it is said that it would only be a road bridge. Madam, the Brahmaputra River Board has been constituted after a long time. I do not know whether this Board has started the work. Assam is facing the serious problem of erosion. Village after village is being washed away every year. Assam is a chronically flood-

[Shri Biswa Goswami]

affected State. Unless this Brahma-putra Board takes urgent measures to control flood and stop erosion, the improvement of the condition of the people is impossible. I hope the Government will take urgent measures in this respect. Madam, so far as the royalty on crude oil is concerned, my friend, Mr. Bipinpal Das, has already raised this demand. Great injustice has been done to Assam and Gujarat in the case of payment of royalty on crude oil. One Adviser to the Governor when Assam was under the President's Rule earlier suggested that the crude oil royalty should be a minimum of Rs. 315 per tone. I hope the Central Government will consider this legitimate demand and increase the royalty on crude oil at the earliest. Assam should have agro-based and forest-based industries. Assam is a State where the Government can experiment the full employment scheme. There are possibilities in Assam for the implementation of the full employment scheme. Of course immigration of foreigners must be stopped. If people go on infiltrating, then the full employment scheme cannot be implemented. But Assam is a State where that possibility is there, that scheme can be implemented. And, moreover, in Assam only a socialist economy can deliver the goods to the people of that region. No capitalist pattern of development would help that State to progress any further. If you believe in socialism really here is a State where you can experiment it. Socialism is the only way by which the people of that region can be saved from exploitation and the area can be economically developed.

Madam, so far as the by-product of the Bongaigaon Refinery is concerned, Mr. Bipinpal Das has already referred to that. I support what he has said on this. So far as the Ashoka Paper Mill is concerned, this paper mill has faced a great crisis. This is a joint venture of the Assam and Bihar Governments. Very fine quality of paper

is produced in this mill. This mill is facing serious difficulties. They want only Rs. 3 crores to tide over the crisis. They have got the stock of paper worth two and a half crores of rupees. But they are not in position to sell because they cannot pay the freight rate and the duty. So, I hope, the Central Government will come forward to help this industry by paying them this minimum amount of Rs. 3 crores so that all those 5,000 employees are not thrown out of employment and Assam does not suffer due to the closure of this industry.

Madam, today, we are discussing the Vote on Account. It is not a full-fledged Budget. I do not know why the full-fledged Budget was not placed before us. But there is a provision in the Vote on Account and the Supplementary Vote on Account for the expenditure under 'police'. It is about Rs. 8 crores under the Supplementary Demand, and under the Vote on Account, the expenditure on police is about Rs. 20 crores, which is the highest expenditure. Madam, you will be surprised to know that although Assam is a small State, Assam has got eight IGPs. Inspectors General of Police. Nowhere in India, in no other State, there are so many IGPs. Over and above these eight IGPs, there is one Director-General of Police. This is the way how the Government is spending money there. What is the use of having eight IGPs and over them one Director-General of Police? If the other States can manage with two IGPs or one IGP, Assam can also manage with one or two IGPs. If money is squandered in this way, by paying it to the police, then what will happen to the common people. (Time Bell rings)

Madam, moreover, if the deployment of police force from outside Assam takes place, the expenditure should be borne by the Union and not by the Government of Assam. Madam, I would request the hon. Minister that the expenditure incurred on the deployment of police force from

outside Assam for the maintenance of law and order should be borne by the Central Government and not by the State Government, because it is a very big burden on a poor State like Assam. (*Time Bell rings*).

**SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK** (Orissa): Why outside forces, Madam?

**SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI**: Madam, if the Government really want to enhance the resources of the State of Assam, they should come forward to take necessary steps and stop flowing out of money from the State, and stop economic exploitation of the people. Unless you take that step, simply more liberal grants will not stabilise the economy of the State. We are giving substantial revenue to the Central Government. The Central Government should come forward for stabilising the economy of the State of Assam. (*Time Bell rings*).

With these word, Madam, I conclude.

**SHRI BIJOY KUSHNA HANDIQUE** (Assam): Madam, Vice-Chairman a little while ago, Hon Member, Shri Bipinpal Das, in a nutshell, gave a very comprehensive economic survey of the whole State, pinpointing the priorities, pinpointing whatever achievements we have had and pinpointing the failings of the Government, and for which the Government owes an explanation to this House. Madam, I need not repeat all these things, which are so elaborately dwelt upon. I want to go to the basic cause of such a state of things, why does this happen?

Madam, while discussing a Budget or vote on account or any financial proposal, the most important aspect is the development. But when we talk of development, the question of resources comes. And since we are committed to a balanced development for the whole country, we must also think of the balanced distribution of national resources. Madam this has been the most debated issue in the last two consideration of grants-in-aid. So far

all the Finance Commissions have decades. For, in spite of the Government's commitment to end, or, at least, mitigate, the regional imbalances, I am afraid, it has come to stay. Madam I do admit that the federal financial transfers have necessarily to be uneven because of the differences in States' income, population, natural resources, endowments and density. But the letter and the spirit of the Constitution clearly envisages the responsibility of the Centre to transfer resources to the State in an equitable manner, I repeat the words, Madam, in an equitable manner, to meet the growing needs of development. But the main question is what principles do govern the devolution of resources. Regarding the devolution of resources, Madam, there are some who advocate that an allowance should be given for the relative State areas for the purpose of devolution. On this basis States with vast areas will get greater share. It may look sound that bigger States need more finances than the smaller States. But to judge merely on the basis of this fact, without looking into the problems of the area, is not sound because problems are not the same for all the State areas. The State areas differ in natural endowments and they need differential treatment. So, the size of the area of a State, without reference to their specific problems which may vary from State to State, cannot be considered as the only criterion that can be applied to all the States. They call for special indices of need. Since the States areas require Special indices of need, the criteria of the areas of the States be referred for given utmost importance to population as an index of need. On this basis the State having a large population will get a bigger share. Devaluation on the basis of population gives the per capita income of different States. But per capita income for all the States is not the same and need not be equal; richer States will have a higher per capita income than the poorer States. Per capita income can be used as an index for comparing the relative economic position of the State and the

[Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique]  
population without a reference to the per capita income will only give us a neutral criterion. Thus, the State income may be considered—this is the most important aspect—as the criterion for devolution purposes. Equity needs that the State income should be related to its share from the divisible pool. The Finance Ministry all the time exports the States to raise their revenues, their resources and minimise dependence on the Central assistance. I do admit, it is true, since early fifties the States have been dependent on the Central assistance for financial requirements. With the spectacular expansion in social, economic and political responsibilities, the State Governments have found their own resources to be quite inadequate. It is also true that resources allocated to the States by various Finance Commissions and Planning Commission, have been increasing from Plan to Plan and this escalation is no doubt a mark of generous responsiveness of the Centre to the expanding needs of the State and also agenuine desire to ensure optimum utilisation of natural resources in a decentralized way. But in spite of all this, two legitimate questions remain to be answered. First is, has the inadequacy of the States' own resources been due to certain maldistribution of the sources of revenue between the Centre and the State? This is number one. Second question is, how can a poor and backward State or a Union Territory, like those of the North-Eastern region. Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram to mention a few can mobilise resources without adequate finance? It is an intriguing situation. States are asked to mobilise resources for their financial requirements but where does the money come from to mobilise the resources, particularly in backward States? How much resources can a flood-affected State like Assam raise? It has been estimated that about Rs. 10 crores on an average is the annual loss of the State on account of floods. Take the case of hill States like Nagaland or Mizoram. What resources can they raise, what resources are there to

be tapped to mobilise additional resources? So, Madam, increasing grant assistance from the Central Government is the only answer to the situation. We have to consider this aspect, particularly taking into consideration the peculiar economic condition of this North Eastern region. The Centre must appreciate Assam's contribution to the economy of the whole country by her oil and tea. Yet there is poverty in the midst of plenty and the Government must come out with more assistance.

