

बहराइच, सीतापुर, लखीमपुर, पीलीभीत में आजादी के बाद से आज तक एक इंच भी कोई रेलवे लाइन का न तो निर्माण किया गया है और न मीटर गेज लाइनों को ब्राडगेज में परिवर्तित किये जाने की व्यवस्था ही की गई है जबकि निरंतर इस क्षेत्र की जनता और जन प्रतिनिधि रेल सुविधाओं के बढ़ाए जाने और मीटरगेज रेलवे लाइन को ब्राडगेज रेलवे लाइन में बदलने की मांग करते रहे हैं। बहराइच से सीतापुर तक नई रेल लाइन बनाये जाने के सम्बन्ध में 1979-80 में सर्वे कराया गया और इसके निर्माण की लागत 25 करोड़ रु० आंकी गई थी। परन्तु इसके अतिरिक्त अभी तक कुछ नहीं हो सका जब कि हरदोई से सीतापुर तक सर्वे कराने की और आवश्यकता थी। यही नहीं पूर्वी भारत को पश्चिमी भारत से सीधे लाइन से जोड़ने के लिए सीतापुर-बुढ़वल मीटर गेज ब्रांच लाइन को ब्राड गेज लाइन में बदलने के लिए सर्वे कराया गया था और यह आश्वासन दिया गया था कि निकट भविष्य में इस लाइन के परिवर्तन का कार्य प्रारम्भ कर दिया जाएगा। इस लाइन के परिवर्तन से पूर्वी भारत से कलकत्ता, पटना, गोंडा, गोरखपुर से चलने वाली गाड़ियों को दिल्ली अथवा पश्चिम भारत के किसी क्षेत्र को जाने के लिये सुविधा मार्ग उपलब्ध होगा क्योंकि सीतापुर से शाहजहांपुर तक सीधी ब्राड गेज लाइन बनी है और बुढ़वल से सीतापुर तक मीटर गेज लाइन को ब्राड गेज लाइन में बदलने की जरूरत है। इस लाइन को न बदलने के कारण इस क्षेत्र की जनता में व्यापक क्षोभ है। सरकार की उदासीनता के कारण इस क्षेत्र में न तो नई रेल लाइन बनाई जा सकी है और न एक छोटी सी लाइन को ब्राड गेज में बदला जा सका है।

मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष से जो ऋण प्राप्त किया गया है और रेल व्यवस्था के बारे में जो खर्चा किया जाना है उससे कुछ अंश निकाल कर जनपद सीतापुर, बहराइच और हरदोई के लिए नई रेल लाइन की व्यवस्था की जावे तथा बुढ़वल से सीतापुर की मीटर गेज लाइन को ब्राड गेज में बदलने के लिए अविलम्ब व्यवस्था की जावे।

12.30 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:  
CONTINUANCE IN FORCE OF  
PROCLAMATION IN RESPECT  
OF STATE OF ASSAM,

ASSAM BUDGET, 1982-83—  
GENERAL DISCUSSION,

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(ASSAM), 1982-83

AND

STATUTORY RESOLUTION  
RE: NOTIFICATION UNDER ES-  
SENTIAL SERVICES MAIN-  
TENANCE (ASSAM) ACT.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Items 10, 11, 12 and 13 will be taken up together. Now the Statutory Resolution.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): What is the time allotted?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have started. Let us see.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Unless that is decided, those who speak earlier would be deprived of enough time. There are so many problems which we would like to

raise, to which Government should give serious consideration. Therefore, some time limit should be fixed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let us start now.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna): Is it four hours ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You all know it. It has been decided by the BAC. I am only announcing it.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): I beg to move the following Resolution :

“That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation, dated the 19th March, 1982, in respect of Assam, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from 19th September, 1982.”

As Hon. Members are aware, President's Rule was promulgated in the State of Assam with effect from 19th March 1982, on the recommendation of the Governor of the State and the State Legislative Assembly was dissolved. The Proclamation issued by the President under article 356(1) of the Constitution was approved by the Lok Sabha on the 27th March, 1982 and by the Rajya Sabha on the 29th March, 1982. The Proclamation is now in force up to September 18, 1982, on which date the six months' period stipulated in article 356(4) of the Constitution will expire.

There is no prospect of elections to the Legislative Assembly of Assam being held before September 18, 1982. The agitation on foreigners' issue is still continuing and discussions in the three rounds of combined meetings of representatives of Government, Leaders of Opposition in Parliament and AASU/AAGSP to find a satis-

factory solution have remained inconclusive. Efforts to find a satisfactory solution are continuing.

Hon. Members are aware that I am having informal talks with the leaders of various groups in Parliament for the purpose of making a new approach to the solution of this problem.

As the Parliament is not likely to be in session in the month of September, it has become necessary to obtain the approval of both the Houses of Parliament for extending the term of President's rule in Assam for a further period of six months from 19th September, 1982. The term of the President's Rule so extended will expire on 18th March, 1983. Necessary action for completing elections before this date is proposed to be taken at the appropriate time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Resolution moved:

“That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 19th March, 1982, in respect of Assam, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from 19th September, 1982.”

Now, Mr. N.K. Shejwalkar may move his amendment. He is absent. Mr. J.S. Patil may move his amendment. He is also absent.

We are discussing Demands for Grants also.

Motion moved:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth Column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Assam to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year



ending the 31st day of March, 1983, entered in the second column there-  
in respect of the heads of demands of against Demands No. 1 to 72.”

*Demands for Grants (Assam), 1982-83 submitted to the Voice of Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand on Account Voted by the House on 27-3-1982		Amount of Demand submitted to the Vote of the House	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
1	2	3		4	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1.	State Legislature	28,96,000	—	20,84,000	—
2.	Council of Ministers	11,50,000	—	1,00,000	—
3.	Administration of Justice	97,43,000	—	1,01,43,000	—
4.	Elections	2,49,91,000	—	2,49,92,000	—
5.	Taxes on Income & Expenditure	4,41,000	—	4,41,000	—
6.	Land Revenue and Land Ceiling	4,11,85,000	—	4,35,85,000	—
7.	Stamps	5,00,000	—	4,99,000	—
8.	Registration	15,54,000	—	15,53,000	—
9.	State Excise	39,70,000	—	42,33,000	—
10.	Sales Tax and Other Taxes	63,88,000	—	63,88,000	—
11.	Transport Services	1,78,66,000	49,25,000	1,15,02,000	1,27,90,000
12.	Electrical Inspectorate	3,72,000	—	3,71,000	—
13.	Small Savings	1,62,000	—	1,63,000	—
14.	Financial Inspection	1,37,000	—	1,38,000	—
15.	Civil Secretariat & Attached Offices	1,94,40,000	—	1,94,40,000	—
16.	District Administration	1,79,81,000	—	1,80,80,000	—
17.	Treasury & Accounts Administration	59,08,000	—	59,09,000	—
18.	Police	18,73,84,000	50,000	18,73,83,000	50,000
19.	Jails	86,68,000	—	86,68,000	—
20.	Stationery & Printing	73,07,000	—	77,07,000	—

