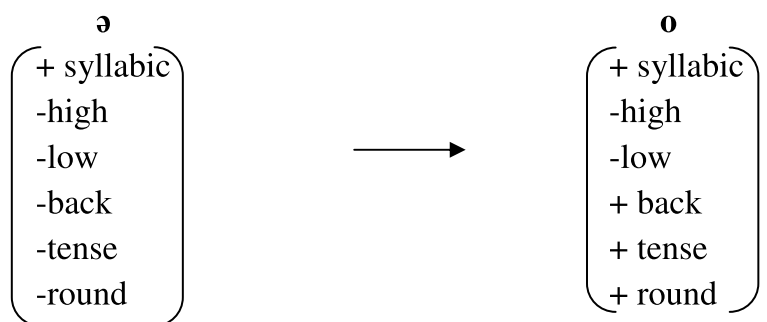# Chapter 4

English Loanwords in Sylheti

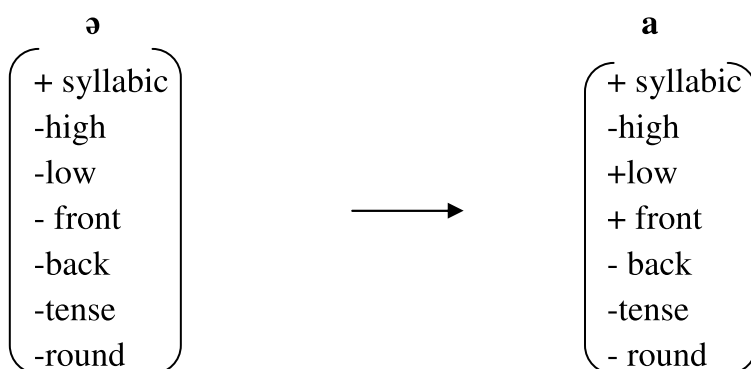### 4.1. Phonological processes:

4.1.1. Vowel shifting:

(a) The central mid unrounded /ə/ vowel changed to the mid back rounded vowel /o/ in English loanwords in sylheti. Generally, the changed of /ə/ to /o/ is found in non-final position of the word. More specifically, the changed of central mid unrounded /ə/ to the mid back rounded vowel /o/ is frequently found in the word medial positions however it is hardly (only an example) found in the word initial position as can be seen in the following examples:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathbf{\vartheta} & & \mathbf{o} \\
\left[\begin{array}{l} + \text{ syllabic} \\ -\text{high} \\ -\text{low} \\ -\text{back} \\ -\text{tense} \\ -\text{round} \end{array}\right] & \longrightarrow & \left[\begin{array}{l} + \text{ syllabic} \\ -\text{high} \\ -\text{low} \\ + \text{ back} \\ + \text{ tense} \\ + \text{ round} \end{array}\right]
\end{array}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/əkeɪʒᵊn/	/okešon/	'occasion'
/ædmɪʃᵊn/	/eɖmišon/	'admission'
/ælkəhɒl/	/elkohol/	'alcohol'
/ætəm/	/eʈom/	'atom'
/bædmɪntən/	/beɖminʈon/	'badminton'
/bɒtᵊl/	/butol/	'bottle'
/kaːʳtᵊn/	/karɖon/	'carton'

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/kɒləni/	/koloni/	'colony'
/kəmiti/	/komiʈi/	'committee'
/kəmɪʃ°n/	/komiśon/	'commission'
/kɒmən/	/komon/	'common'
/kənfɜ:ʳm/	/konpʰarom/	'confirm'
/kəmpju:təʳ/	/kompiuʈar/	'computer'
/kəntroʊl/	/konʈol/	'control'
/dɒk.tər/	/ɖakʰtor/	'doctor'
/dʌbᵊl/	/ɖabol/	'double'
/i:gᵊl/	/igol/	'eagle'
/ɪlekʃ°n/	/ilekśon/	'election'
/dʒu:niəʳ/	/zunior/	'junior'
/kɪləmi:təʳ/	/kilomiʈar/	'kilometre'
/ɪnfekʃ°n/	/inpʰekśon/	'infection'
/ma:stər/	/maśʈor/	'master'
/nʌmbəʳ/	/nombor/	'number'
/ɒpʃ°n/	/opśon/	'option'
/penʃ°n/	/pʰenśon/	'pension'
/pɪəriəd/	/pirioɖ/	'period'
/pəʳmɪʃ°n/	/parmiśon/	'permission'
/pəlaɪt/	/polaiʈ/	'polite'
/pɒpjʊleɪʃ°n/	/populeśon/	'population'
/pəzɪʃ°n/	/poziśon/	'position'
/prəfeʃ°n/	/popʰeśon/	'profession'

(b) The central mid unrounded /ə / vowel changed to the front lower unrounded vowel /a/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. Generally, the changes from /ə/ to /a/ takes place in the word medial and final position. However the same changes is not found in the initial position of the word as illustrated in the following examples with phonological rules.

<table>
<tr><td align="center">ə</td><td></td><td align="center">a</td></tr>
<tr>
<td>

+ syllabic
-high
-low
- front
-back
-tense
-round

</td>
<td>⟶</td>
<td>

+ syllabic
-high
+low
+ front
- back
-tense
- round

</td>
</tr>
</table>

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/æntenə/	/enʈ̩ina/	'antenna'
/æktəʳ/	/ekʈar/	'actor'
/ədæptəʳ/	/eɖapʈar/	'adaptor'
/ælbəm/	/elbam/	'album'
/beɪkəri/	/bekari/	'bakery'
/bætəri/	/beʈari/	'battery'
/brekfəst/	/berekpʰas/	'breakfast'
/bʌmpəʳ/	/bampar/	'bumper'
/kæʃɪəʳ/	/keśiar/	'cashier'
/sentəʳ/	/senʈar/	'centre'
/kɒləʳ/	/kolar/	'collar'

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/kuːləʳ/	/kular/	'cooler'
/kælkjʊleɪtəʳ/	/kelkuleʈar/	'calculator'
/kælɪndəʳ/	/kelenɖar/	'calendar'
/kæmrə/	/kemera/	'camera'
/səʳtɪfɪkət/	/sarʈipʰiket/	'certificate'
/kʌmpəni/	/kumpani/	'company'
/kəmpjuːtəʳ/	/kompiuʈar/	'computer'
/kaʊntəʳ/	/kaunʈar/	'counter'
/kʌlvəʳt/	/kalbaʈ/	'culvert'
/kʌstəməʳ/	/kaśʈomar/	'customer'
/dɪnəʳ/	/ɖinar/	'dinner'
/dɪplʊʊmə/	/ɖiploma/	'diploma'
/daɪrektəʳ/	/ɖairekʈar/	'director'
/draːmə/	/ɖrama/	'drama'
/dʌstəʳ/	/ɖaśʈar/	'duster'
/daɪnəmoʊ/	/ɖaynama/	'dynamo'
/ɪəʳ/	/iar/	'ear'
/fækˤlti/	/pʰekalʈi/	'faculty'
/foʊldəʳ/	/pʰoulɖar/	'folder'
/dʒenəreɪtəʳ/	/zenareʈar/	'generator'
/gɪgəbaɪt/	/gigabaiʈ/	'gigabyte'
/graɪndəʳ/	/girinɖar/	'grinder'
/heəʳ/	/heyar/	'hair'

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|*/hæŋəʳ/*| |*/heŋgar/*| |'hanger'|

(c) The central mid unrounded /ə / vowel changed to the front mid unrounded vowel /e/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The phonetic change from /ə/ to /e/ is only found in the word initial and medial positions of the word however it is not noticed in the final position of a word as can be seen in the following examples with phonological rules:

ə

$$\begin{bmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ high} \\ - \text{ low} \\ - \text{ front} \\ - \text{ back} \\ - \text{ tense} \\ - \text{ round} \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow$$

e

$$\begin{bmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ high} \\ - \text{ low} \\ + \text{ front} \\ - \text{ back} \\ + \text{ tense} \\ - \text{ round} \end{bmatrix}$$
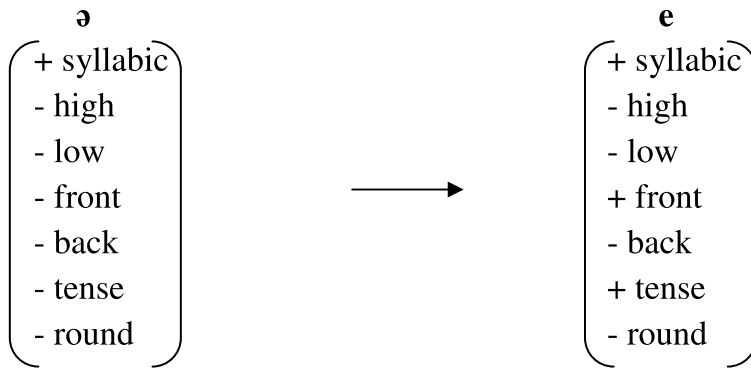
English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/əwɔːʳd/	*/ewaɖ/*	'award'
/əsembli/	*/esembli/*	'assembly'
/əkaunt/	*/ekaunʈ/*	'account'
/əʈɒmɪk/	*/eʈomik/*	'atomic'
/əplai/	*/eplai/*	'apply'
/ədres/	*/eɖres/*	'address'
/ətendəns/	*/eʈenɖens/*	'attendance'
/kænsᵊl/	*/kensel/*	'cancel'
/kəset/	*/keseʈ/*	'cassette'
/tʃænəl/	*/tsenel/*	'channel'
/saɪkᵊl/	*/saikel/*	'cycle'

/dɪpɑːˈtmənt/	/ɖipaʈmenʈ/	'department'
/ɪnæmᵊl/	/enamel/	'enamel'
/ɪkstɜːˈnᵊl/	/eksʈarnel/	'external'
/hændᵊl/	/henɖel/	'handle'
/hɒstᵊl/	/husʈel/	'hostel'
/ɪfɪʃᵊnt/	/epʰisienʈ/	'efficient'
/gɑːˈdiən/	/garzen/	'guardian'
/gaɪdᵊns/	/gaiɖens/	'guidance'
/iliːgᵊl/	/illigel/	'illegal'
/ɪmpɔːˈtᵊnt/	/imporʈenʈ/	'important'
/ɪntɜːˈnᵊl/	/inʈarnel/	'internal'
/lətriːn/	/leʈˌʈˌin/	'latrine'
/laɪsᵊns/	/laisens/	'license'
/liːgᵊl/	/ligel/	'legal'
/loʊkᵊl/	/lokel/	'local'
/mədʒɒrɪti/	/mezoriʈi/	'majority'
/mænɪdʒmənt/	/meneizmenʈ/	'management'
/peɪʃᵊnt/	/peśenʈ/	'patient'
/pəˈfɔːˈməns/	/parpʰormens/	'performance'
/præktɪkᵊl/	/prekʈikel/	'practical'
/rezɪdəns/	/resiɖens/	'residence'

(d) The central mid unrounded vowel /ə/ changed to the front unrounded vowel /i/ in English loanwords in sylheti as illustrated in the following examples with the help of the given phonological rules:
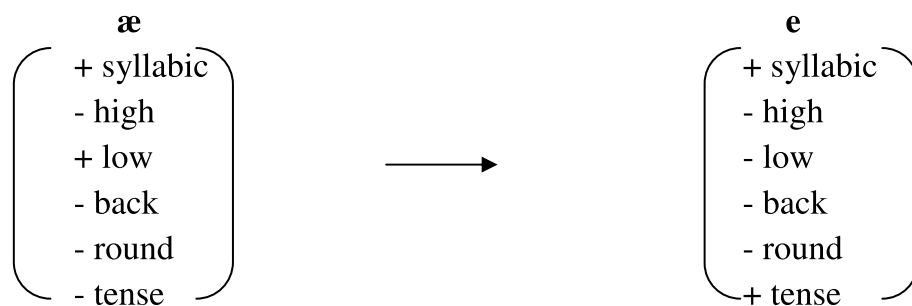
$$
\begin{matrix} & \mathbf{ə} \\ \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syllabic} \\ -\text{high} \\ -\text{low} \\ -\text{back} \\ -\text{tense} \\ -\text{round} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}
\longrightarrow
\begin{matrix} & \mathbf{i} \\ \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syllabic} \\ +\text{high} \\ -\text{low} \\ -\text{back} \\ +\text{tense} \\ -\text{round} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}
$$
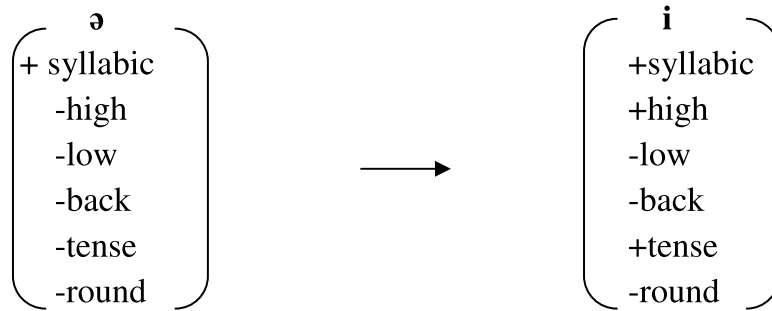
English	Sylheti	Gloss
/kaʊnsᵊl/	/kaunsil/	'council'
/pensᵊl/	/pʰensil/	'pencil'

(e) The central mid unrounded /ə/ vowel changed to the back rounded vowel /u/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The phonetic change from /ə/ to /u/ is found only in the word medial position rather than the initial and final positions of a word as illustrated in the following examples with the given phonological rules:

$$
\begin{matrix} & \mathbf{ə} \\ \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syllabic} \\ -\text{high} \\ -\text{low} \\ -\text{back} \\ -\text{tense} \\ -\text{round} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}
\longrightarrow
\begin{matrix} & \mathbf{u} \\ \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syllabic} \\ +\text{high} \\ -\text{low} \\ +\text{back} \\ +\text{tense} \\ +\text{round} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}
$$

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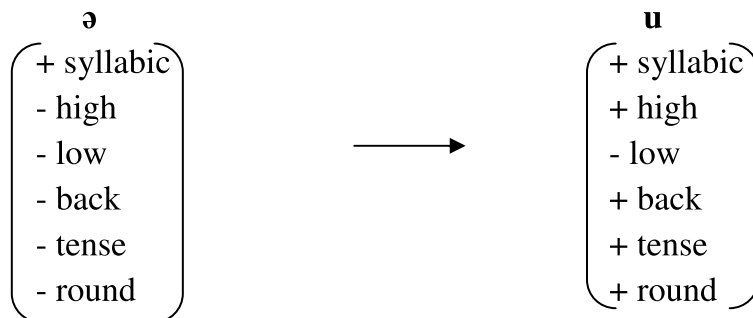
English	Sylheti	Gloss
/eərəpleɪn/	/iruplein/	'aeroplane'
/aːʳtɪkᵊl/	/arʈikul/	'article'
/keɪbᵊl/	/kebul/	'cable'
/mʌsᵊl/	/masul/	'muscle'
/nɪpᵊl/	/nipʰul/	'nipple'
/petrəl/	/pʰeʈʈul/	'petrol'
/pəliːs/	/pʰuliʃ/	'police'
/restərɒnt/	/reʃʈurenʈ/	'restaurant'
/saːmpᵊl/	/sempul/	'sample'
/sɪmpᵊl/	/simpul/	'simple'
/tækᵊl/	/ʈekul/	'tackle'
/trʌbᵊl/	/ʈrabul/	'trouble'
/ʌnsteɪbᵊl/	/ansʈebul/	'unstable'

(f) The front lower mid unrounded vowel /æ/ became the front mid unrounded vowel /e/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The phonetic change from /æ/ to /e/ is found in the word inintial and medial positions of the word as can be seen in the following examples with the given phonological rules:

$$
\textbf{æ} \qquad\qquad\qquad \textbf{e}
$$

$$
\begin{bmatrix} + \text{syllabic} \\ - \text{high} \\ + \text{low} \\ - \text{back} \\ - \text{round} \\ - \text{tense} \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} + \text{syllabic} \\ - \text{high} \\ - \text{low} \\ - \text{back} \\ - \text{round} \\ + \text{tense} \end{bmatrix}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/ˈæksɪdənt/	/eskiɖen/	'accident'
/ˈæktəʳ/	/ekʈar/	'actor'
/ædˈmɪt/	/edmiʈ/	'admit'
/ædˈmɪʃnᵊ/	/edmiʃon/	'admission'
/ˈætəm/	/eʈˌom/	'atom'
/ˈældʒɪbrə/	/elʥabra/	'algebra'
/ˈælbəm/	/elbam/	'album'
/ˈælkəhɒl/	/elkohol/	'alcohol'
/ænˈtenə/	/enʈˌina/	'antenna'
/ɔ:təˈmætɪk/	/oʈomeʈik/	'automatic'
/ˈbædmɪntən/	/beɖminʈon/	'badminton'
/ˈbæŋk/	/benk/	'bank'
/ˈbæt/	/beʈ/	'bat'
/ˈbætəri/	/beʈari/	'battery'
/ˈblæk/	/belek/	'black'
/ˈblæŋkɪt/	/blenkeʈ/	'blanket'
/ˈkæmp/	/kemp/	'camp'
/ˈkæp/	/kep/	'cap'
/ˈkælkjʊleɪtəʳ/	/kelkuleʈar/	'calculator'
/ˈkælɪndəʳ/	/kelenɖar/	'calendar'

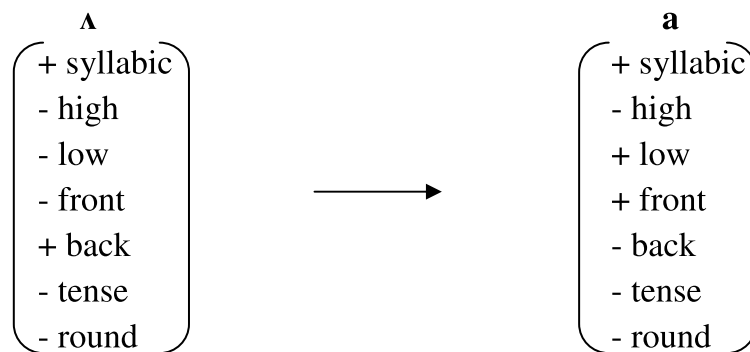|		
/kæmrə/	/kemera/	'camera'
/kæns^əl/	/kensel/	'cancel'
/kænti:n/	/kenʈin/	'canteen'
/kæptɪn/	/kep^hʈin/	'captain'
/kæʃ/	/keʃ/	'cash'
/kæʃ memoʊ/	/keʃ memo/	'cash memo'
/kæʃɪə^r/	/keʃiar/	'cashier'