The present rate of Central excise duty on Assam tea is unreasonably very high. Assam produces 2,76,304 tonnes of tea per year, that is 55 per cent of the Indian tea, worth Rs. 400 crores, but it gets only Rs. 20 crores in return. That is why I raised the question that there is maldistribution of sources, of revenue, between the Centre and the State.

Then again, Madam, regarding crude oil Assam produces 43,96,000 tonnes, that is 60 per cent of the total Indian production, but the royalty till the last year was Rs. 42 and it is being raised to Rs. 61, which is rather poor. I fully agree with my hon. friend Mr. Bipinpal Das that it should be raised to Rs. 315, and it is not an arbitrary rate. It was during the first period of the President's rule that the Assam Government after prolonged consideration, considering all the aspects came to the conclusion that it should be Rs. 315. So, I think it is high time that the Government re-thinks about the entire North Eastern region in terms of its integrated development. When I talk about development, I have a grouse. I have been talking about the basic question of development in this region number of times. I am going to repeat it for the third time today. Once on the Assam budget last year, than again on general budget a couple of days ago and this is the third time when I am repeating the same thing. But till today I have not got any reply from the hon. Finance Minister. It is

the third time and I do believe that I would get a reply at least now from the hon. Finance Minister. Madam, this is what is wrong. Everybody talks about development of the North Eastern region. Even there is the Minister's Committee for this purpose. I do appreciate their earnestness of their Concern to accelerate the economic improvement of the region, but that is not the way. In spite of the earnestness, this is the piecemeal approach and that is why our development plans have failed. So far as development of the entire region is concerned, there cannot be any piecemeal approach. There must be a master plan based on scientifically analysed data on the process of development and changes in socio-economic structure in the entire North Eastern region. Why I am talking about the entire North Eastern region is, in spite of the inter-regional differences in many aspects among various constituent States and the Union Territories—there are seven—all the States are economically inter-dependent. Economic growth of these constituent units, therefore, cannot be treated, cannot be considered in isolation. For instance, take the solution of the problem of soil erosion or the problem of flood control or the problem of generation of hydel power. It will need the cooperation of a number of States together. So what we want is that there should be an agency to bring together, to coordinate the studies and research work of various institutes and academicians who are interested in the development of this region. It is because of lack of this that the pace of industrialisation, the pace of economic growth is rather slow in the North-Eastern region. I have gone into the question and there is one study report submitted by one Professor of Agricultural Economics of the Assam Agricultural University—Dr. B. C. Goswami—that here should be an Institute of Economic Growth and Development. Madam, in your State also—Maharashtra—there are two or three institutes like that—and good ones too. I have gone through

it and so far I have found that there are no less than 20 to 25 such institutes operating in the various States of the country. If there can be so many Institutes for Economic Growth or Economic Development—even recently they have given one at Bangalore under the supervision and guidance of Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao—then why this region cannot have one Institute for Economic Growth and Development and take advantage of that. Let us fully utilise the investigations, studies all the relevant informations that have found out so that we can have an integrated development of the entire region.

Madam, with these observations, I support this Appropriation Bill and the Vote on Account Bill. I would rather commend it to my friend, Mr. Harekrushna Mallick that he should also....

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK:  
Oppose it.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDI-  
QUE:....join us in supporting this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN [DR. (SHRI MATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA]: Mr. Kalraj Mishra. Unfortunately, everybody has got very short time. So seven minutes for you. Try to be as brief as you can.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK:  
Assam needs much more attention. Enough time should be given to it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN [DR. (SHRI MATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA]: It is not in my hands. Yes, Mr. Kalraj Mishra.

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं जल्दी ही समाप्त करूंगा । उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, आसाम के विनियोग विधेयक के बारे में सदन में चर्चा चल रही है । लेकिन चर्चा करते समय स्वाभाविक रूप से यह आशंका पैदा होती है कि आसाम की सामान्य जनता को किस तरह से

[श्री कलराज मिश्र]

स का लाभ प्राप्त हो सकेगा। क्योंकि आसाम की जनता इस समय अपने को अरक्षित महसूस कर रही है। आसाम की जनता यह भी महसूस करती है कि जो आसाम की सामान्य जनता की इच्छा और आकांक्षा है उस इच्छा और आकांक्षा पर कुठाराघात किया जा रहा है। हिन्दुस्तान के संविधान का नाम लेकर संविधान पर अट्टहास किया जा रहा है यह आसाम की जनता को सामान्य मनोभाव बना है और इस लिये बना है कि इसबीच में जिन मुद्दों को लेकर आसाम की जनता ने हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार को यह जताने की कोशिश की कि अगर आसाम के सामान्य जीवन और सांस्कृतिक मूल्यों को और आसाम की जनता के विकास की दृष्टि से अगर सरकार ने ध्यान नहीं दिया तो निश्चित रूप से आसाम में एक ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न हो सकती है कि जो विघटनवादी तत्व हैं, जो प्रयत्नवादी तत्व हैं वह वहां अपने तरीके से प्रयोग कर सकते हैं। इस लिये जब हम इस विनियोग विधेयक पर विचार करते हैं तो यह आशांका उभरती है।

5 P.M.

माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो विधेयक है उसमें 479 करोड़ 65 लाख 38 हजार रुपये का विनियोग है और इस विनियोग के माध्यम से मुझे ऐसा महसूस होता है कि जो उधर 5-6 महीनों के अन्दर हरकतें हुई हैं आसाम के अन्दर, उन हरकतों के दौरान यह सारा पैसा खर्च होगा। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जब आसाम के नौजवान अपनी मांग को प्रस्तुत करने के लिये, यद्यपि सरकार से वार्ता का क्रम चल रहा था, उस वार्ता के क्रम के बावजूद भी जब सरकार ने उनकी बात को स्वीकार नहीं किया, हीला-हुवाली करती रही, तो उस समय आसाम के नौजवानों ने शांतिपूर्वक, जनवरी महीने