1	2	3	4	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
21. Administrative and Functional Buildings	3,27,21,000	6,00,48,000	2,36,37,000	6,25,45,000
22. Fire Services	51,56,000	—	1,14,56,000	—
23. Vigilance & Special Commissions	6,58,000	—	6,58,000	—
24. Civil Defence and Home Guards	1,26,26,000	—	1,26,27,000	—
25. Guest Houses, Govt. Hostels, etc.	16,36,000	—	23,77,000	—
26. Administrative Training	3,69,000	—	3,68,000	—
27. Vital Statistics, etc.	5,10,000	—	5,10,000	—
28. Pensions & other Retirement Benefits	1,81,60,000	—	1,81,61,000	—
29. Aid Materials	1,22,00,000	—	1,22,00,000	—
30. State Lotteries and Others	24,48,000	—	25,48,000	—
31. Education	57,23,67,000	1,00,000	67,42,26,000	1,00,000
32. Art & Culture	52,28,000	—	47,68,000	—
33. State Archives	1,10,000	—	1,10,000	—
34. Medical & Public Health	25,62,89,000	70,25,000	26,37,88,000	70,25,000
35. Sanitation & Sewerage	6,50,000	2,00,000	12,50,000	2,00,000
36. Housing Schemes	1,26,72,000	19,31,000	1,14,74,000	31,30,000
37. Residential Buildings	1,21,79,000	2,21,43,000	1,21,80,000	3,17,50,000
38. Urban Development	55,75,000	55,45,000	55,75,000	55,45,000
39. Information & Publicity	33,75,000	—	33,75,000	—
40. Labour & Employment	1,39,84,000	—	1,39,83,000	—
41. Civil Supplies	66,61,000	—	66,62,000	—
42. Relief and Rehabilitation	48,000	—	47,000	—
43. Welfare of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes & others	2,50,28,000	5,00,000	3,59,77,000	5,00,000
44. Social Welfare	1,55,70,000	—	2,42,44,000	—
45. Prohibition	25,18,000	—	25,17,000	—



1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
46. Pensions to Freedom Fighters, Rajya Sainik Board, etc.	20,36,000	14,87,000	21,65,000
47. Natural Calamities	3,46,00,000	—	5,46,00,000
48. Social & Community Services	2,50,000	—	2,50,000
49. Planning Board	16,35,000	—	16,35,000
50. Cooperation	2,74,11,000	2,12,08,000	3,21,86,000
51. North Eastern Council Schemes	81,34,000	1,89,32,000	82,92,000
52. Statistics	59,18,000	—	71,82,000
53. Weights & Measures	18,32,000	—	18,32,000
54. Trade Adviser	3,44,000	—	3,44,000
55. Agriculture	19,73,50,000	—	20,27,66,000
56. Irrigation	2,43,96,000	13,04,38,000	2,43,97,000
57. Soil & Water Conservation	1,95,74,000	60,00,000	1,71,23,000
58. Animal Husbandry and Veterinary	4,44,91,000	—	4,54,51,000
59. Dairy Development	72,00,000	—	1,02,01,000
60. Fisheries	1,06,53,000	1,00,000	1,08,54,000
61. Forests	10,32,76,000	—	10,67,75,000
62. Community Development	4,18,42,000	—	4,18,42,000
63. Industries	21,70,000	2,64,73,000	21,71,000
64. Sericulture & Weaving	2,32,33,000	1,22,000	2,27,53,000
65. Cottage Industries	1,09,44,000	61,30,000	1,42,09,000
66. Mines, Minerals and Power	45,23,000	29,00,00,000	45,22,000
67. Flood Control	4,35,05,000	6,50,00,000	4,35,05,000
68. Roads & Bridges	13,71,33,000	11,95,00,000	14,62,17,000
69. Tourism	18,38,000	—	18,38,000
70. Payment of Compensation and Assignment to Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions	1,96,35,000	—	1,96,35,000
71. Assam Capital Construction	—	20,63,000	—
72. Loans & Advances to Government Servants	—	3,12,50,000	—

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution:

“That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 2 of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980 (41 of 1980), as amended by the Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981 (40 of 1981), this House approves the issue of the notification of the Government of Assam, Political (A) Department No. P.L.A. 906/82/3, dated the 5th May, 1982, declaring the following services to be essential services within the State of Assam for the purposes of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980:—

- (i) All services in any undertaking or establishment owned or controlled by the State Government for storage, supply and distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities.
- (ii) All services in any undertaking or establishment owned or controlled by the State Government for storage, supply and distribution of agricultural inputs and machinery.
- (iii) All services in any undertaking or establishment owned or controlled by State Government for publication, production and distribution of text books.
- (iv) All services in any undertaking or establishment owned or controlled by the State Government for storage supply and distribution of seeds for agricultural operation.”

Sir, as the Hon. House knows, the All Assam Students Union and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad who have been spearheading the Assam agitation on the foreigners' issue, had been giving calls, from time to time, for Assam Bandh and non-cooperation of Government and semi-Government, public corporation em-

ployees and employees of various statutory Boards and Corporations. These calls led to serious disruption of public life, working of public/Government offices and caused grave hardship to the community.

The AASU/AAGSP gave a call for 24-hours Assam Bandh on 6-5-1982. The services connected with storage, supply, distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities, agricultural inputs and machinery, publication and production of books for the student community and seeds for agricultural operations were not essential services under the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980, as on 5th May, 1982. As these services had been affected by Bandhs on previous occasions, it was apprehended by the State Government that there was every likelihood of these services being affected in the context of the call for Assam Bandh on 6-5-82. The State Government was of the opinion that the strikes in the aforesaid services would prejudicially affect maintenance of supplies and services necessary for the life of the community and would result in infliction of grave hardship to the community. They, therefore, declared these services as essential services within the State of Assam in exercise of powers under sub-clause (v) of clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980, as amended by the Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981. The State Government also issued an order on the 5th May, 1982, prohibiting strikes in the essential services so notified.

Sir, I commend that the Resolution approving the issue of the Notification by the Government of Assam be passed by this Hon. House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
Motion moved:

“That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 2 of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam)



Act, 1980 (41 of 1980), as amended by the Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981 (40 of 1981), this House approves the issue of the notification of the Government of Assam, Political (A) Department No. PLA-906/82/3, dated the 5th May, 1982, declaring the following services to be essential services within the State of Assam for the purposes of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980:—

- (i) All services in any undertaking or establishment owned or controlled by the State Government for storage, supply and distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities.
- (ii) All services in any undertaking or establishment owned or controlled by the State Government for storage, supply and distribution of agricultural inputs and machinery.
- (iii) All services in any undertaking or establishment owned or controlled by the State Government for publication, production and distribution of text books.
- (iv) All services in any undertaking or establishment owned or controlled by the State Government for storage, supply and distribution of seeds for agricultural operation."

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** (Howrah): This extension of the Governor's rule is now inevitable because there is no other alternative. That is why I do not oppose this Motion. But I totally oppose the Motion moved by Shri Laskar. This is against the very fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution. We bitterly opposed Essential Services Maintenance Act because our entire outlook is totally different. It is not the question of democracy only. The danger is more for its

mis-use, because the right to organise, the right to protest, the right to criticise, all these are guaranteed in our Constitution. This Act is totally a violation of all those fundamental rights which are guaranteed. It is our bitter experience, day by day those rights are being taken away and bureaucracy is being equipped with exceptional powers. This is a part of the general tendency towards authoritarianism. This is not an isolated thing in the context of Assam. In Assam, the problem is to fight the secessionists. Your policy is not to fight politically. You want to fight with the administrative measures, bureaucratically. That is why they are getting favourable situation to mobilise the people against you. The essential need is to fight politically. We told this repeatedly. I told the Prime Minister, 'If you are genuinely against secessionists, the people of Assam are not for secessionists but they have grievances. They have fears. Those grievances ought to be satisfied. Their fears are to be removed. The entire outlook of national integration should be placed before them so that they can feel confident with their culture, identity. Their economic, basic problems will be solved within this frame work of India as a whole.'

