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**Proceedings of the Ninth Session of the First Assam Legislative  
Assembly, assembled under the provisions of the Government  
of India Act, 1935**

THE ASSEMBLY met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 11 A.M., on  
Monday, the 2nd June, 1941.

*Present*

The Hon'ble Mr. Basanta Kumar Das, Speaker in the Chair, the nine  
Hon'ble Ministers and fifty-eight members.

**OATH OF ALLEGIANCE**

The following new member was sworn in :—

1. Mr. E. H. S. Lewis.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**STARRED QUESTIONS**

(to which oral answers were given)

(Final replies to Starred† question No. 113 (c) and (d) to which *ad-interim* replies were given on the 27th March 1941.)

**Protection from flood of villages on either side of Mora-Manas**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI** asked :—

- |       |  |   |   |   |   |
|-------|--|---|---|---|---|
| *113. | *  | * | * | * | * |
| (a)   | *  | * | * | * | * |
| (b)   | *  | * | * | * | * |
| (c)   | Whether the villagers of the said villages in either side of the Mora-Manas have recently approached the authorities for the remission of land revenue with a petition ? |   |   |   |   |
| (d)   | If so, whether they have been given any relief in the shape of agricultural loans or gratuitous relief ?   |   |   |   |   |

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:**  
Sir, I am replying on behalf of the Hon'ble Minister in charge who is out of the station.

113. (c)—Yes.

(d)—The entire flood affected tenants of the mauzas Adabari, Takabari, Abadi, Odlaguri and Jasbari of Bijni Duars were given full remission of the current year's rent and local rate as a measure of relief. No relief in the shape of agricultural loans or gratuitous relief was given.

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†Original starred questions No. 113 (a), (b), (c) and (d) and answers thereto appeared in the list of the 27th March 1941.

*Protection of villages on either side of Mora-Manas from flood*

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI** asked :

\*113. With reference to the replies given to starred questions No. 153 (a) and (b) asked by me on the 23rd November 1940, will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Drainage and Embankment Division has completed the final enquiry as promised in the reply under reference during the present cold weather ?



Starred questions Nos. 140-146 standing in the name of Maulavi Abdur Rahman were not put and answered as the questioner was absent.

**Civil Assistant Surgeons working as Civil Surgeons in Assam**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

\*147. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Civil Assistant Surgeons are working as Civil Surgeons, officiating and permanent, in the Province of Assam ?
- (b) How many are (i) Hindus of the Province, (ii) Hindus of other Provinces with the names of the Province they come from, (iii) Muslims of the Province, (iv) Outsider Muslims with the names of the Provinces they come from, (v) Others ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY** replied :

147. (a)—Nine—one permanently and rest in an officiating capacity.

(b) (i)—Three.

(ii)—Six from Bengal.

(iii), (iv) and (v)—None.

**Maulavi Dewan MUHAMMAD AHBAB CHAUDHURY:** May I know the number of Muslim Civil Surgeons in the Province ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY:** None.

**Maulavi Dewan MUHAMMAD AHBAB CHAUDHURY:** Is there no qualified Muslim in the Assistant Surgeon's cadre to fill up the post of Civil Surgeon ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY:** There are qualified Muslim Assistant Surgeons, but they are too junior for promotion to the post of Civil Surgeon.

- (b) The names and designations of the officers that took up the preliminary investigation during the rains as also of those that took up the necessary final enquiries during the dry weather with the results of each ?
- (c) Whether the villagers of the said villages in either side of the Mora-Manas have recently approached the authorities for the remission of land revenue with a petition ?
- (d) If so, whether they have been given any relief in the shape of agricultural loans or gratuitous relief ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI** replied :

113. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Sub-Deputy Collectors of Barpeta and Sidli made preliminary investigations during the rains and the Executive Engineer, Embankment and Drainage Division, made final investigation during the dry season. The reports are now under consideration by Government.

(c) & (d)—The information has been called for and will be supplied to the hon. member on receipt.



**Promotion of Messrs. Duncan and K. Angami to Assam Civil Service (Senior)**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

\*148. Will Government be pleased to state after how many years' services as Sub-Deputy Collector Mr. Duncan and Mr. K. Angami were promoted to Assam Civil Service (Senior) ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY** replied :

148.—Mr. S. J. Duncan after five years' service and Mr. Kevichusa Angami after 10½ years' service in the Assam Junior Civil Service.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY :** May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether by their promotion the claims of any senior person in the same cadre were superseded ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY :** This is a different question. The question of supersession does not come in. So far as recruitment to the Assam Civil Service (Senior) is concerned, they are recruited from outsiders as well as from the junior Assam Civil Service.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY :** May I know whether an officer in service for five years is too junior ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY :** This is a matter of opinion.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** This is really for me to answer. By mistake, this reply has come in the name of the Hon'ble Srijut Hirendra Chandra Chakravarty.

These promotions were made about 15 years ago. This Government is not responsible for the promotions made so long ago.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY :** Is not the same principle followed ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Since then the rules have been changed. Promotion is now always guided by seniority, efficiency and communal representation.

**Assistant Sub-Inspectors for Mass Literacy Campaign**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

\*149. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of Assistant Sub-Inspectors appointed for the Mass Literacy Campaign ?

(b) Their pay and allowance in each case ?

\*150. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The name and address of each candidate for these posts ?

(b) The respective qualifications of each of them ?

(c) Whether any application was invited ?

(d) If not, why not ?

(e) Who has appointed them and who has formulated the policy ?



The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

149. (a)—Nineteen.

(b)—Rs. 40 *plus* a travelling allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem.

150. (a) and (b)—A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement referred to in reply to starred questions Nos.150(a) and (b)*

(i) ASSAM VALLEY

1. Srijut Ananda Ram Hazarika (North Lakhimpur)—3rd year Normal School.
2. Maulavi Md. Syed Azizur Rahman (Gauhati)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
3. Maulavi Muhammad Khyre (Sibsagar)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
4. Srijut Gopal Chandra Das (Nowgong)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
5. Srijut Sri Ram Chandra Das (Barpeta)—3rd year Normal School.
6. Srijut Badan Chandra Sarma (Gauhati)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
7. Srijut Hem Chandra Deka (Mangaldai)—3rd year Normal School.
8. Maulavi Hazrat Ali (Gauhati)—I. A. 3rd year Normal School.
9. Srijut Sripati Sarma (Gauhati)—3rd year Normal School.
10. Srijut Dhoniram Deka (Gauhati)—I. A. and 3rd year Normal School.
11. Srijut Romesh Adhikari (Dhubri)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
12. Srijut Uma Charan Nath (Goalpara)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.

(ii) SURMA VALLEY

13. Maulavi Nasibur Rahman (North Sylhet)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
14. Babu Binode Behari Roy (Sunamganj)—3rd year Normal School.
15. Maulavi Abdur Razak (Habiganj)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
16. Maulavi Hamdu Mia (Habiganj)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
17. Maulavi Gazi Ali Noaz (Sunamganj)—Matric 3rd year Normal School.
18. Babu Suresh Chandra Bhattacharya, Kavyatirtha (South Sylhet)—3rd year Normal School.
19. Maulavi Tabassum Ali Laskar (Silchar)—3rd year Normal School.

(c)—No.

(d)—As the temporary vacancies had to be filled up immediately in the public interest and as there was no time to advertise, selection was confined to registered candidates in the waiting lists of the Inspectors of schools.

(e)—The Director of Public Instruction made the appointments, following the policy that appointments in the Assam Lower School Service should usually go to men who have passed the Normal School final Examination. This policy has been followed by the Department for many years.

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** Is the Hon'ble Minister aware that the majority of the members of this House are of the opinion that this scheme is worthless and should be abandoned without incurring further expenditure on it?

*A voice:*—That is a matter of opinion.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member has asked whether it is the opinion of the majority of the members of this House. So, there may be a reply to his question, on the ground that it is ascertainable and when ascertained, becomes a fact.

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** No, Sir, I do not agree with the opinion which has been just suggested. I have received a copy of the notice signed by some members of the House and I have agreed to the discussion of that motion in the House.

### Regional Transport Boards

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY**  
asked :

\*151. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The functions of the Regional Transport Boards?
- (b) The names of members of the Surma Valley Regional Transport Board?
- (c) The number of licenses issued to bus owners for each of the roads in the Surma Valley?
- (d) The names of parties who have been granted licences for different roads in the said valley?
- (e) Whether all the parties, who have been granted licenses, are actually running buses?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA**  
replied :

151. (a)—The functions of a Regional Transport Authority are those laid down by or under the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, and a reference to the complete Act and Rules thereunder is necessary in order to define them.

(b) (c), & (d)—Three statements are laid on the table:



Statements referred to in reply to starred question No. 151 (b) (c) and (d)

151.(b)—

- (1) The Commissioner of Divisions (*ex-officio*)—Chairman.
- (2) The Superintendent of Police, Cachar (*ex-officio*)—Secretary.
- (3) The Superintendent of Police, Sylhet (*ex-officio*).
- (4) The Superintending Engineer (*ex-officio*).
- (5) Colonel A. B. Beddow, C.I.E.
- (6) Khan Bahadur Muhammad Azizur Rahman.
- (7) Babu Bonwarilal Das, *ex-Chairman*, Sylhet Municipality, Sylhet.