में जनता करफ्यू लगाया और उसमें उनकी सफलता प्राप्त हुई थी, वह इतना बड़ा स्वरूप जन-रोष का था जो मैं समझता हूं कि हिन्दुस्तान में ही नहीं सारे संसार में हम को देखने को नहीं मिलेगा। लगभग 20 लाख लोगों ने उस में हिस्सेदारी की। लेकिन उन को दस्त करने के लिये, परेशान करने के लिये बाहर से फोर्स बुलाई गई, लोगों को मारा गया और मैं सदन में यह बात निश्चित रूप से बताना चाहता हूं कि एक प्रोफेसर, प्रवक्ता हैं मंगलदोई कालेज में श्रीमती विजया चक्रवर्ती। उन को आसाम की सरकार ने कहा कि उनके कारण आसाम को खतरा है। इस लिये 26 दिसम्बर, 1981 को "दरांग जिले के जिला मजिस्ट्रेट ने आदेश क्रमांक डी० सी० एन० 12, 81, 5 दिनांक 26-12-1981 जारी किया, जिसमें कहा गया है कि सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा के विरुद्ध काम करने से रोकने और सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था बनाये रखने के लिये श्रीमती चक्रवर्ती की गतिविधियों पर नियंत्रण लगाना आवश्यक है। अतएव असम मैन्टेनेंस आफ पब्लिक आर्डर एक्ट की धारा 2 द्वारा प्रदत्त अधिकारों के अन्तर्गत मैं आदेश देता हूं कि यह आदेश मिलने के दो घंटे के अन्दर श्रीमती चक्रवर्ती सोनितपुर एग्रीकल्चरल फार्मिंग कारपोरेशन भालुक पोंग के लिये रवाना हो जायें और अगले आदेश तक वहीं रहे और रांगापाडा पुलिस थाने की भावुक पोंग पुलिस चौकी के प्रभारी के सामने प्रति दिन दो बार हाजिरी दिया करें।"

इतना ही नहीं। उनके साथ इतना क्रूर व्यवहार किया गया है, इतना अमानवीय व्यवहार किया गया है कि उनको फिर से आदेश दिये गये। माननीया मैं आपके सामने यह रखना चाहता हूं कि आदेश यह दिया गया 31-12-81 को कि "कृपया भालुक पोंग के प्रभारी

श्रीमती चक्रवर्ती को पचित करें कि राज्य उनके निवास और भोजन का प्रबन्ध करने का जिम्मेदार नहीं है।”

माननीया यह इस बात को प्रकट करता है कि जेल में आप डाल देते हैं, स्वयं भरण-पोषण के साधन उपलब्ध कराने की कोई व्यवस्था का अवसर नहीं प्रदान कर रहे हैं और इस के बावजूद आप यह कह रहे हैं कि सरकार की जिम्मेदारी नहीं होगी उनको खाना देने के लिये, उनको वस्त्र देने के लिये ऐसी स्थिति में क्या हो सकता है। ऐसा अनेक घटनायें वहां हो रही हैं। इस तरह से आसाम की जनता की भावनाओं के साथ खिलवाड़ किया जा रहा है और साथ ही साथ उनका दमन किया जा रहा है। मैं समझता हूं कि यह जो सारी औपचारिकता बरती जा रही है सदन के माध्यम से वह केवल लोकतंत्र का गला घोटने की दृष्टि से की जा रही है। हमारे साथियों ने जिस प्रकार से सारी बातें बताईं कि आसाम के अन्दर रिश्वेत बहुत हैं, लेकिन आसाम के रिसोर्सेस का उपयोग करके, आसाम के विकास की ओर जिस दृष्टि से, जिस तरीके से ध्यान देना चाहिए वह ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। आसाम के अन्दर 525 मिलियन टन कूड आयल होता है जिसका वास्तविक मूल्य 7 हजार करोड़ रुपये है। लेकिन 7 हजार करोड़ रुपये जो उसका वास्तविक मूल्य है उसका कुछ भी हिस्सा अगर व्यवस्थित तरीके से आसाम के विकास के लिये उपयोग किया गया होता तो आसाम के नौजवानों के अन्दर जो इतनी बेकारी है वह न होती। इससे अपने सांस्कृतिक मूल्यों के प्रति जो वह समझते हैं कि दान की स्थिति का निर्माण हुआ है, इससे उनके अन्दर एक असुरक्षा की जो स्थिति उत्पन्न हुई है वह शायद न

होती। इस समय आसाम की आबादी लगभग पौने दो करोड़ के आसपास है। लेकिन इस आबादी के अन्दर लगभग 30-35 लाख नौजवान लगभग पूर्णरूपेण बेकार हैं, पूरे तौर पर बेकार हैं। इन बेकार नौजवानों को काम दिलाने की दृष्टि से, सरकार किस तरीके से कदम उठाये, इसकी अगर सरकार ध्यान नहीं देती। सरकार का ध्यान केवल देश में किस तरीके से उन नौजवानों को काम दिया जाना चाहिये सरकार इसके लिये बहुत परेशान नहीं, उनको किस तरह से खत्म किया जाय, इस पर विचार कर रही है। इस पर ही मैं इसलिये इस शब्द का प्रयोग कर रहा हूं विचार कर रही है कि जिस तरीके से आसाम की समस्या को हिला-हवाली कर करके डालने की कोशिश की जा रही है वह इस बात को प्रकट करता है कि सरकार न तो आसाम के विकास के लिये गंभीर है न आसाम की समस्या की दृष्टि से कोई ढंग से विचार कर पा रही है। इसलिये माननीया, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि सरकार पहले विनियोग विधेयक लाने के पहले यह तो तय करे कि किस जनता के विकास के लिये हम यह सारा बजट बना रहे हैं उस जनता को हम व्यवस्थित रखने की दृष्टि से खाना कैसे दे पा रहे हैं, उनकी सुरक्षा की व्यवस्था कैसे कर पा रहे हैं, इस का तो ध्यान दें। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि प्रजातंत्र, लोकशाही की बात हम बहुत कहते हैं लगातार दो बार सरकारें गिरी इस पर बहुत चर्चा हो चुकी है इसलिये मैं ज्यादा चर्चा अब नहीं करना चाहता हूं। अल्पमत में वहां होते हुये भी उन्होंने सरकार बनाई वह भी इसलिये कि जो भी विदेशी घुसपैठिये थे चूक उसी मुद्दे को लेकर आसाम के नौजवानों ने शांतिपूर्ण आन्दोलन प्रारंभ किया उनको एक औपचारिक रूप प्रदान किया जाय और वे जो इसके खिलाफ आवाज उठाते हैं उनको जबरदस्ती

[श्री कलराज मिश्र:]