(g) The front lower mid unrounded vowel /æ/ became the front lower unrounded vowel /a/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The phonetic change from /æ/ to /a/ is found in the word initial and medial positions of the word as can be seen in the following examples with the given phonological rules:

$$
\textbf{æ} \qquad\qquad \textbf{a}
$$

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
+ \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ front} \\
- \text{ back} \\
- \text{ round} \\
- \text{ tense}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
+ \text{ low} \\
- \text{ front} \\
+ \text{ back} \\
- \text{ round} \\
+ \text{ tense}
\end{bmatrix}
$$
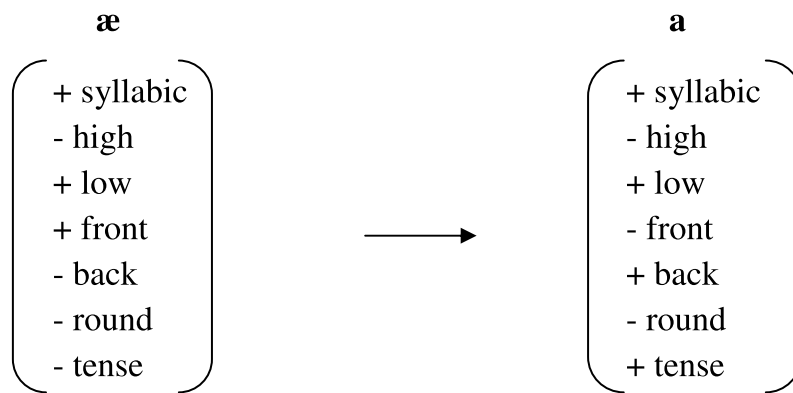
English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/ədæptə^r/	/eɖapʈar/	'adaptor'
/æp^əl/	/ap^hel/	'apple'
/kæʃu:/	/kaʤu/	'cashew'
/tʃæmpɪən/	/campian/	'champion'

/ɪnæmᵊl/	/enamel/	'enamel'
/ɪgzæm/	/egzam/	'exam'
/gæskɪt/	/gaskeʈ/	'gasket'
/ʤæm/	/ʤam/	'jam'
/proʊgræm/	/pogram/	'programme'
/roʊmæntɪk/	/rumanʈik/	'romantic'
/sɪmɪlærti/	/similariʈi/	'similarity'
/stæmp/	/isʈam/	'stamp'
/tæta:/	/ʈaʈa/	'ta-ta'
/træfɪk/	/ʈrapʰik/	'traffic'

(h) The mid back unrounded vowel /ʌ/ becomes low front unrounded vowel /a/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The phonetic change from /ʌ/ to /a/ is found only in word initial and medial postions of the words rather than the word final position as exemplified below with the following phonological rules:

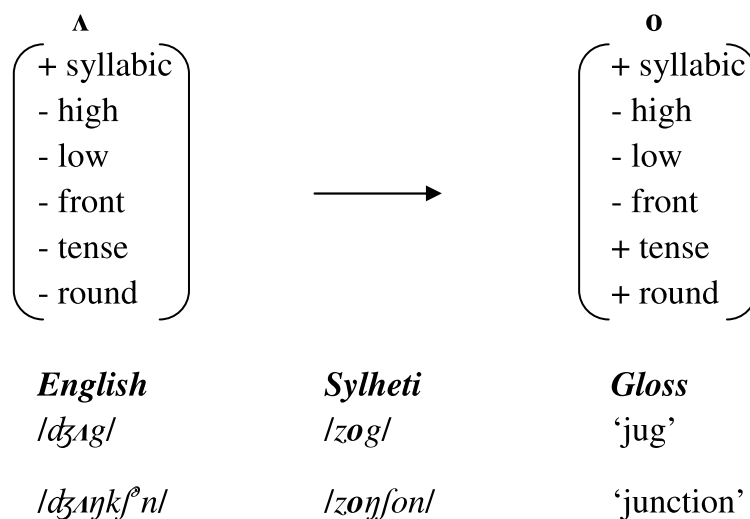| ʌ		a
+ syllabic		+ syllabic
- high		- high
- low		+ low
- front	⟶	+ front
+ back		- back
- tense		- tense
- round		- round

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/blʌd/	/belaɖ/	'blood'

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/brʌʃ/	/beraś/	'brush'
/bʌzɪt/	/bazeʈ/	'budget'
/bʌmpəʳ/	/bampar/	'bumper'
/bʌs/	/bas/	'bus'
/kʌp/	/kapʰ/	'cup'
/kʌstəməʳ/	/kaśʈomar/	'customer'
/klʌb/	/kelab/	'club'
/kʌlvəʳt/	/kalbaʈ/	'culvert'
/dʌbᵊl/	/ɖabol/	'double'
/drʌm/	/ɖeram/	'drum'
/dʌstəʳ/	/ɖaśʈar/	'duster'
/ɪnkʌm/	/inkam/	'income'
/lʌntʃ/	/lanś/	'lunch'
/neɪl kʌtəʳ/	/neil kaʈar/	'nail cutter'
/plʌg/	/pelag/	'plug'
/pʌls/	/pals/	'pulse'
/pʌblɪkeɪʃᵊn/	/pablikeśon/	'publication'
/rʌf/	/rapʰ/	'rough'
/rʌn/	/ran/	'run'
/rʌnɪŋ/	/raniŋ/	'running'
/ʃʌtəʳ/	/ʃaʈar/	'shutter'
/sʌbməriːn/	/sabmerin/	'submarine'
/sʌbsɪdi/	/sabsiɖi/	'subsidy'

/sʌfəʳ/	/sapʰar/	'suffer'
/sʌfɪks/	/sapʰiks/	'suffix'
/sʌməri/	/samari/	'summary'
/tʌtʃ/	/ʈaś/	'touch'
/tʌf/	/ʈapʰ/	'tough'
/tʌnᵊl/	/ʈanel/	'tunnel'
/ʌlsəʳ/	/alsar/	'ulcer'
/ʌltɪmətlɪ/	/alʈimeiʈli/	'ultimately'
/ʌltɪmeɪtəm/	/alʈimeʈam/	'ultimatum'
/ʌnsɜːʳtᵊn/	/ansarʈein/	'uncertain'
/ʌploʊd/	/aplouɖ/	'upload'

(i) The mid central unrounded vowel /ʌ/ becomes mid back rounded vowel /o/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The phonetic change from /ʌ/ to /o/ is found only in word medial postion of the words rather than the word initial and final positions as exemplified with the help of following phonological rules:

$$
\begin{matrix}
\textbf{ʌ} & & \textbf{o} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ front} \\
- \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
& \longrightarrow &
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ front} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
+ \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/dʒʌg/	/zog/	'jug'
/dʒʌŋkʃᵊn/	/zoŋʃon/	'junction'

/mʌg/	/mog/	'mug'
/nʌmbəʳ/	/nombor/	'number'
/tʌb/	/ʈ̤ob/	'tub'
/rʌbəʳ/	/robar/	'rubber'
/θʌg/	/ʈʰog/	'tout'
/tʌn/	/ʈon/	'ton'

(j) The mid central unrounded vowel /ʌ/ becomes high back rounded vowel /u/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. It is also noticed that the shifting of /ʌ/ to /u/ is not frequently found in English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced by the availability of single example as demonstrated below:

$$
\overset{\Lambda}{\begin{bmatrix} + \text{syllabic} \\ - \text{high} \\ - \text{low} \\ - \text{front} \\ + \text{back} \\ - \text{tense} \\ - \text{round} \end{bmatrix}} \longrightarrow \overset{u}{\begin{bmatrix} + \text{syllabic} \\ + \text{high} \\ - \text{low} \\ - \text{front} \\ + \text{back} \\ + \text{tense} \\ + \text{round} \end{bmatrix}}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/kʌmpəni/	/kumpani/	'company'
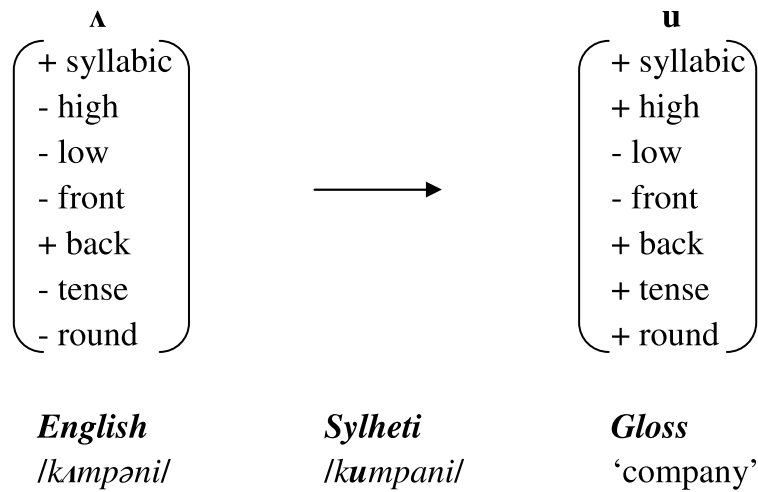
(k) The high front unrounded vowel /i/ becomes high back rounded vowel /u/ as shown with the help of following phonological rules. It is also noticed that the phonological rule i.e., i > u in English loanwords in Sylheti is not frequently found as evidenced by the availability of single example as illustrated below.

$$
\text{i}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{high} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ front} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{round}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\text{u}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ high} \\
+ \text{ back} \\
- \text{ front} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
+ \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/biskit/	*/biskuʈ/*	'biscuit'
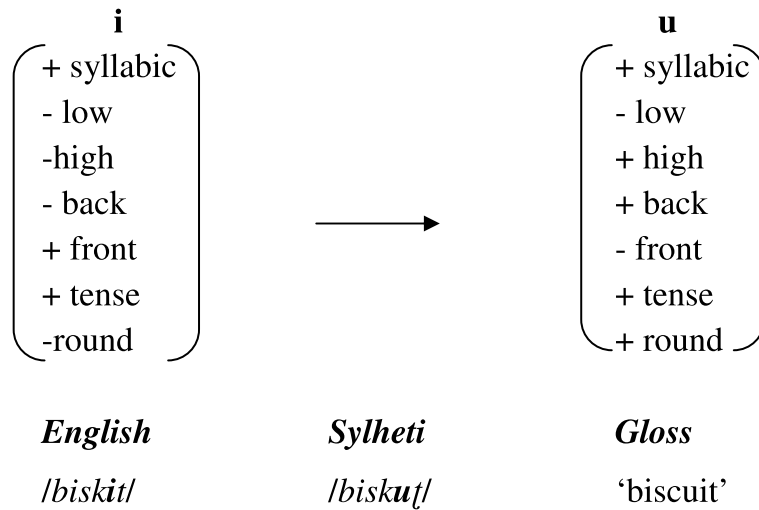
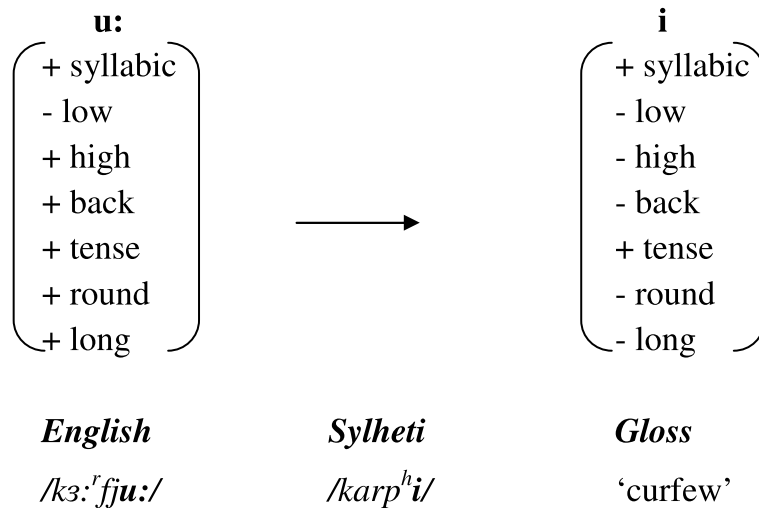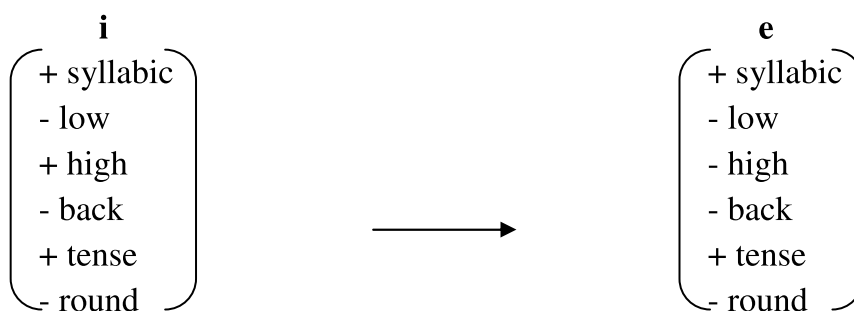(l) The long high back rounded vowel /u:/ becomes high front unrounded vowel /i/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. It is also noticed that the shifting of long high back rounded vowel /u:/ to high front unrounded vowel /i/ in English loanwords in Sylheti is not frequently found as evidenced from the availability of the single example as shown below.

$$
\text{u:}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ high} \\
+ \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
+ \text{ round} \\
+ \text{ long}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\text{i}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round} \\
- \text{ long}
\end{bmatrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/kɜ:ʳfju:/	/karpʰi/	'curfew'

(m) The high front unrounded vowel /i/ becomes front mid unrounded vowel /e/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. It is worth mentioning here that the shifting of high front unrounded vowel /i/ to the front mid unrounded vowel

/e/ is frequently found in initial and medial positions of words, however it is not noticed in the word final position of a word as exemplifird with the help of following phonological rules.
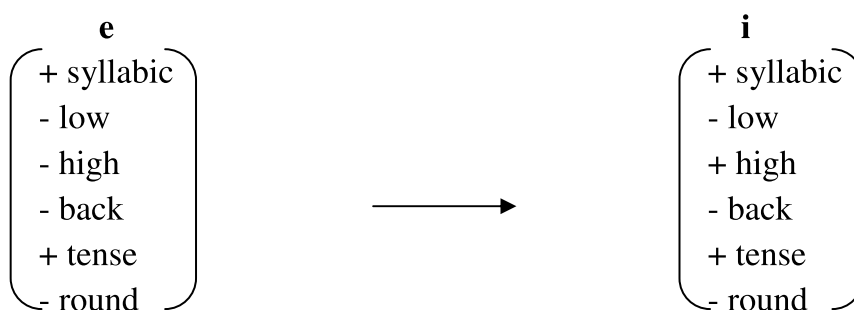
$$
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{i} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ high} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
\longrightarrow
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{e} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/bʌʤɪt/	/bazeʈ/	'budget'
/bɪznɪs/	/biznes/	'business'
/kɒlɪʤ/	/koleʤ/	'college'
/sɪnɪma:/	/sinema/	'cinema'
/krɪkɪt/	/kikeʈ/	'cricket'
/dɪveləp/	/ɖebolap/	'develop'
/ɪfɪʃⁿnt/	/epʰisienʈ/	'efficient'
/ɪkstɜːʳnᵊl/	/eksʈarnel/	'external'
/ɪnæmᵊl/	/enamel/	'enamel'
/gæskɪt/	/gaskeʈ/	'gasket'
/ʤækɪt/	/ʣekeʈ/	'jacket'
/mænɪʤəʳ/	/meneʣar/	'manager'
/mɪlɪtri/	/mileʈari/	'military'

/pækɪt/	/pʰegeʈ/	'packet'
/piːnɪs/	/penis/	'penis'
/pɜːrfɪkt/	/perpʰekʈ/	'perfect'
/pɒkɪt/	/pʰ ogeʈ/	'pocket'
/praɪvɪʈ/	/peraibeʈ/	'private'
/rɪkɔːʳd/	/rekoɖ/	'record'
/rɪkɔːʳdəʳ/	/rekoɖar/	'recorder'
/rɪkɔːʳdɪŋ/	/rekoɖiŋ/	'recording'
/rɪspekt/	/respekʈ/	'respect'
/rɪspɒns/	/respons/	'response'
/rɪspɒndənt/	/respoɳɖenʈ/	'respondent'
/rɪstrɪkʃⁿn/	/resʈikʃon/	'restriction'
/rɒkɪt/	/rokeʈ/	'rocket'
/sɪmestəʳ/	/semisʈar/	'semester'
/siːkrɪt/	/sekreʈ/	'secret'
/taːʳgɪt/	/ʈargeʈ/	'target'
/θiːsɪs/	/tʰesis/	'thesis'
/tɪkɪt/	/ʈikeʈ/	'ticket'
/wɪkɪt/	/wikeʈ/	'wicket'
/zɪərɒks/	/zeroks/	'xerox'

(n) The front mid unrounded vowel /e/ becomes high front unrounded vowel /i/ in English loanwords in Sylheti as the same phonetic change is found in the initial and medial positions of words as can be seen in the following examples with given phonological rules.
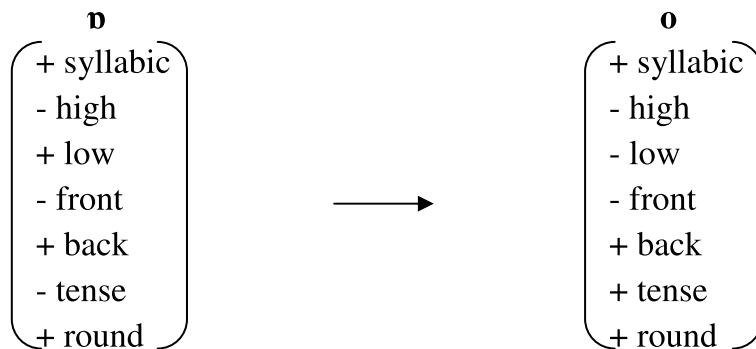
$$
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{e} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
\longrightarrow
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{i} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ high} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/eərapleɪn/	/iruplein/	'aeroplane'
/endʒɪn/	/indʑin/	'engine'
/endʒɪnɪəʳ/	/indʑiniar/	'engineer'
/estɪmeɪt/	/iśʈimeiʈ/	'estimate'
/ʃedjuːl/	/śiɖiul/	'schedule'
/sɪmestəʳ/	/semisʈar/	'semester'
/swetəʳ/	/suiʈar/	'sweater'

(o) The front mid unrounded vowel /e/ becomes mid back rounded vowel /o/. However the shifting of /e/ to /o/ is not frequently found in English loan words in Sylheti as evidenced from the availability of single example as shown below.