Our country is a multi-national country. This term you do not accept. According to us this country, India with so many developed Nationalities is an exception. So many developed nationalities inhabit in India. Soviet Union and China are also multi-national countries. In China 96% of the population speak one language—i.e. Han language. The other nationalities are very small. That is different from India also. In Soviet Union also there are so many nationalities. They have their different cultures. I asked the Soviet delegation. They admitted that everybody can speak and understand Russian language. There the developed nationalities are given full right of secession. Here we are



[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

not given that right of secession, but right to autonomy is a genuine and a democratic demand for all linguistic nationalities and those who are small nationalities or ethnic groups, they must be given full guarantee for the development of their own language, culture, etc. But these things are not coming from you. We want that India should remain united. You are giving a simple slogan "no succession" on which you and we are united. But your approach is totally different. That is why I say your method is the method of suppression. You are giving more and more powers to the bureaucratic authorities. We know all these powers are misused—not to suppress the secessionists, but this authority is used to throw away the minorities. The administration in Assam is in league with the secessionist movement. That is openly admitted. I have innumerable facts and I want to place some of the glaring facts as to how the present authority in Assam is hand in glove and how the minorities are being thrown away in Assam in the name of deporting the foreigners.

Now, I want that the Minister should give serious consideration to the problems which we are facing in Assam. Now, you have committed to the elections. But there is no preparation. You are creating no atmosphere so that elections can take place in a democratic atmosphere. So, there is no appointment of Chief Electoral Officer. There is no step taken how the voters' list can be prepared and on what basis? You are now waiting on the fence. Those agitators have only one stand—the programme of continuing the agitation. But what is the state of conditions in the agitation? Agitation is, day by day, losing the mass support. There is no denying of this. But people have sympathy for them though they are not active participants in the agitation. But as the agitators are also the secessionists; they are going against the basic in-

terest of the country. This exposure is not carried to the masses. Only a sober section is now realising this and it is now dissociating from the agitation. But that is not enough.

Now, a section of the agitation—I do not know whether they are the dominating section—has already raised the question unless the foreigners' question is settled, we do not allow any election to take place here. Now, you have to tackle these questions.

Another section inside those agitators, is thinking of taking part in the elections and the other political parties are also interested in elections and they all want that an atmosphere should be created so that these political parties can come before the masses and place their points of views—who is right, who is wrong—and all these issues are properly allowed to be placed before the people. Then, the people will judge and an atmosphere will change and the preparation for the elections can continue in that atmosphere.

Now, I saw in the Press that another negotiation is going to take place. The Press report in the *Indian Express* says that most probably in August, active efforts towards a negotiated settlement of the Assam problem resume next week with a 5-Member delegation led by the AASU President, Mohanty. This is August 1st news, meeting with leaders of the Opposition prior to the forthcoming round of tripartite talks. The tripartite talks are now expected to be resumed and they are going to meet in August. It is expected that the Union Home Minister too will call a meeting of Opposition Leaders around August 10 for preliminary talks before the agitators come to Delhi, the report says.

I do not know, you will reply about the real position. But the question is, we have told repeatedly. Now, there is no basis for settlement. As far as the positions taken by both the sides



are concerned, there is no basis for settlement. But so many factors are now working.

Another report I have got. This is also the same news. One Minister of the Timur Cabinet, Ghulam Usmani says :

“The Government has already accepted the agitators’ demand for treating 1961 as the cut-off year, and for the agitators, any one, who is not integrated in their struggle, is a foreign national.”

This type of news creates confusion and the minorities are very much afraid. The Government is giving no contradiction, nothing of the sort.

Another information that I have got is that already the Governor is also working out some formula, accepting the basis of 1967 as the basis for electoral rolls. All these informations are sent by our people there. They have collected these informations that this is on the move. Everybody is now thinking that the election is coming though formally the Government is not proceeding to prepare for the election. But the political parties are saying that there is no alternative than to go to elections unless the Constitution is changed, because the President’s rule cannot continue for more than one year. That is the present constitutional position. How the election will take place without resolving the impasse which has already created a deadlock. This is a serious thing to be thought of.

We want that the Government should take a firm stand now. If you drift, if you delay, it will cause more harm and give an initiative to those agitators and those people who are vacillating. They will be influenced by those sections. That is why, I say, there should be no further delay to take these steps on the basis of the commitment already made by the

Government to proceed on the basis that 25th March, 1971 should be the cut-off date and year.

So far as the reports I have got are concerned, the Assam Government has been asked to expedite the finding out of foreigners, detecting foreigners and to deport all the foreigners on that basis. Now, in the name of checking up foreigners and deporting them, they are throwing out genuine citizens who have come earlier from amongst the minorities. A large number of cases are with me. I have sent some cases to the Hon. Minister also. I have got all these reports. This has assumed a very serious feature now. That is why an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty in the minds of minorities is now very much dominant. This aspect should be seriously considered.

What are the other features? When the agitation is losing its mass basis, the persons who are interested not to have any settlement want the situation of destabilisation in the whole of the north-eastern zone and they are now frantically trying to divert the movement to extremist line. That is why they are more and more dependent on arms. You might have seen in one of the recent incidents that 21 persons died in a bomb blast and this powerful bomb was placed in a busy market place. Unfortunately, among those who died, five of our Youth Federation boys died in that blast.

The report says:

“The agitation started in Gauhati on June, 6. A bomb was placed in a busy market place and in the explosion 21 people were killed and 18 injured. Among them were five Democratic Youth Federation of India comrades. Madhu Das (22) Gopal Das (19), Pralin Das (23), Rona Das (16), Pramod Das (23) and four more were seriously wounded; they were working people mainly fishermen and some families were even too poor to pay for the funeral expenses.”



[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

So, this is one of the methods to terrorise the people by these armed actions.

I have got another report. Another attempt was also made. This is dated 15-7-1982:

“Last night there has been an attempt to derail the Kamrup Express.”

Though the attempts were not successful, these attempts were there.

You might have seen that these armed terrorist actions have further increased in Tripura. Some of our people have very recently been murdered, those leaders who have been elected in Zilla Parishad elections are also murdered. TUJS are openly threatening. They are murdering their own community people. Those who have been murdered are of Tripuri nationalities. They are saying that any of Tripuri nationality who is the supporter of the Left or Communists, should be killed. An atmosphere of terror should be maintained here. And the slogan for independent Tripura is again raised by them. The MNF and other Army squads have again increased their armed activities in Mizoram, Manipur and in other regions. There is a link and we have repeatedly told that there are foreign interests, particularly hands of American Intelligence, CIA, are very active there. But, repeatedly we asked you “You concretely find out who are those agents”. But, there is great resistance on the part of the Government of India to name them. We know where your interests are working!

But at least you should keep in mind that they want no settlement, no peaceful atmosphere in the entire region because they want to keep alive this tension and this conflict between various sections, particularly within these ethnic groups, so that their intervention is helped.

