PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE 44TH SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN HELD ON 3.6.1976, CORRESPONDING TO 5TH DAY OF THE 4TH MONTH OF FIRE DRAGON YEAR

1. MATTER RELATING TO REFERENCE TO OLD AND NEW LAND RECORD

The matter regarding the old and new land records was taken up in the Assembly and the difference between them were noted. It was decided that the new land records would be followed. However, it was also decided that if the new land records failed to throw sufficient light on particular disputes the old land records may be consulted.

2. MATTER RELATING TO TAX ON ORANGE AND CARDAMOM

Some of the members requested that taxes on oranges/cardamom be reduced, but owing to the shortage of governmental revenue, the Assembly resolved that taxes would be continued to be levied as before on orange and cardamom.

3. MATTER RELATING TO PAYMENT OF ALIMONY (GAO) TO WOMEN

The Assembly decided that the rules pertaining to entitlements of alimony (Gao) would be framed by the Royal Advisory Councillors and the Judges of the High Court, and the same put up to the Lhengye Shungtshog for approval.

4. MATTER RELATING TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDLORDS AND THE TENANTS

Uptil now, no proper written agreements between the landlords and the tenants were made as per rules while cultivating the land on a share basis. In view of the complications arising from this state of affairs, the Assembly decided that henceforth written agreements were to be made between the two parties as laid down in the rules. The Hon'ble Home Minister would accordingly issue a circular in this regard.

5. MATTER RELATING TO PASTURE LANDS

Various points regarding pastures lands were discussed. The Assembly decided that the government would conduct the necessary investigations, and announce its decisions on the matter later.

6. MATTER RELATING TO REVISION OF SALARY OF ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

Against the background of the rising cost of living, the Assembly decided to increase the salary of the members of the National Assembly from Nu. 30/- to Nu. 100/- per month with effect from 1st October 1976.

7. MATTER RELATING TO MULE TRACK FROM MONGAR TO KURTEY

It was decided that the public themselves would construct the mule track from Mongar to Kurtey under the supervision of the Hon'ble Finance Minister, who would be assisted by the concerned Dzongdas and Assembly members. The Development Ministry would hand over its contribution of Nu.1,00,000/- (Ngultrum one lakh) towards the payment of wages, alongwith tools and blasting material, to the Ministry of Finance.

8. MATTER RELATING TO DRINKING WATER FOR PUNAKHA DZONG

It was decided that the Ministry of Finance would supply drinking water to Punakha Dzong before the arrival of the Central Monk Body to Punakha during the Winter of 1976. If so required, the Ministry of Development would send skilled workers for the purpose.

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