	e			**o**
	$\begin{bmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ low} \\ - \text{ high} \\ + \text{ front} \\ - \text{ back} \\ + \text{ tense} \\ - \text{round} \end{bmatrix}$	$\longrightarrow$		$\begin{bmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ low} \\ + \text{ high} \\ - \text{ front} \\ + \text{ back} \\ + \text{ tense} \\ + \text{ round} \end{bmatrix}$
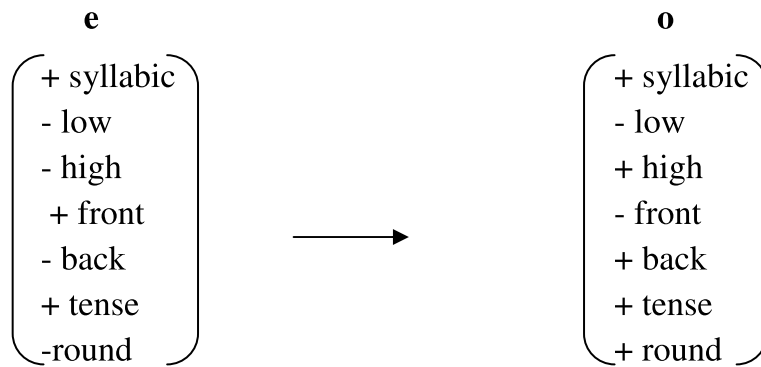
English	**Sylheti**	**Gloss**
/dɪveləp/	/ɖebolap/	'develop'

(p) The low back rounded vowel /ɒ/ becomes the mid back rounded vowel /o/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The change of low back rounded vowel /ɒ/ to the mid back rounded vowel /o/ is found in initial and medial positions of the words. It is also important to note that the same process of vowel shifting is frequently found in English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced from the availability of large number of examples as shown below:
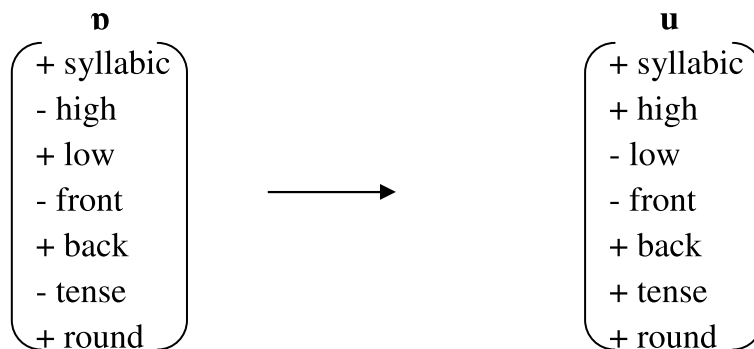
	ɒ			**o**
	$\begin{bmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ high} \\ + \text{ low} \\ - \text{ front} \\ + \text{ back} \\ - \text{ tense} \\ + \text{ round} \end{bmatrix}$	$\longrightarrow$		$\begin{bmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ high} \\ - \text{ low} \\ - \text{ front} \\ + \text{ back} \\ + \text{ tense} \\ + \text{ round} \end{bmatrix}$

English	**Sylheti**	**Gloss**
/əʈɒmɪk/	/eʈomik/	'atomic'
/blɒk/	/bolok/	'block'
/bɒdi/	/boɖi/	'body'

/bɒm/	/bom/	'bomb'
/kɒf/	/kopʰ/	'cough'
/kɒfi/	/kopʰi/	'coffee'
/kɒləʳ/	/kolar/	'collar'
/kɒlɪʤ/	/koleʤ/	'college'
/kɒliːg/	/kolig/	'colleague'
/kɒləni/	/koloni/	'colony'
/kɒmən/	/komon/	'common'
/kɒnfrəns/	/konpʰarens/	'conference'
/desktɒp/	/dekst̺op/	'desktop'
/frɒk/	/pʰorog/	'frock'
/hɒki/	/hoki/	'hockey'
/hɒlɪdei/	/holiɖe/	'holiday'
/hɒt/	/hot̺/	'hot'
/ɒfis/	/opʰiʃ/	'office'
/ɒfɪsəʳ/	/opʰisar/	'officer'
/ɒfəʳ/	/opʰar/	'offer'
/ɒflaɪn/	/opʰlain/	'offline'
/ɒnlaɪn/	/onlain/	'online'
/pɒkɪt/	/pʰogeʈ/	'pocket'
/pɒlɪsi/	/polisi/	'policy'
/pɒlɪtɪks/	/poliʈiks/	'politics'

/pɒlɪtɪʃⁿn/	/poliʈiʃian/	'politician'
/pɒlɪmə^r/	/polimar/	'polymer'
/pɒlɪθi:n/	/pʰolitin/	'polythene'
/pɒpjʊlə^r/	/popular/	'popular'
/pɒpjʊleɪʃⁿn/	/populeʃon/	'population'
/prɒfɪt/	/popʰiʈ/	'profit'
/roʊbɒt/	/roboʈ/	'robot'
/rɒkɪt/	/rokeʈ/	'rocket'
/rɒd/	/roɖ/	'rod'
/rɒm/	/rom/	'ROM'
/rɒŋ/	/roŋ/	'wrong'
/skɒlə^r/	/iskolar/	'scholar'
/skɒlə^rʃɪp/	/iskolarʃip/	'scholarship'
/ʃɒt/	/śoʈ/	'shot'

(q) The low back rounded vowel /ɒ/ becomes high back rounded vowel /u/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The shifting of the low back rounded vowel /ɒ/ to the high back rounded vowel /u/ is found only in word medial position as exemplified with the help of following phonological rules:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{ɒ} & & \text{u} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
+ \text{ low} \\
- \text{ front} \\
+ \text{ back} \\
- \text{ tense} \\
+ \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
& \longrightarrow &
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
+ \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ front} \\
+ \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
+ \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{array}
$$

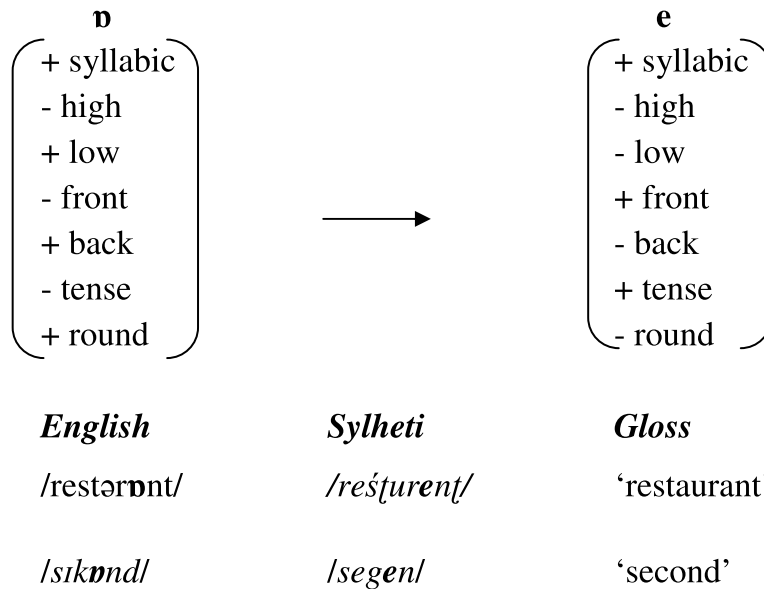| English	Sylheti	Gloss
/bɒtᵊl/	/buʈol/	'bottle'
/hɒstᵊl/	/husʈel/	'hostel'

(r) The low back rounded vowel /ɒ/ becomes the front lower unrounded vowel /a/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The shifting of low back rounded vowel /ɒ/ to the front lower unrounded vowel /a/ is found only in word medial position as exemplified with the help of following phonological rules:

$$
\overset{\text{ɒ}}{\begin{bmatrix} + \text{syllabic} \\ - \text{high} \\ + \text{low} \\ - \text{front} \\ + \text{back} \\ - \text{tense} \\ + \text{round} \end{bmatrix}} \longrightarrow \overset{\text{a}}{\begin{bmatrix} + \text{syllabic} \\ - \text{high} \\ + \text{low} \\ + \text{front} \\ - \text{back} \\ - \text{tense} \\ - \text{round} \end{bmatrix}}
$$
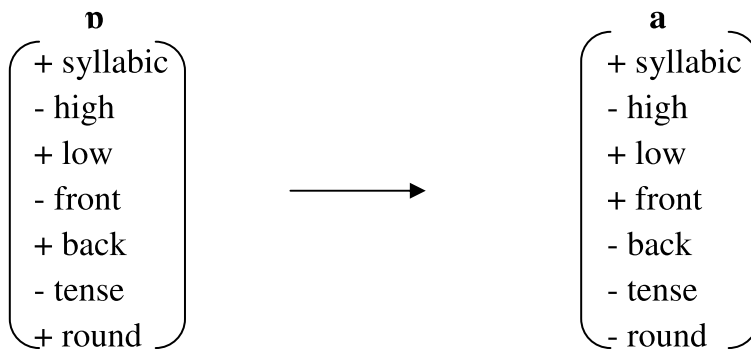
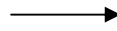| English	Sylheti	Gloss
/bɒks/	/bakʰśo/	'box'
/dɒktəʳ/	/dakʰtor/	'doctor'
/pɒlɪʃ/	/pʰaliś/	'polish'
/kwɒlɪfaɪ/	/kualipʰai/	'qualify'
/kwɒlɪfaɪd/	/kualipʰaiɖ/	'qualified'
/kwɒlɪfɪkeɪʃᵊn/	/kualipʰikeśon/	'qualification'
/kwɒlɪti/	/kualiʈi/	'quality'
/wɒʃ/	/waś/	'wash'
/wɒʃᵊr/	/waśar/	'washer'

| /wɒʃɪŋ/ | /waśiŋ/ | 'washing' |
| /wɒʃruːm/ | /waśrum/ | 'washroom' |

(s) The low back rounded vowel /ɒ/ becomes the front mid unrounded vowel /e/. The shifting of the low back rounded vowel /ɒ/ to the front mid unrounded vowel /e/ is not frequently found in English loanwords in Sylheti. It is also observed that same process of vowel shifting is found only in word medial position as shown below with the help of the given phonological rules.

<div align="center">

ɒ   e

</div>

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
+ \text{ low} \\
- \text{ front} \\
+ \text{ back} \\
- \text{ tense} \\
+ \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ front} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/restərɒnt/	/reśʈurenʈ/	'restaurant'
/sɪkɒnd/	/segen/	'second'

(t) The central mid unrounded vowel /ɜ/ becomes the front lower unrounded vowel /a/ in English loan words in Sylheti. The shifting of the central mid unrounded vowel /ɜ/ to the front lower unrounded vowel /a/ is found in word initial and medial positions of words rather than the final position of the words. It is also observed that the same process of vowel shifting is frequently found in word medial postion than word initial position as exemplified with the help of following rules:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\textbf{ɜː} & & \textbf{a} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ front} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round} \\
+ \text{ long}
\end{bmatrix}
& \longrightarrow &
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
+ \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ front} \\
+ \text{ back} \\
- \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round} \\
- \text{ long}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{array}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/kɜːʳfjuː/	/karpʰi/	'curfew'
/kənfɜːʳm/	/konpʰarom/	'confirm'
/dɪstɜːʳb/	/ɖiśʈab/	'disturb'
/ekspɜːʳt/	/ekspaʈ/	'expert'
/ɪkstɜːʳnᵊl/	/eksʈarnel/	'external'
/fɜːʳst/	/pʰasʈ/	'first'
/intɜːʳnᵊl/	/inʈarnel/	'internal'
/ɪnvɜːʳtar/	/inbaʈar/	'inverter'
/ʤɜːʳnᵊl/	/zarnal/	'journal'
/nɜːʳs/	/nars/	'nurse'
/paːswɜːʳd/	/paswaɖ/	'password'
/pɜːrfɪkt/	/parpʰekʈ/	'perfect'
/pɜːʳfjuːm/	/parpʰium/	'perfume'
/pɜːʳmɪt/	/parmiʈ/	'permit'

/rɪsɜːᵣtʃ/	/risarś/	'research'
/rɪzɜːᵣv/	/rizab/	'reserve'
/rɪtɜːᵣn/	/riʈan/	'return'
/sɜːᵣtʃ/	/sarś/	'search'
/sɜːᵣvᵊnt/	/sarbenʈ/	'servant'
/sɜːᵣvəᵣ/	/sarbar/	'server'
/sɜːᵣvɪs/	/sarbis/	'service'
/ʃɜːt/	/śaʈ/	'shirt'
/skɜːᵣt/	/iskaʈ/	'skirt'
/sɜːᵣ/	/sar/	'sir'
/spɜːᵣm/	/isparm/	'sperm'
/tɜːᵣm/	/ʈarm/	'term'
/tɜːᵣmɪnᵊl/	/ʈarminel/	'terminal'
/tɜːᵣmɪneɪt/	/ʈarmineiʈ/	'terminate'
/θɜːᵣd/	/tʰaɖ/	'third'
/trænsfɜːᵣ/	/ʈenspʰar/	'transfer'
/tɜːᵣnɪŋ/	/ʈaniŋ/	'turning'
/juːnɪvɜːᵣsɪti/	/iunibarsiʈi/	'university'
/ɜːᵣbən/	/arban/	'urban'

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/ɜːˈrdʒ²nt/	/arzenʈ/	'urgent'
/wɜːˈrkbʊk/	/warkbuk/	'workbook'
/wɜːˈrkʃɒp/	/warkśop/	'workshop'

(u) The open mid back unrounded /ɔ/ vowel changed to the close mid back rounded vowel /o/ in English loanwords in sylheti. It is important to note that shifting of the open mid back unrounded vowel /ɔ/ to the close mid back rounded vowel /o/ is found only in word medial position as exemplified below with the help of given phonological rules:
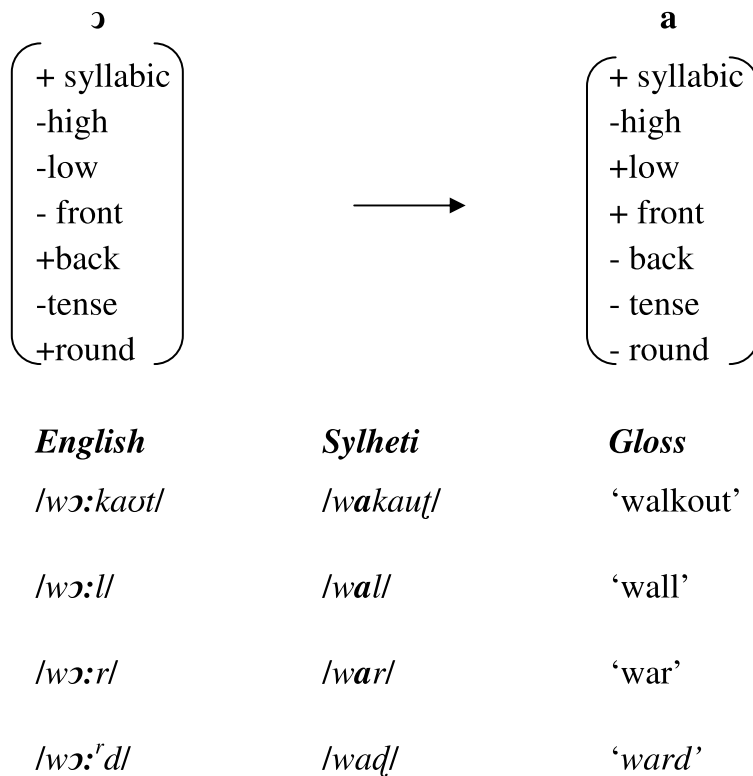
<pre>
            ɔ   o

      ⎧ + syllabic ⎫   ⎧ + syllabic ⎫
      ⎪ - high   ⎪   ⎪ - high   ⎪
      ⎪ - low   ⎪   ⎪ - low   ⎪
      ⎨   ⎬   ⟶   ⎨   ⎬
      ⎪ + back   ⎪   ⎪ + back   ⎪
      ⎪ - tense   ⎪   ⎪ + tense   ⎪
      ⎩ + round   ⎭   ⎩ + round   ⎭
</pre>
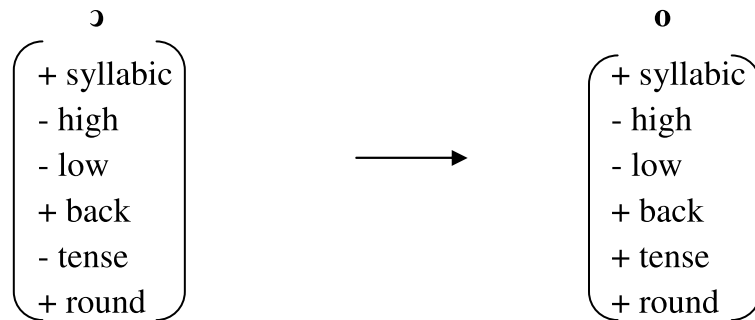
English	Sylheti	Gloss
/kɔːˈrt/	/kouʈ/	'court'
/tɔːˈrtʃ/	/toś/	'torch'
/tɔːs/	/ʈos/	'toss'

(v) The open mid back unrounded vowel /ɔ/ changed to the high back rounded vowel /u/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The shifting of the open mid back unrounded vowel /ɔ/ to the high back rounded vowel /u/ is found only in word medial position. It is also observed that the same process of vowel shifting is not frequently found in English laonwords in Sylheti as evidenced from the availability of single example as shown below with the help of given phonological rules:

ɔ   u

$$\begin{pmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ \text{-high} \\ \text{-low} \\ +\text{back} \\ \text{-tense} \\ +\text{round} \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ +\text{high} \\ \text{-low} \\ + \text{ back} \\ + \text{ tense} \\ + \text{ round} \end{pmatrix}$$