We have already told that Churches have taken active role in the name of defending Christianity and religion and anti-Communist poses. They have issued Circulars also. I am mentioning one Circular. “Catholic Mission: Salana Naugam: Assam: 782139: Paris letter for Catholic Communities”. It is a long letter. We have printed it in our Party’s “Organ”. I am simply quoting a few lines:

“Every year, the Mission celebrates its annual congregation.”

Regarding this annual congregation, they have issued the Circular.

The second point is:

“Today we want to give you a special advice. The prime enemy of Catholic Church is Communism. That is why, Christian priests are put in jails in those countries and are killed.”

These are the stories they spread among their followers. They want to abolish religion etc.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:  
Poland.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:  
In Poland, you are defending them.  
Don’t defend them.

The Communist people are trying only to win them over to their side. These are only the tribal workers, who are Christians, who are joining our unions. They are now very much afraid that the workers are joining our unions. So, this Circular is:

“The Communists help people at times only to win them over to their side. No Catholic ever, even by mistake, join the unions led by CPI or CPM, Communists fundamentally opposed to religion. They will not tell this fact to the ignorant masses.”



Your Party and Planters have these common interests to fight the Left forces and our Unions, and that is why this Church, planters as well as the INTUC friends, all combine against us.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Kerala ?

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Don't divert the subject. You just listen. I am talking about a serious situation. You may get some satisfaction by raising Kerala, West Bengal and all these things.

These combinations, if you do not see, you will never be able to bring any settlement in Assam.

I have drawn the attention of the Prime Minister to these combinations several times and said that to prevent these combinations you must control your own people, who should not join hands with the planters and with the foreign Churches.

13.00 hrs.

The foreign churches played a big role here, in the north-eastern region. In Tripura, the role of the Baptist Mission has been thoroughly exposed. Now I have got the report here that the Hills Leaders' Forum has been revived because the election is coming. It is led by Mr. A.S. Nicholas Roy. He is known as an American agent, as a C.I.A. agent. This forum has now been revived. These combinations are now coming to the open in the face of the coming election. So, the forces of destabilisation are very active, and attempt is going on to unite all those forces of Assam, Manipur, Mizoram etc. all these seven States. They have revived their earlier organization, NERSU, the North-Eastern Region Students' Union. They are combined with armed gangs. These are now being revived.

Another aspect which you should take note of is this. Because the elec-

tion is coming, large scale evictions and deportations have started. This is not being done very recently ; this has been going on since long. I have repeatedly drawn the attention of the Government of India to this. Now I shall read out a letter written to me by our present Rashtrapatiiji who wrote it as Minister of Home Affairs on 31st July, 1981:

"Dear Shri Mukherjee,

Please refer to your letter No. SM/82/F-1/80 dated 9th February, 1980 addressed to Prime Minister regarding alleged wrongful deportation of a 15 Member family of Malkatagaon, Sibsagar District (Assam).

According to the Government of Assam, the action of the Superintendent of Police in issuing 'quit India notice' on Shri Makhani Dhar and others and subsequently carrying out their deportation was in violation of the instructions of the Government. The S. P. concerned has since expired and the DIG in charge of border has since been dismissed from service. Instructions have been issued by the Government of Assam to police not to issue quit India notice on persons who crossed over to India prior to 25th March, 1971 and also to withdraw notice/cases from the Foreigners Tribunals, if any issued/referred to earlier in respect of such class of persons. I am sorry for my inability to reply to your letter earlier for want of reply from the State Government."

This is the state of affairs. One example, I am giving. People have been forcefully deported knowing full well that they are Indian citizens, not foreigners. And this is continuing. I have sent some cases to Mr. Venkataraman and he has also given some replies. But very serious developments are taking place. I will give some examples.

Murder of Muslim minority workers.



[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

This is the reply given by Mr. Venkataraman. This is of 4th July.

“Dear Shri Mukherjee,

Please refer to your demi-official letter No. SM/524/F-9/82 dated 12th April, 1982 regarding alleged attack on labourers belonging to the Muslim community resulting in the death of three persons and injuries to two more.

2. I have had the matter enquired into. According to the Government of Assam, five Muslim labourers were hired as sawmen by one Shri Golok Sarma of village Kathanidhupa. Kalaigaon P.S. Some other villagers had also requested them to work for them as hired men and on their refusal to do so they were reportedly threatened with dire consequences. This matter had, however, not been reported to the police. Subsequently the labourers were assaulted on 6th April, 1982 by about twenty persons who were reportedly wearing caps and coloured goggles to conceal their identity. As a result three of the labourers died and the other two received injuries. A case was registered under Kalaigaon P.S. under No. 27(4) (82 US 147/148/149/302/153(A) I.P.C. Twenty two of the twenty five alleged assailants including the main accused have since been arrested. The situation is under close watch. The State Government have granted an ex-gratia grant of Rs. 5,000/- each to the next of the kin of each deceased and Rs. 2,000/- each to the two injured persons.”

This is not an isolated case. These things are happening. Earlier one of our trade unionists was murdered in the Police lock-up. That case I sent to the Prime Minister and also to Mr. Zail Singh. I got a reply and that is also interesting. This is about Sri Kailash Kharmokar. I am reading only the reply given by Mr. Zail Singh on November 23 :

“Please refer to your letters dated 4th, 19th and 15th October, 1981

addressed to me and letters dated . . . . . addressed to the Prime Minister on the alleged murder of Shri Kailash Kharmokar in the lock-up of Titavar Police Station, Sibsagar Distt. of Assam. I have had the matter enquired into.

According to the Government of Assam the late Mr. Kharmokar was arrested in connection with case No. 23/9/81 under Sec., 558 and 380 IPC by Titavar Police Station on 1st. October, 1981. The same night he died while in the police lock-up. The post-mortem report of the Medical and Health Officer, Jorhat Civil Hospital brought out the fact that the death was due to asphyxia. The Deputy Commissioner, Sibsagar Districted ordered a magisterial inquiry. The inquiring Magistrate came to the conclusion that Shri Kharmokar was beaten.”

So he was beaten to death. This is what the Magistrate has observed. On the basis of the Magistrate's report a case has been registered.

Apart from this, now evictions have started on a big scale and this is also a continuing process and now it is further intensified. I am given a large number of cases and I have forwarded all these cases earlier. Within a month of the imposition of the President's Rule in June-July, 1981 following the resignation of the first minority Government of the Congress, about 60 Scheduled Caste tenants with recorded occupancy rights of their land since 1949-50 were unlawfully and arbitrarily evicted as encroachers from Panikhaiti village near Gauhati. So they have got the documents to show that they are Indian citizens and they have the title deeds for this land and I have also brought a copy. The original copy of the document is with me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Mukherjee, how much time do you require ?



SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:  
Another 10 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Grant-  
ed.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:  
So, about 60 scheduled caste tenants with recorded occupancy rights on their lands since 1949-50 were unlawfully and arbitrarily evicted as encroachers from Panikhaiti Village, near Gauhati. Now these families, Mr. Venkataraman, are still living under trees. Repeatedly, I have represented that they are poor labourers and have got their titles of ownership of the lands. Long before these documents have been shown and the Taimur Ministry accepted that they are not foreigners. But, the local administration did not allow reoccupation of their land. This case is still pending. You should intervene in these matters so that they get back their due lands. The documents are with them.