दबा कर के उनका मुंह बन्द कर दिया जाये, इसलिये सरकार गठित की गई यह जानते हुए भी कि हम अल्पमत की सरकार है। श्रीमती अनवरा तैमूर के नेतृत्व में जो विदेशी नागरिकों द्वारा चुने हुए प्रतिनिधि थे गठित की गई, वह भी गिर गई। दूसरी बार गठित की गई केशव गोगोई के नेतृत्व में वह भी चली गई लेकिन तकाजा तो यह था कि विरोध पक्ष की सरकार बनाने का अवसर प्रदान किया जाता लेकिन नहीं किया गया इसलिये मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस सारे घटनाक्रम के कारण यह जो भी औपचारिकता बरती जा रही है, आसाम के आम आदमी को महसूस होने लगा है कि सदन के द्वारा पास किया गया जो 1982-83 का बजट आया है वह उनके विकास की दृष्टि से तो कम होगा। उनको दबाने की दृष्टि से ही ज्यादा प्रयोग होगा। यह वहाँ का माहौल बन रहा है। अभी हमारे मित्र विद्युत के बारे में बात कर रहे थे। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि सामान्य रूप से औसत कंजम्पशन 128 किलोवाट का है पूरे देश भर में और उसमें आसाम के लोगों का कितना है केवल 15 किलोवाट। वे बेचारे इससे क्या करा पाएंगे। यानी इस दृष्टि से भी वहाँ विद्युत उत्पादन की दृष्टि से वे अवसर हैं लेकिन उसका उपयोग नहीं किया गया और उसका कारण यह है, कहां से मिनरल्स का लाभ उठा पाएंगे, कहां से फैक्ट्रीज को खोल पाएंगे, किस प्रकार से आसाम का अनेक माध्यमों से विकास कर सकेंगे। इसका सवाल ही खड़ा नहीं होता। अभी हमारे मित्र ने कहा, भले ही वे शासक दल के होंगे लेकिन उन्होंने कहा कि जो मूल मुद्दा है आसाम के विकास का उसके बारे में पहले सरकार को व्यवस्थित तौर पर विचार करना चाहिये, विचार कर के फिर आसाम की जनता के अन्दर

यह विश्वास पैदा करना चाहिये कि हम तुम्हारे हित की दृष्टि से, तुम्हारी रक्षा की दृष्टि से और तुम्हारे अन्दर एक विश्वास की दृष्टि से हम काम कर रहे हैं। अगर इस तरीके से सरकार करती है तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उसका लाभ होगा। यह नीयत मैं नहीं देख रहा हूँ इसलिये मैं इस एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल का विरोध करता हूँ।

SHRI SYED SHAHEDULLAH (West Bengal): Madam, Vice-Chairman, that we shall have to return to the Assam Budget and Appropriation is a matter of regret. Previous speakers have also said it. With dazing succession it almost appears like a puppet dance, what has been happening in all these areas, where the puppet master dictates. Anyway, so long we were exected to look to the puppet master only, but now it seems for the past six months, rather more than a year, that the puppets also can pull the strings and make the master dance, Mrs. Gandhi has been saying so long —just for instance I explain—that her partymen have been telling her this and that regarding West Bengal, the law and order failure, the voters' list, this and that. She does not depend on the CBI, she does not depend on the Governor, she does not depend on the RAW, but she depends on her puppets. What are they? The Supreme Court, this morning, has dashed to pieces the entire case regarding poll. And what is the character of these advisors of the puppet master? Ajit Panja was fumbling in his pocket to get out a telegram that he had denied receiving or Asoke Sen telling in one court that the name of Statesman editor has not appeared in the voters' list and keeping mum in another court. Of course, it is for the court to do anything about it, but it is almost a contempt of the court. Anyway, I am not going into this. What has happened? It has been proved that her partymen are a set of liars who lie even in the court. That is what has been proved, and one



does not know if this Budget has been advised in this same way as the hon. Prime Minister receives advice otherwise also in other cases. That is the fear, that is the apprehension, that I have when I am talking about this Appropriation Bill.

Madam, other Members have said, "Assam is a backward region." Backward in what? Backward in historical tradition? No, certainly not. If Kanpur can take pride, if Meerut can take pride, in having participated in the Sepoy Mutiny and in the First War of Independence, Assam can also do so. Far away in Assam, the flood of revolt arose. Is Assam backward in the literature? No, certainly not.

Assam, with all its want of resources, things in Assam, are also advancing. I was surprised to find in a book stall in the World Book Fair, translation in Assamese of Kosambi's History of India—it does not exist in Bengali, I do not know whether it exists in Hindi—published by Assam Government. Then what is the difficulty? The difficulty is the mischief that capital can create, and only capital can create. The entire Indian capital lists and monopolists are maintaining the backwardness of the North-Eastern region and the ruling classes accept the policy. Look at the map of India, the map given in the timetable. You will get a blank look in the North-East. Look at the road map circulated by the Surveyor-General. A blank look appears in the North-East, and so also about bridges and everything that go.

When we talk about communications also, we feel, somehow it is said, that this State has communication to Delhi from Digboi or Guhati. That is not the entire thing. That is a slender channel through which all this has to go. But if the entire community is interlinked and developed in the North-Eastern region itself, each part can feed the other, and the entire region can be enriched with resources developed. And they can develop on their own by mutual exchange and

other things. So, the whole of north-eastern region has to be attended to in all these aspects, to see that they develop with all their cultures, that they flourish—the Nagas, the Mizos, everybody. Now they all cry for finance and initiative and efficient administration. The people are misled by outsiders and foreigners. We have to protect the people from being misled. We have to see what the people want. Instead of such attempts what we find is the paper mills are being closed and the capitalists are diverting their capital from Assam. The little industries, the small industries, that are developed there, are being diverted, their capital is being diverted. Therefore, strict watch and vigilance has to be kept on how the capital is behaving in those places, and see how the industries can be developed. You must have an entire programme of helping industrial development, education and culture, the different individual cultures of all the tribal regions there. The other day it discussed about the autonomy of these regions. That problem also must be attended to.

With these words I would once again impress upon the Government the need for development of Assam and the entire north-eastern region in such a way that they can contribute to the progress of India and contribute to their own progress.

Thank you .

**श्री सदाशिव बागाईतकर (महाराष्ट्र) :**

महोदया, बहुत संक्षेप में मैं अपनी बात को रखूंगा। असम की आर्थिक स्थिति, असम की जो आर्थिक आवश्यकता है, उसके बारे में श्री बिपिन पाल दाम, गोस्वामी जी आदि मित्रों ने जो कहा, मैं समझता हूँ कि सरकार कम से कम बिपिन पाल दाम जी की बात का तो खयाल करें—वह आपके दिल के हैं, असम के नेता हैं—और भले ही उनसे हमारे मतभेद हों लेकिन यह एक रेयर आर्केजन है जब मैं, उन्होंने जो कुछ असम के बारे में कहा,

[श्री सदाशिव बागईतकर]

उसकी तेहदील से ताईद करता हूं। मुझे खद है वह अभी सदन में नहीं है, और मुझे उम्मीद है कि जो बातें उन्होंने सदन में कहीं उसके लिए, जब वे सदन के बाहर रहेंगे, तो जद्दोजिहद करते रहेंगे।

