

As far as sugar is concerned, it is being supplied to the best possible extent; but here Assam faces the same difficulties as the rest of India. So far as diesel is concerned, I have to say that to a large extent the problem is created by Assam itself. Whatever be their claims, contentions and basis for the agitation, if people concerned in Assam would only agree to allow the Assam refinery to function and allow the flow of crude to Barauni, the whole of Assam will have all the kerosene and diesel it needs, in addition to easing the situation in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. I am very unhappy that the Barauni refinery which has been built at an enormous cost and which is intended to cater to the whole of the eastern and north-eastern region is practically shut down, and it is not able to perform its rightful duty in the service of the nation.

Mr. Thungon from Arunachal Pradesh made certain suggestions about the roads and the bridges and so on. I am happy to tell him that the allocation for roads and bridges has again been increased in this present Budget and the problem is being handled at a priority level.

AN. HON. MEMBER : What about Farakka ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I have no information on other points raised by some Members since it is not possible to get the information immediately in respect of States which are not directly under our control. Lastly, I would very briefly refer to the political issues raised by almost all the Members, particularly Mr. Yadav Mr. Chakraborty, Smt. Mukherjee and Mr. Ravindra Varma. They referred to the present political situation in Assam. I wish to submit to the House that the whole issue is very delicate and it is being handled by the Prime Minister at her level personally and the Prime Minister had held two meetings with the Leaders of the Opposition in the Parliament and some sort of a consensus has been arrived at and the matter is still under negotiation with the student's movement in Assam. I have only to say that anything that we say at this juncture should not add to the fire. There are several dimensions to this problem. There is a question of the persons who are not Indians at all. There is no accepted definition who is a foreigner and even if there is a legal definition, the application of it bristles with difficulties. Therefore, what I would appeal to the House is that a solution has to be found by an agreement with all political parties including the Assameses themselves, the residents in Assam and the People who are Indian citizens.

Everybody agrees that a foreigner, according to legal definition, has no place. But I say that it is in the application of this principle that all the troubles and difficulties have arisen and the government is doing its utmost to see that some reasonable solution is arrived at by discussions and mutual consultations. I would not like to add anything at this stage. As I said in the beginning, it is a delicate matter and it is being handled by the Prime Minister at her level and we do hope that we will have a solution to the problems of Assam very soon, and once the problem is solved, Assam will march along with other States in India in its cherished goal of better and richer life.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Assam, on account for towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1981 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1, 3 to 16, 19, to 77, 80 and 82".

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the respective Supplementary sums not exceeding amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third 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 on the 31st day of March, 1980 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof.—

Demand Nos. 4, 11, 14, 17 to 19, 22 to 24, 28, 30, 32 to 35, 37, 39, 40, 46, 49, 50, 52, 53, 56, 57, 59, 60, 63, 64 and 67 to 75.

The motion was adopted.

13.00 hrs.

ASSAM APPROPRIATION (VOTE ON ACCOUNT) BILL, 1980*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a 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 1980-81.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a 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 1980-81."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I introduce the Bill.†

I beg to move.

"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 1980-81, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN : 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 1980-81, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up clauses.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

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

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Enacting Formula was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

1302 hrs.

ASSAM APPROPRIATION BILL, 1980*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I beg to move for leave to introduce a 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 1979-80.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a 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 1979-80."

The motion was adopted

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I introduce the Bill.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I beg to move :†

"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 1979-80, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN : 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 1979-80, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

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 R- VENKATARAMAN : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted

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