“Landless agriculturists including poorest sections of Bodo, Tripuri, Reang etc. tribals have been evicted from lands killed by them for over two decades in Forest Reserve areas of Darrang, Cachar and Karbi Anglong districts without providing them with alternative land and shelter in the rainy season.

“The Sub-divisional and Forest authorities in Karimganj Sub-division raided and ransacked and later burnt down over three hundred fifty houses and huts of landless cultivators tilling plain lands within Forest Reserve areas since 1962. The S.D.O., Karimganj and Divisional Forest Officer, Karimganj not only went with armed police but even took hired hoodlums for carrying out eviction operations”.

I have brought these to your notice through several representations. I quote:

“Several social and political workers including a former M.L.A. of the Congress (I) who was also a Deputy Minister in the second minority Government of the Congress (I), Prof. Fakhrul Islam, Chairman, Assam State Madrassah Board, and Mr. Abdul Khalique Taluqdar, Advocate, and a Gaon Panchayat President were arbitrarily arrested and unlawfully detained in Police Custody for championing the cause of the evicted cultivators. Among the large number of poor cultivator families thus evicted are those belonging to religio-linguistic, linguistic etc. minorities and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Tripuri Reang etc.)”

I have no time except to quote their pathetic descriptions. They have been detained and tortured. I further quote:

“Similarly, very large number of families belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, linguistic, religio-linguistic and ethnic minorities have been evicted from different districts even during the rainy season. (Evictions were never done during the rainy season in Assam in the past). Worst affected districts in this respect are Kamrup, Darrang, Lakhimpur and Goalpara”.

They are staying in the railway land. They are all old refugees. They are minorities who have come immediately after partition. The Govt. of India did not take the responsibility of rehabilitating these people in some vacant lands of the railways. So long, they were living there. The Railway authorities last year started evicting them. They have made representations. I have also given representation. At that time, the railway authorities took the humane attitude and told them “All right. We were willing to give this land for rehabilitation. But, the money should be given by the State Government”.



[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

Since they are not in a position to pay the money for the land, so I wrote to the Governor. He has given the most bureaucratic reply. Because they are encroachers, if the Government give them money for settlement, it will only encourage the encroachers. This is a most bureaucratic approach. Against this there were protests. Even Mrs. Anwara Taimur protested and all Opposition Leaders protested against this. Now, the eviction has been suspended. So, this also has to be settled because there are 3,500 families. I have been informed of some recent inhuman incidents and I quote:

“While the Government of India reiterates that there is no question of deporting pre-1971 migrants from erstwhile East Pakistan and that the “modalities” for detection of post-1971 entrants from Bangladesh remain to be decided, the Police and the concerned authorities in Assam under the President’s rule continue to pursue with impunity their lawless policy of arbitrarily deporting Indian citizens and pre-1971 refugees from East Pakistan.

Recently the Police of the Karbi Anglong district forcibly deported twenty-two persons including a Scheduled Caste family of six from Mayabazar and Manja Tinali under Dhansiri P.S. Eight of them are refugees from erstwhile East Pakistan who took shelter in India in 1964. They produced evidence of their entry in India in 1964 as refugees and six of them belong to a family with a Tea Stall licence since 1968 and enrolled in electoral rolls since 1971. Five others belong to the family of an employee of the N.F. Railway who died in 1961. All the remaining others came from the neighbouring State of Tripura and furnished evidence in support of their claim.

The manner in which all these families were forcibly deported in reminiscent of the Nazi Gestape midnight knock directed against the Jews in Hitler’s Germany.

On July 1, 1982 at about 8-00 P.M. the Police O.C. of Diphu with 8 armed policemen, two plain-clothesmen and the S.I. of Dhansiri went near the residences of the five families and asked them to board the police van without any loss of time. They were also told that they would have to leave Assam immediately.

All these persons including a three-month-old infant had to carry out the Police instruction and leave their houses, shops etc. unprotected.

They were brought to Diphu, the headquarters of the Karbi Anglong district, and kept in the police lock-up for the night. No food was provided. Next day they were taken to Lumding Railway Station by train and kept there in the custody of the GRP on 3rd July at about 8-00 p.m. they were taken to Badarpur Railway Station by train and from there they were moved to Karimganj on 4th July. Then they were taken to Mahisashan Border Checkpost by bus at about mid-day. About 8-00 p. m. they were handed over to the BSF for deportation to Bangladesh. They were asked to proceed on foot. When they had started to move and walked a little distance some people in police uniform attacked them, carried away cash and valuables and even criminally assaulted the 14 year old minor daughter of Mr. Kanu Rishi, an Indian citizen belonging to the Scheduled Caste community residing in Manja Tinali, Karbi Anglong District.

The following is the list of persons arbitrarily deported by the Assam Police:

1. Shri Kanu Rishi and five other members of his family including



- a fourteen-year-old daughter and a three-month old infant.
7. Sh. Jyotirmoy )1964 migrants  
Dey )from E. Pakis-
  8. Sh. Ranjit Dey )tan.
  9. Sh. Arun Das )Tea Stall Li-
  10. Sh. Ajit Das )cence since  
)1968.
  11. Smt. Geeta Das)Names appear-  
ing in Electrolal
  12. Sh. Babul Das )rolls of 1971.
  13. Sh. Babli Das
  14. Sh. Mona Das
  15. Sh. Sanjit Dey and four other  
members of the family of a de-  
ceased Railway employee.
  20. Sh. Satish )All Indian  
Majumdar )Nationals from
  21. Smt. Subula )Tripura.  
Majumdar )
  22. Sh. Swapan )  
Majumdar )

Then discrimination against linguistic, ethnic and other minorities.

Then, I quote regarding discrimination against linguistic ethnic and other Minorities:

“Cases of discrimination against linguistic, religio-linguistic and ethnic minorities in employment, allotment of contracts, permits, licences etc. have been reported from various parts of Assam. Apart from some departments and undertakings of the State Government, even such prestigious and worthy public sector undertakings like the Oil India Ltd., are allegedly following such discriminatory policy.

A complaint has been lodged with the Assam Government by some Indian citizens of Nepali stock (all born and brought up in Assam where their parents have been residing or serving for decades) that they have been denied employment as unskilled workmen in the Oil India Ltd. although they appeared for an interview in the last part of January 1982 and included in the selection list for appointment. All these

young candidates were not only born in India but received education as well as from the primary level inside Assam and even furnished their certificates of Birth, school certificate and permanent residence certificate. They were also asked to fill up a five-page ‘attestation’ form which also was complied. Still they have not been appointed on the plea that their citizenship status remained to be verified. Among the Nepali speaking candidates thus discriminated are:

- (1) Dil Bahadur Joisy ; (2) Krishna Raj Giri ; (3) Hom Bahadur Konwar ; (4) Dhan Bahadur Sonar ; (5) Krishna Bahadur Chetry ; (6) Purna Bahadur Chetry and (7) Lok Bahadur Sonar”.