151.(c)—

Name of roads	No. of permits issued
(1) Sylhet-Dawki Road ... ..	21
(2) Sylhet-Badarpur <i>via</i> Karimganj ... ..	22
(3) Sylhet-Bhadeswar ... ..	10
(4) Sylhet-Sherpur-Maulvibazar ... ..	32
(5) Habiganj-Nabiganj-Sherpur ... ..	10
(6) Maulvibazar-Srimangal ... ..	10
(7) Maulvibazar-Shamshernagar ... ..	4
(8) Maulvibazar-Kulaura ... ..	20
(9) Karimganj-Juri (including roads to Kanaibazar-Olivacherra and Patherkandi-Isabheel) ... ..	15
(10) Kulaura-Juri-Phultala ... ..	9
(11) Habiganj-Shaistaganj-Balla-Assampara... ..	10
(12) Habiganj-Ajmiriganj ... ..	8
(13) Habiganj-Madna ... ..	5
(14) Habiganj-Putijuri-Deopara ... ..	5
(15) Habiganj-Madhabpur ... ..	4
(16) Shamshernagar-Kailashar ... ..	2
(17) Sylhet-Sunamganj ... ..	16
(18) Sylhet-Chhatak ... ..	8
(19) Sunamganj-Jagannathpur ... ..	2
(20) Sylhet-Bhologanj <i>via</i> Shalutikar ... ..	8
(21) Sylhet-Biswanath to arrange for running to Bishnupur when cold weather track is open ... ..	6
(22) Tazpur-Ballaganj ... ..	1
(23) Churkhai-Kanaighat ... ..	1
(24) Silchar-Hailakandi ... ..	8
(25) Silchar-Sonai ... ..	8
(26) Silchar-Lakhipur ... ..	8
(27) Silchar-Kabuganj ... ..	14
(28) Silchar-Udharband ... ..	4
(29) Hailakandi Subdivision ... ..	10
(30) Silchar-Barkhala ... ..	1

#### PUBLIC CARRIERS' PERMIT

(1) Sylhet-Dawki Road ... ..	2
(2) Sylhet-Maulvibazar ... ..	1

151.(d)—

## STAGE CARRIAGE PERMITS

*Sylhet-Dawki Road*

1. Kalim Ulla of Purna Sagam.
2. Mabassir Ali of Jaintiapur.
3. Cecil Peter Das of Sheikghat.
4. Matindra Chandra Chakrabarti of Howapara.
5. Md. Ambar of Madhu Sayed, Sylhet.
6. Lal Mia of Majumdari, Sylhet.
7. Tamrunessa of Madhu Sayed, Sylhet.
8. Md. Illias of Howapara.
9. Hazra Singh of Rainagar.
10. Gunendra Chandra Chakravarti of Zindabazar.
11. Naresh Chandra Chaudhury of Sheikghat.
12. Ruhini Kumar Bhattacharjee of Kastaghar.
13. Kedar Nath Chakravarty of Brahmansasan.
14. Abdul Gaffur of Baraikandi.
15. Md. Abbas Ali of Banagaon.
16. Ramendra Kumar Bhattacharjee of Jatarpur.
17. Rahamat Ullah of Kumarpara.
18. Basanta Kumar Ghose of Lamabazar.
19. Sudhangsu Sen Gupta of Puran Lane, Sylhet.
20. Girindra Kumar Dey of Joynagar.
21. Rama Kanta Das of Jamtala.

*Sylhet-Badarpur via Karimganj*

1. Tomari Bandhu Das of Jalapur.
2. Abdul Sattar of Baldi.
3. Bhamar Lal Patoa of Karimganj.
4. Abdul Matin Chaudhury of Karimganj.
5. Md. Abdul Bari of Karimganj.
6. Profulla Chandra Das of Mirjajangal, Sylhet Town.
7. Digendra Nath Das of Shelia Bazar.
8. Nasiruddin Ahmad of Reasat, Sylhet.
9. Kudratulla of Bhatali.
10. Pratul Chandra Nandi of Baruthkhana.
11. Hazi Sajid Ali of Dhakadakshin.
12. Abdul Mujib Chaudhury of Rankeli.
13. Abdul Rahaman *alias* Md. Raka of Fulbari.
14. Abdul Hannan of Karimganj.
15. Md. Khalilur Rahman of Barthakhala.



*Sylhet-Badarpur via Karimganj—concl'd.*

16. Abdul Kadir of Dargamahalla.
17. Abdul Mukith Chaudhury of Chandighat, Sylhet.
18. Makmad Ali of Dattarail.
19. Akmal Hussain of Sylhet.
20. Abdul Karim of Karimganj.
21. Suresh Chandra Das of Mewa Sheliabazar.
22. Hitendra Kumar Nandi of Nayasarak.

*Sylhet-Bhadeswar*

1. Abdul Mujib Chaudhury of Rankeli.
2. Reazuddin Chaudhury of Raighar.
3. Jowad Ali Chaudhury of Bhadeswar.
4. Saroda Charan Dey of Zindabazar.
5. Masad Ali of Dattarail.
6. Majakhir Ali of Dhakadakshin.
7. Abdur Rahman of Baldi.
8. Abdur Rahman of Fulbari.
9. Basarat Ali of Dhakadakshin.
10. Abdul Matlib of Jalapara.

*Sylhet-Sherpur-Maulvibazar*

1. Dwipendra Chandra Chaudhury of Zindabazar.
2. Jibendra Mohan Das of Nayasarak.
3. Abdul Matlib of Jhalapara.
4. Abdul Nur of Bhatali.
5. Jamini Kumar Deb of Bahaduganj.
6. Krishna Kumar Sarma of Daspara.
7. Nasiruddin Ahmad of Riasat.
8. Ananta Kumar Nag of Lamabazar.
9. Mohendra Chandra Das of Brahmangram.
10. Mohendra Chandra Dey of Brahmangram.
11. Barindra Kumar Das of Kalijuri.
12. Upendra Narayan Chaudhury of Howapara.
13. Promode Chandra Dhar of Chalibander.
14. Digendra Nath Das of Saliabazar.
15. Ekramur Rahman of Barthakhala.
16. Makaddas Ali of Baldi.
17. Bey Ahmad of Ahia Villa.
18. Nanda Kumar Dey of Dattagram.
19. Md. Jamaluddin Ahmad of Reasat.
20. Nizamuddin Ahmad of Riasat.
21. Surja Kumar Dhar of Daspara.
22. Kelish Chandra Chakravarti of Brahmansasan.

*Sylhet-Sherpur-Maulvibazar—concl'd.*

23. Kiamatulla of Guzarai, Maulvibazar.
24. Mani Bhusan Gupta of Maulvibazar.
25. Tolaram Patoa of Manumukh.
26. Md. Illias of Maulvibazar.
27. Maizuddin Khan of Barmardan, Maulvibazar.
28. Bhupendra Nath Gupta of Maulvibazar.
29. Jalaluddin Chaudhury of Sylhet.
30. Md. Gajnabi Mazumdar of Maulvibazar.
31. Mokinuddin Chaudhury of Badeswar.
32. Hazi Sajid Ali of Dattarail.

*Habiganj-Nabiganj-Sherpur*

1. Upendra Chandra Saha of Habiganj.
2. Paresh Chandra Hom Choudhury of Habiganj.
3. Promatha Nath Choudhury of Bagalas Bazar, Habiganj.
4. Gopendra Kumar Dhar of Habiganj.
5. Dwijendra Nath Choudhury of Habiganj.
6. Mohesh Chandra Biswas of Habiganj.
7. Bir Kumar Chakrabarty of Habiganj.
8. Baroda Charan Archarjya of Mandarkandi.
9. Iad Ali of Rajabad, Nabiganj.
10. Girindra Kumar Chakrabarty of Mandarkandi.

*Maulvibazar-Srimangal*

1. Nishi Bushan Gupta of Maulvibazar.
2. Syed Tazamul Ali of Gobindasree.
3. Purendra Mohan Das Gupta of Jagatshi.
4. Mofizulla of Gobindasree.
5. Nagendra Chandra Dey of Maulvibazar.
6. Surendra Chandra Das of Srimangal.
7. Md. Mustafa Mazumder of Maulvibazar.
8. Asad Bakth Chaudhury of Barahut.
9. Mafiz Uddin Khan of Maulvibazar.
10. Md. Syed Ali of Badeswar.

*Maulvibazar to Shamshernagar*

1. Abdur Rahaman of Barshijuri.
2. Abdul Bari of Kashim Nagar.
3. Jagai Jyoti Gupta of Maulvibazar.
4. Jotish Chandra Gupta of Maulvibazar.

*Maulvibazar-Kulaura*

1. Jogendra Chandra Sikdar of Daspara.
2. Sudhir Ranjan Das of Joychandi.



*Maulvibazar-Kulaura—concl'd.*

3. Suresh Chandra Das of Joychandi.
4. Ramesh Chandra Das of Joychandi.
5. Chandra Nath Deb of Kulaura.
6. Promode Ranjan Gupta of Kulaura.
7. Tarini Charan Deb of Magura.
8. Ram Behari Sukul of Kulaura.
9. Md. Sajid Ali of Kulaura.
10. Jamir Uddin Ahmed of Maulvibazar.
11. Pranay Ranjan Deb and Tarini Ranjan Deb of Kulaura.
12. Surendra Kumar Deb of Kulaura.
13. Md. Shamsuddin Ahmed of Kulaura.
14. Abdul Khalique of Guzerai.
15. Abdul Hakim Choudhury of Ghyasnagar Lodge, Sylhet.
16. Abdul Bari Choudhury of Mirjapur.
17. Md. Jahir Uddin of Bhukshimal, Sylhet.
18. Md. Mazair Uddin Ahmed of Bhukshimal, Sylhet.
19. Nur Uddin Ahmed Choudhury of Ghyasnagar.
20. Abdus Sattar of Guzerai.

