

whether this scarcity also stands in the way of setting up the other Development Councils?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The scarcity is no longer a fact with regard to the two. In regard to the others, scarcity and other factors are in operation.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether in making these nominations Government take into account the various interests like the labour, the employers or other persons concerned?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Every concerned interest does find a place in these councils.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know the name and nationality of the expert.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: He has come and gone, but I believe he is an Englishman.

DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBAL AREAS

*100. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the amount that was allotted in the Budget for 1952-53 for development of Tribal Areas on the North-East Frontier including the maintenance of Assam Rifles;

(b) how much of the same has been spent in the Tribal Areas;

(c) what are the items of expenditure; and

(d) how many Tribal Areas have been visited by the Prime Minister?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri J. N. Hazarika):

(a)—

Economic Development	
=	Rs. 10,91,500
Assam Rifles	
=	Rs. 1,83,44,800
Total.	1,94,36,300

(b) Expenditure upto 30-11-52—

Economic Development	
=	Rs. 6,28,395
Assam Rifles	
=	Rs. 67,21,791

The months December to March have not been included in these figures. Heavy expenditure takes place during that period.

(c) Economic Development:

The items of expenditure are—
Development of Roads, Forests,
Agriculture (including sericulture and

veterinary), Education, Medical Health and Public Health services.

Assam Rifles:

Pay of Officers and Establishment Allowances and Honoraria.

Arms and ammunition.

Other Charges.

(d) Balipara Frontier Tracts.

Abor Hills District.

Mishmi Hills District.

Also some tribal areas in Assam State.

And I may add the Mao areas of the State of Manipur, and Chirapunji of the Khasi-Jaintia Hills Districts of the Assam State.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether district and regional councils have been formed in the tribal areas of Assam for the speedy uplift of the tribal people there?

Shri J. N. Hazarika: As far as the Agency Area is concerned, there is no question of district councils. But for these autonomous districts of Assam, they have already started district councils.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Has any amount been spent on the encouragement of their living traditions, such as folk dances, their musics, their indigenous arts and crafts, etc.?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The hon. Member's question, if I may say so with all respect, was not very precisely worded. He referred to the tribal areas of the North-East Frontier, and the answer that has been given relates entirely to the North-East Frontier Agency. There are other tribal areas in the Assam State, in Manipur, and in Tripura, which are not included in this answer. I just wish to make it quite clear, The figures given only relate to the North-East Frontier Agency.

As for the last question that the hon. Member put, whether any money has been spent or allotted for developing their arts and crafts, dances, etc., I do not think that any special sum has been granted for them. But that is a matter for the Autonomous District Councils and others to do, but we wish to encourage them in every way.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister stated that some money has been spent on the development of Education, Medical Health and Public Health services in these North-East Frontier

Areas. May I know whether school-going children have been supplied free with books and other things?

Shri J. N. Hazarika: There is no provision for free supply of books and other things for school-going children. But they are sometimes helped from the provisions for grants and contributions. The orphan boys and school children are provided books and other things free.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know how the expenses for the maintenance of the Assam Rifles have been included in the Budget for the development of the North-East Tribal Areas?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If it was there in the last year's Budget, it was there. If it is there, then in the coming Budget it will come. What does the hon. Member want?

Shri Rishang Keishing: My question was how the expenses for the maintenance of the Assam Rifles have been included in the Budget for the development of the tribal people in the North-East Frontier Agency.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They have been included because the question was about the sum allotted for their development and also the maintenance of the Assam Rifles. So, the two figures are given separately.

Shri Rishang Keishing: Have the Government taken note of the vital importance of good roads for the development of these tribal areas, and if so, has any progress been made in this respect?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Building of roads is given the top priority.

Shri K. K. Chaudhuri: I want to ask a question of the Parliamentary Secretary.

(Shri R. K. Chaudhuri put the question in Assamese).

Shri J. N. Hazarika: I am satisfied...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. That is not the language the hon. Member should use. Hon. Members must speak either in Hindi or in English.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: We are allowed to speak in our mother tongue and this is a rare opportunity I am getting.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members have got enough opportunity to speak their mother tongue outside this House.

Shri Beli Ram Das: Has any community project been taken up in the Frontier Agency, and if so, at what cost?

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Yes, Sir. One development project has been taken up and about Rs. 6.73,000 will be spent in one year of the three-year plan.

Shri Beli Ram Das: May I know the nature of the works done?

Shri J. N. Hazarika: The nature of the works is—agricultural expansion, irrigation, reclamation, health and rural sanitation, education, social education including community recreation centres, adult education, etc.

Shri Rishang Keishing: What were the most common and important problems brought to the notice of hon. the Prime Minister by the people in these areas during his visit?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member is referring to the North East Frontier Agency or to the autonomous district?

Shri Rishang Keishing: Frontier Agency.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The biggest problem was of communications. The second problem or the second demand was for schools. Those seem to dominate other matters.

SETTING UP OF AN INTEGRATED IRON AND STEEL PLANT

*103. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether the discussions with certain Japanese and American interests for the setting up of an integrated Iron and Steel Project in India, have been finalised; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the agreement arrived at?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The discussions have concluded

(b) Does not arise as no agreement has been reached.

Shri Nanadas: Is it a fact, Sir, that the Government have given up negotiations with the American and Japanese interests for technical and financial collaboration in the setting up of the new iron and steel plant, as the terms imposed by the interests are inconsistent with the State control of the plant?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have already answered that question on the floor of the House the other day.