This is a complaint which I also brought against the Management of the Fertilizer Factory at Namrup. The officers are in league with the agitators and they are preventing the genuine union leaders to work there and they are encouraging all the secessionists. The wife of one Shri Shambunath Saha, Barapeta, has written to me. Her husband has been deported. The Inspector of Police (Border) Mr. Kamala Sharma ‘got hold of my husband who has citizenship certificate’—this is what she has written. That man has been forcefully removed and deported to Bangladesh. No trace is even there. Though the SDO of Siliguri has written to the Assam Government that this man is a ‘Citizen of India’ and not a foreigner this is the letter of his wife. So, these things are happening. That is why, if the situation remains as it is, how can election take place in normal condition, normal atmosphere ? Government of India must take note of this. They should seek Cooperation of all antiseccessionist and democratic, progressive forces ; they should create necessary atmosphere for holding of elections. There is a serious complaint against this administration that whenever any



[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

mass organisation from our side or our party wants to hold a meeting, such permissions are not given. But others are always given permissions. They are allowed to hold their meetings. I wrote to the Prime Minister once. She has given me a reply. I quote:

“Dear Shri Samar Mukherjee;

I have received your letter of June 10, and Dr. Anil Bharali's complaint about the nongrant of permission to the Democratic Youth Federation of India, Dibrugarh to observe 'Anti Unemployment and Anti-Imperialist Day'. The Adviser to the Governor of Assam is being asked to look into the complaint.”

Adviser was asked, but no result ! Government of India should not drift. This type of attack against minorities in the name of 'detection and deportation' must forthwith stop. Minorities should feel secure. Govt. must give full guarantee that this type of attack will not be tolerated. You should also fight politically these secessionist and disruptionist forces. We are not opposed to any negotiations. But we feel there is no basis for changing the cut off period of 1971. If you change it will not be helpful in solutions but it will create further crisis and the entire minority will go against it. That is why, I am opposing this Resolution brought forward by Mr. Laskar against the ESMA. The extension of Governor's rule is inevitable, but the Government should not drift and they should come forward with a positive policy so that election process could start from now on. There are doubts that some attempts are going on for some unholy combination of your party also. This, I must mention to you because we have bitter experience of Assam and about Kerala and all the communal forces, disruptive forces are now very active. I will read out certain

portions of what has been said in one of the meetings by the President of the Bharat Sevashram Sangh held under the auspices of the Viswa Hindu Parishad at Silchar, I quote here.

“The Muslims are traitors and anti-national. They have never adopted this country as their own. The sacred land of ours has been built up with the blood of Hindus and it is the motherland of all the Hindus in the world. Wherever the Hindus may reside, Hindustan is their own country.”

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“Once the Hindus become united, they can easily drive the Muslims out of this country and establish a Hindu Rashtra. The Muslims are powerless to resist this change.”

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“Hindus in Assam cannot be considered as foreigners—foreigners are the Muslims—they should be expelled from this country.”

This type of agitation is going on freely and calmly and the Muslim Fundamentalists are also raising communal slogans there and others are very much active. The Assam situation is most complicated and Government of India should move in the right direction and they should seriously take steps to prepare for elections. If an atmosphere of election is created, we are confident that this secessionist agitation will lose its mass base and mass support. One wing is in favour of holding elections and the other wing is trying to put obstacles. We want that the elections should take place. You have to face them. You have to take their challenge and mobilise all the democratic forces behind you for the restoration of normalcy to run election smoothly. We give guarantee that we are against the secessionist movement and we are for the integration and unity of our country. We will fight for that till end.



श्री मनी राम बागड़ी (हिस्सार) :  
 उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह दहेज विरोधी चेतना  
 जो महिलाओं का एक प्रदर्शन आया है  
 उनकी यह चार मांगें हैं जो मैं आपकी  
 अनुमति से सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ। सारा  
 सदन दहेज प्रथा के खिलाफ है। आप इसको  
 सोच लीजिये, विचार कर लीजियेगा, यह  
 बात सही है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is  
 not permitted by the Chair.

श्री मनी राम बागड़ी : क्या कहा आपने ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I only  
 quoted some rules.

श्री मनी राम बागड़ी : इसमें रूल और  
 कायदा क्या है ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Even if  
 a Member wants to present a petition  
 the rule is that he must write to the  
 Speaker and after obtaining his per-  
 mission, it is presented to the House.

श्री मनी राम बागड़ी : कोई अपोज नही  
 कर रहा है।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have  
 already said what you should do.

श्री मनी राम बागड़ी : सारा सदन इसके  
 खिलाफ है। आप गृह मन्त्री जी से पूछ  
 लीजिये क्या वह इसके खिलाफ हैं ? इसलिये  
 सर्वसम्मति से इसको आपको मान्यता देनी  
 चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The  
 Chair does not take cognisance of  
 what has taken place.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV  
 (Silchar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir,  
 I rise to support the continuance of  
 the President's Proclamation for

Presidents' rule in Assam, the  
 Statutory Resolution under the  
 Essential Services Maintenance Act,  
 and the Assam Budget which have  
 been placed before the House.

This is for the fifth time that we  
 have taken up the Assam Budget,  
 and probably fourth time that we are  
 considering the extension of Presi-  
 dent's rule in Assam. The only new  
 context this time is that we have got  
 a new Minister of Home Affairs, and  
 a new State Minister in the Ministry  
 of Home Affairs: we are also consi-  
 dering it under special circumstances,  
 because as per the Constitution, prob-  
 ably this is the last time that we are  
 going to extend it, unless we think of  
 amending the Constitution to take  
 care of the situation in Assam. But  
 I am sure, we are not going for it  
 because the Government has already  
 declared that elections will be there.

The subject matter before the  
 House today can be broadly divided  
 into three parts. First is the exten-  
 sion of the President's rule, which is  
 connected with the administrative  
 activities there and the law and order  
 situation: two, the Budget which  
 has been brought before us and which  
 relates to the developmental work,  
 the backwardness of the area, and  
 other aspects; there, the role of  
 different political parties in Assam to  
 solve this problem.

At the outset, I would like to submit  
 before I start, that I am a new Mem-  
 ber in this House; my span is only  
 two and a half years. I have heard  
 with great respect the speech of Shri  
 Samar Mukherjee, and many of the  
 points that he has raised are very  
 important and vital. However, I  
 could not understand one thing. He  
 asked the Government to firmly tackle  
 the situation, but he objected to the  
 Government measures which are neces-  
 sary to tackle the situation firmly.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:  
 I suggested—take political stand.



**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:** Correct; I agree that the political stand of all parties must be there. But when he thinks of political stand, he forgets one thing. His party also claims to be an all-India party; they do not claim to be a regional party, but I say that they are semi-regional, there are on the brink of a national party, and not regional also; in between—they are, of course, growing. Their party has got Government in Tripura and West Bengal in that region. They have also got something to do politically for that region. They should not only make allegations and pass on the blame on the Congress (I) Party. They are ruling there. Their party has proved their failure in West Bengal and Tripura, where the situation is equally bad. He himself stated that people are being killed in Tripura and Upjatis are killing his own party men... (Interruptions). This is the habit of CPM. When we speak, they will raise objections, but when they speak, we give them a patient hearing.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** We know, your usual quota will be there; you exhaust that; we are waiting patiently.