आखिरकार मामला, महोदया, यही है कि असम के साथ-साथ पूरा नार्थ ईस्ट का जो हमारा इलाका है उसकी प्रगति के बारे में उस के विकास के बारे में आज तक बहुत गलत ढंग से सोचा गया। यह माना गया कि जिम तरह कि योजनायें हम महाराष्ट्र या कर्णाटक जैसे राज्यों के लिए मुनासिब समझते हैं, उम्मी पैमाने पर हम असम जैसे पहाड़ी इलाके, जहां प्राकृतिक साधन बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में हैं, चाहे जंगल, वन विकास तथा सेरीकलचर, रेशम जैसे उद्योगों के लिए साधन हों, उन तमाम चीजों के लिए जहां बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर गुंजाइश हो, उसकी तरफ, मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा, कि सरकारें आज तक अनदेखी करती रही हैं और जो इंडस्ट्रीयल कंप्लेक्स की दृष्टि हम लोगों की रही उसी को हम असम पर थोपने की कोशिश करते हैं। यह दूसरी बात है कि असम में जो खनिज तेल हैं, प्राकृतिक गैस हैं, उसके लिए विस्तृत जगह चाहिये और उसी तरह के कारखाने वहां खोलने पड़े लेकिन असम के लोगों को रोजगार दिलाने के लिए अगर कोई यह समझे कि जिस तरह से बड़े पैमाने पर पूंजी लगा कर और जगहों में मिलें और कारखाने खड़े किये जाते हैं उसी पैटर्न पर असम के डेवलपमेंट को देखना है तो वह सही नहीं है, और मुझे ऐसा लग रहा है कि इस के बारे में

असम की जो भी सरकारें थी, बहुत कम सोचा गया और अब जब फैसला दिल्ली से ही होना है तो दिल्ली की तरफ से उस पर कोई दृष्टि है ही नहीं। इस तरह का संकट हम लोगों के सामने है। इसलिए जिस ढर्रे से आसाम की व्यवस्था चल रही है उसके किसी तरह चालू रखने के लिए हम कुछ प्राविजन्स कर रहे हैं। उसको चालू रखने के लिए हम कुछ पैसा दे रहे हैं। असम में कोई परिवर्तन की गुंजाइश इसमें नहीं है। आज आसाम की जो कल्चरल, सामाजिक और आर्थिक स्थिति है, हम लोग उसको अगर ठीक ढंग से नहीं आँकें, उसके पोटेंशल को न समझें तो मैं समझता हूँ कि आसाम के साथ बहुत भारी अन्याय होगा। मेरा कहना यह है कि आसाम का उपयोग हम पूरे देश के साथ इंटिग्रेट करने में कर सकते हैं। आसाम कंटेलिस्टिक बन सकता है पूरे देश को आर्थिक और सामाजिक जीवन से जोड़ने के लिए। देश के सांस्कृतिक और राष्ट्रीय जीवन को जोड़ने के लिए आसाम का अच्छा उपयोग हम कर सकते हैं। इसके बारे में अभी तक ठीक ढंग से सोचा नहीं गया। अगर यह करना है तो इसे करने के लिए आसाम का विकास किस रीति से होगा, आसाम की जो राजनीतिक सामाजिक व आर्थिक समस्याएँ, उनका जवाब हम किस तरह से देना चाहते हैं, यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हो जाता है।

महोदया, मैं यह समझूंगा कि इस चीजों के बारे में अगर हम ध्यान नहीं देंगे तो हो सकता है कि वहाँ के राजनीतिक पंचे अरम्भ के विदेशी नागरिकों का मामला होगा अन्य मामले हों, जैसी वहाँ राजनीतिक स्थिति उलझ गई है, उससे कुछ ऐग्रीमेंट भी हो जाए, तब भी आसाम की प्रगति की दिशा क्या होगा यह बात बड़ा महत्व रखती है। उसके बारे में हमको अपनी दृष्टि ठीक करनी है। इस लिए यह जो अप्रोप्रियेशन बिल लाया गया है, यह सिर्फ एक काम-चलाऊ चीज है। किसी तरह से वहाँ की ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन चलती आई

है। उसको चलाने के लिए जो पैसा सरकार माग रही है, यह मैं समझता हूँ कि न्यायोचित नहीं है। इसलिए असम की असली समस्याओं को, असम की आर्थिक, सामाजिक और अन्य समस्याओं को कुछ ठीक उपायों से सुलझाने के लिए कोई उपाय हमें तय नहीं आता है। इसके राजनीतिक हल के लिए हम लोग कई बार बोल चुके हैं। बल ही मैं इसके बारे में बोल चुका हूँ। लेकिन जो लोकतांत्रिक विरोधी है, वह कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं। इस तरह से असम के अधिकारों का हनन हो रहा है। न लोकसभा में उनके प्रतिनिधि हैं, न राज्य सभा में उनके प्रतिनिधि हैं। इन सारी बातों का बर्तान हो चुका है। मैं उस पर कुछ नहीं कहूँ। क्योंकि अब उस पर सरकार सोचेंगी। लेकिन कम से कम असम के विकास का काम किस तरह हो, इस बारे में सरकार को अपना दिमाग माफ़ रखना चाहिये। वह पिटे-पिटाये राम्मे से उसका विकास करने की जो वृत्ति है, उसके लिए आज सदन के सामने आई है, उसको मैं उचित नहीं समझता।

इसलिए, मैं इस अप्रोप्रियेशन बिल का विरोध करता हूँ।

अन्यवाद।

SHRI MAKHAN PAUL (West Bengal): Madam, Vice-Chairman, yesterday when I was supporting the Motion for the revocation of the Proclamation of President's rule in Assam I told the House that due to the step-motherly attitude of the Central Government, particularly with regard to the economic development of Assam, the State of Assam has been brought to this pitiable plight economically. Now I find that the allotment of money under different heads in Assam

Appropriation Bill, 1982, placed before us for consideration, has proved that my, yesterday's observation is cent per cent correct.

Madam, though it is too much to expect from such a Government, still I expected that the Central Government, when it has taken upon itself the responsibility of ruling the State of Assam, though undemocratically, would at least take a lesson from what has been happening in Assam and would at least come forward to allot sufficient sums of money particularly under three heads, namely, industry, agriculture and flood control—the three major problems of Assam. When we come to the items of allocation under different heads in the Bill, what do we find? We find that out of a total sum of Rs. 332,82,91,000, only Rs. 1,89,69,000 has been allotted under the head "Industry" and only Rs. 10,02,000 has been allotted under the head "Flood control" and only Rs. 15,63,000 under the head "Agriculture". On the contrary, Madam, you will be astonished to find, and we are also astonished to find, that a sum as big as Rs. 8 crores has been allotted under the head "Police". What does this mean? This only means that the Central Government very well knows that the toiling people of Assam do not and would not tolerate the imposition of undemocratic President's Rule there and that they will not lie low when they will face absolute starvation, when they suffer from the dangerous problem of unemployment. They will come out in the streets and raise the banner of revolt. So, the Government is preparing itself to face that eventuality and they know that at that time they will have to take recourse only to the 'Police Raj' and trample the people under their ugly autocratic feet. I, therefore, oppose the Appropriation Bill that has been placed before us and I give, as I have given yesterday, the note of warning to the ruling party at the Centre that it will not save them and I would ask them to rectify their attitude and

[Shri Makhan Paul]

read the writing on the wall and change their attitude before it becomes too late. Thank you, Madam.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA (Assam): Madam Vice-Chairman, the Finance Minister has placed before us a Rs. 90 crores deficit Budget for the State of Assam. This is not only a Rs. 90 crores deficit Budget, but it is also a poverty Budget for a State which has been in agony for the last three years. This provides the background to a Budget which clearly shows that it has got no perspective nor any analysis of the problems of the State. Of course, the honourable Finance Minister has not placed a detailed Budget before us nor made a detailed speech on the economic conditions of this State.