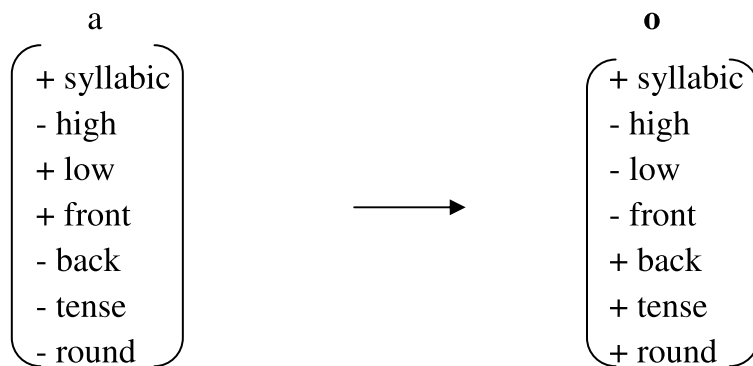| English	Sylheti	Gloss
/paːspɔʳt/	/paspuʈ/	'passport'
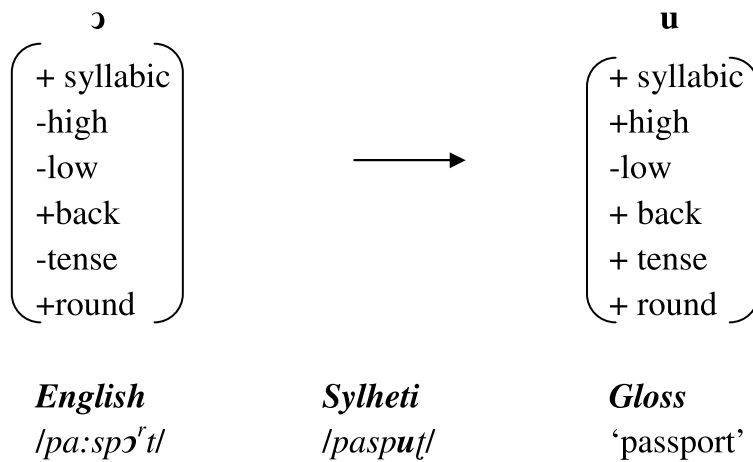
(w) The open mid back unrounded vowel /ɔ/ changed to the low front unrounded vowel /a/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The shifting of the open mid back unrounded vowel /ɔ/ to the low front unrounded vowel /a/ is found only in word medial position as exemplified below with the help of the given phonological rules:
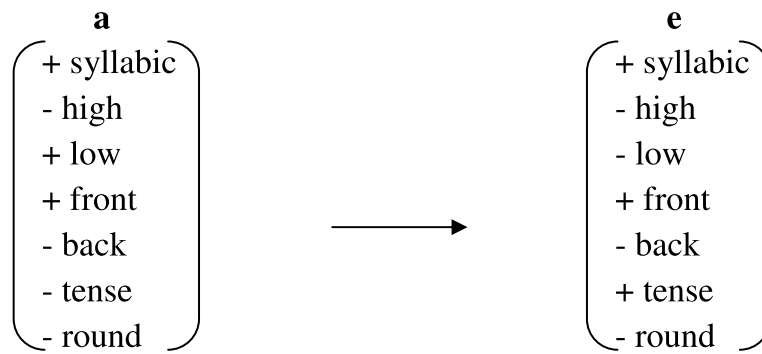
ɔ   a

$$\begin{pmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ \text{-high} \\ \text{-low} \\ \text{- front} \\ +\text{back} \\ \text{-tense} \\ +\text{round} \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ \text{-high} \\ +\text{low} \\ + \text{ front} \\ - \text{ back} \\ - \text{ tense} \\ - \text{ round} \end{pmatrix}$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/wɔːkaʊt/	/wakauʈ/	'walkout'
/wɔːl/	/wal/	'wall'
/wɔːr/	/war/	'war'
/wɔːʳd/	/waɖ/	'*ward*'

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/wɔːʳdᵖn/	/warɖen/	'warden'
/wɔːʳnɪŋ/	/warnɪŋ/	'warning'

(x) The lower front unrounded vowel /a/ changed to the mid back rounded vowel /o/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The shifting of the lower front unrounded vowel /a/ to the mid back rounded vowel /o/ is found only in medial position of a word. It is worth mentioning here that the same process of vowel shifting is not frequently found in English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced from the availability of the single example as shown below with the help of given phonological rules:

$$
\overset{a}{\begin{bmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ high} \\ + \text{ low} \\ + \text{ front} \\ - \text{ back} \\ - \text{ tense} \\ - \text{ round} \end{bmatrix}} \longrightarrow \overset{o}{\begin{bmatrix} + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ high} \\ - \text{ low} \\ - \text{ front} \\ + \text{ back} \\ + \text{ tense} \\ + \text{ round} \end{bmatrix}}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/paːθ/	/pʰot/	'path'

(y) The lower front unrounded vowel /a/ becomes the front mid unrounded vowel /e/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. Like the above mentioned vowel shifting, the shifting of the lower front unrounded vowel /a/ to the front mid unrounded vowel /e/ is found only in word medial position as shown below with the help of given phonological rules:

$$
\mathbf{a}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
+ \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ front} \\
- \text{ back} \\
- \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\mathbf{e}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
+ \text{ front} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/sa:mpᵊl/	/sempul/	'sample'
/təma:toʊ/	/ʈomeʈu/	'tomato'

4.1.2. Vowel harmony:

A type of assimilation which plays an important role in many languages is called harmony. Most commonly this affects vowels (Spencer, 1996). The similar case is found in Sylheti as well as some of the English loanwords in Sylheti, the high vowels of the final syllables influence the vowels of the first syllables which have the same tongue height rather than their backness distinctions. In other words, vowel harmony takes place between contiguous syllables i.e., the vowel of first and the second syllable as can be seen in the following example.
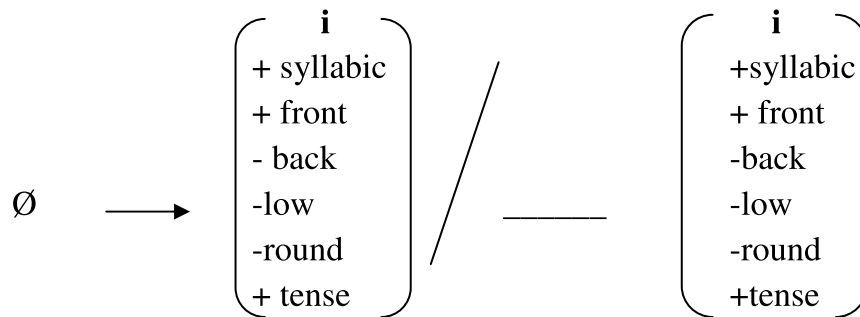
(a)

$$
\mathbf{ə}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ back} \\
- \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\mathbf{i}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
+ \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
\bigg/ \underline{\hspace{1.5cm}}
\mathbf{i}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
+ \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ tense} \\
- \text{ round}
\end{bmatrix}
$$
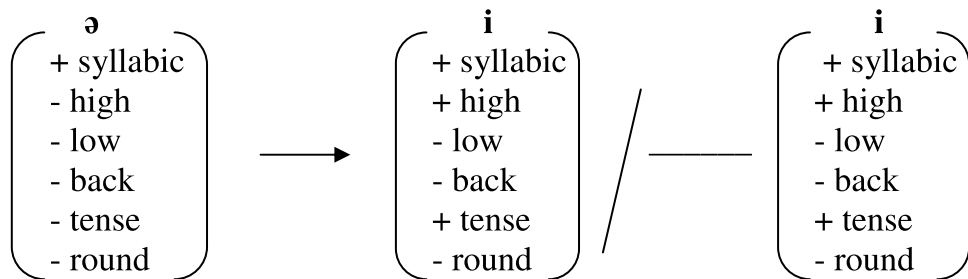
English	Sylheti	Gloss
/məʃiːn /	/miʃin/	'machine'

It is important to note that this type of phonological adaptation is rarely found in English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced by the availability of an example as illustrated above.
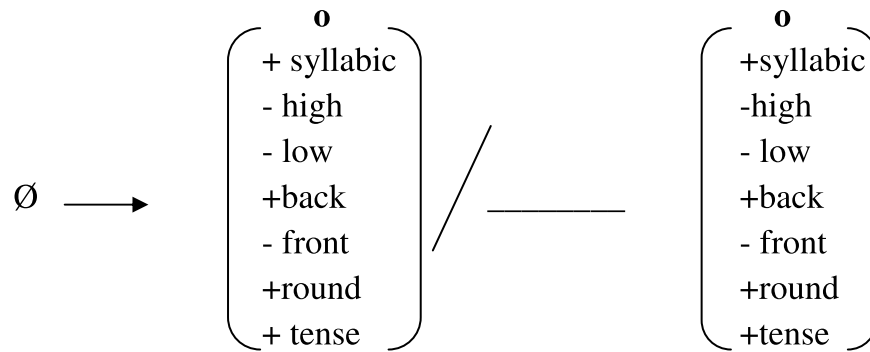
The different processes of vowel harmony in English loanwords in Sylheti are exemplified with the help of following phonological rules:

(b)

$$\emptyset \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{i} \\ +\text{ syllabic} \\ +\text{ front} \\ -\text{ back} \\ -\text{low} \\ -\text{round} \\ +\text{ tense} \end{bmatrix} \Bigg/ \underline{\quad\quad} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{i} \\ +\text{syllabic} \\ +\text{ front} \\ -\text{back} \\ -\text{low} \\ -\text{round} \\ +\text{tense} \end{bmatrix}$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/brɪʤ/	/biriz/	'bridge'
/kriːm/	/kirim/	'cream'
/kliːn/	/kilin/	'clean'
/klɪk/	/kilik/	'click'
/klɪp/	/kilipʰ/	'clip'
/slɪp/	/silipʰ/	'slip'
/fɪlm/	/pʰilim/	'film'
/friːz/	/pʰiriʤ/	'freeze'
/friː/	/pʰiri/	'free'
/griːs/	/giriz/	'grease'

(c)

$$
\varnothing \longrightarrow
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{o} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
+\text{back} \\
- \text{ front} \\
+\text{round} \\
+ \text{ tense}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
\Big/ \underline{\hspace{2cm}}
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{o} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+\text{syllabic} \\
-\text{high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
+\text{back} \\
- \text{ front} \\
+\text{round} \\
+\text{tense}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/slou/	/solo/	'slow'
/fɔːʳm/	/pʰorom/	'form'
/frɒk/	/pʰorog/	'frock'
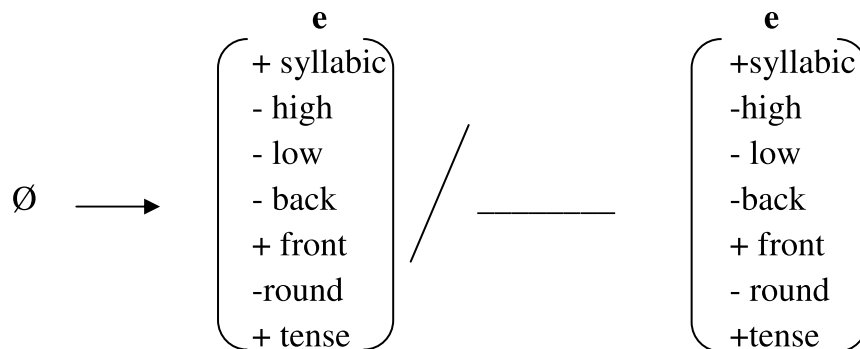
(d)

$$
\varnothing \longrightarrow
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{e} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ syllabic} \\
- \text{ high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
- \text{ back} \\
+ \text{ front} \\
-\text{round} \\
+ \text{ tense}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
\Big/ \underline{\hspace{2cm}}
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{e} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+\text{syllabic} \\
-\text{high} \\
- \text{ low} \\
-\text{back} \\
+ \text{ front} \\
- \text{ round} \\
+\text{tense}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/treɪn/	/ʈerein/	'train'

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/dreɪn/	/ɖereɪn/	'drain'
/dres/	/ɖeres/	'dress'
/treɪ/	/ʈˌere/	'tray'

(e)

$$\varnothing \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ + \text{syllabic} \\ + \text{high} \\ - \text{low} \\ + \text{back} \\ - \text{front} \\ + \text{round} \\ + \text{tense} \end{bmatrix} / \underline{\qquad} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ + \text{syllabic} \\ + \text{high} \\ - \text{low} \\ + \text{back} \\ - \text{front} \\ + \text{round} \\ + \text{tense} \end{bmatrix}$$
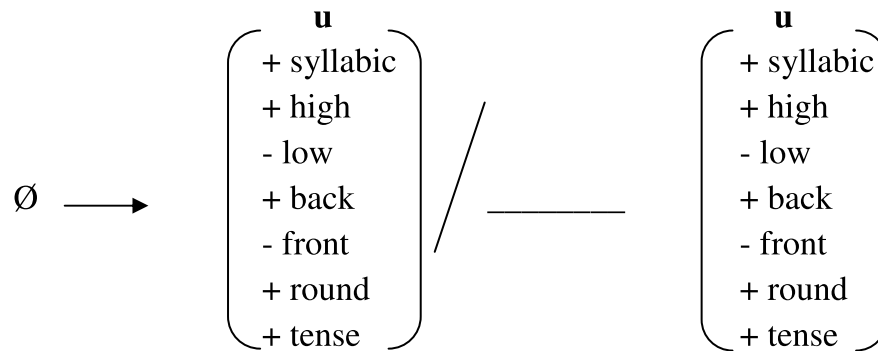
English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/blu:/	/bulu/	'blue'
/blu:tu:ɵ/	/buluʈut/	'blue'
/glu:/	/gulu/	'glue'
/klu:/	/kulu/	'clue'

3.1.3. Vowel Insertion

Insertion or addition of vowel sounds is also one of the common phonological processes in the phonology of English loanwords in most of the Indian languages. Similarly, a number of English loanwords in Sylheti exhibit the process of vowel insertion. As in many other Indian languages, Sylheti usually does not permit **tr-, dr-, gl-, kr-, kl-, sk-, st-, sp-, sl-** clusters in the beginning of a word because of the difficulty in pronunciation. Therefore, the vowels */i/,*

/o/ and /e/ are being added to break the initial cluster of English to make it easier to pronounce such loanwords by the Sylheti speakers. More specifically, the addition of vowels may be in the initial or non-initial positions of the English loanwords to nativize the syllabic structure of source language (English) to fit into the syllabic structure of recipient variety (Sylheti) in the form of either **VC** or **CV(C)** structure. The various processes of vowel insertion in English loanwords in Sylheti are illustrated in the following sections:

(a) The high front unrounded vowel is being inserted in the initial position of words to break the onset clusters in English loanwords in Sylheti as illustrated in the following examples with the help of given phonological rules:

$$\varnothing \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{i} \\ + \text{syllabic} \\ - \text{low} \\ - \text{mid} \\ - \text{back} \\ - \text{round} \\ + \text{tense} \end{bmatrix} \Big/ \underline{\hspace{1cm}}CC$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/sku:l/	/iskul/	'school'
/steɪʃn/	/isʈ,iśon/	'station'
/spɪ:d/	/ispiɖ/	'speed'
/sti:l/	/isʈ,il/	'steel'
/skɒləʳ/	/iskolar/	'scholar'

/skoʊp/	/i̇skoup/	'scope'
/skɔːʳ/	/i̇skour/	'score'
/skɜːʳt/	/i̇skaʈ/	'skirt'
/spaːʳk/	/i̇spark/	'spark'
/spɜːʳm/	/i̇sparm/	'sperm'
/spɒt/	/i̇spoʈ/	'spot'
/steɪdiəm/	/i̇śʈediam/	'stadium'
/staːf/	/i̇sʈapʰ/	'staff'
/steɪʤ/	/i̇sʈeiz/	'stage'
/stɔːl/	/i̇sʈol/	'stall'
/stæmɪnə/	/i̇śʈemina/	'stamina'
/stæmp/	/i̇sʈam/	'stamp'
/stænd/	/i̇sʈ,en/	'stand'
/stændəʳd/	/i̇sʈenɖarɖ/	'standard'
/staːʳ/	/i̇sʈar/	'star'
/staːʳt/	/i̇sʈ,aɖ/	'start'
/steɪt/	/i̇sʈ,eʈ,/	'state'
/steɪʃᵊn/	/i̇sʈ,iśon/	'station'
/steɪtəs/	/i̇sʈeʈas/	'status'
/stɒk/	/i̇sʈok/	'stock'
/stɔːʳ/	/i̇śʈour/	'store'
/striːt/	/i̇sʈiriʈ/	'street'

straik/	*/isʈaik/*	'strike'
/stu:dᵊnt/	*/isʈuɖen/*	'student'
/stju:diou/	*/isʈuɖio/*	'studio'
/stail/	*/isʈail/*	'style'

(b) The high front unrounded vowel is being inserted in the medial position of words to break the onset clusters in English loanwords in Sylheti as illustrated in the following examples with the help of given phonological rules:
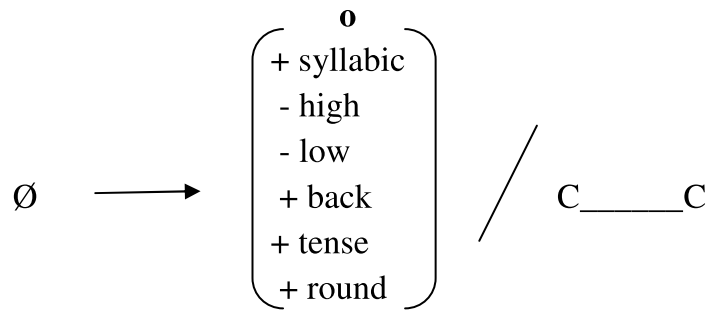
$$
\varnothing \longrightarrow
\begin{matrix} \mathbf{i} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+\ syllabic \\
-\ back \\
-\ low \\
-\ mid \\
-\ round \\
+\ tense
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
\Big/ \underline{\qquad}
\begin{matrix} \mathbf{i} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+\ syllabic \\
-\ back \\
-\ low \\
-\ mid \\
-\ round \\
+\ tense
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
$$
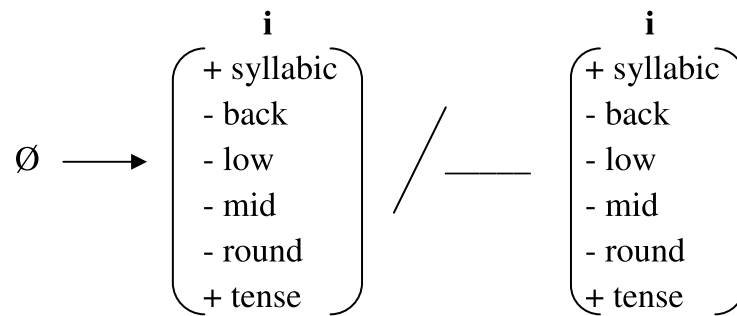
English	Sylheti	Gloss
/kri:m/	*/kirim/*	'cream'
/klɪk/	*/kilik/*	'click'
/klɪp/	*/kilipʰ/*	'clip'
/slɪp/	*/silipʰ/*	'slip'
/fri:z/	*/pʰiriz/*	'freeze'
/fri:/	*/pʰiri/*	'free'