*Karimganj-Juri*

(Including roads to Kanaibazar-Oiliviacherra and Patherkandi-Isabeel)

1. Mrs. Hisi Morissee of Chandkhira.
2. Abdul Jabbar Choudhury of Batarashi.
3. Abdul Karim of Karimganj.
4. Abdul Bari of Karimganj.
5. Abdul Hannan of Karimganj.
6. Moti Lal Choudhury of Kanaibazar.
7. Md. Sahfiqul Haque Choudhury of Karimganj.
8. Sakhatul Ambia Choudhury of Karimganj.
9. Aklui Mia of Bhawanibazar.
10. Asad Ali Choudhury of Dildarpur.
11. Khan Bahadur Hazi Abdul Mazid of Karimganj.
12. Sriprasad Roy of Sonakhira.
13. Md. Makram Ali of Chandkhira.
14. Gangadhar Tusnial of Sylhet Town.
15. Dhananjay Singha of Patherkandi.

*Kulaura-Juri-Phultola*

1. Nilimesh Bhattacharjee of Juri.
2. Asad Ali Choudhury of Dildarpur.
3. Dhurga Charan Dey of Phultolabazar.

*Kulaura-Juri-Phultola—concl'd.*

4. Aftab Mia of Karimganj bazar.
5. Irman Ali Dewan of Juri.
6. Irman Ali Dewan of Juri.
7. Md. Mamtaz Ali Choudhury of Juri.
8. Watir Ali of Juri.
9. Romoni Mohan Nag of Juri.

*Habiganj-Shaistaganj-Balla-Assampara*

1. Bijoy Kumar Chakrabarty of Habiganj.
2. Abdul Karim of Shaistaganj.
3. Md. Anfar Ali of Shaistaganj.
4. Anath Bandhu Kor of Habiganj.
5. Md. Afazat Ali of Shaistaganj.
6. Badur Uddin of Shaistaganj.
7. Srish Chandra Dutta of Shaistaganj.
8. Suresh Chandra Nath Sorma of Gachpara.
9. Digendra Chandra Laha of Durgapur.
10. Samir Rahman of Ramsree.

*Habiganj-Ajmiriganj*

1. Nirmaljoti Das of Habiganj.
2. Sudhangsu Kumar Nag of Habiganj.
3. Panchanand Kumar Nag of Habiganj.
4. Ananta Kumar Nag of Lamabazar, Sylhet.
5. Narendra Lal Das of Habiganj.
6. Nalini Kumar Nag of Habiganj.
7. Sachindra Bhattacharjee of Habiganj.
8. Ananta Kumar Nag of Sylhet Town.

*Habiganj-Madna*

1. Dinesh Chandra Das Chaudhury of Bamai.
2. Suresh Chandra Das Chaudhury of Bamai.
3. Nagesh Chandra Nag of Charamua.
4. Sudhirendra Nath Dhar Chaudhury of Habiganj.
5. Suresh Chandra Das of Gachpara.

*Habiganj-Putijuri-Deopara*

1. Rajani Kumar Purkayastha of Habiganj.
2. Ananda Charan Dhar of Habiganj.
3. Sudhir Chandra Saha of Habiganj.
4. Md. Emdad Ullah of Putijuri.
5. Paresh Enda of Habiganj.



*Habiganj-Madhabpur*

1. Syed Salur Rahman of Ramsree.
2. Prasanna Kumar Pal of Madhabpur.
3. Ananda Charan Pal of Madhabpur.
4. Kamini Kumar Pal of Itakhola, Sylhet.

*Shamsernagar-Kailashar*

1. Md. Sonaula of Maulvibazar.
2. Birendra Nath Ghose of Kailashar.

*Sylhet-Sunamganj*

1. Refath Ulla of Betaurpar.
2. Sarqume Abu Ahsan Anayeth of Dargamahalla.
3. Prithimoy Das of Sheikghat.
4. Abdul Matlib of Bhatalia.
5. Jalika-Banu Khatun of Dargamahalla.
6. Prasanna Kumar Ghose of Lamabazar.
7. Sailesh Chandra Chaudhury of Sheikghat.
8. Tafazzul Ali Chaudhury of Dargamahalla.
9. Chitta Ranjan Ghosh of Akhalia.
10. Sisir Kumar Sen of Sukna.
11. Gopesh Chandra Datta of Atapur.
12. Bipin Bihari Chaudhury of Dariapara.
13. Abdul Karim of Amberkhana.
14. Raj Govinda Pal of Koloya.
15. Ramendra Mohan Das of Akhalia.
16. Nalini Kanta Chaudhury of Malikpur, Sylhet.

*Sylhet-Chhatak*

1. Abdul Gafar of Majumdari.
2. Abdul Jabbar of Kumarpara.
3. Md. Abdul Roaf of Rekabibazar.
4. Jamini Mohan Datta of Jangail.
5. Nirmal Chandra Bhattacharjee of Kastaghar.
6. Aditya Nandan Chakravarti of Lamabazar.
7. Sailesh Chandra Roy of Zindabazar.
8. Narmada Charan Das Gupta of Mirjajungal.

*Sunamganj-Jagannathpur*

1. Naresh Chandra Deb of Tantipara, Sylhet.
2. Moula Box, Sunamganj bazar.

*Sylhet-Bholaganj via Salutikar*

1. Shama Kanta Das of Jamtala.
2. Md. Abdul Gaffur of Bhatali.
3. Hridoy Ranjan Bhattacharjee of Kastaghar.
4. Tafazzil Ali of Dargamahalla.
5. Debendra Kumar Dey of Salutikar.
6. Gopika Ranjan Deb of Salutikar.
7. Bhuru Mea of Batalia.
8. Md. Yusuf of Howapara.

*Sylhet-Biswanath* (to arrange for running to *Bishnupur* when cold weather track is opened)

1. Katir Mahommed of Katalpur.
2. Motilal Datta Chaudhury and Paresh Chandra Das of Jauatya.
3. Motilal Datta Chaudhury and Brojendra Kumar Purkayastha of Sylhet.
4. Kalandar Ali of Biswanath.
5. Raisuddin and Suleman Khan of Jail Road, Sylhet.
6. Brojendra Kumar Purkayastha, Sylhet.

*Tazpur-Ballaganj*

1. Islam Ulla of Karanchi.

*Churkhai-Kanaighat*

1. Jyotirmoy Deb of Chalibandar.

## STAGE CARRIAGE PERMITS (CACHAR)

*Silchar-Hailakandi*

1. Masaid Ali of Mahabatpara.
2. Chhote Lal Seth & Co. of Silchar.
3. Mr. N. S. Mundy of Silchar.
4. Abdul Rashid Mea of Silchar.
5. Charita Singh of Loharband.
6. Sewaasghat Teli of Gaglacherra.
7. Safar Ali of Dwarband.
8. Messrs. East Bengal, Ltd. of Silchar.

*Silchar-Sonai*

1. Messrs. Surma Valley Stock Co. of Silchar.
2. Gabru Mea of Silchar.
3. Kamini Kumar Das of Sonaibazar.
4. Taibuddin of Silchar.



*Silchar-Sonai—concl'd.*

5. Mohammed Naimuddin of Sonai.
6. Suretunnessa of Sonai.
7. Alauddin of Sonai.
8. Chote Lal Seth of Silchar.

*Silchar-Lakhipur*

1. Gabru Mia of Silchar.
2. Sadagar Singh of Lakhipur.
3. S. B. Khandelwal, Silchar.
4. Osman Ali of Lakhipur.
5. Iskander Ali of Rangpur.
6. Ram Chandra Prasad Halwai.
7. Watir Ali of Lakhipur Road.
8. Rajendra Lal Das of Berenga.

*Silchar-Kabuganj*

1. Sakal Sing of Panibhara, Derby.
2. Md. Gajnabi Majumdar of Madhurband.
3. Behari Lal Agarwalla of Silchar.
4. Gabru Mea of Silchar (for Surma Valley Stock Co.)
5. Abhoya Charan Chakravarty of Silchar.
6. Abhoya Charan Chakravarty of Silchar.
7. Abdul Waheb Majumdar of Silchar.
8. Durgaprasad Agarwalla of Dwarband.
9. Ramrekha Ram Bania of Natunbazar.
10. Alauddin of Sonai.
11. Anai Mea of Madhurband.
12. Sonahar Ali Mojumder of Madhurband.
13. Biswanath Agarwalla of Silchar.
14. Md. Rahman Ali Mea of Silchar.

*Silchar-Udharband*

1. Surma Valley Stock Co., Silchar.
2. Chhotelal Seth, Silchar.
3. Pulin Behari Roy of Udharband.
4. Broja Singha of Udharband.

*Hailakandi Subdivision*

1. Syed Irshed Hussain of Hailakandi.
2. Monorama Biswas of Hailakandi.
3. Mohini Mohan Bose of Hailakandi.
4. Sen Gupta and Co. of Hailakandi.