Now, Madam the Budget also indicates the frustration of the people. For long, during the British period, every book on Indian economic stated that India is a rich country inhabited by poor people and this is on account of the Colonial exploitation. Now, after 35 years of independence, we can say that Assam is a State very rich in natural resources, but inhabited by poor people, because of the continued internal colonial exploitation in that area. This internal colonial exploitation is the basic factor which has created all the economic and political problems. This agony of the people of Assam is due to the consequences of this internal political colonial exploitation and expansion. The present movement is also a protest against this particular phenomenon in the economic and social life of the people there.

Now, Madam, this kind of a colonial expansion and exploitation is threatening the very existence of not only Assam, but also the entire North-Eastern Region. Unless a remedy is found to rectify this situation, no amount of economic development can take place in that area. The honourable Member, Shri Bipinpal Das, made certain suggestions and referred to certain needs of development of this State. His speech

also establishes the very fact that there is a confrontation between the interests of the people of Assam on the one hand, and the selfish interests of bureaucratic rule and the colonial system operating in the country, on the other.

Now, we find in the Five Year Plans there has been a great insistence on what is called the 20-Point Programme, and the 20-Point Programme also includes a programme of population control. The movement that has been there in Assam for the last three years is also a movement for controlling the population in that part of the country. And to that extent, it is also implementing one part of the 20-Point Programme. I would like to remind the Finance Minister that if he really means business, if he has got any faith in the programme that has been announced by the Government, he should immediately stop the artificial growth of population in that area. The latest census also shows that while the average growth rate between 1971-81 in India is 24.38 per cent, in Assam it has become 36.3 per cent. That shows the very crisis in its economy. How can there be planning in that State with such a huge artificial increase of population? How can there be budgeting even? You cannot prepare a Budget for a State where the average population has been increasing artificially in a very huge number? Now, Madam, when the people resisted this trend of population, the Central Government reacted revengefully towards them and wanted to suppress them. As a result, we find that there are 640 days of President's rule since 12th December 1979, and in its course there was a minority government imposed under the leadership of Mrs. Anwara Taimur for 200 days and another minority government imposed under the leadership of Mr. Gogoi for 65 days. But the people have ultimately won the struggle. The functioning of a Government in Assam, without the solution of the basic problem of foreigners' infiltration is not possible. Political instability will continue. The previous Governor's Report also mentioned it

very firmly that without a solution of this problem no political stability can take place. And, finally, the Government has been compelled to dissolve the Assembly. I, for one, demanded dissolution of the Assembly even at the time of the very first declaration of President's rule in Assam, because that would have made the Government of India develop its will to solve the problem and not drag it on for three years. Now there is a time-limit of one year in which the Government of India must develop its will to solve the problem and only then you can think about either economic development or planned development for that particular State or about a meaningful budget.

Now, Madam, what has been done by the President's rule during all these three years. We had an autocratic rule, rule by bureaucrats, rule by the CRP forces, rule by the Army, killing as many as 69 persons, arresting as many as 20 lakhs of people and arresting about 2 lakhs of students. We find that several hundreds of people have been injured and maimed. People have been insulted everywhere. And one of the hon. Members has mentioned about the insulting treatment given to a lady teacher in one of these colleges there. It is the most inhuman treatment given by any Government. This way there have been confrontations between the people and the Government. The Government has ruled with guns and bullets and the people have been offering Satyagraha, without any arms. And ultimately, the Satyagraha has won and the Government has been forced to dissolve the Assembly.

Now, the responsibility is with the Central Government. May I also add that the Finance Minister's responsibility does not end after presenting this Budget. The present presidential rule in Assam is likely to continue for one year at least this time, there will be no scope for interference with the Governor from the M.L.As. or by Ministers behind the scene. So, the complete responsibility lies with the Finance Minister in Delhi. The Finance Minister,

Mr. Mukherjee, being from West Bengal was nearer to us. Although he has now shifted to Gujarat, yet, I hope he will be able to take a broader perspective, a broader view and a more objective view of the whole situation. When he will present the full budget before this House, I hope, he will take into consideration the right perspective for the development of Assam.

Madam, I will raise two or three points and then finish. As I have pointed out, the Budget does not indicate a perspective of development of that area. Although the Finance Minister has been pleased to state that Rs. 125 crores from Central taxes have been given to Assam, I would like to remind him that Assam's contribution to the central exchequer for the last 150 years has been continuously very big, but in return Assam has been exploited and its resources have been exploited, not for her benefit but for the benefit of London, Calcutta or Delhi. Now, the Government of India must compensate for the ill-treatment and neglect that has been shown to Assam during the last 100 years especially since independence. That is why, proper steps have to be taken by the Government in this regard. I would like to mention that recently the Assam Assembly Employment Review Committee went into the present conditions of unemployment in the State. Their report says that there are 18 lakh unemployed youths in the State at present. I would like to request the Finance Minister to prepare a complete and bold programme for providing employment of these 18 lakhs of youth in the State. In this regard, I would also like to mention about a Memorandum submitted by all the Members of Assam in Rajya Sabha to the Finance Minister very recently. We have not got his reply as yet. It points out a particular case of bureaucratic manipulations and how these manipulations take place to deprive the people of Assam of their legitimate benefit. (Time bell rings) There is a Banking Recruitment Board constituted by the Government of India. The

[Shri Ajit Kumar Sharma]  
Recruitment Board was started in Gauhati. But somehow some officers in the Finance Ministry issued a circular to the Calcutta office asking them not to allow the recruitment to be done by the Gauhati office. Now, we have already drawn the attention of the Finance Minister to this. I would like to have a reply from the Finance Minister on this point. He should tell us as to why and how it has happened.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA): Will you conclude now?

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: IN the Postal Department, a separate Postal and Telegraphs Circle was proposed several years back. It was almost decided. Then a lot of underhand manipulations took place in Delhi Calcutta. Now, attempts are made to frustrate the whole reorganisation scheme. I would like the Finance Minister to take interest in this case because this is again another matter related to the solution of the problem of unemployment there. This also concerns the satisfaction to the people of the State. About the development of railways and communications and other things already a mention has been made. I would like to stress upon and conclude by pointing out that the traditional attitude of looking at the problem of Assam and the North-Eastern region must change.

And it does not yield any results if you simply condemn the people there whenever they rise against the exploitation and the deprivation that have been there for the last so many ages. This Assam and the North Eastern region people cannot be called backward because in many respects they are forward. No doubt, these people are retarded. In spite of all the wealth, in spite of all the other good points, this area continue to be an economically retarded area, and this situation of retarded development has to be changed, and therefore the Government of India must take concrete measures to strengthen the economy of that region and also to start a new era, and I

hope the Finance Minister, during this coming year, when he will place the full Budget before this coming year, he will also come out with concrete proposals with proper perspective for the development of that State.

PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE (Nominated): Madam Vice-Chairman, several hon. Members on this floor have given a detailed account of the developments in Assam and they have also given suggestions as to in which areas the future development should be undertaken. And some of them have presented gloomy aspects of the State. But, unfortunately, none of them has mentioned about the excellent contribution of the Government of India towards the development of science and technology in Assam. The Government of India have set up the Regional Research Laboratory in Jorhat where experimentations are going on to mobilise natural resources, to study the natural resources including even how to improve the quality of tea and proper utilisation of these natural resources in future. Fortunately, I am associated with this Laboratory and I am an Expert of this Laboratory. And I have also given many suggestions for carrying out research in some areas having direct import on the needs of the State. They have developed the know-how for the production of various drugs, and they are also working on cement, etc. And I am sorry that none of the hon. Members here has mentioned about this on the floor of the House. So, Madam Vice-Chairman, I would like to bring to your kind attention, and also through you, I would like to inform the House that the Government of India have done a lot, have contributed a lot towards the development of the State. We the experts gave various suggestions for further improvement of the Laboratory. I have recently learnt that the Government of India has granted a few crores of rupees for the development of this Laboratory and the measures taken by the Government of India will help in the economic growth of the State and also the prosperity of the State providing employment avenues.

With these few words, Madam Vice-Chairman, I would like to conclude

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN [DR. (SHRI MATI) NAJMA HUSPTULLA]: Now, the hon. Minister to reply.

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: Madam Vice-Chairman, I am extremely thankful to all the hon. Members who have taken part in the discussion coming out of the consideration of the two important Bills connected with the State of Assam. I am specially thankful to my esteemed friend, Shri Bipinpal Das, who has given and projected a real picture of the State of Assam with his anxiety and concern for the development of that State; and he has given very, very valuable suggestions.

Madam, it will be very difficult for me in a very short time to reply in detail to the many suggestions and observations made by the hon. Members. I know very well that not only the State of Assam but also the whole North Eastern region has got a very important place, not only an important place but also a place of pride in the whole of the country economically, geographically, historically and politically. Therefore, keeping in view all this situation and the long and constant situation arising out of the agitation, it is a matter of concern and anxiety to the whole nation. I can assure the hon. Members that under the leadership of our Prime Minister every action and every necessary step will be taken and all possible help will be given, to resolve the deadlock, to come to some conclusion, to negotiate with all the persons and parties concerned, and to arrive at such a situation which will help in the development and progress of the State of Assam.

Madam, Vice-Chairman, the economic development of this region is certainly more important and a matter of concern to all of us and it is necessary that the people of Assam join the mainstream of the national activity and development. It will then have its effect on the separatist tendencies also. The Gov-

ernment of India from the beginning is laying emphasis on this.

So far as the other States are concerned, the Gadgil formula is applicable in regard to the allocations of plan assistance, but Assam and other North-Eastern States enjoy a special privilege. The *per capita* plan allocation has been higher in the case of Assam from the Third Plan onwards. It has always been higher as compared to the average of the other States which are governed by the Gadgil formula. During the Third Plan Assam's *per capita* allocation was Rs. 78 as compared to the States' average of Rs. 55. In the Sixth Plan the *per capita* of Rs. 78 has been increased to Rs. 565, while in respect of other States it has been increased from Rs. 55 to Rs. 258. This has been taken care of even in the next year's plan allocation and the Central assistance has increased by 40 per cent. Out of the total outlay of Rs. 238 crores, practically Rs. 225 crores are coming out of the various types of Central assistance. We have taken care of the problem of development to some extent but certainly it never means that everything has been done, which has to be done.

The negotiations, as I have earlier stated, are going on and I do hope that through the collective efforts and wisdom of all concerned, it will be possible to sort out and to come to some agreement acceptable to all concerned. I can assure the hon. Members that we do feel that it is necessary to improve the economic situation and that the various projects which are under active consideration need to be expedited, as far as possible. But everything would depend to what extent we get the co-operation of the people concerned.

There were some specific points raised by some hon. Members, specially by my friend, Shri Bipinpal Das. I would like to indicate the position regarding those points. One point was raised regarding the unemployment problem. Employment generation schemes have been given

[Shri Sawai Singh Sisodia]

crucial importance in the State's Sixth Five Year Plan. In addition to generating employment through the existing schemes, including special employment programme introduced in 1980-81 for the educated unemployed, the National Rural Employment Programme is being implemented. The outlay for 1981-82 for the national rural employment programme at Rs. 7.87 crores has been stepped up to Rs. 8.9 crores in 1982-83. Regarding BRPL, the task force has in the report identified areas of investment to fully utilise 30,000 metric tonnes of polyester fibre. The report is being processed. It may be added that selection of technology for the polyester fibre has been made and civil works have also been taken up.

The IDPL are proposing to set up a drug formulation unit in collaboration with Assam Industrial Development Corporation. Some difficulties have cropped up recently which are being looked into by IDPL in consultation with the State Government.

Mr. Raju wanted to know the position of Ashoka Paper Mills. Ashoka Paper Mills are having temporary difficulties mainly for want of liquidity and accumulation of stocks. The Unit has incurred losses of approximately Rs. 10 crores before depreciation and have stocks worth more than Rs. 2 crores. The mill's difficulties are already under State Government's consideration to make it viable.

The other point raised by Mr. Raju was regarding agricultural income tax. In Assam, agricultural income tax is primarily from the tea sector. Receipts have been projected lower next year compared to current year for two reasons, due to higher cost of production and also prices of tea during the last two years. Average price per kg. in Calcutta was Rs. 14.84 in 1980-81 compared to Rs.

14.71 this year. In London the price ranged 106. d in 1980-81 and in 1981 it was 102.4 d. Tax receipts have shown a decline in the revised estimates. The agricultural income receipts are accordingly placed at Rs. 14 crores as against original estimate of Rs. 24 crores. Government have also taken policy decision to give some relief in respect of higher tax rates to encourage higher production. This explains further fall in Assam of the receipts next year which are placed at Rs. 10 crores. Per capita State domestic product at current prices available for 1978-79 in the case of Assam is Rs. 994, this is higher than that of Bihar Rs. 759 and U.P. Rs. 896.

Regarding the number of districts declared industrially backward in Assam there are 10 districts and most of them have been declared industrially backward. The exact number of districts declared industrially backward is not readily available.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: The proposal was that all the districts of Assam should be declared as industrially backward.

SERI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: As I said the exact number is not available. Generally, most of the districts are declared industrially backward.

Regarding royalty on oil, I am sorry to say that my friends will not be happy to hear that we had increased the rate in April, 1981 from Rs. 42 to Rs. 61 per tonne and it would just not be possible to increase it further. A review takes place at an interval of every four years and then the royalty is determined. Next time, when the review will be undertaken, the new royalty rate will be effective from 1985.

SHRI BIPINLAL DAS: Fortunately the crude price does not following your law.



SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: It will be sometime at the end of 1984 or beginning of 1985, it will have to be undertaken at that time.

Madam, I have tried my level best to reply to the important points and suggestions raised by hon. Members in brief and I can assure the hon. Members that certainly the Government of India is concerned with all the problems of Assam and the other North Eastern region and appropriate remedies will be found out to create such a situation that will help in the economic development and improvement in the law and order situation of that area. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA): The discussion on the Budget (Assam) 1982-83 is concluded. I will first put the Assam Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1982, to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Assam for the services of a part of the financial year 1982-83, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA): We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: Sir, I move.