(c) The mid front unrounded vowel is being inserted in the medial position of words to break the onset clusters in English loanwords in Sylheti as illustrated in the following examples with the help of given phonological rules:
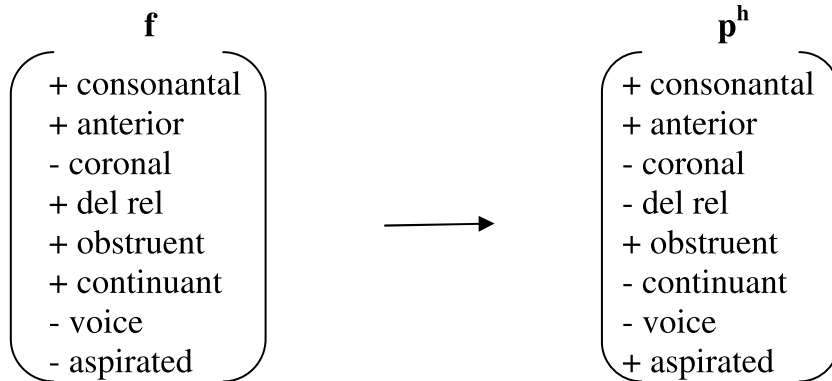
$$\emptyset \longrightarrow \left.\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{e} \\ + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ high} \\ - \text{ low} \\ - \text{ back} \\ - \text{ round} \\ + \text{ tense} \end{array}\right/ \text{C}\underline{\quad}\text{C}$$
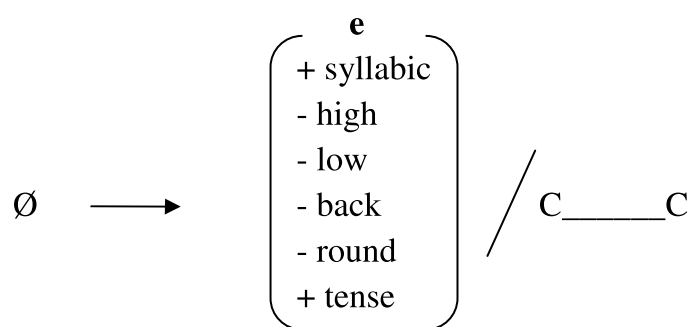
English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/dreɪn/	/derein/	'drain'
/treɪn/	/terein/	'train'
/dres/	/ɖeres/	'dress'
/treɪ/	/ʈ̣ere/	'tray'
/blæk/	/belek/	'black'
/pleɪt/	/pʰeleiʈ/	'plate'
/flæt/	/pʰeleʈ/	'flat'

(d) The mid back rounded vowel is being inserted in the medial position of word to break the onset clusters in English loanwords in Sylheti. It is worth mentioning here that insertion of mid back rounded vowel to break the onset cluster in English loanwords in Sylheti is not frequently found as illustrated in the following example with the help of given phonological rules:

$$\emptyset \longrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{o} \\ + \text{ syllabic} \\ - \text{ high} \\ - \text{ low} \\ + \text{ back} \\ + \text{ tense} \\ + \text{ round} \end{array}\right] \bigg/ \quad C\underline{\quad\quad}C$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/gla:s/	/gollas/	'glass'
/frɒk/	/pʰorog/	'frock'
/blɒk/	/bolok/	'block'
/bɒks/	/bakʰʃo/	'box'

3.1.4. Consonant shifting:

Like many other Indian languages, Sylheti does not have labio-dental fricatives in its phonological structure. Therefore, the English labio-dental fricatives /f/ and /v/ are generally substituted by the aspirated voiceless bilabial stop /pʰ/ and the voiced bilabial stop /b/ in English loanwords in Sylheti respectively. Interestingly, the sifting of consonant is found in both onset and coda position of the syllable as illustrated below:

(a) The voiceless labio-dental fricative /f/ became the aspirated voiceless bilabial stop /pʰ/ in English loanwords in Sylheti as illustrated in the following examples:

f		**pʰ**
(+ consonantal + anterior - coronal + del rel + obstruent + continuant - voice - aspirated)	⟶	(+ consonantal + anterior - coronal - del rel + obstruent - continuant - voice + aspirated)

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/fæn/	/pʰen/	'fan'
/fæktri/	/pʰekʈori/	'factory'
/fækᵊlti/	/pʰekalʈi/	'faculty'
/fæks/	/pʰeks/	'fax'
/fæmɪli/	/pʰemili/	'family'
/feɪvəʳ/	/pʰebar/	'favour'
/feɪvərɪt/	/pʰebareiʈ/	'favourite'
/fɪt/	/pʰiʈ/	'fit'
/faɪl/	/pʰail/	'file'
/fɪlm/	/pʰilim/	'film'
/foʊldəʳ/	/pʰoulɖar/	'folder'
/fʊtbɔːl/	/pʰuʈˌbol/	'football'
/fʊtpaːθ/	/pʰuʈpʰat/	'footpath'
/frɪdʒ/	/pʰiriz/	'fridge'
/fɔːʳmjʊlə/	/pʰormula/	'formula'
/frɒk/	/pʰorog/	'frock'

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/fʌŋkʃᵊn/	/pʰaŋśon/	'function'
/fɜːʳnɪtʃəʳ/	/pʰarnitsar/	'furniture'
/soʊfə/	/supʰa/	'sofa'
/ʃɪft/	/śipʰʈ/	'shift'
/ʈelɪgraːf/	/ʈeligrapʰ/	'telegraph'
/telɪfoʊn/	/ʈelipʰon/	'telephone
/tʌf/	/ʈapʰ/	'tough'
/træfɪk/	/ʈrapʰik/	'traffic'
/trænsfɜːʳ/	/ʈenspʰar/	'transfer'
/taɪfɔɪd/	/ʈaipʰoid/	'typhoid'
/ʌnfɪt/	/anpʰiʈ/	'unfit'
/ʌngreɪtfʊl/	/angreiʈpʰul/	'ungrateful'
/ʌnseɪf/	/anseipʰ/	'unsafe'
/ʌnsəksesfʊl/	/ansaksespʰul/	'unsuccessful'
/juːsfʊl/	/iuzpʰul/	'useful'
/rʌf/	/rapʰ/	'rough'
/skaːʳf/	/iskarpʰ/	'scarf'
/staːf/	/isʈapʰ /	'staff'
/sʌfəʳ/	/sapʰar/	'suffer'
/sʌfɪks/	/sapʰiks/	'suffix'

(b) The voiced labio-dental fricative **/v/** became the voiced bilabial stop **/b/** in English loanwords in Sylheti as summarized in the following examples:

$$
\mathbf{v}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ consonantal} \\
+ \text{ anterior} \\
- \text{ coronal} \\
+ \text{ del release} \\
+ \text{ continuant} \\
+ \text{ voice} \\
- \text{ aspirated}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\mathbf{b}
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ consonantal} \\
+ \text{ anterior} \\
- \text{ coronal} \\
- \text{ del release} \\
- \text{continuant} \\
+ \text{ voice} \\
- \text{ aspirated}
\end{bmatrix}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/rɪzɜːʳv/	/rizab/	'reserve'
/rɪvjuː/	/ribiu/	'review'
/rɪvɪʒᵊn/	/ribiśon/	'revision'
/sɒlv/	/solb/	'solve'
/sensɪtɪv/	/sensiʈib/	'sensitive'
/sɜːʳvᵊnt/	/sarbenʈ/	'servant'
/sɜːʳvəʳ/	/sarbar/	'server'
/ʃeɪv/	/śeib/	'shave'
/trævᵊl/	/tebel/	'travel'
/tiːviː/	/ʈibi/	'TV'
/veɪkənsi/	/bekensi/	'vacancy'
/veɪkənt/	/bekenʈ/	'vacant'
/vedʒaɪnə/	/bezina/	'vagina'
/vælɪd/	/beliɖ/	'valid'
/vəkeɪʃᵊn/	/bekeśon/	'vacation'

/væksi:n/	/beksin/	'vaccine'
/væli/	/beli/	'valley'
/væljuəbᵊl/	/beluebul/	'valuable'
/vælju:/	/belu/	'value'
/vælv/	/balb/	'valve'
/væn/	/ben/	'van'
/væsəli:n/	/beselin/	'vaseline'
/vedʒtəbᵊl/	/beziṭebul/	'vegetable'
/ventɪleɪtəʳ/	/benṭileṭor/	'ventilator'
/ventʃəʳ/	/bencar/	'venture'
/venju:/	/benu/	'venue'
/vɜ:ʳb/	/barb/	'verb'
/baɪə/	/baya/	'via'
/vɪktɪm/	/bikṭim/	'victim'
/vidiou/	/biɟio/	'video'
/vju:/	/biu/	'view'
/vɪlə/	/bila/	'villa'
/vɪlən/	/bilein/	'villain'
/vi: ai pi:/	/bi ai pi/	'VIP'
/vaɪəʳəs/	/bairas/	'virus'
/vi:zə/	/bisa/	'visa'
/vɪzɪt/	/biziṭ/	'visit'
/vɪzɪtəʳ/	/biziṭor/	'visitor'

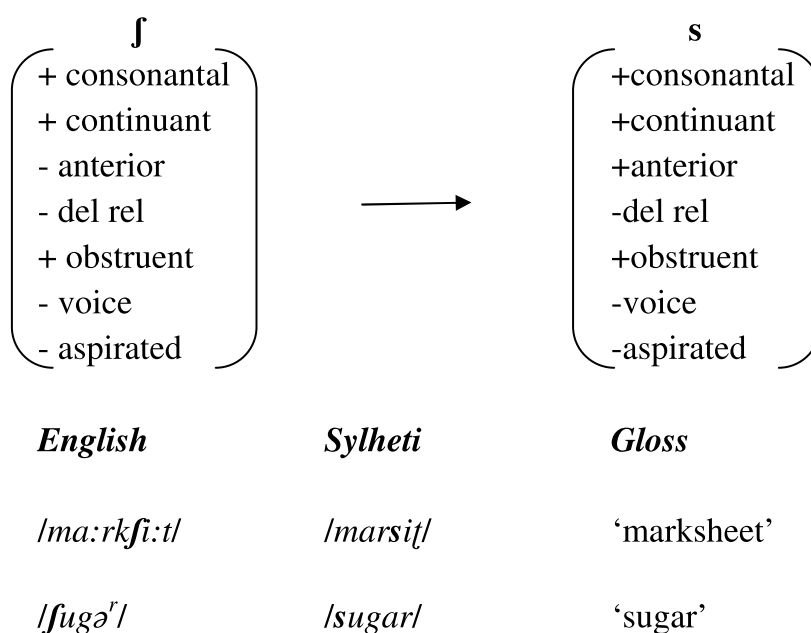|		
/vaɪtᵊl/	/baiʈal/	'vital'
/vɪtəmɪn/	/biʈamin/	'vitamin'
/vaɪvə/	/baiba/	'viva'
/vɔɪs/	/bois/	'voice'
/vɒlibɔ:l/	/bolibol/	'volleyball'
/voultɪʤ/	/bolʈiz/	'voltage'
/vɒlju:m/	/bolium/	'volume'
/vout/	/buʈ/	'vote'
/voutəʳ/	/buʈar/	'voter'
/vautʃəʳ/	/baucar/	'voucher'

Apart from the above process of consonant shifting, there are various processes of consonant shifting in English loanwords in Sylheti which are also illustrated in the following sections:

(c) The alveolar fricative /s/ becomes palatal fricative /ś/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. Interestingly, the process of shifting from the alveolar fricative /s/ to the palatal fricative /ś/ is found in initial, medial and final position of words as illustrated in the following examples with given phonological rules:

s → ś

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{consonantal} \\
+ \text{continuant} \\
+ \text{anterior} \\
- \text{del rel} \\
+ \text{obstruent} \\
+ \text{alveolar} \\
- \text{voice}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{consonantal} \\
+ \text{continuant} \\
- \text{anterior} \\
- \text{del rel} \\
+ \text{obstruent} \\
+ \text{palatal} \\
- \text{voice}
\end{bmatrix}
$$
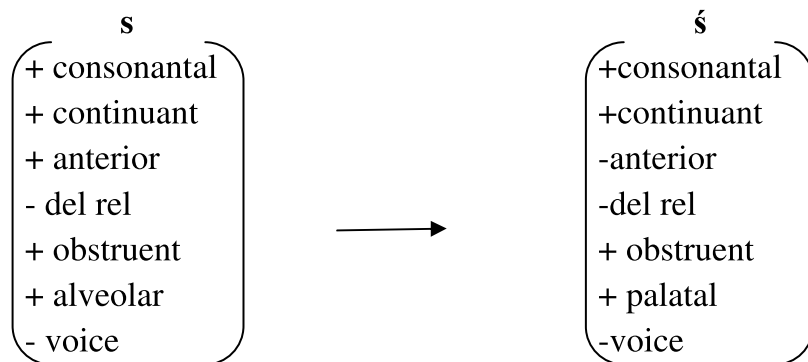
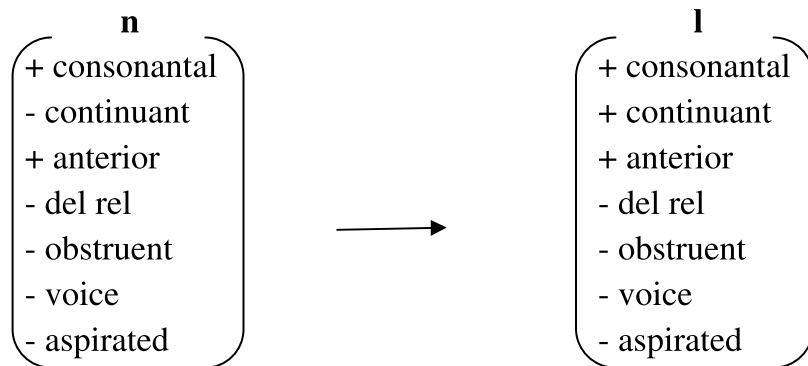| English	Sylheti	Gloss
/kʌstəmə^r/	/kaʃʈomar/	'customer'
/dɪstɜːʳb/	/ɖiʃʈab/	'disturb'
/dʌstəʳ/	/ɖaʃʈar/	'duster'
/estɪmeɪt/	/iʃʈimeiʈ/	'estimate'
/gæs/	/geʃ/	'gas'
/hɪstəri/	/hiʃʈri/	'history'
/ɪsjuː/	/iʃu/	'issue'
/indəstri/	/inɖaʃʈri/	'industry'
/kerəsiːn/	/kʰeraʃin/	'kerosene'
/maːstər/	/maʃʈor/	'master'
/mɪnɪstəʳ/	/miniʃʈar/	'minister'
/ɒfɪs/	/opʰiʃ/	'office'
/pəliːs/	/pʰuliʃ/	'police'
/poʊstəʳ/	/pouʃʈar/	'poster'
/poʊstɪŋ/	/pouʃʈiŋ/	'posting'
/siːl/	/ʃil/	'seal'
/stæmɪnə/	/iʃʈemina/	'stamina'
/stæmp/	/iʃʈam/	'stamp'
/stɔːʳ/	/iʃʈour/	'store'
/sɪrəp/	/ʃirapʰ/	'syrup'
/sɪstəm/	/siʃʈem/	'system'

(d) The palato-alveolar fricative /ʃ/ becomes the alveolar fricative /s/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. It may be the reason that Sylheti does not have the palato-alveolar fricative /ʃ/ in its phonological structure. Therefore, the palato-alveolar fricative /ʃ/ of English is generally substituted by the alveolar fricative */s/*. The process of shifting of palato-alveolar fricative /ʃ/ to alveolar fricative /s/ is found in initial and medial position of words as shown in the following examples with given phonological rules.

$$
\begin{matrix}
\mathbf{ʃ} & & \mathbf{s} \\
\begin{bmatrix}
+ \text{ consonantal} \\
+ \text{ continuant} \\
- \text{ anterior} \\
- \text{ del rel} \\
+ \text{ obstruent} \\
- \text{ voice} \\
- \text{ aspirated}
\end{bmatrix}
& \longrightarrow &
\begin{bmatrix}
+\text{consonantal} \\
+\text{continuant} \\
+\text{anterior} \\
-\text{del rel} \\
+\text{obstruent} \\
-\text{voice} \\
-\text{aspirated}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{matrix}
$$

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/maːrkʃiːt/	/marsiʈ/	'marksheet'
/ʃugəʳ/	/sugar/	'sugar'

(e) The voiced palato-alveolar fricative /ʒ/ becomes the voiceless palatal fricative /ś/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. It may be the reason Sylheti does not have the palato-alveolar fricatives /ʃ & ʒ/ in its phonological structure. Therefore, the voiced palato-alveolar fricative /ʒ/ of English is generally substituted by the palatal fricative */ś/*. It is worth mentioning here that the process of shifting from the voiced palato alveolar fricative /ʒ/ to the voiceless palatal fricative /ś/ is found only in medial position of word particularly in the third or fourth syllable as illustrated in the following examples with given phonological rules:
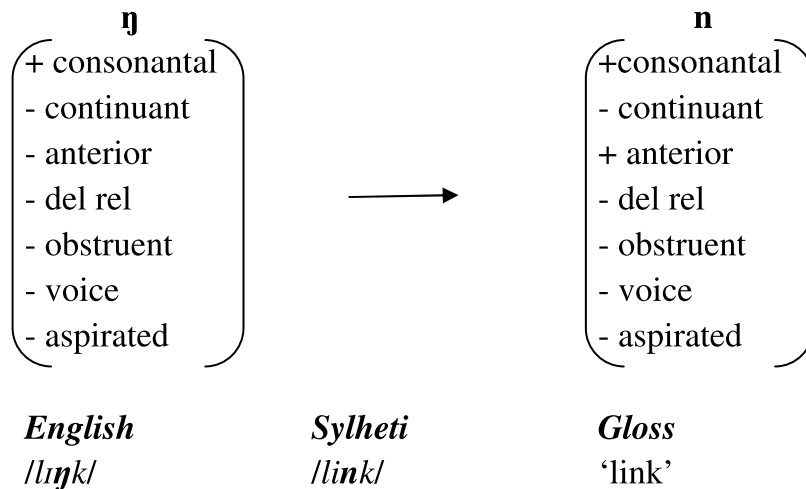
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$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathbf{ʒ} & & \mathbf{ś} \\
\begin{pmatrix}
+ \text{ consonantal} \\
+ \text{ continuant} \\
- \text{ anterior} \\
- \text{ del rel} \\
+ \text{ obstruent} \\
+ \text{ voice} \\
- \text{ aspirated}
\end{pmatrix}
& \longrightarrow &
\begin{pmatrix}
+\text{consonantal} \\
+\text{continuant} \\
-\text{anterior} \\
-\text{del rel} \\
+\text{obstruent} \\
-\text{voice} \\
-\text{aspirated}
\end{pmatrix}
\end{array}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/dɪvɪʒᵊn/	/ɖibiśon/	'division'
/əkeɪʒᵊn/	/okeśon/	'occasion'
/rɪvɪʒᵊn/	/ribiśon/	'revision'
/telɪvɪʒᵊn/	/ʈelibiśon/	'television'