*Hailakandi Subdivision—concl'd.*

5. Ram Pabitra Roy of Badarpur.
6. Prayag Krishna Datta of Hailakandi.
7. Rahman Ali Mea of Dudpur.
8. Benode Behari Dey of Silchar.
9. Mobarak Ali Lasker of Silchar.
10. Mamtaz Ali Chaudhury of Dudpur.

*Silchar-Borkhola*

1. Chote Lal Seth of Silchar.

## PUBLIC CARRIERS' PERMIT

*Sylhet-Dawki Road*

1. Md. Ibrahim of Abdulla, Sylhet.
2. Gangadhar Tusnial of Banderbazar, Sylhet.

*Sylhet-Maulvibazar Road*

1. Abdul Rasul of Balaganj.

(e)—Government have no up-to-date information, and it would take a long time to collect for any particular date.

**Winter Track in Sunamganj for Bus Service**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY**  
asked :

- \*152. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) The mileage of each Winter Track ready for Bus Services in the Subdivision of Sunamganj ?
  - (b) Whether buses are running in those tracks ?
  - (c) If not, do Government propose to see that bus services run regularly in those tracks for the facility of conveyance of the people.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA**  
replied :

152. (a)—(i) Sylhet-Sunamganj 42 miles minus 13 miles  
(Sylhet to Govindaganj) ... .. = 29 miles.
- (ii) Sunamganj-Derai 21 miles ... .. = 21 "
- (iii) Sunamganj-Jagannathpur via Pagla  
27 miles ... .. = 27 "
- (iv) Sylhet-Chattak 21 miles-13 miles  
(Sylhet to Govindaganj) ... .. = 8 "
- Total mileage 85 miles



(b)—Buses are plying at present only between—

- (1) Sylhet and Sunamganj.
- (2) Sylhet and Chhatak.
- (3) One bus is running at present on the Sunamganj-Jagan-nathpur line. Two permits have been allotted to this line but the second permit holder has not placed any bus on the line yet.
- (4) Buses topped plying on the Sunamganj-Derai road from the 28th February 1941. No new permit was issued on this line, presumably because the Authority did not consider that a regular service could be provided.

(c)—This is a matter for which the Transport Authorities will no doubt provide to the best of their ability.

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** Are Government aware that the Sunamganj Local Board constructed a motorable road from Derai to Sunamganj and that no bus was put in the line?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** My information is otherwise, Sir. Buses stopped plying on the Sunamganj-Derai Road from the 28th of February 1941.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Do Government know that no bus was put on the line constructed by the Sunamganj Local Board from Sunamganj to Panatirtha?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** This is entirely a new question, Sir.

(Starred questions Nos. 153 standing in the name of Maulavi Muhammad Abdus Salam and 154-159 standing in the name of Babu Bipin Behari Das were not put and answered as the questioners were absent.)

### Appointment of Assistant Mass Literacy Officers

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE** asked :

\*160. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The names, qualifications and pay with allowances of each of the Assistant Mass Literacy Officers appointed by Government?
- (b) Whether the Public Service Commission was consulted by Government in making these appointments?
- (c) Whether Government advertised these posts before making the appointments?
- (d) If so, in which papers the advertisements were published?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI** replied :

160. (a)—1. Srijut Devendra Nath Sarma, B.A.  
2. Maulavi Fazlur Rahman, B.A.  
3. Maulavi Abdul Majid, B.A.

They have been appointed on a fixed pay of Rs.100 per mensem and will draw travelling and halting allowances at the rates admissible to officers in class III of the Assam School Service.

(b)—No.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.



**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** May I know on what basis were these three officers appointed? Was it on the population basis or on the number of schools in the province?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** A Muslim from the Surma Valley had to be appointed because the percentage of illiteracy amongst the Muslims will be much larger than amongst the Hindus, and for the Assam Valley one Hindu and one Muslim had to be appointed.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY:** May I know on what basis the candidates were selected?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** I have given the answer, Sir.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** May I know how their duties have been allotted?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** Of the two for the Assam Valley, one has been placed in the Lower Assam Valley Division and the other in the Upper Assam Valley Division.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Who made these appointments, Sir?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** These appointments were made by the Director of Public Instruction.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** May I know why the Public Service Commission was not consulted in this matter?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** Class III of the Assam School Service appointments are made by the Director of Public Instruction without consulting the Public Service Commission.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Did the Director of Public Instruction invite applications from intending candidates?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** No, Sir, I have already answered that Government did not advertise these posts before making appointments.

**Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA:** May I know whether the Director of Public Instruction made these appointments, in consultation with the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Education?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** I had a discussion with the Director of Public Instruction.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY:** I had Government admit that there are better candidates in the province than those who were appointed?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** That is a matter of opinion, Sir.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** May I know why no advertisement was issued?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** Because these appointments had to be made as quickly as possible.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Are they all on permanent basis?



**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** Not yet, Sir. The whole scheme is temporary at present.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Do not Government consider that great injustice was done to some qualified unemployed youths of the province by not issuing any advertisement and smuggling these three persons behind the Public Service Commission?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member should not enter into an argument.

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** The reply to this question is in the negative; the Public Service Commission has nothing to do with these appointments?

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** What was the criterion for fixing the salary at Rs. 100?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** In the ordinary scale of pay for Class III of the School Service, the starting pay is Rs. 75, but the salary had to be increased in case of these officers because they have to tour in villages mostly and after night-fall. There is no communication to some villages and touring has to be done on foot and after night-fall. In some of them there is even no accommodation or shelter for the officer. It is on consideration of the arduous nature of the duties that an increased salary had to be provided for.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Are we to understand that in most cases there will be no travelling allowance, but only halting allowance?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI:** In most cases, I think, there will be less travelling allowance than halting allowance.

### Non-native police officers in the police department

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI** asked:

\*161. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of (i) Constables (ii) Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police and (iii) Sub-Inspectors of Police in Assam who are not natives of the province, showing the community to which they belong?

(b) The principle on which these persons were appointed?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied:

161. (a)—A statement is placed on the table.

Statement referred to in reply to starred question No.161(a).

161. (a)—

Rank	Community								Total
	Garhwali Hindus	Behari and United Provinces Hindus	Nepali Hindus	Bengali Muslims	Bengali Hindus	Behari and United Provinces Muslims	Bengali Buddhists	Manipuri Hindus	
Constables .. ..	130	412	79	48	56	26	2	1	754
Assistant Sub-Inspectors ..	..	1	..	13	26	..	..	1	41
Sub-Inspectors .. ..	1	3	3	7	13	..	1	..	28

(b)—It is sometimes difficult to obtain eligible candidates, particularly in the armed branch, locally, but the aim is to enlist men of this province so far as possible, and the necessity for going outside now rarely arises. Most of them were enlisted long ago?

**Re Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI** asked :

\*162. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The names with their home districts of Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons appointed in the Public Health Department before 1936 and confirmed in or after 1936 in Civil or Public Health Department and got higher scale of pay than the usual grade in consideration of their age?



- (b) Whether the services of the Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons who were appointed in the Public Health Department and subsequently transferred and confirmed in the Civil Medical Department are counted towards pension from the date of their appointment ?
- (c) Whether the services of Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons appointed directly in the Civil Medical Department after 1936, will be counted towards pension from the date of their appointment or date of their confirmation ?
- (d) Whether the services of Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons who were confirmed in 1936 in the Public Health Department will be counted towards pension from the date of their appointment or date of their confirmation ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY**  
replied :

162. (a)—Necessary information is furnished in the statements laid on the table. Only Assistant Surgeons get a higher scale on the age-basis.

**Statements referred to in reply to starred question No. 162(a)**

*List showing the names with their home districts of the permanent Sub-Assistant Surgeons who were appointed in the Public Health Department before 1936 and confirmed in that Department in or after 1936.*

Names of Sub-Assistant Surgeon			Home District
1.	Dr. Sudhiranjan Bhattacharjee	...	Sylhet.
2.	„ Basistha Kr. Desamukhya	...	Ditto.
3.	„ Kumud Ranjan Dhar...	...	Ditto.
4.	„ Rukmini Kanta Bhattacharjee	...	Ditto
5.	„ Syed Muhibul Hussain Ahmed...	...	Sibsagar.
6.	„ Kanak Chandra Gogoi	...	Lakhimpur.
7.	„ Madhusudhan Das	...	Sylhet.
8.	„ Gopiraman Bhattacharjee	...	Ditto.
9.	„ Bhupendra Krishna Endow	...	Ditto.
10.	„ Gopendra Lal Paddar	...	Ditto.
11.	„ Jogesh Chandra Sarma	...	Ditto.
12.	„ Mahananda Chakravarty	...	Ditto.
13.	„ Abdur Rashid	...	Sibsagar.
14.	„ Surendra Ch. Chakravarty	...	Sylhet.
15.	„ Benoyendra Nath Dhar Choudhuri	...	Ditto.
16.	„ Suresh Ch. Chakravarty	...	Ditto.
17.	„ Abdul Haque	...	Ditto.
18.	„ Harinath Das	...	Kamrup.
19.	„ Tritheswar Sarma	...	Sibsagar.