"That the Bill be returned."

*The question was proposed.*

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (बिहार) : उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदया अशोक पेपर मिल के

मुतालिक उन्होंने थोड़ा बहुत जवाब दिया है। लेकिन मैं इसकी थोड़ा और सफाई चाहता हूँ। इन्होंने कहा कि अशोक पेपर मिल असम और बिहार में इसकी यूनिट्स हैं। 60 करोड़ का वह मिल है बिहार और असम में। लेकिन अब उसकी हालत दिन ब दिन खराब होती जा रही है। मैंने जमेद खराब होता जा रहा है। मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि 10 करोड़ का लास चल रहा है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि 15 करोड़ का यह लास है। लेकिन यह सब नहीं बताया कि कौन से कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं इस परिस्थिति को सुधारने के लिए।

महोदया, असम की परिस्थिति जो बिगड़ी हुई है, और कारणों में बड़ा कारण यह है कि इकानामिक डेवलपमेंट इसका ठीक से हैंडल नहीं किया गया है। मैंने इस संबंध में प्रधान मंत्री जी को भी पत्र लिखा। उसकी कापी मंत्री महोदय को भी भेजी, फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर को भी भेजी है, इंडस्ट्री और प्लानिंग मिनिस्टर को भी भेजी है। प्रधान मंत्री को जो लिखा उसमें से मैं इतना ही पढ़कर सुनाना चाहता हूँ—

"Immediate provision for working capital to the extent of Rs. 5 crores by the holders of equity shares, i.e. the Governments of Bihar and Assam, and the financial institutions like IDBI and IFCI etc.

Reconstitution of the Board of management with persons drawn from the profession. The chairman or the managing director should be a man of eminence, wider acceptability and respectability.

Long-term measures: Appointment of a team of experts to examine various snags in the organisation which are proving bottlenecks to sustain production.

Detailed study with a view to making the two units functionally viable by removing infrastructural difficulties.

[ श्री शिवचन्द्र झा ]

Since the national interest demands it, this unit must be considered for nationalisation in the wider perspective of the conditions prevailing in the Indian economy"

6 P.M.

तीन हजार लोग, महोदया, अशोक पेपर मिल्स में आसाम और बिहार में काम करते हैं। इकानोमी के लिए उस की इतनी ग्रहमियत है, लेकिन सरकार ने, मंत्री महोदय ने साफ नहीं किया कि क्या खास कदम इस को जिन्दा करने के लिए उठाये जा रहे हैं। अभी भी यदि साफ नहीं करते हैं तो यह एप्रोप्रिएशन जः उठा रहे हैं इंडस्ट्री के हेड में भी वह भी हकीकत में ठीक नहीं है, एप्रोप्रिएट नहीं है चूँकि एप्रोप्रिएट नहीं है इस लिए मैं इसका विरोध करता हूँ। लेकिन यह बतायें कि अशोक पेपर मिल्स को जिन्दा करने के लिए क्या कर रहे हैं।

दूसरा मेरा कहना यह है कि जितने गार्डन टी प्लान्टेशन्स हैं उन को नेशनलाइज कर दिया जाय। फारेनर्स नहीं भी हैं। देशी हैं, लेकिन तत्ताजा है कि जितने टी प्लान्टेशन्स ये सब को नेशनलाइज कर दिया जाय। ये दो बातें मैं उठाना चाहता था।

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK: Madam, I rise to lay emphasis on the privileges of this esteemed House. This House is named as the Council of States and the Assemblies and the Councils in the periphery are the constituencies of the hon. Members who sit here. Therefore, when the hon. Governor functions in the periphery, they have to bear in mind that they are not only tackling the Assemblies and the Councils but they are also dealing with this House. They have no jurisdiction to knock down the electoral college for the Rajya Sabha elections. Therefore, I demand that whenever an occasion arises, either rightly or wrongly, wholly or partially to dissolve

the Assembly, the Governor can only keep the Assembly under suspended animation till and until this House meets or is summoned to meet to discuss and have deliberations about it so that the electoral college which is vital for voting purposes, can continue the process of elections. In this context, I demand that as in Kerala and Assam we could not hold the elections although the election process had already been stated, hereafter we should see that whenever an occasion arises, this House should be summoned—the hon. Vice-President happens to the Chairman of this House and the institution of the President includes Vice-President—so that this House can take stock of the situation and see how best to heal the wounds that are being inflicted time and again. In this context, I really express my agony that the hon. Governor absconded after giving time for an interview. (Interruptions) One point more. Once we have created a State, we should have a Governor. In the Eastern States, we have seen one Governor for two States and one for three States. All these States must have a Governor each so that the occasion for the Governor to remain in Shillong will not arise.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: Is he speaking on the Budget?

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK: Yes, this is on the Budget. Coming to the real point....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA): Was the other unreal?

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK: Not unreal, but this is the vital point which I came across in the Assam Budget and the Appropriation Bill

I am sorry that while presenting the Vote on Account Bill—it seems—the hon. Minister had no idea about the eastern sector and Assam, how that area is burning and is undergoing turmoil. I think the hon. Minister who is just smiling would give

support and more emphasis. In this context also... (Interruptions) I hope that Rs. 300 crores will be given to this State to see that the things are started. Therefore, let this be on record that the hon. Minister, will come forward with the real Budget which can develop that area. Thank you.

**SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA:** Madam, I have nothing to add except that I am very much thankful to both the hon. Members for their valuable suggestions.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय मैं इस का विरोध करता हूँ। अशोक श्री पेंपर मिल ने बारे में क्या कोई प्रोग्राम है या नहीं है चूँकि उस के बारे में नहीं बता रहे हैं इसलिए इस एप्रोप्रियेशन बिल के विरोध में मैं मदन से वाक आउट हूँ

(At this stage the hon. Member left the Chamber)

**THE VICE CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA):** The question is:

"That the Bill be returned."

*The motion was adopted.*

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA):** I shall now put the motion regarding consideration of the Assam Appropriation Bill, 1982, to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Assam for the services of the financial year 1981-82, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA):** We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

**SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA:** Madam, I move:

"That the Bill be returned."

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

# REFERENCE TO THE RANJI TROPHY MATCH PLAYED IN DELHI—Contd.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA):** Mr. Basavaraju has something to say. Just one minute. He is hurt, he says.

**SHRI M. BASAVARAJU:** Respected Madam, it was, after all, a match played by one State against another State. It was not a game played by a national team against an international team. Such being the case, there was no necessity to raise that subject here because I feel that that having been raised, the reputation of the Karnataka players has been offended whereas Karnataka produced many good players of international reputation. Therefore, I protest against its having been raised.

**SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Maharashtra):** Madam, I must submit that it is not correct. We take our hats off and we salute all the players who participated in this magnificent match. The entire House pays tributes to them and the magnificent match that has been played adds to the stature of cricket in this country

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA):** The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at nine minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 31st March 1982.