(Interruptions)

**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:** Now, let us have a look at the present situation in Assam. If I take the data from 1980 to 1982, about 263 persons have died either on account of incidents of explosion, or police firing, or because of law and order situation. This is my own data; I have not collected from any other source. It seems that during these years, altogether 175 incidents of explosion took place. Of these incidents, 48 were reported in 1980, 91 in 1981 and 36 in 1982—upto June. Further, if you analyse them, you will find that most of these incidents have taken place in areas where there is concentration of Government officials of linguistic or regional minorities. And the Police

so far after investigating the cases have found out 62 bombs, 12 grenades, 906 gelatines and 6,598 detonators. But there is a funny thing about the police activity. I am speaking this with a great risk. When I speak on the floor of this House, I have to ventilate the feelings of the linguistic and religious people of Assam. But my experience, when I go to Dispur is that, I get such a behaviour from some of the Officers there, which I feel is very bad. Even now there are some Officers in the Officers' Gallery and I know they will not like it, but I cannot help saying this. I have to ventilate the feelings of the people whom I represent. Only then I can speak for the other side. What is happening in Assam is that in every case police have been able to find out a culprit where an incident happens. I congratulate them for that. But I fail to understand in spite of abundantly clear instructions from the Prime Minister and the Home Minister that drastic and serious steps should be taken against those who are involved in secessionist or anti-social activities, the question I ask is why is the Assam Police not able to find those culprits who are continuously doing this? What we find is that they move into action only after the incident. That I don't understand. That is why I say that it is here where greater pressure and more stricter instructions are needed from the Central Government to the Assam Police Administration. They must make a special effort before the election is due in January. I know in the process there may be some innocent people who may be put to trouble. It is not possible for the police to see every case. Even today, because I am speaking, they may put me behind the bars. Some time I will be there. Even then for the cause of the people of Assam and for the North Eastern Region, I have to speak. Sir, as Mr. Mukherjee has also said in the course of the Police action 44 guns, 16 revolvers, fifteen pistols, two rifles and a huge quantity of ammunition have been taken from the possession of the people. Who are those people?



Now after Shri Samar Mukherjee, my friend, Shri Ravindra Varma is preparing very seriously to speak on this subject. I think some from BJP will also speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is going to speak only on 5th August.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, from the police verification it has been found out that in these cases, those who are guilty either belong to the Assam People's Liberation Army, AASU volunteer force, AJYCP, North-Eastern Region Defence Army group, AASU Volunteer Force in Mangaldoi Sub-division, Bhaskar Bora Group in Dibrugrah district, Debo Dutta Barkataki group in Kamrup, Jatiya Rakshi Bahini, Kamrup, Amguri group of Pradip Hazarika group, North-Eastern region Socio-Cultural group or Hariprasanna Mahanta's group. All these group leaders are connected with the AASU and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad. And it is under the shelter and umbrella of two national parties—Janata and the BJP. They are looking after them very well; very well in the sense that they never condemn them. I don't say all AASU and Gana Sangram Parishad people are bad. I will be the last person to say that. I say in these organisations there is a minor faction which is extremist. They are to be isolated from the AASU and Gana Sangram Parishad. For that reason, in my speech last Friday I urged and appealed to all the leading parties—CPM, CPI, Janata, BJP—that they have a role to play in achieving this end and irrespective of our-isms, we should condemn this because it leads to secessionist movement and anti-social activities in that area. It is here that we have totally failed.

Shri Mukherjee has spoken about the Act that Shri Laskar has introduced. I also have got a complaint against Shri Laskar and this Government, which is my Government also. I say this because I was one of

the fellows in this House who criticised all the Govt. officers who were totally with the movement. Now I think the Governor's advisers and the Officers there. They have created a situation whereby 90% of the Government employees are coming to their Office. But unfortunately what has happened? Those officers and those employees who are coming in the Office are beaten up inside the Office by some extremists. They are being killed by the extremists. One particular instance, I will state. On the last day of the Bund, that is on 28th June, 1982, one Subhash Das, Joint Director of Sericulture, in order to obey the order of the Government had come on the previous day and stayed in a guest house in order to see that he could go to the office the next morning, but he was killed in that guest house by some people. There the Government must give instructions that those persons whether they are Central Government or State Government employees, who are coming to office, total protection must be given to them by the Government while they are working, while they are coming to office and going from office to their homes. Otherwise, this restriction will not help in any way. But what happens is that Mr. Laskar or Mr. Venkataraman is worried about Mr. Samar Mukherjee. Why? Because they have failed to take action against the Central Government employees, the banks, LIC, railways and P & T employees which are under the umbrella of the left unions which are more strong there. Government is taking serious action against the State Government employees but not against the erring Central Government employees there? Why? Because their union is very strong there. Some action against those leaders who are not attending office during agitation should be taken. If action is taken against the Assam Government employees, it must be taken against those employees who are working in the Central Government offices. Otherwise, the people will question it.



[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

I was in Gauhati only three days back. The people and the Government employees told me about their position. They said, "We are ready to stand by the Government because the first phenomenon of the movement and the Assam agitation has gone". Now most of the Government employees are either Assamese or non-Assamese; they are cooperating with the Government. The AASU—as Mr. Samar Mukherjee has said—and a faction of GSP want election which is correct. At the same time, there is an attempt to make a common platform with certain people, with certain political parties to have a front against the Ruling Party in the Centre, that is Congress (I); and we shall have to face it politically; we will face it. But what happens actually in Assam? The present movement and the situation—my personal assessment is—is that among the AASU and GSP, there are certain factors which have got political aim; they do not want to solve the problem; they want to go to the elections with a cry, "this is what we wanted; this is what has not been given to us; and if we come to the government, we shall give". Therefore, thereby they want to give rise to parochialism and regionalism.

The Central Government and the national parties should consider the issue in the national perspective and in the international perspective and solve this problem. While I come to the national perspective and international perspective, Mr. Samar Mukherjee has also said about the eviction and about the behaviour with the linguistic and religious minorities. I would also like to point out about this, but while doing so, I must convey my gratefulness to the Home Minister who has recently given an order to stop all evictions.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat):  
The order is being violated.—This is what they say.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: You are carrying on political propaganda. This is what they said; and they will also say it upto the last minute. Now I go back to two Starred Questions. One is 1183. It was answered in the House on 11th April, 1968. The question was put by Shri Samar Guba. It says: "Whether it is a fact that the refugees from East Pakistan particularly those belonging to Namasudra, Santal, Chakma and other communities were well known for their fighting tradition in East Pakistan; whether his Ministry approached the Defence Ministry for making special provision for employment of those types of refugees in Defence Services, Border Security Forces and Territorial Army". The reply of the Minister is: "According to the normal procedure, if any displaced person expresses a preference for Defence Services, he is put in touch with the Recruiting Office. All Indian citizens are eligible including (displaced persons) for recruitment to the Defence Services, Border Forces and Territorial Army, subject to the usual recruitment rules and the administrative instructions and other things". This proves that a displaced person who is a refugee is acceptable in the Indian Army.

Secondly, about this cut off year and other things, they have been raised in this House earlier. I would like to take you back to another question which was asked by one Mr. Prabodh Chandra on 22nd February, 1973. It has been opined in this House that the cut off year is more or less 1971. Now, even in the past in this House, it was opined that under special circumstances people who have come to India after 1971 would also be accepted. There is a commitment from the Government.

Shri Prabodh Chandra asked:

"Will the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether a few thousands of Bangladesh refugees who had



gone back to Bangladesh have since come back because they were not able to get possession of their houses and properties there ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government has taken to send them back ?