(f) The alveolar nasal /n/ becomes alvelor lateral /l/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. Nevertheless the process of shifting from the alveolar nasal /n/ to the alvelor lateral /l/ is found only in word initial postion. It is important to note that the same process of consonant shifting is rarely found in English loanwords in English as evidenced from the availability of the single example as demonstrated below with the given phonological rule:
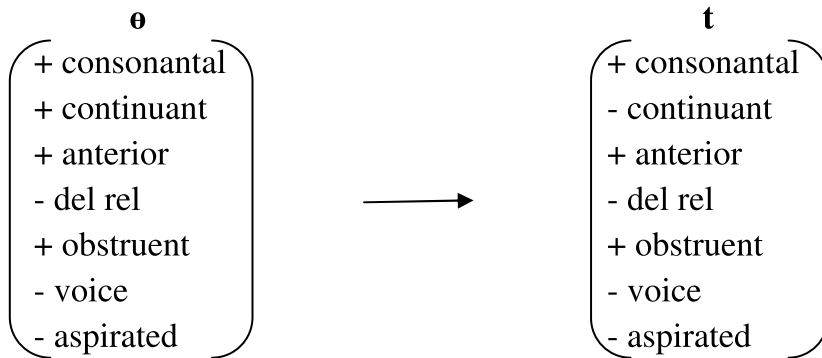
$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathbf{n} & & \mathbf{l} \\
\begin{pmatrix}
+ \text{ consonantal} \\
- \text{ continuant} \\
+ \text{ anterior} \\
- \text{ del rel} \\
- \text{ obstruent} \\
- \text{ voice} \\
- \text{ aspirated}
\end{pmatrix}
& \longrightarrow &
\begin{pmatrix}
+ \text{ consonantal} \\
+ \text{ continuant} \\
+ \text{ anterior} \\
- \text{ del rel} \\
- \text{ obstruent} \\
- \text{ voice} \\
- \text{ aspirated}
\end{pmatrix}
\end{array}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/naɪlɒn/	*/lailon/*	'nylon'

(g) The velar nasal /ŋ/ becomes alvolar nasal /n/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. The process of shifting from the velar nasal /ŋ/ to the alveolar nasal /n/ is found only in word medial postion. It is important to note that the same process of consonant shifting is rarely found in English loanwords in English as evidenced from the availability of the single example as shown below with the given phonological rule:

ŋ		n
+ consonantal - continuant - anterior - del rel - obstruent - voice - aspirated	⟶	+consonantal - continuant + anterior - del rel - obstruent - voice - aspirated

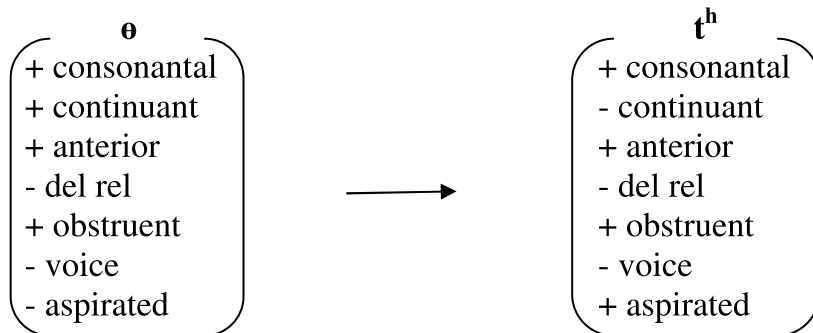| English	Sylheti	Gloss
/lɪŋk/	*/link/*	'link'

(h) The voiceless dental fricative /θ/ becomes the voiceless alveolar stop /t/ in English loanwords in Sylheti. It may be reason that Sylheti does not have the dental fricative /θ/ in its phonological structure. Therefore, the voiceless dental fricative /θ/ of English is generally substituted by the voiceless alveolar fricative /t/. It is worth noting that the process of shifting from the voiceless dental fricative /θ/ to the voiceless alveolar stop /t/ is found only in word medial and final postions of words as shown in the following examples with the given phonological rule:

θ		t
⎛ + consonantal ⎞		⎛ + consonantal ⎞
⎜ + continuant ⎟		⎜ - continuant ⎟
⎜ + anterior ⎟		⎜ + anterior ⎟
⎜ - del rel ⎟	⟶	⎜ - del rel ⎟
⎜ + obstruent ⎟		⎜ + obstruent ⎟
⎜ - voice ⎟		⎜ - voice ⎟
⎝ - aspirated ⎠		⎝ - aspirated ⎠

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/baːθruːm/	/batrum/	'bathroom'
/paːθ/	/pʰot/	'path'
/pɒlɪθiːn/	/pʰolitin/	'polythene'
/sɪmpəθi/	/simpeti/	'sympathy'
/sɪnθetɪk/	/sinteʈik/	'synthetic'
/tuːθpeɪst/	/ʈutpeist/	'toothpaste'
/ʌnhelθi/	/anhelti/	'unhealthy'

(i) Unaspirated Dental fricative /θ/ becomes aspirated alveolar stop /t^h/ in English loanwords in Sylheti as illustrated in the following examples with phonological rules:
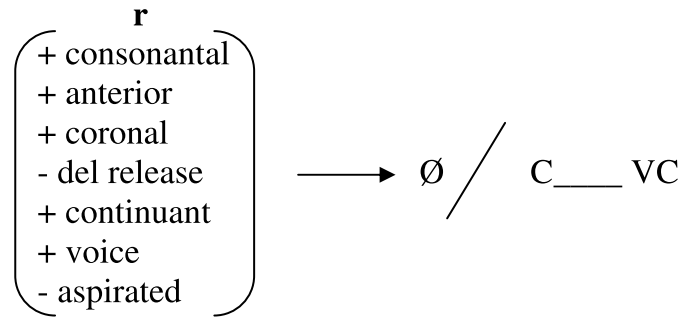
θ		t^h
⎛ + consonantal ⎞		⎛ + consonantal ⎞
⎜ + continuant ⎟		⎜ - continuant ⎟
⎜ + anterior ⎟		⎜ + anterior ⎟
⎜ - del rel ⎟	⟶	⎜ - del rel ⎟
⎜ + obstruent ⎟		⎜ + obstruent ⎟
⎜ - voice ⎟		⎜ - voice ⎟
⎝ - aspirated ⎠		⎝ + aspirated ⎠

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English	Sylheti	Gloss
/θæŋkju:/	/tʰenkiu/	'thankyou'
/θi:ətəʳ/	/tʰieʈar/	'theatre'
/θi:m/	/tʰim/	'theme'
/θɪəri/	/tʰiori/	'theory'
/θəʳmɒmɪtəʳ/	/tʰarmomiʈar/	'thermometre'
/θi:sɪs/	/tʰesis/	'thesis'
/θɜ:ʳd/	/tʰarɖ/	'third'
/θred/	/tʰreɖ/	'thread'
/θret/	/tʰreʈ/	'threat'
/θretənɪŋ/	/tʰreʈeniŋ/	'threatening'
/θʌg/	/ʈʰog/	'thug'

4.1.5. Consonant deletion

It is generally accepted that the consonant deletion plays a significant role to nativize the syllabic structure of source language to fit into the syllabic structure of a recipient language or a dialect. The same phonological adaptation is commonly found in English loanwords in Sylheti. Thus the syllable final or non-final consonants are being dropped in English loanwords in Sylheti to break up the initial or final clusters of English to get the permitted syllabic structure of Sylheti in the form of either **CV** or **CVC** as can be seen in the following examples:
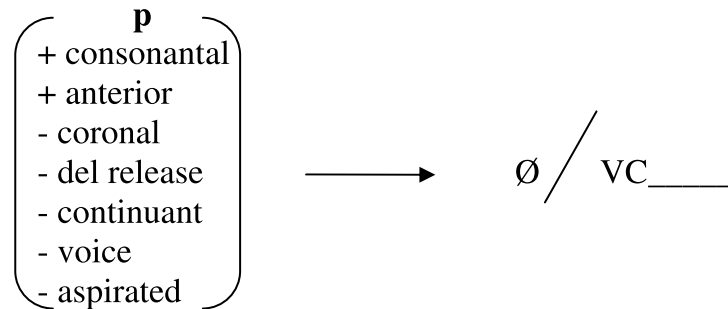
(a)

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\mathbf{r} \\
+ \text{consonantal} \\
+ \text{anterior} \\
+ \text{coronal} \\
- \text{del release} \\
+ \text{continuant} \\
+ \text{voice} \\
- \text{aspirated}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow \emptyset \ / \ C\underline{\quad}VC
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/lɒɪbrərɪ/	/laiberi/	'library'
/prezɪdənt/	/pʰesiden/	'president'
/trʌk/	/takʰ/	'truck'

(b)

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\mathbf{p} \\
+ \text{consonantal} \\
+ \text{anterior} \\
- \text{coronal} \\
- \text{del release} \\
- \text{continuant} \\
- \text{voice} \\
- \text{aspirated}
\end{bmatrix}
\longrightarrow \emptyset \ / \ VC\underline{\quad}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/læmp/	/lem/	'lamp'
/pʌmp/	/pʰam/	'pump'

4.1.6. Vowel Shortening:

Like standard Bengali and Assamese, Sylheti does not contrast long vs. short distinction in the case of vocalic phonemes. Naturally, the long vowel of

English becomes short ones probably before the voiceless stop sounds in the borrowed words in Sylheti. However, this type of phonological adaptation is rarely found in English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced by the availability of single example as illustrated below:

(a)

$$
\begin{array}{c}
\textbf{ɔ} \\
\begin{pmatrix}
+\text{ syllabic} \\
\text{-high} \\
\text{-low} \\
-\text{ front} \\
+\text{back} \\
+\text{ round} \\
-\text{ tense} \\
+\text{long}
\end{pmatrix}
\end{array}
\longrightarrow
\begin{array}{c}
\textbf{o} \\
\begin{pmatrix}
+\text{ syllabic} \\
\text{-high} \\
\text{-low} \\
-\text{ front} \\
+\text{ back} \\
+\text{ round} \\
+\text{ tense} \\
-\text{long}
\end{pmatrix}
\end{array}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/ʃɔːt/	/ʃoʈ/	'short'
/kɔːʳd/	/koɖ/	'cord'
/kɔːʳt/	/kouʈ/	'court'
/bɔːʳd/	/bouɖ/	'board'
/rɪkɔːʳd/	/rekoɖ/	'record'
/rɪkɔːʳdəʳ/	/rekoɖar/	'recorder'
/rɪkɔːʳdɪŋ/	/rekoɖiŋ/	'recording'

(b)

a:		**a**
⎡ + syllabic		⎡ + syllabic
- high		- high
+ low		+ low
+ front	$\longrightarrow$	+ front
-back		- back
- round		- round
- tense		- tense
⎣ +long		⎣ - long

English	**Sylheti**	**Gloss**
/ga:^{r}d/	/gaɖ̱/	'guard'
/ka:^{r}d/	/kaɖ/	'card'
/tʃa:^{r}t/	/caʈ/	'chart'
/ha:^{r}t/	/haʈ/	'heart'

(c)

ɜ:		**a**
⎡ + syllabic		⎡ + syllabic
-high		- high
-low		+ low
-front	$\longrightarrow$	+ front
- back		+ back
+ tense		- tense
- round		- round
⎣ + long		⎣ - long

English	**Sylheti**	**Gloss**
/kənfɜ:^{r}m/	/konpʰarom/	'confirm'
/dɪstɜ:^{r}b/	/ɖiʃʈab/	'disturb'
/fɜ:^{r}st/	/pʰasʈ/	'first'

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/ʃɜ:t/	/ʃaʈ/	'shirt'
/θɜ:ʳd/	/tʰaɖ/	'third'

4.1.7. Metathesis:

A few of English loan words in Sylheti shows the interchange of two consonants i.e., the sequence of stop **/k/** plus sibilants sounds **/ s or ś /** in English becomes sibilants **/s or ś /** plus stop **/k/** in Sylheti Bengali. It may be the reason that the sequences of said consonants are not permitted in syllabic structure of Sylheti so that the same sequence of sounds interchange to get permitted syllabic structure of Sylheti as shown in the following examples:

$$
\begin{array}{c}
\textbf{CV} \\
1\,2
\end{array}
\left(
\begin{array}{l}
\text{+consonantal} \\
\text{- anterior} \\
\text{- coronal} \\
\text{+ back} \\
\text{- round} \\
\text{- voice}
\end{array}
\right)
\begin{array}{c}
\textbf{CV} \\
4\,5
\end{array}
\longrightarrow
\quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 4 \quad 3 \quad 5
$$

3
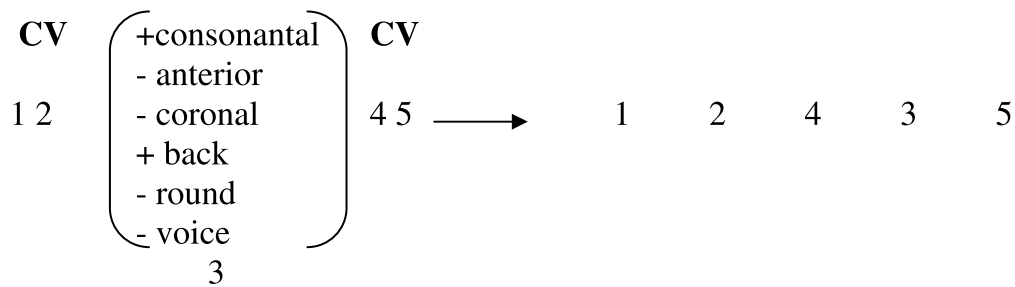
English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/tæk.si/	/teski/	'taxi'
/rɪk.ʃɔ:/	/riśka/	'rickshaw'
/æksɪdənt/	/eskiɖen/	'accident'
/lektʃəʳ/	/leskar/	'lecture'

Conversely the sequence of sibilant **/s/** plus stop **/k/** in English interchange into the sequence of stop **/k/** plus sibilant **/s/** in loanwords in Sylheti as can be seen in the following examples:

/desk/	/deks/	'desk'
/desktɒp/	/deksʈop/	'desktop'

/rɪsk/   /riks/   'risk'

4.1.8. Voicing:

A few English loanwords in Sylheti show the voicing assimilation, the
voiceless stops */p/, /t/* and */k/* in English loanwords become voiced in between
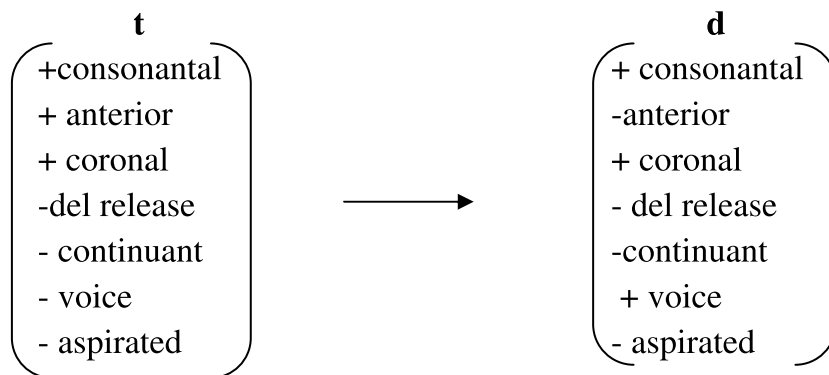two sonorant sounds as illustrated in the following examples:
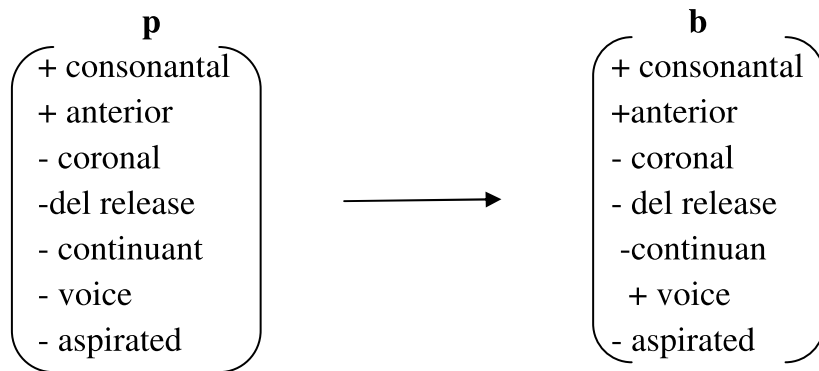
(a)

p
⎧ + consonantal ⎫
| + anterior |
| - coronal |
| -del release | ⟶
| - continuant |
| - voice |
⎩ - aspirated   ⎭

b
⎧ + consonantal ⎫
| +anterior |
| - coronal |
| - del release |
| -continuan |
| + voice |
⎩ - aspirated   ⎭

English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/lɪpstɪk/	*/libeʃʈik/*	'lip stick'

(b)

t
⎧ +consonantal ⎫
| + anterior |
| + coronal |
| -del release | ⟶
| - continuant |
| - voice |
⎩ - aspirated ⎭

d
⎧ + consonantal ⎫
| -anterior |
| + coronal |
| - del release |
| -continuant |
| + voice |
⎩ - aspirated   ⎭

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/kaːˈtrɪdʒ/	/karɖiʤ/	'catridge'
/kaːˈtˀn/	/karɖon/	'carton'

(c)

$$
\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{k} \\ + \text{consonantal} \\ - \text{anterior} \\ - \text{coronal} \\ - \text{del release} \\ - \text{continuant} \\ - \text{voice} \\ - \text{aspirated} \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{g} \\ + \text{consonantal} \\ - \text{anterior} \\ - \text{coronal} \\ - \text{del release} \\ - \text{continuant} \\ + \text{voice} \\ - \text{aspirated} \end{bmatrix}
$$
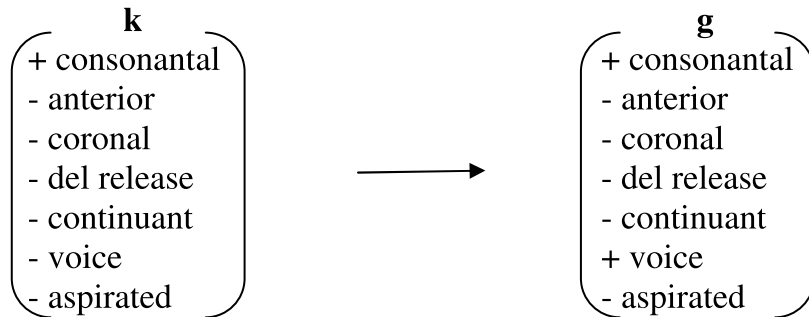
English	Sylheti	Gloss
/sɪkɒnd/	/segent/	'second'
/pɒkɪt/	/pʰogeʈ/	'pocket'
/pækɪt/	/pʰegeʈ/	'packet'
/sekəndri/	/segenɖari/	'secondary'
/sekrətri/	/segreʈari/	'secretary'

4.1.9. Devoicing:

In Sylheti, the voiced stop cannot occur in the final position of a word or a syllable as described in the following sections.