Name of Sub-Assistant Surgeon			Home District
20.	Dr. Md. Abdul Mazid ...	...	Sylhet.
21.	„ Bimala Charan Paul ...	...	Goalpara.
22.	„ Rajendra Ch. Singha ...	...	Sylhet.
23.	„ Subodh Chandra Dhar ...	...	Ditto.
24.	„ Kaji Ram Das ...	...	Kamrup.
25.	„ Baneswar Das ...	...	Darrang.
26.	„ Alauddin Ahmed Chaudhury ...	...	Sylhet.
27.	„ Amar Chandra Sarma... ..	...	Ditto.
28.	„ Benode Behari Biswas... ..	...	Ditto.
29.	„ Pradyumna Kr. Dhar... ..	...	Ditto.
30.	„ Subodh Chandra Gogoi ...	...	Lakhimpur.
31.	„ Mohommed Ali ...	...	Sylhet.
32.	„ Jadav Ch. Chakravarty ...	...	Kamrup.
33.	„ Jogesh Ch. Das Gupta ...	...	...Domiciled in Assam.
34.	„ Satish Ch. Purkayastha ...	...	Sylhet.
35.	„ Abdul Gunny ...	...	Sibsagar.
36.	„ Sailesh Chandra Das ...	...	Sylhet.
37.	„ Amarendra Kumar Sen ...	...	...Domiciled in Assam.
38.	„ Jogesh Chandra Hoom Chaudhuri	...	Sylhet.
39.	„ Haridas Roy... ..	...	Ditto.
40.	„ Bhabanath Sarma ...	...	Sibsagar.
41.	„ Md. Habibur Rahman, No. 1 ...	...	Sylhet.
42.	„ Ayodhyanath Bhattacharjee ...	...	Ditto.
43.	„ Muhammad Munwar Khan ...	...	Nowgong.
44.	„ Ramani Kanta Das, No. II ...	...	Kamrup.
45.	„ Naresh Chandra Chakravarty ...	...	Sylhet.
46.	„ Dinesh Ch. Chakravarty ...	...	Ditto.
47.	„ Md. Abdul Haque Chaudhury... ..	...	Ditto.
48.	„ Syed Mohommed Habibur Rahman, II ...	...	Sibsagar.
49.	„ Bhagirath Das ...	...	Kamrup.
50.	„ Nurur Rahman ...	...	Sibsagar.
51.	„ Sashindra Mohan Dutta ...	...	Sylhet.
52.	„ Chitta Ranjan Dutta ...	...	Lakhimpur.
53.	„ Dinendra Kumar Dutta ...	...	Sylhet.
54.	„ Dharendra Kumar Das ...	...	Ditto.
55.	„ Kameswar Hazarika ...	...	Nowgong.
56.	„ Mohim Chandra Misra ...	...	Sylhet.
57.	„ Md. Azizur Rahman... ..	...	Sibsagar.
58.	„ Amiruddin Ahmed ...	...	Goalpara.
59.	„ Mirza Mudassir Ali ...	...	Sylhet.
60.	„ Rahimuddin Ahmed ...	...	Goalpara.



Name of Sub-Assistant Surgeon			Home District
61.	Dr. Benoy Bhusan Gupta ...	...	Sylhet.
62.	„ Golap Chandra Chaudhury ...	...	Kamrup.
63.	„ Aboni Mohan Sarma ...	...	Sylhet.
64.	„ Chakrapani Dutta ...	...	Kamrup.
65.	„ Abul Hussain ...	...	Sylhet.
66.	„ Miftahul Hussain ...	...	Lakhimpur.
67.	„ Md. Abdul Quadir ...	...	Sylhet.
68.	„ Abdus Shahid Chaudhury ...	...	Ditto.
69.	„ Taiyabur Rahman Chaudhury ...	...	Ditto.
70.	„ Habibur Rahman No.III ...	...	Ditto.
71.	„ Manik Chandra Bora ...	...	Darrang.
72.	„ Azizur Rahman Barbora ...	...	Sibsagar.
73.	„ Nizamur Rahman Mazumdar ...	...	Cachar.
74.	„ Md. Wazid Ali ...	...	Goalpara.
75.	„ Mohibur Rahman ...	...	Sibsagar.
76.	„ Md. Alpi Mia ...	...	Sylhet.
77.	„ Rahmat Hussain ...	...	Sibsagar.
78.	„ Sadananda Das ...	...	Ditto.
79.	„ Subimal Chandra Roy ...	...	...Domiciled in Assam.
80.	„ Md. Abdul Bari ...	...	Kamrup.
81.	„ Syed Jamalur Rahman ...	...	Sibsagar.
82.	„ Pratul Chandra Das ...	...	Sylhet.
83.	„ Asit Chandra Deb ...	...	Ditto.

*List showing the names with the home districts of Sub-Assistant Surgeons appointed in the Public Health Department before 1936 and confirmed in or after 1936 in the Medical Department.*

Serial No.	Names	Home District
1.	Dr. Rajendra Kumar Gogoi ...	Nowgong.
2.	„ Daneshuddin... ...	Goalpara.
3.	„ Nalini Behari Das ...	Ditto.
4.	„ James Suni ...	Darrang.
5.	„ Syed Ahsan Ali ...	Sibsagar.
6.	„ Hafizuddin Ahmed ...	Ditto.
7.	„ Bijoy Ranjan Acharyya ...	Sylhet.

Names of Sub-Assistant Surgeon			Home District
8.	Dr. Jogendra G. Momin ...	...	Garo Hills.
9.	„ Pulin Chandra Roy ...	...	Sylhet.
10.	„ Jagannath Sarma Barua ...	...	Sibsagar.
11.	„ Dr. Ishaque Ali Chaudhuri ...	...	Cachar.
12.	„ Nurul Huda ...	...	Sibsagar.

*List showing the names with their home districts of Assistant Surgeons appointed in the Public Health Department before 1936 and confirmed in or after 1936 in either the Medical or Public Health Department.*

Names		Home Districts	
1.	Dr. Prafulla Kumar Das, M.B. (Cal.), D.P.H., L.O. (Madras.)	Sylhet	} Confirmed in Medical Department.
2.	„ Umesh Chandra Bardoloi, M.B.	Kamrup	
3.	„ Asaduz-zaman Chaudhuri, M.B.	Sylhe	
4.	„ Amrit Nath Hazarika, M.B.	Nowgong	} Confirmed in Public Health Department.
5.	„ Dinanath Das, M.B.	Kamrup	
6.	„ Padma Nath Hazarika, M.B.	Sibsagar	

(b)—No. It was decided that those officers who had rendered less than 3 years' temporary service in the Public Health Department would not have that temporary service counted towards pension: but those with more temporary service, would have the temporary service, minus three years only, counted towards pensions.

(c)—From the date of their substantive appointment.

(d)—The hon. member's attention is invited to the reply given to question No.162(b).

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI:** May I know why three years' service was deducted?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY:** It was so decided that three years' service will not be counted towards pension.

#### **Number of clerks in the offices of the Civil Surgeons of the Province**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI** asked:

\*163. Will Government be pleased to state—

- The number of clerks in the offices of the Civil Surgeons of the Province?
- How many of them are for the Public Health Department and how many are for the Civil?
- The home district and also the community to which each of them belongs?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY** replied:

163. (a)—Fifty-four.

(b)—Medical—40.  
Public Health—14.

(c)—A statement is laid on the table.



**Statement referred to in reply to starred question No. 163(c)**  
*A Statement showing the home districts and communities of clerks employed in Civil Surgeons' offices in Assam.*

Serial No.	Medical			Public Health		
	Community	Number	Home district.	Community.	Number	Home district.
1	Muslims .. ..	14	Sylhet .. Cachar .. Goalpara .. Lakhimpur .. Kamrup ..	Muslim .. ..  Hindus, Assam Valley ..	3	Cachar .. Sylhet ..
2	Hindus, Assam Valley ..	14	Sibsagar .. Nowgong .. Kamrup .. Goalpara ..	Hindus, Surma Valley .. Tribal (Plains) ..	3 6 2	Sibsagar .. Nowgong .. Darrang .. Sylhet .. Lakhimpur ..
3	Hindus, Surma Valley ..	9	Sylhet ..	Total ..	14	Total ..
4	Tribal (a) Hills .. (b) Plains..	2 1	Lushai Hills .. Garo Hills .. Kamrup ..			
5	Scheduled caste ..	3	Sibsagar .. Kamrup .. Cachar ..			
6	Others .. ..	* 1	Tippera ..			
7	Vacant .. ..	1	Total .. 40+1 (Vacant)			
	Total ..	41				

\* Bengali Hindu of Bengal.

*Re Assam jute*

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI** asked :

\*164. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Assam jute is inferior in quality to Bengal jute, and fetches much lower price as compared to Bengal jute ?
- (b) If so, whether it is due to soil or want of manure or inferior seed or the ignorance of the cultivators ?
- (c) Whether the Department concerned ever attempted to find out the cause for the disparity between Assam and Bengal jute regarding quality and price ?
- (d) Whether the Department has taken any step to improve the soil or supply the manure and better kind of seed and also to educate the cultivators regarding production of better kind of jute ?
- (e) If not, do Government propose to take them up as matters of urgent concern for the improvement of economic condition of cultivators ?

\*165. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government have taken any comparative statistics regarding the prices of Bengal and Assam jute ?
- (b) If not, do Government propose to do it at an early date ?