Mind the question, Sir, "What steps Government has taken to send them back ?" The reply from the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation, Shri Ragunatha Reddy, was

"(a) and (b): Some families from erstwhile East Pakistan who had come to India before the army crackdown in East Pakistan on 25-3-1971 and had returned to Bangladesh in the wake of liberation of that country, have returned to India. (again). Having regard to the circumstances the Government of India have decided to . . . ." Sir, mind the words, ". . . have decided to take back the above mentioned category of refugees after proper verification".

That means, even after 25th March, 1971 the refugees if they came back, because of the situation in that country, they have been accepted. I do not want to dispute it with the Government. We all accept 1971 as the cut off year, but with the deportation and detection procedure situation being what it is, I would like to request the Hon. Home Minister to take into consideration certain points. The first point is that according to the present system the detection is made by Police. A review committee has been formed. Who are the members of this review committee ? The SDO, or the ADC who is of SDPO or DSP, an Assam Service cadre APS man. Either the SDO, SDPO or DSP of the Police, who is an Assam Police Service man. Now what happens ? These Assam Service people and APS people, unfortunately either by their act or by their deed, or even by their association resolution have in the past resolved in favour of this agitation.

These officers decide and the people will go for review to the same officers, who have openly, by a resolution supported the agitation. How is it possible to get justice from them ? I will request the Government to consider and find out if any alternative method can be evolved.

The next phase is, once this review committee either rejects or accepts, the man can go to a tribunal. Most unfortunately, you will be surprised to know, that this particular branch of judiciary, even the Assam judiciary by a resolution has supported this movement. I do not know how our Home Minister will take care of this. But this is the position. Even in a case where the case came before the Supreme Court, regarding one I.G.P. of Police, Mr. Gill mentioned in his report, that when he produced this particular fact before the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court has in its remarks said, "The Assam judiciary is in a death knell and we do not know what is the position of the Assam judiciary". This is the actual remark passed by the Supreme Court ! But unfortunately we have to take care and seek redress from this particular court. In this respect, I will only urge the Government that this is a very serious and ticklish problem and it is very difficult for us to suggest anything. I am not against any Assamese officer of anyone and I do not want to name anybody. But my only request is that the Government officers, who are dealing with this problem of deportation detection and deletion, should be non-committal.

About developmental works, I am grateful that lot of funds have been provided in the Budget. It depends upon us whether we will be able to create a situation in which we can utilise this money.

Brahmaputra Control Board has been formed. There was a move to declare the Brahmaputra water as the



[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]  
national waterway, but it has not been done. I do not know why. The Brahmaputra has been creating havoc and damage every year. Even in today's morning news we have read that four persons have died in an accident in Kamrup District due to the collapse of a dyke. Even the Kaziranga sanctuary, which is one of the attractions of whole of India, the town of Bokakhat, is also threatened with erosion. If the flood havoc continues, the town will be in a serious situation.

Most unfortunately, the number of cancer patients in Assam is the highest as compared to whole of the country. But there is only one hospital in Gauhati, which is not equipped with all facilities. There is one machine in Dibrugarh Medical College. There are two other Medical Colleges at Silchar and Gauhati. But they have got no facility for treating the cancer patients. I would request the Government to take necessary steps to advise the State Government of Assam so that there is an alternative machine for cancer patients at Gauhati and new machines are provided to Silchar and Gauhati Medical Colleges.

The road condition in Assam is very bad. We have about 20177 kms. of road. Because of the heavy rainfall and because of the fact that Assam caters to the roadways traffic of Arunachal, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland, the condition of the roads is dilapidated. So, I request the Minister that allocation of funds for roads, which has been made by the Central Government, should not be taken at par with other States. I wrote a letter to our previous Finance Minister. He gave me data about allotment of funds to the States. He was very sympathetic and he said that since Assam catered to six States, special allocation should be given to them.

There are 28 ferries in Silchar, which is my constituency. We claim to be champion in ferry service in the whole State. That means, even after 32 years of independence, people are still using either marboat or motor boat. What happens? Six months in a year, they are not in a good condition. I have approached the NEC for a Rani Ferry Bridge. But they have expressed their helplessness because it does not come within their norms and as they are supposed to look after only those roads, which are connecting five or six States or giving benefits to them. I would request the Hon. Minister to look into this.

According to the 20-Point Programme, we have given special emphasis to irrigation and supply of water in rural areas and problem villages. But unfortunately, 80 per cent of the Assam villages are getting no drinking water. The Public Health Engineering Department is in charge of this subject. Only a few days back I had a meeting with them in front of the Adviser when they openly said that they will not be able to meet the growing demand of the increasing population of the Assam State with the present infra-structure. If this is really a fact, I would request the Government to look into this particular problem and see that the water problem is solved.

Before I conclude, I must say that the present situation in Assam under President's Rule is not very happy because of the fact that somebody is intentionally creating trouble. This situation is created actively by the AASU, AGSU and other political parties, as Shri Samar Mukherjee has made a speech here just now. I have seen that in the district of Cachar, people are complaining against other people, saying they are foreigners, and repeated enquiries are being made to the local administration and the SP as to what action is being taken. I presume this is the case all over Assam. I do not want



to mention names, but I will say that certain political parties are engineering these complaints, which are flooding the district administration. What is the reason? Keeping an eye on the election, they want to malign President's Rule, which is under the Central Government, where Congress (I) is ruling.

So, I would request the Home Minister to instruct the Government officials not to be biased. Certain bureaucrats want to be so efficient that they go by the complaints of certain people. But these complaints have been lodged to create a situation against our party, against our Government. So, they should be careful in considering these complaints.

Some of these complaints are given by the national parties. I have got proof, because I know them by name. These complaints are made by national parties against those people who, they think, will be supporting the Congress (I) there. You will be surprised to know that this situation is created in certain pockets where the Congress (I) has got the stronghold so that the Central Government could be blamed and maligned. So, the AASU, AGSP and some national parties try to sponsor these bogus complaints in their own interests and then come here and give us lecture.

Some incidents have been mentioned here. Karimganj is the constituency of Shri Laskar. While Shri Samar Mukherjee has condemned those incidents, you will be surprised to know that the BJP of Cachar supported the eviction by a resolution, the reason being that those who are evicted are Muslims. I know somebody will challenge this.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE** (New Delhi): They are foreigners.

**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:** When Shri Vajpayee goes to Cachar, he says to the Hindus the Muslims all are foreigners. When he goes to

Gauhati, he says: I do not know whether he is a Hindu, or Muslim, all those people who have come from Bangladesh after 1961 must go; he says that because he wants the support of AASU and the AGSP.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Sir, I want to make a personal explanation; not today but tomorrow.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** You can speak for your party, when you can do this.

**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:** I want the Home Minister to look into all these problems.

I will conclude by saying that I come from a linguistic minority. Our family is in Cachar for the last four generations.

14.00 hrs.

Sir, I have got friends in Upper Assam, I have got all respect for the Assamese people. But I must say that unity in diversity should be our cry. About Assam all I want to say is that in the Assam Secretariat a lobby has been created which is continuously depriving the linguistic as well as Assamese officers of their right. This must be looked into. You cannot run the Administration by overlooking the interests of the linguistic and religious Assamese minorities. Earlier, I also demanded in this House that all officers should be taken from outside, but my experience is that this is wrong. So, I would like to correct it by saying that the Assamese officers who are loyal, and the Bengali, Hindu and Muslim officers who are loyal, should be given their due share in the Assam Administration.

With these words, I conclude.