(a) In English loanwords in Sylheti, the unaspirated voiced stops /*b, d,* & *g*/ are substituted by their voiceless counterparts /*p, t,* & *k*/ word finally as demonstrated in the following examples with given phonological rules:

$$
\underset{\substack{\text{b}}}{\left(\begin{array}{l} + \text{consonantal} \\ + \text{anterior} \\ - \text{coronal} \\ - \text{del release} \\ - \text{continuant} \\ + \text{voice} \\ - \text{aspirated} \end{array}\right)} \longrightarrow \underset{\substack{\text{p}}}{\left(\begin{array}{l} + \text{consonantal} \\ + \text{anterior} \\ - \text{coronal} \\ - \text{del release} \\ - \text{continuant} \\ - \text{voice} \\ - \text{aspirated} \end{array}\right)}
$$
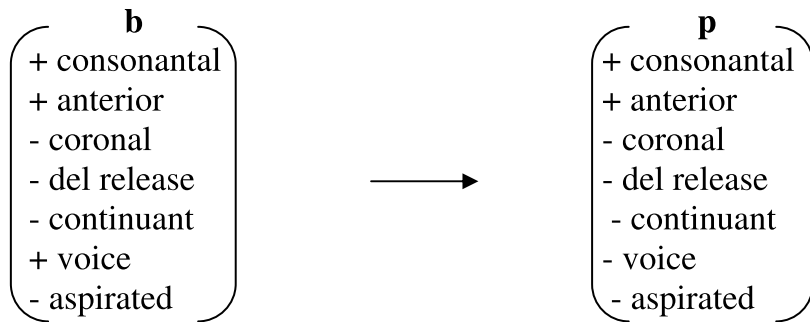
English	Sylheti	Gloss
/tʌb/	/top/	'tub'
/pæd/	/pet/	'pad'
/bæg/	/bek/	'bag'
/bleɪd/	/bileiʈ/	'blade'

(b) Unlike the above, the voiced alveolar fricative /z/ becomes voiceless alveolar fricative /s/ in English loanwords in Sylheti in word medial position of words. The process of devoicing is taken place in the word medial position of words as can be seen in the following examples with the given phonological rules:

$$
\underset{\substack{\text{z}}}{\left(\begin{array}{l} + \text{consonantal} \\ + \text{continuant} \\ + \text{anterior} \\ - \text{del rel} \\ + \text{obstruent} \\ + \text{voice} \end{array}\right)} \longrightarrow \underset{\substack{\text{s}}}{\left(\begin{array}{l} + \text{consonantal} \\ + \text{continuant} \\ + \text{anterior} \\ - \text{del rel} \\ + \text{obstruent} \\ - \text{voice} \end{array}\right)}
$$
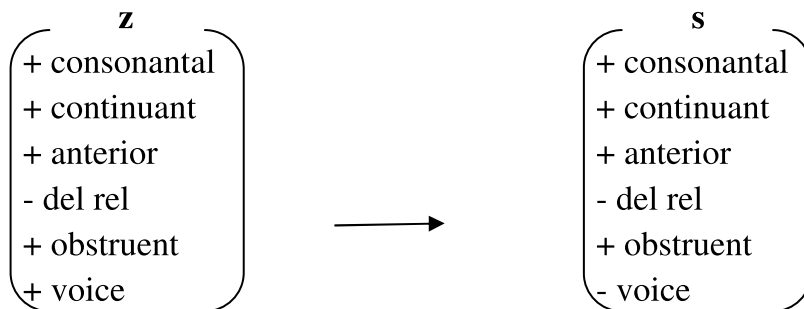
English	Sylheti	Gloss
/rezɪdəns/	/residʲens/	'residence'
/seɪlzmən/	/seilsmen/	'salesman'
/vi:zə/	/bisa/	'visa'

4.1.10. Aspiration:

Generally, the voiceless stops */p, t,* & *k/* are phonetically aspirated in the initial position of a syllable in Sylheti except in a few cases. Consequently, the voiceless unaspirated bilabial stop */p/* became the voiceless aspirated bilabial stop [ph] in English loanwords in Sylheti as summarized in the following examples:

(a)

$$
\mathbf{p}
\begin{pmatrix}
+ \text{ consonantal} \\
+ \text{ anterior} \\
- \text{ coronal} \\
- \text{ del release} \\
- \text{ continuant} \\
- \text{ voiced} \\
- \text{ aspirated}
\end{pmatrix}
\longrightarrow
\mathbf{p^h}
\begin{pmatrix}
+ \text{ consonantal} \\
+ \text{ anterior} \\
- \text{ coronal} \\
- \text{ del release} \\
- \text{continuant} \\
- \text{ voiced} \\
+ \text{ aspirated}
\end{pmatrix}
$$

English	Sylheti	Gloss
/kʌ**p**/	/ka**p**ʰ/	'cup'
/mæ**p**/	/me**p**ʰ/	'map'
/**p**əliːs/	/**p**ʰ uliʃ/	'police'
/**p**ɒʊdər/	/**p**ʰaudar/	'powder'
/**p**ɒʊər/	/**p**ʰawar/	'power'
/**p**ɑːθ/	/**p**ʰot/	'path'
/**p**ænt/	/**p**ʰenʈ/	'pant'
/**p**ensᵊl/	/**p**ʰensil/	'pencil'

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/penʃ°n/	/pʰenʃon/	'pension'
/pɒkɪt/	/pʰogeʈ/	'pocket'
/pækɪt/	/pʰegeʈ/	'packet'
/pəɪp/	/pʰaib/	'pipe'
/pɒlɪʃ/	/pʰaliʃ/	'polish'
/pɒlɪθiːn/	/pʰolitin/	'polythene'
/paʊdəʳ/	/pʰauɖar/	'powder'
/sɪrəp/	/ʃirapʰ/	'syrup'
/teɪp/	/ʈepʰ/	'tape'
/trɪp/	/ʈipʰ/	'trip'

(b) The unaspirated stop /k/ sound becomes aspirated /kʰ/ in English loan words in Sylheti as summarized in the following examples with phonological rules:

k		**kʰ**
+ consonantal		+consonantal
- anterior		- anterior
- coronal		- coronal
-del release	$\longrightarrow$	- del release
- continuant		- continuant
- voice		- voice
- aspirated		+ aspirated
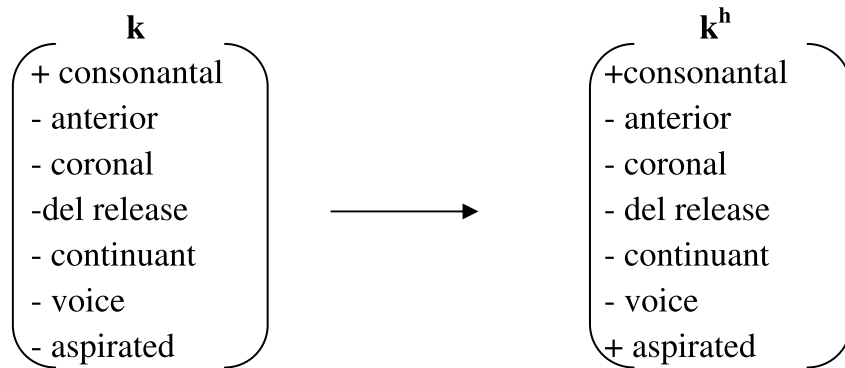
English	*Sylheti*	*Gloss*
/tʃɔːk/	/tsokʰ/	chalk'
/trʌk/	/takʰ/	'truck'

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4.2. Morphological processes:

4.2.1. Loan compounding: In loan compounds, there is a combination of loan words and native ones in which the loan elements usually follow the native elements. According to their structures, different types of loan compounding are attested in Sylheti such as:

4.2.1.1. Noun (native) + noun (loan)

In Sylheti loan words, noun plus noun particularly sylheti nouns and English nouns are very common as many other languages of the world do. So a loan compounding is found in the household items as desmontrated below. As mentioned earlier, the loan elements (nouns) usually follow the native ones (nouns). It is also noticed that the reverse order that is, English loan nouns plus Sylheti loan nouns is totally absent in the whole loan construction as evidenced from the ungrammaticality of the following constructions.

(1a)	*bazar*	*bek*	'bag used for marketing '
(1b)	**bek*	*bazar*	
(2a)	*sabon*	*keis*	'soap case'
(2b)	**keis*	*sabon*	
(3a)	*pʰani*	*butol*	'water bottle'
(3b)	**butol*	*pʰani*	
(4a)	*kʰaʈ*	*pʰensil*	'wood pencil'
(4b)	**pʰensil*	*kʰaʈ*	
(5a)	*biddut*	*lain*	'electric line'
(5b)	**lain*	*biddut*	

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| (6a) | /sa | istol/ | 'tea stall' |
| (6b) | *istol | sa | |

4.2.1.2. Adjective (native) + noun (loan)

The same order is followed in the case of **[ADJECTIVE + NOUN]** loan compounding. In other words the adjective precedes the loan nouns regularly. In this type of loan compound, the English loan nouns became the head of the compound. It is also noticed that the head cannot be in the left side of the compound construction that is the adjective plus loan noun compound in Sylheti is right headed one. It is worth mentioning that the reverse order **[NOUN+ ADJECTIVE]** is not permitted in the English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced from the ungrammaticality of the following example (7b) – (15b).

(7a)	lal	bek	'red bag'
(7b)	*bek	lal	
(8a)	roŋgin	p^hoto	'colour photo'
(8b)	*p^hoto	roŋgin	
(9a)	roŋgin	telibiśon	'colour television'
(9b)	*telibiśon	roŋgin	
(10a)	śada	śat	'white shirt'
(10b)	*śat	śada	
(11a)	k^hala	p^henʈ	'black pant'
(11b)	*p^henʈ	k^hala	
(12a)	d^har	bileiʈ	'sharp blade'
(12b)	*bileiʈ	d^har	
(13a)	k^harap^h	hebiʈ	'bad habit'
(13b)	*hebiʈ	k^harap^h	

(14a)	/kʰarapʰ	rekoɖ/	'bad record'
(14b)	*rekoɖ	kʰarapʰ	
(15a)	/koɽa	ɖiuʈi/	'strong duty'
(15b)	*ɖiuʈ	koɽai	

4.2.1.3. Numeral (native) + noun (loan)

In this type of loan compound the numeral precedes the noun. However the loan noun is the head of the compound. So the head is in the right side of the compound construction that is the [NUMERAL + NOUN] compound in Sylheti is right headed compound. It is worth mentioning that the reverse order [NOUN + NUMERAL] is not permitted in the English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced from the ungrammaticality of the following examples:

(16a)	ekʰ	nombor	'number one'
(16b)	*nombor	ekʰ	
(17a)	dui	nombor	'number two'
(17b)	*nombor	dui	
(18a)	ekʰ	minit	'one minute'
(18b)	*minit	ekʰ	
(19a)	dui	segen	'two seconds'
(19b)	*segen	dui	
(20a)	dui	miʈar	'two metres'
(20b)	*miʈar	dui	
(21a)	ekʰ	pʰuʈ	'one foot'
(21b)	*pʰuʈ	ekʰ	
(22a)	dui	inʦi	'two inches'

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(22b)	* intsi*	*dui*	
(23a)	*ek^h*	*litar*	'one litre'
(23b)	**litar*	*ek^h*	
(24a)	*ek^h*	*mail*	'one mile'
(24b)	**mail*	*ek^h*	
(25a)	*ek^h*	*kezi*	'one kg'
(25b)	**kezi*	*ek^h*	

4.2.1. 4. Noun (loan) + verb (native)

Unlike the above types of compound, in **[NOUN+ VERB]** compound, the noun precedes the verb. It is worth mentioning that the reverse order **[VERB+ NOUN]** is not permitted in the English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced from the ungrammaticality of the following examples:

(26a)	*kiket*	*k^hel-a*	'playing cricket'
	cricket	play-INF	
(26b)	**k^hel-a*	*kiket*	
(27a)	*ɖens*	*deo-a*	'dancing'
	dance	give-INF	
(27b)	** deo-a*	*ɖens*	
(28a)	*ɖiriŋk*	*k^hor-a*	'drinking'
	drink	do-INF	
(28b)	** k^ho-ra*	*ɖiriŋk*	

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(29a) *pʰuʈbol*   *kʰela*   'to play football'

      Football   play-INF

(29b) **kʰela*   *pʰuʈbol*

(30a) *pʰen*   *sola*   'moving fan'

      fan   move-INF

(30b) **sola*   *pʰen*

(31a) *tibi*   *dekʰ-a*   'watching TV'

      TV   watch-INF

(31b) **dekʰ-a*   *tibi*

(32a) *pepar*   *pʰoɽ-a*   'reading newspaper'

      paper   read-INF

(32b) **pʰoɽa*   *pepar*

(33a) *saikel*   *ʦoɽ-a*   'riding cycle'

      cycle   ride-INF

(33b) **ʦoɽa*   *saikel*

(34a) *geś*   *zol-a*   'burning gas'

      gas   burn-INF

(34b) **zola*   *geś*

(35a) *keis*   *deo-a*   'filing case'

      case   give-INF

(35b) **dewa*   *keis*

(36a) *suis*   *deo-a*   'to switch on'

| | switch | give-INF | |
| (36b) | *dewa | suis | |

(37a)	marzin	deo-a	'to draw margin'
	margin	give-INF	
(37b)	* deo-a	marzin	
(38a)	sologan	deo-a	'to chant slogan'
	slogan	give-INF	
(38b)	*deo-a	sologan	
(39a)	kik	mar-a	'to kick'
	kick	beat-INF	
(39b)	*mar-a	kik	
(40a)	risib	k^hor-a	'to receive (something)'
	receive	do-INF	
(40b)	* k^hora	risib	
(41a)	kalekʈ,	k^hor-a	'to collect (something)'
	collect	do-INF	
(41b)	*k^hora	kalekʈ,	
(42a)	enzoy	k^hor-a	'to enjoy'
	enjoy	do-INF	
(42b)	* k^hora enzoy		
(43a)	śeyar	k^hor-a	'to share'
	share	do-INF	

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(43b)	** kʰora*	*śeyar*	
(44a)	*pʰerai*	*kʰor-a*	'to fry'
	fry	do-INF	
(44b)	**kʰora*	*pʰerai*	
(45a)	*ʈai*	*kʰor-a*	'to try'
	try	do-INF	
(45b)	**kʰora*	*ʈai*	

4.2.1.5. Noun (native) + genitive (native) + noun (loan)

In this type of compound, the native noun precedes the genitive and the genitive precedes the loan nouns as schematised in the following order **[NOUN + GENITIVE + NOUN]**. It is important to note that Sylheti genitive morpheme has two allomorphs: *or ~ r*. The morph *-r* is used when the noun ends with vowel, however the allomorph *-or* is used when the noun ends with consonant. It is also observed that the order of **[NOUN + GENITIVE + NOUN]** in this type of compound is rigid therefore the alternative order of the same cannot be made as illustrated in the following examples.

(46)	*tel-or*	*butol*	'oil bottle'
	oil-GEN	bottle	
(47)	*gʰor-or*	*pʰilar*	'pillar of house'
	House-GEN	pillar	
(48)	*ʦamɽa-r*	*bek*	'bag made of leather'
	leather-GEN	bag	

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(49)	*maʈi-r*	*pʰileiʈ*	'plate made of soil'
	soil-GEN	plate	
(50)	*/dudʰ-or*	*butol/*	'bottle of milk'
	milk-GEN	bottle	
(51)	*dudʰ-or*	*ʈin*	' milk container made of
	Milk-GEN	tin	tin'
(52)	*pʰani-r*	*butol*	'bottle of water'
	Water-GEN	bottle	
(53)	*pʰani-r*	*pʰaib*	'pipe of water'
	Water-GEN	pipe	
(54)	*pʰani-r*	*ʈaŋki*	'water tank'
	Water-GEN	tank	
(55)	*śuna-r*	*riŋ*	'ring of gold'
	gold-GEN	ring	

4.2.1.6. Noun (loan) + genitive (native) + noun (native)

In this type of compound as well, the native noun precedes the genitive followed by the loan nouns as schematised in the following order [**NOUN + GENITIVE + NOUN**]. However, unlike the above types of compounds, the native noun is the head of the compound and the head is in the right side of the compound. It is worth mentioning here that the order of [**NOUN + GENITIVE + NOUN**] is rigid therefore the alternative order of the same cannot be made as ungrammaticality of the following examples:

(56a)	ʈelipʰon-or	tar	'wire of telephone'
	telephone-GEN	wire	
(56b)	*tar -or	ʈelipʰon	'telephone of wire'
(57a)	pʰen-or	batas	'air of fan'
	fan-GEN	air	
(57b)	* batas-or	pʰen	
(58a)	⎸iśʈil- or	baʈi	'bowl of steel'
	steel- GEN	bowl	
(58b)	*baʈi-r	iśʈil	
(59a)	pʰauɖar-or	ɖibi	'pot of powder'
	Powder- GEN	pot	
(59b)	*dibi- r	pot	

4.2.1.7. Noun (loan) + genitive (native) + noun (loan)

Unlike the former, in this type of compound the loan noun precedes the genitive followed by another loan noun as schematized in the following order [**NOUN (LOAN) + GENITIVE (NATIVE) + NOUN (LOAN)**]. It is interesting to note that the genitive is the native element however the two other nouns i.e., before and after the genitive are the loan nouns. Like the above two types of compound, the order of [**NOUN (LOAN) + GENITIVE (NATIVE) + NOUN (LOAN)**] is rigid therefore the alternative order of the same cannot be made as ungrammaticality of the following examples as shown in () – ().