\*166. Will Government be pleased to state the average market price of jute in the district of Goalpara during the last four years and the area under jute cultivation in this district ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI** replied :

164. (a)—No. Assam jute is as good as Bengal jute, and Assam jute actually fetches the same price as Bengal jute in Calcutta market. The fact is that the middlemen, all of whom come from Bengal, purchase jute in Assam at a lower price and sell it in Calcutta at a higher price, passing it as Bengal jute, due to an impression prevailing among the big dealers in Calcutta that the quality of Assam jute has not improved since jute cultivation was first taken up in Assam. Action is being taken to remove this impression by selling Assam jute through a co-operative grading and marketing scheme which is under the consideration of the Government.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes. Improved seeds are distributed in jute growing areas and a jute propaganda staff financed by the Indian Central Jute Committee advises the cultivators on improved methods of cultivation, steeping, retting and washing the fibre.

Action has been taken to improve the soil of demonstration plots in jute growing areas by manuring with water-hyacinth ash, sodium nitrate and cowdung, etc. The suggestion about supply of manure will be considered.

(e)—Does not arise.

165. (a)—No.

(b)—The suggestion will be considered.



166.—The average market price in the district of Goalpara was as follows :—

Rs.6-13-6	per maund in	1936-37.
Rs.5-0-3	„ „	1937-38.
Rs.10-3-0	„ „	1938-39.
Rs.5-10-9	„ „	1939-40.

Area under jute cultivation in the district in 1939-40 was 100,000 acres.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(to which answers were laid on the table)

(Final replies to unstarred questions Nos. 141 and 142 to which *ad-interim* replies were given on the 22nd March, 1941)

#### Bengali Primary Schools in immigrant areas

**Babu LALIT MOHAN KAR** asked :

141. Will Government be pleased to state the number of Bengali primary schools in immigrant areas which are—

- (a) Maintained by Local Boards ?
- (b) Aided by Local Boards ?
- (c) Venture Schools ?

142. Will Government be pleased to state the number of Assamese primary schools in immigrant areas which are—

- (a) Maintained by Local Boards ?
- (b) Aided by Local Boards ?
- (c) Venture Schools ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI** replied :

141. (a)—126.

(b)—Nil.

(c)—43.

142. (a)—248.

(b)—Nil.

(c)—52.

**Re Scavengers and Sweepers of the Sylhet Municipal Board****Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY** asked :

212. (a) Is it a fact that the scavengers and sweepers in the employ of Sylhet Municipal Board have formed recently an Union and presented some demands, including security of service and dearness allowance ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Additional District Magistrate, Sylhet in charge of the Sylhet Municipal Board, accepted these demands in the presence of respectable gentlemen and made a declaration in a meeting of scavengers and sweepers called in his Court room, with the Deputy Commissioner's permission, to the above effect ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Additional District Magistrate promised to increase the wages of the sweepers, who are getting Rs.10 to Rs.11 per mensem, by Re.1 and supply empty tin, umbrella, bamboo, broomsticks and other necessities free of cost and also promised to fulfil their other demands within a reasonable period of time ?

(d) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether the Additional District Magistrate's said promises have been implemented ?

(e) If not, why not ?

(f) Is it a fact that the scavengers and sweepers have been asked to quit the said Union on pain of punishment ?

(g) If so, why ?

(h) Is it a fact that the Executive Officer of the Sylhet Municipal Board has forced some sweepers to give thumb impressions on blank papers and has fined and dismissed some others without any reason or without any notice ?

(i) Is it a fact that a young son of Telegu employee of the said Municipality fell seriously ill and died for want of medical aid ?

(j) If so, will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken to punish these persons responsible for such culpable negligence ?

(k) Is it a fact that though the sweepers are not adequately equipped for their works, they are being fined for faulty works ?

(l) Is it a fact that although applied for in the proper form and proper fees paid about a year ago, the Union of Sweepers and Scavengers styled as "Surma Valley Dhargar Union" has not yet been registered ?

(m) If so, why so ?

**The Hon'ble Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI** replied :

212. (a)—Government have no information as regards the formation of a Union by the sweeper-employees of the Sylhet Municipality. Representations for increased pay and other benefits were received from them and attended to about a year ago.

(b)—No. The facts are as follows :—

In order to clear some misunderstanding in the minds of the sweepers created by the repeated misrepresentation of facts, the Additional District Magistrate on 29th April 1940, called all the sweeper-employees to his Court-room and explained the real position and advised them to remain content with what the present executive had already done to improve their condition, which compared very favourably with the lot of sweepers elsewhere. The Deputy Commissioner was present on request. A few outsiders were also there.



(c)—No such promise was ever made but in the usual course of administration, the question of pay of sweepers was reviewed, from time to time and permanent increments to the extent of a rupee each per mensem, granted to all deserving cases. Besides, empty tins, bamboos and umbrellas were supplied and a waiting shed provided in the trenching ground.

(d) & (e) —Do not arise.

(f)—Does not arise in view of the first portion of the reply to question No.212(a).

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—No.

(i)—Government are informed that the infant son (about a year old) of a Madras sweeper employee was ill of infantile liver disease of which he died in June last year after receiving due treatment at the hands of the Municipal Medical Officer.

(j)—Does not arise.

(k)—No.

(l) & (m)—It has not yet been registered as the registration papers have not been submitted according to the rules. No reply has been received to the demand for the required particulars.

### Observance of Independence Day

**Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY** asked :

213. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there had been arrests, in the province, on the 26th January 1941, for the observance of Independence Day ?

(b) Whether there had been any punishments meted out to students of any schools and colleges, for hoisting the National Flag or for reading and hearing the Independence pledge ?

214. If the replies to question No.213 are in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of persons so arrested and punished ?

215. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there had been protests against such arrests and punishments from the public or the students through representations, demonstrations and hunger-strikes ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether the public grievances have since been redressed ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied :

213.(a)—Yes.

(b)—Not so far as Government are aware.

214.—A list of those arrested is given below. They were released the same day when order was restored.

1. Gopendra Chandra Deb.

2. Kripendra Kishore Chanda Barman.

3. Krisnapada Datta.

4. Indu Bhusan Ray.

5. Amalendu Biswas.



6. Samarendra Kumar Deb.
7. Arun Prasanna Dutta.
8. Nishit Ranjan Dutta.
9. Nikhil Chandra Ayan.
10. Jyotish Chandra Deb Chowdhuri.
11. Sashadhar Purkayastha.
12. Sachindra Bhattacharji.
13. Satyabrata Biswas.
14. Durgapada Bhattacharji.
15. Digendra Kumar Shome.
16. Radhika Ranjan Sen.
17. Pranesh Chandra De.

215.(a)—Government have no information except that there was shouting by the students after they had been released, and a hunger-strike.

(b)—The hunger-strike was called off after the College authorities had waived their intention to take disciplinary action, at the request of the Hon'ble Judicial Minister.

### Thefts and dacoities in the Sunamganj subdivision

**Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY** asked :

216. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

- (i) The number of thefts and dacoities committed in the Sunamganj subdivision in the years 1939 and 1940 ?
- (ii) The names of persons robbed of in each case ?
- (iii) The number of cases detected, with names of persons so detected ?
- (iv) The number of cases undetected ?
- (v) The number of cases in which punishments were inflicted with names of convicted persons ?
- (vi) The number of cases in which punishments were not inflicted in courts, with the names of the discharged persons ?
- (vii) The number of guns stolen in any of the cases mentioned in the statement, with particulars of the cases ?
- (viii) The number of guns recaptured, with names of persons from whom so done ?

217. Will Government be pleased to state the reasons for non-detection of cases, if there are any ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied :

					Thefts	Dacoities
216. (i)—1939	...	...	...	...	455	Nil
1940	...	...	...	...	313	1



(ii)—A statement has been placed on the library table.

(iii)—The number of detections was—

1939 ...	...	...	...	...	127
1940 ...	...	...	...	...	96

For obvious reasons Government cannot agree to give the names of persons who were not convicted.

(iv)—1939 ...	...	...	...	...	328
1940 ...	...	...	...	...	218

(v)—1939 ...	...	...	...	...	93
1940 ...	...	...	...	...	66

A list of persons convicted has been placed on the library table.

(vi)—1939 ...	...	...	...	...	34
1940 ...	...	...	...	...	30

Government are not prepared to give the names of persons who were discharged or otherwise not convicted. Some cases are pending.

(vii)—Four guns were reported stolen as detailed below :—

(a) One S. B. M. L. gun belonging to Muhammad Ashon of village Rongshi under Dharampassa Police Station, reported stolen on the 11th February 1939 and subsequently recovered from a river on the 7th May 1939.

(b) One D. B. L. gun of Babu Manindra Kumar Purkayastha of village Behali under Sachna Police Station, reported stolen on the 27th October 1940.

(c) One D. B. B. L. gun of Babu Manohar Roy of village Bharatpur under Sunamganj Police Station, reported stolen on the 6th May 1940.

(d) One S. B. M. L. gun of Joma Sk. of village Parbatipur under Sunamganj Police Station, reported stolen on the 13th February 1940 and subsequently recovered from a paddy field.

(viii)—Two ; one from river and the other from a paddy field. They were not recovered from the possession of any individual.

217.—Lack of sufficient or reliable evidence.

### Complaint of one Manmohini Shaha of Bharatpur, Sunamganj

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY asked :

218.(a) Are Government aware that the widow Manmohini Shaha of Bharatpur in the Sunamganj Subdivision referred to in the unstarred question No.255 asked in the last November session of the Assembly, is too poor to complain in the court and that she has been rendered homeless by the landlords of Bharatpur ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether Government propose to proceed with an enquiry after hearing Maulavi Maqbul Hussain Chaudhury and Babu Karuna Sindhu Roy, M. L. As., to whom the aforesaid widow and other witnesses have made statements ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied :

218.(a)—Manmohini Shaha left Bharatpur of her own accord. It is not a fact that she has been rendered homeless. She came to court but could not substantiate her allegations.

(b)—The Subdivisional Officer, Sunamganj, will be prepared to hold further enquiry if either of the two M. L. As. will make statements before him corroborating the widow.

### **Re-distribution of the villages under Sachna, Tahirpur and Sunamganj Police Stations**

**Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY** asked :

219. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Why circle No.9 of the Sunamganj Police Station has been included in the list of Tahirpur Police Station instead of in that of Sachna Police Station ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that all the villages in circle No.9 of the Sunamganj Police Station are nearer to Sachna Police Station than to Tahirpur Police Station and that specially the village Bharatpur is within one mile of Sachna Police Station and is 12 miles away from Tahirpur Police Station ?
- (c) If so, do Government propose to re-distribute the villages of Sachna, Tahirpur and Sunamganj Police Stations on nearness basis ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied :

219.(a), (b) and (c)—The criticisms made on the draft declaration are now being considered in the Department and Government will examine them on receipt.

### **Dismissal of one Abdul Hashim, Sub-Inspector of Police**

**Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN** asked :

220. Will Government be pleased to state if one Md. Abdul Hashim was serving in the District Police Force of Kamrup as Sub-Inspector of Police in 1938 ?

221. Is it a fact that on a complaint from a pound keeper the Assistant Superintendent of Police Mr. Parsons held an enquiry about illegal gratification taken by the said police officer ?



222. Is it a fact that the said Assistant Superintendent of Police after investigation into the matter recommended reversion of the said Sub-Inspector to the rank of Assistant Sub-Inspector for 5 years ?

223. Is it a fact that the then Superintendent of Police Mr. K. Chaudhury without holding any other enquiry dismissed the said Sub-Inspector Abdul Hashim from service ?

224.(a) Is it a fact that the said Sub-Inspector Abdul Hashim represented his case to the Government by a memorial ?

(b) If so, with what result ?

225. Is it a fact that the said Sub-Inspector joined the Police Force as a literate constable in 1918 and by virtue of his good service rose to the status of a Sub-Inspector of Police ?

226. Is it a fact that during the tenure of his 21 years of service, the said Sub-Inspector had 41 rewards and commendations including Police Medal, etc. ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied :

220.—Yes. He was an officiating Sub-Inspector of Police.

221.—Yes. There were three other charges in addition to the one of acceptance of illegal gratification.

222.—Yes.

223.—Yes.

224.(a)—Yes. By memorials dated the 28th October 1938 and dated the 8th May 1940.

(b)—Both the memorials were rejected by Government.

225.—Yes.

226.—Yes, but not a Police Medal.

### **Number of dismissed Police Officers of the Province**

**Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN** asked :

227. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of dismissed Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors and constables in each district of the Province during the years 1937 to 1940 ?

228. Will Government be pleased to state how many of them in each rank have been reinstated in each district during the said years ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied :

227 & 228.—A statement is furnished below :—

*Statement showing the number of Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors and Constables dismissed and reinstated during the years 1937-40*

	Dismissal			Reinstatement		
	Sub-Inspectors	Assistant Sub-Inspectors	Constables	Sub-Inspectors	Assistant Sub-Inspectors	Constables
Nowgong	...	...	1	4	...	1
Khasi and Jaintia Hills.	...	...	4	...	...	...
Kamrup	...	1	...	4	...	...
C. I. D.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Darrang	...	...	1	12	...	4
Railway Police	...	...	...	2	...	...
Sibsagar	...	...	...	12	...	2
Lakhimpur	...	...	1	13	...	2
Goalpara	...	...	2	5	...	...
Cachar	...	...	...	7	...	2
Sylhet	...	...	...	45	...	8
Naga Hills	...	...	...	1	...	...
Lushai Hills	...	...	1	1	...	...
Garro Hills	...	...	...	8	...	...

**Recess period for Mid-day Prayer in Maulvibazar Government High School and others**

**Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN asked :**

229. Is it a fact that the Muslim students of Maulvibazar Government High School submitted recently a petition to the Government praying for extension of recess period to say Mid-day prayer ?



230. Is it a fact that the Muslim students and teachers of the said school who say their Mid-day (Zuhur) prayer are experiencing great difficulties for shortness of recess time for the purpose ?

231. Is it a fact that the authorities of Sunamganj, Hailakandi and Karimganj High English Schools have removed the inconveniences and difficulties of Muslim students and teachers by extending the said recess period ?

232. Will Government be pleased to state why the Headmaster of the Maulvibazar Government High School is not extending the recess period for Muslim students to say their Mid-day prayer ?

233. Do Government propose to look into the petition of the Muslim students of Maulvibazar and allow them additional time to say their Mid-day prayer ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI** replied :

229.—Yes.

230.—Yes.

231.—Yes.

232.—The Headmaster, Government High School, Maulvibazar has recommended the extension of the Mid-day recess time of the school.

233.—Orders are being issued to the effect that the Mid-day recess time of the Government High School, Maulvibazar on all working days, except on Fridays and Saturdays, is increased from 30 minutes to 45 minutes to enable the Muslim pupils and teachers to say their Mid-day (Zuhur) prayer, on condition that the School sits 15 minutes earlier than at present.

#### **Grant-in-aid to Middle English and Vernacular Schools in Sylhet district**

**Babu BALARAM SIRCAR** asked :

234. (a) Are Government aware that there is only one Middle English School in Balaut and only one Girls' Middle Vernacular School in Srigouri in the scheduled caste localities in the Karimganj subdivision of Sylhet district ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state why no grant-in-aid has yet been given to these schools ?

(c) Do Government propose to give grants-in-aid to these schools at an early date ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI** replied :

234. (a)—Yes.

(b)—As none of these schools were recognised during the last academic year the question of granting an aid to these schools did not arise.

(c) The Girls' Middle Vernacular School at Srigouri has since been recognised and the question of giving grant-in-aid to this school will be considered when funds are available. But so far as the Balaut Middle English School is concerned no definite assurance can be given till it is recognised by the Department.

### **Communal representation in the Police Department**

**Babu BALARAM SIRCAR** asked :—

235. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of officers such as Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables, Constables and Clerks belonging to Sylhet and Cachar districts serving in the Police Department showing the number of each caste separately viz., Caste Hindus, Muslims, Scheduled castes and others district by district ?

(b) The percentage of scheduled castes people in that Department in the Surma Valley ? (To be shown district by district) ?

236. Are Government aware that the scheduled castes people are not fully represented in the Police Department ?

237. (a) Is it a fact that some candidates from the scheduled castes people of Sylhet and Cachar districts applied last year (1940) for the posts of Police Sub-Inspectors ?

(b) If so, how many candidates from the scheduled castes were there and how many of them have been selected ?

238. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The names of those scheduled castes candidates who were not selected and the reasons for which they were found unsuitable for the posts ?

(b) The minimum qualifications required for a candidate for appointment as Sub-Inspector or Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied :

235. (a) & (b)—Two statements are furnished below :—



Statement showing the numbers of Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables, Constables and Clerks belonging to Cachar and Sylhet districts

Distribution in Districts	Belonging to	Sub-Inspectors				Assistant Sub-Inspectors				Head Constables				Constables				Clerks			
		Caste Hindus	Muslims	Scheduled caste	Others	Caste Hindus	Muslims	Scheduled caste	Others	Caste Hindus	Muslims	Scheduled caste	Others	Caste Hindus	Muslims	Scheduled caste	Others	Caste Hindus	Muslims	Scheduled caste	Others
Cachar	..	..	3	11	..	1	9	1	..	1	1	..	..	10	9	1	..	..	1	..	..
	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	3	2	..	4	17	76	24	86	1	1	..	1
Sylhet	..	..	23	16	2	1	37	20	..	3	1	9	2	..	261	332	17	32	7	4	..
	..	..	..	1	..	2	2	3	..	4	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	69	2	1	2
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	..	..	2	2	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	9	21	2	..	..	1	..	..
	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Goalpara	..	..	1	3	..	..	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kamrup	..	..	4	2	..	..	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	..	..	1	1	..	..
	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	17	1	..	4	..	..	..	..





Statement showing the numbers of posts of Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables, Constables and Cl rks held by Scheduled castes community belonging to the Sylhet Cachar district.

Sanctioned number of—

	S. Is.	A.S.Is.	Head Constables	Constables	Clerks
Sylhet	82	113	39	954	16
Cachar	21	23	14	260	4
Total number of posts held by Scheduled Caste Community.					
Sylhet	3	Nil	2	21	Nil
Cachar	1	1	Nil	27	2
Percentage of posts held					
Sylhet	3.66	Nil	5.13	2.20	Nil
Cachar	4.76	4.35	Nil	10.39	50

236.—Yes.

237. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Four ; one was selected.

238. (a)—Government do not consider it desirable to name candidates who have been found unsuitable. The candidates who were rejected were found by the district selection boards to be unsuitable on the grounds of poor physique and unfitness generally.

(b)—The minimum qualification required for a candidate for appointment as Sub-Inspector is that he must have passed the Intermediate examination or higher examination in Arts or Science of an Indian University or some recognised equivalent and that for appointment as Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police is Matriculation or final Madrasa with English passed certificate or any recognised equivalent examination.