(60a)	bas-or	siʈ	'seat of a bus'
	bus-GEN	seat	

(60b) *siʈ-or   bas

(61a) saikel-or   tsein   'chain of bicycle'
       cycle-GEN   chain

(61b) *ʦein-or   saikel

(62a) saikel-or   isten   'stand of cycle'

       cycle- GEN   stand

(62b) *isten-or   saikel

(63a) śaʈ-or   kolar   'collar of shirt'
       shirt- GEN   collar

(63b) *kolar-or   śaʈ

(64a) kemera-r   ril   'film of camera'

       Camera- GEN reel

(64b) *ril-or   kemera

4.2.1.8. Noun (loan) + verb (native)

In this type of compound, the loan noun precedes the native verb and the order
of noun and verb can be schematized as [NOUN (LOAN) + VERB (NATIVE)]. It
is worth mentioning that the reverse order [VERB (NATIVE) + NOUN (LOAN)] is
not permitted in the English loanwords in Sylheti as evidenced from the
ungrammaticality of the following examples as in () - (). It is observed that
the above mentioned compounds are frequently used by the Sylheti speakers
of 15-40 years of age.

(65a) suis   deo-a   'to switch on'
       switch   give-INF

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(65b) *dewa   suis

(66a) eɖbais   deo-a   'to advice'
       advice   give-INF

(66b) * dewa   eɖbais

(67a) egri   o-a   'to be agree with somebody'
       agree   to be-INF

(67b) *owa   egri

(68a) eplai   kʰor-a   'to apply for'
       apply   do-INF

(68b) *kʰora   eplai

(69a) eɖmiʈ   kʰor-a   'to admit something'
       admit   do-INF

(69b) *kʰora   eɖmiʈ

(70a) eɖzasʈ,   kʰor-a   'to adjust with'
       adjust   do-INF

(70b) *kʰora   eɖzasʈ,

(71a) ekʈibeiʈ   kʰor-a   'to activate'
       activate   do-INF

(71b) *kʰora   ekʈibeiʈ

(72a) eprub   kʰor-a   'to approve something'
       approve   do-INF

(72b) *kʰora   eprub

(73a)	*ansar*	*kʰor-a*	'to answer to'
	answer	do- INF	
(73b)	**kʰora*	*ansar*	
(74a)	*aʈ,*	*kʰor-a*	'to art something'
	art	do-INF	
(74b)	** kʰora*	*aʈ,*	
(75a)	*edop*	*kʰor-a*	'to adopt something'
	adopt	do-INF	
(75b)	**kʰora*	*edop*	

Other than the above loan copounds, some of the compound loanwords are directly incorporated in Sylheti without having any morphological changes. It is also noticed that this type of compounds are noun compounds and the lexical item relating to these compound nouns may be found in native Sylheti. However these are not used by the Sylheti speakers in their day to day conversation.

(76)	*aiɖenʈi kaɖ*	'identity card'
(77)	*ais boks*	'ice box'
(78)	*ais kirim*	'ice cream'
(79)	*batrum*	'bath room'
(80)	*beɖ śiʈ*	'bed sheet'
(81)	*bed rum*	'bed room
(82)	*ɖainiŋ hol*	'dining hall'
(83)	*ɖeɖ boɖi*	'dead body'

(84)   *pepar mil*   'paper mill'

(85)   *puśtapʰiś*   'post office'

4.3. Semantic proesses

4.3.1. Narrowing of meaning:

4.3.1.1. The lexical item '*bank*' means financial institution and the coast of a river in English. However the loan word 'bank' only means financial institution in Sylheti as exemplified in the following examples

(86)   *tumi   bank-o   tekha   uthanit   jaray   ni?*

      you   bank-LOC   money   to draw   going   INT

      'Are you going to bank to draw money?'

(87)   *tumar   benk- o   kuno ekaunṭ   ase   ni?*

      your   bank- LOC   any   account   have   INT

      'Do you have any account in bank?'

However the loan word *bank* does not denote the bank of a river in Sylheti. In other words, we don't use the loanword *bank* to mean the coast of a river as evidenced by ungrammaticality of the following sentences.

(88)   **amra   bank-o   ghurat   ges-lam*

      we   bank-LOC   loitering   go-PST

      'We went to bank (coast of a river) for loitering'.

(89)   **amar   baṛi borakʰ   nodi-r   benk-o*

      my   house Barak   river-GEN   bank- LOC

      'My house is on the bank of the river Barak'.

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4.3.1.2. In English the lexical item *mobile* means both mobile phones and something moving but when it is nativised in Sylheti it means only the mobile phone rather than the moving object as illustrated in the following examples:

(90) *tumar*   *mobile-ta*   *kub*   *śundor*

Your   mobile-CL   very   beautiful

'Your mobile is very beautiful'

(91) *amar*   *mobail*   *ek^h-ţa*   *k^hub*   *dork^har*

I   mobile   one-CL   very   need

'I am in dire need of a mobile phone'

However we don't use the word *mobile* to mean moving object rather than mobile phone as evidenced by the ungrammaticality of the following sentence:

(92) **he*   *mobail*   *medikel-o*   *ɖ̣ak^htor*

he   mobile   medical-LOC   doctor

'He is a doctor in the mobile medical unit.'

4.3.1.3. In English the lexical item *book* is used both as noun and verb but the lexical item *book* functions as verb only in Sylheti as illustrated in the following examples:

(93) *tumi*   *ţikeţ*   *buk*   *k^hor-s-o-ni?*

You   ticket book   do-PERF-2PER-INT

'Have you booked the ticket?'

(94) *ami*   *huţel-o*   *rum*   *buk*   *k^hor-s-i*

I   hotel-LOC   room   book   do-PERF-1PER

'I have booked room in the hotel?'

In other words, we don't use the loanword *book* as noun in Sylheti. It may be the reason that the lexical item *boi* for book in sylheti is popularly used by the native speakers of Sylheti. The usage of book as noun is not attested in Sylheti as evidenced by the ungrammaticality of the following sentence.

(95)   *tumar ges-e   kuno golpho-r   buk   ase-ni?
       You   near-LOC   any   story-GEN   book   have-INT
       'Do you have any story book?'

(96)   *tumar ek^{h}-ţa   buk   amar   ges-e   roi-s-e
       your one-CL   book   me   near-LOC   remain-PERF-3PER
       'One of your books is with me/ remained with me.'

4.3.1.4. The lexical item *clip* is used in English both as noun and verb but as a loanword in Sylheti, the word *clip* is used as a noun only. So, the usage and functions of clip in Sylheti is narrowed in their day to day communication.

(97)   kilip^{h}-ţa   lo
       clip-CL   take
       'Take the clip.'

(98)   ʦul-o   kilip^{h} mar-o
       hair-LOC   clip   do-2PER
       'Use clip in your hair.'

It is evidenced that we cannot use the word *clip* as verb in Sylheti as ungrammaticality of the following examples:

(99)   *k^{h}e   kilip^{h} k^{h}or-s-e
       who   clip   do-PERF-3PER
       'Who clipped (hair).'

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(100) *tai   kilip^h k^hor-s-e

     she   clip   do-PERF-3PER

     'She clipped (hair).'

4.3.1.5. In English the lexical item *chair* is used to function as noun and verb but the loanword *ʦiyar* in Sylheti functions as noun only as can be seen in the following examples.

(101) *ʦiyar*   *an-o*

     chair   bring- 2PER

     'Bring the chair'

(102) *ʦiyar igu   k^he   b^hang-s-e?*

     chair the   who   break-PERF-3PER

     'Who broke the chair?'

However we cannot use the loanword *ʦiyar* as verb in Sylheti as evidenced by the ungrammaticality of the following sentence.

(103) *k^he   *ʦiyar*   *kor-s-e*

     Who   chair   do-PERF-3PER

     'Who chaired (the session)?'

(104) *ami   miʈiŋg-o   ʦiyar khor-s-i*

     I   meeting-LOC   chair do-PERF-1PER

     'I chaired the meeting.'

4.3.1.6. The lexical item'case' has a lot of meanings in English: (i) an instance of the occureence, existence etc, of something. (ii) the actual state of things (iii) a question or problem of moral conduct; matter   (iv) situation; circumstance; plight (v) a person or thing whose plight or situation calls for

attention. (vi) a specific occurrence or matter requiring discussion , decision or investigation, as by officials or law- enforcement authorities and (vii) a stated argument used to support a view point etc. However when the loanword *case* is used in Sylheti, it means two things- matter and court case as illustrated in the following examples:

(105)   *tar   keis-ta   boṛo zoṭ,il*

           his   case-CL   very complicate

           'His case is very complicated'

(106)   *ami   tumar   up^{h}re keis   dim- u*

           I   your   on   case give- FUT

           'I will file case on you'

4.3.1.7. In English the word *bat* means both an object used to play cricket, baseball or table tennis and a flying animal like a mouse with wings that flies and feeds at night. But in Sylheti the word *bat* only means an object which is used to play cricket baseball or table tennis as can be seen in the following examples:

(107)   *he   amar-e   beṭ,   diya   mar-s-e*

           he   I-OBJ   bat   by   hit-PERF-3PER

           'He has hit me with a bat'

(108)   *tar   beṭ   i-kan   khub   mozbut*

           his   bat   DEM-DEF   very   strong

           'His (this) bat is very strong.'

But in Sylheti the word *bat* is not used to mean the flying animal as exemplified in the following examples.

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(109) *amrar   sara   gua   beʈ-e   kʰai-lai
      our   all   areca nut   bat-AGN   eat-COMP
      'Bat eats all of our arecanut.'

(110) *ami   beʈ   ekʰ˗ʈa   bonduk-diya   marsi
      I   bat   one-CL   gun-INST   killed
      'I killed a bat with a gun'

Rather, in Sylheti the word *badur* is used instead of *bat* as shown in the following example:

(111) amrar   sara   gua   badur-e   kʰai-lai
      our   all   areca nut   bat-AGN   eat-COMP
      'Bat eats all of our areca nut.'

4.3.1.8. In English *cup* is used both as noun and verb but as a loanword in Sylheti, the *cup* is used only as a noun as exemplified in the following examples:

(112) amar-e   ekʰ   kapʰ   ʦa   de-o
      I-OBJ   one   cup   tea   give-2PER
      'Give me a cup of tea.'

(113) ek   kaph   ʦa   koto   reba
      one   cup   tea   howmuch   EMP
      'Howmuch is the price of a cup of tea?'

However we cannot use the word 'cup' as a verb in Sylheti as evidenced from the ungrammaticality of the following sentence.

(114) *he   tar   atʰ   kapʰ   kor-s-e

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| he | his | hand | cup | do-PERF-3PER |

'He has cupped his hand.'

4.3.2. Extension of meaning:

4.3.2.1. In English the lexical item *gas* means a substance like air that is neither liquid nor solid and burns easily (lit. gas cylinder). But in Sylheti, apart from this, it is also used to mean acidity as desmontrated in the following examples:

(115) *amrar randa-r*   *geś*   *śeś*   *oi-ge-s-e*

our   cooking-GEN   gas   finish   be-go-PERF-3PER

'Our cooking gas has been finished.'

(116) *sorkʰar-e*   *geś-or*   *dam*   *baɽai-di-s-e*

government-AGN   gas-GEN   price   increase-give-PERF-3PER

'The government has increased the price of gas.'

Apart from the above example the word *gas* is also used to mean acidity as shown in the following example

(117) *ami*   *geś-e*   *kʰub*   *bʰugi-ar*

I   gas-AGN   badly   suffer-PROG

'I have been suffering from acidity very badly.'

(118) *geś*   *tʰakʰle*   *kʰomla*   *kʰawa*   *tʰik*   *nay*

gas   having   orange   eating   should   not

'Anybody having acidity should not consume orange'

4.3.2.2. In English *chutney* is a cold sauce made from fruit, vinegar, sugar and spices. Interestingly, the same sense is also used to mean *chutney* in Sylheti as well as illustrated in the following examples:

(119) *momo-r*   *loge*   *kisu*   *ʦaʈni*   *dew*

        momo-GEN   with   some   chutney   give

        'Please give some chutney with momo'

Apart from the above sentence, *chutney* is also used in Sylheti to mean salad. In other words, *chutney* in Sylheti also refers to salad as illustrated in the following example:

(120) *amra* *bhat-or*   *loge*   *ʈomeʈo*   *ʦaʈni*   *khai*

        we   rice-GEN   with   tomato   chutney   eat

        'We eat tomato chutney with rice'

4.3.2.3. In English *tea stall* means a stall where tea is sold. Interestingly, the same sense is also used to mean *tea stall* in Sylheti as well as illustrated in the following example:

(121) *tar*   *baba-r*   *ʈi*   *iśʈol*   *aʦe*

        his   father-GEN   tea   stall   has

        'His father has a tea stall'

However, apart from the above example *tea stall* is also used to mean the stall where tea along with sweets and other light foods are also sold as illustrated in the following example:

(122) *sreema*   *ʈi isʈol-tʰaki*   *miśʈi*   *loi -o*

        sreema   tea stall-ABL   sweets   buy-IMP

        'Buy sweets from Sreema tea stall'

4.3.2.4. Bomb pʰaṭani means to explode bomb in English but in Sylheti along with this, it also means to disclose a mystery about any person or anything as shown in the following examples as in (123) – (124).

(123) alpʰa -e   gauhaṭ,i-t   bom   phaṭ,ai-se
       ULFA-AGN   gauhati-LOC   bomb   explode-PERF
       ULFA has exploded bomb in Guwahati.

(124) tar   beyaphare   ami   bom   phaṭ,ai-mu
       his   about   I   mystery   disclose- FUT
       'I will disclose mystery about him'

4.3.2.5. *Pʰam dewa* means to pump air in English. But in Sylheti along with this, it also means to harm some body as illustrated in the following examples:

(125) saikel-o   pʰam   de-o
       bicycle-LOC   pump   give-IMP
       'Please give pump to bicycle '

(126) he   amar   bʰai-re   pʰam   di-s-e
       he   my   brother-OBJ   harm/cheat   give-PERF-3PER
       'He has cheated my brother'

4.3.2.6. In English *bottle* means a glass or plastic container. But in Sylheti along with this meaning, the word *butol* is also used to mean liquor as illustrated in the following examples:

(127) ekʰ   butol   pʰani-r   dam   kʰoto
       one   bottle   water-GEN   price howmuch
       How much is the price of one bottle water?

(128) he   butol   mar-e
       he   liquor   take-3 PER
       'He takes liqour'

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4.3.2.7. *kg* (kilogram) is a unit of measuring solid things. But in Sylheti *kg* is used as a unit of measuring solid things along with liquid things as demonstrated in the following examples:

(129) *ekʰ   kg   ʦini-r   dam   kʰoto?*
       one   kg   sugar-GEN   price how much
       'How much is the price of one kilogram sugar?'

(130) ekʰ   kg   tel-or   dam   kʰoto?
       one   kg   oil-GEN   price how much
       'How much is the price of one kilogram oil?'

4.3.2.8. In Englihs the lexical item *care* has many meanings. As Nouns- (i) a state of mind in which one is troubled; worry, anxiety, or concern (ii) a cause or object of worry, anxiety, concern etc. (iii) serious attention; solitude; heed; caution. (iv) protection; chargen (v) temporary keeping as for the benefit of or until claimed by the owner. (vi) grief; suffering; sorrow As verbs (i) to be concerned or solicitous (ii) to be concerned or have a special preference (usually used in negative constructions) (iii) to make provision or look out (iv) to have an inclination, liking, fondness or affection. But when it is used in Sylheti, the *care* also means 'to honour' along with all other meanings in English as exemplified below:

(131) tumar   soril-or   proti   keyar   ni-o
       your   body-GEN   about   care   take-IMP
       'Take care of your body.'

(132) he   ama-re   keyar   kʰor-e-na
       he   I-OBJ   respect   do-3PER-NEG
       'He doesn't respect me'

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4.3.2.9. In English *ball* means a round object used for throwing, hitting or kicking in games and sports. But apart from this, in Sylheti it also means matter as illustrated in the following examples

(133) *amra   bol   kheli-ar*
     we   ball   play-PROG
     'We are playing cricket.'

(134) *ekhon bol-toh   mukkomontri-r   kouʈ,-o*
     now   matter-EMP chief minister-GEN   court-LOC
     'The matter is in the court of chief minister now.'

4.3.2.10. In English *cream* is used both as a noun and a verb where as in Sylheti this is only used as a noun. Along with what it means in English, it is also used to mean 'ointment' in Sylheti as illustrated in the following examples:

(135) *tumi   kop^{h}i-t   dud^h na   kirim   kita   k^{h}ai-tay*
     you   coffee-LOC   milk   or   cream what eat-FUT
     'What will you take milk or cream with coffee?'

(136) *amar   lagi   phaw gha-r   kirim   an-i-o*
     my   for   leg   soar-GEN   ointment   bring-1PER-IMP
     'Bring an ointment for my leg sore'

4.3.2.11. The word *current* has many meanings in English. It works both as an adjective and noun. Apart from what it means in English, the word *current* also means 'electricity' in Sylheti as illustrated in the following examples:

(137) *śobśomoy*   *karenṭ,*   *mal*   *loi-o*

always   current   thing   purchase-IMP

'Always purchase current things'

(138) *amar ghor-o*   *karenṭ,*   *nai*

my house-LOC   electricity   NEG

'There is no electricity in my house'

4.3.3 Shifting of meaning:

4.3.3.1. The word *tout* is used to denote brooker in English. But in Sylheti, the meaning of the same word has shifted to denote *cheater* in Sylheti as shown in the following example

(139) *he*   *ekh-ṭa*   *ṭ,auṭ,*

he   one-CL   cheater

'He is a cheater'

4.3.3.2. The lexical item *crack* is used in English as a verb and it means many things. But in Sylheti this has shifted to mean mentally imbalanced person as illustrated in the following examples:

(140) *i*   *manuś*   *igu*   *kerek*

this man   definite   mentally imbalanced

'This man is mentally imbalanced (mad)'

(141) *tar* *b^{h}ai-ṭa*   *kerek*   *oi-ge-s-e*

his   brother-CL   mentally imbalance be-go-PERF-3PER

'His brother has become mentally imbalanced.'

4.3.3.3. In English *rate* is used both as noun and verb. However unlike in English the *rate* is used as noun meaning 'price' in Sylheti as illustrated in the following example:

(142)   goru   igu-r   reiṭ,   koto

         cow   this-GEN   price   how much

         'How much is the price of this cow?'

(143)   ekhon hokhol ziniś-or   reiṭ   baṛi-ge-s-e

         Now   all   commodity-GEN   price   increase-go-PERF-3PER

         'Price of all commodity has increased now.'

4.3.3.4. The lexical item *liquor* means wine in English. But in Sylheti this has shifted to denote the boiled precipitation of tea leaves as illustrated in the following examples:

(144) ʦar   ligar   banai- s-o-ni

       tea   boiledprecipitation make-PERF-2PER-INT

       'Have you made the boiled precipitation of tea?'

(145) ʦa-t   beśi   ligar   khawa ṭʰik   nay

       tea-LOC   more   boiledprecipitation eating right not

       'One should not take more precipitation of tea leaves in tea'