### Assamese Employees under the Commercial Carrying Company Limited

Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA asked :

239. Will Government be pleased to state—

- The number and names of Assamese employees in the Commercial Carrying Company Limited with their designations ?
- The percentages of employment of Assamese fixed by the Government when the present lease was granted to the said Company ?
- Whether it is a fact that the number of Assamese employees is far below the percentages fixed by the Government ?
- If so, why ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

239. (a)—A list of natives of the Assam Valley who are working in Assam has been furnished by the Company and is shown below :—

LIST OF THE EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. THE COMMERCIAL CARRYING COMPANY (ASSAM), LIMITED WHO ARE NATIVES OF THE ASSAM VALLEY AND WORKING IN THE PROVINCE OF ASSAM

Serial No.	Names	Designation	Remarks
1	Bidyadhar Chaliha	... Engineering Assistant.	
2	Birendra Kumar Das	... Ditto.	
3	Padmaram ...	... Fitter.	
4	Nakul Medhi	... Assistant fitter.	
5	Anandaram Bania	... Ditto.	
6	Raghab Chandra Das	... Paid Apprentice fitter.	
7	Prafulla Kumar Barua	... Assistant in the Running Department.	
8	Matiram Kalita	... Peon.	
9	Krishna Ram Bora	... Assistant Store Clerk.	
10	Janmiram Das	... Fitter.	
11	Debendra Nath Bhuyan...	... Ditto.	
12	Lalit Ram Das	... Ditto.	
13	Keshab Ram Kalita	... Paid Apprentice fitter.	
14	Kamrul Hussain	... Ditto.	
15	Nabin Das ...	... Car Washer.	
16	Sashi Bhusan Hazarika	... Booking Clerk.	
17	Rajat Chandra Patwari	... Ditto.	
18	Nazmul Hussain	... Ditto.	
19	Tafzul Hussain	... Delivery Clerk.	
20	Chandra Kumar Doloi	... Transhipment Clerk.	
21	Nandiram Medhi	... Chowkidar.	
22	Surendra Kumar Dutt	... T. T. Inspector.	
23	A. K. S. Ahmed	... Assistant to Traffic Supervisor.	
24	Ataul Haque ...	... Luggage and Parcel Booking Clerk.	
25	Premada K. Bhuyan	... Roadside Audit Checker.	
26	Ahmed Ali ..	... Driver.	
27	A. Rahaman ...	... Ditto.	
28	L. R. Gogoi ...	... Ditto.	
29	Nripendra Nath Das	... Ditto.	
30	Mahiuddin ...	... Ditto.	
31	Tarini Ram Das	... Ditto.	



Serial No.	Names	Designation	Remarks
32	Gunamoni Das	...	Driver.
33	Balooram Das	...	Ditto.
34	Chanaram Kalita	...	Ditto.
35	Pusparam Das	...	Ditto.
36	Paniram Das	...	Ditto.
37	Saidur Rahman	...	Ditto.
38	Abedat Ali ...	...	Ditto.
39	Abhoyanada ...	...	Ditto.
40	Abdus Samad ...	...	Ditto.
41	Kabiruddin ...	...	Ditto.
42	Abdul Ali ...	...	Ditto.
43	Prakash Roy ...	...	Ditto.
44	Anantalal Das ...	...	Handyman driver.
45	Sushil Kumar Senapati ...	...	Ditto.
46	Prabhat Deka ...	...	Ditto.
47	Sekander Ali ...	...	Ditto.
48	Thanuram ...	...	Ditto.
49	Chandra Kanta Das	...	Literate handyman.
50	Tirthanath Phukan	...	Ditto.
51	Hare Krishna Das	...	Handyman.
52	Mahabir Das ...	...	Ditto.
53	Krishna Kanta Das	...	Ditto.
54	Rameshwar ...	...	Ditto.
55	Prabhat Roy ...	...	Ditto.
56	Gohin Medhi ...	...	Ditto.
57	Sandyaram ...	...	Ditto.
58	Ramjan Ali ...	...	Ditto.
59	Dasiram ...	...	Ditto.
60	Sreekanta ...	...	Ditto.
61	Paharu Ram ...	...	Ditto.
62	Annalal Das ...	...	Ditto.
63	Maniruddin ...	...	Ditto.
64	Debendra Lal Das	...	Ditto.
65	Bijoy Prosad Roy	...	Ditto.
66	Dhaneswar ...	...	Ditto.
67	Jogen Gogoi ...	...	Ditto.

(b)—Government have not in fact laid down any specific percentages, but the Company are required not to appoint as new candidates persons who are not natives of or domiciled in Assam, without sanction,

(c) & (d)—Do not arise.

**Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA** : With regard to question No. 239 (b), Sir, am I to understand that in cases of every appointment, the Commercial Carrying Company consults this Government ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** : That is the rule. I have given the gist of the terms of agreement.

**Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA** : I could not follow.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER** : The Hon'ble Prime Minister said that, that is the rule and he has quoted the rule.

### **Communal representation in the Public Health Department**

**Maulavi Md. ABDUS SALAM** asked :

240. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of Public Health Department clerks attached to the Civil Surgeons' Offices in Assam, up to the end of December 1940 ?
- (b) The number of such clerks who are Hindus of the Sylhet district, with the names of their working stations ?
- (c) The number of such clerks who are Muslims of the Sylhet district with the names of their working stations ?
- (d) Whether the Hindus of Sylhet district are over-represented in that Department ?
- (e) Whether the Muslims of Sylhet district are under-represented in that Department ?
- (f) If so, why a clerk from the Hindu community of Sylhet district has been appointed in January 1941 ?
- (g) Whether it was mentioned in the advertisement in this case that preference will be given to under-represented community ?
- (h) Whether the newly appointed person has got previous office experience ?
- (i) Whether any Muslim experienced candidate was available for the post ?

241. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of that advertisement ?

242. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of appointments which the Hindu community of Sylhet should hold according to the population of last Census ?
- (b) The number of appointments which the Muslim community of Sylhet should hold according to the last Census ?
- (c) Do Government propose to issue orders to appoint Muslim candidates in the establishment mentioned in question No. 240 above in permanent or temporary vacancies till they receive their due share ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY** replied :



240. (a)—Ten.

(b)—Five as follows :—

Sylhet ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dhubri ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tura ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gauhati ...	...	...	...	...	...	1

(c)—One Muslim of the Sylhet district working at Sylhet.

(d) & (e)—It is a provincial cadre. Both Hindus and Muslims are over-represented in the combined cadre.

(f)—Because the claims of all communities were considered together.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—One of them has such experience.

(i)—Yes.

241.—A copy is laid on the library table.

242. (a) & (b)—The hon. member's attention is invited to replies to questions 240 (d) & (e) above.

(c)—As stated above the claims of all communities were considered together and it is not necessary to re-open the matter.

### Victoria Library in Goalpara

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI** asked :

243. Are Government aware (i) that a Public Library called the Victoria Library, established in commemoration of the hallowed memory of Queen Victoria, exists in the town of Goalpara and that it is the only Public Library in the whole Subdivision ?

(ii) That at present the said Library is in a bad plight for financial difficulties and that it used to receive an annual grant of Rs.120 from the Williamson's Fund which has since been withdrawn ?

244. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a)—Whether the Secretary of the Library has recently approached Government for financial aid from Provincial Revenues ?

(b)—If so, do Government propose to provide adequate financial aid to save this useful institution from extinction ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI** replied :

243. (i)—Yes.

(ii)—Government have no information about the financial position of the library. They are however aware that the grant has been discontinued

244. (a)—Yes.

(b) Government consider that such institutions should primarily be maintained by the local public for whose benefit they exist.



**Government of India grant for Livestock improvement in Assam**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMIRUDDIN** asked :

245. (a) Is it a fact that the Government of India has stopped grant for the livestock improvement in the Province of Assam?

(b) If so, what steps are being taken by the Assam Government to continue the activities of the Livestock Associations in the Province?

246. Will Government be pleased to state the nature of works so far done by the Associations of Livestock in the different districts of the Provinces?

247. Will Government be pleased to state whether these Associations will be allowed to continue further and whether Government will contribute their mite towards the continuance of the livestock movement?

248. (a) Is it a fact that the Veterinary Department of the Government is intimately associated with the Livestock branch and that the former Department has withheld its co-operation with the district Associations?

(b) If so, do Government propose to issue instructions to the Veterinary Department for the extension of its co-operation and activity towards the amelioration of Livestock throughout the Province?

249. Do Government propose to maintain in each district headquarters as well as in each subdivisional headquarters a stockman for the purpose of pushing the movement and popularising it amongst the farmers?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI** replied :

245. (a) & (b).—The position is as follows— The Government of India gave a grant of Rs.5 lakhs for economic development of rural areas in this province and out of this allotment a sum of Rs.50,000 was set apart for livestock improvement with their approval. With a view to encourage private endeavours in this direction a sum of Rs.15,000 was given to the Livestock Association which is a private organisation. This allotment from India's grant has been exhausted by the Association and what steps the parent body may take, this Government cannot tell but in any case the improvement of livestock will continue as it has been a concern of the Livestock Section of the Agricultural Department of this Government.

246.—These organisations as agencies of the parent body were concerned with the collection of funds from private sources, purchase of breeding bulls and their distribution and maintenance among private individuals.

247.—Whether these Associations will continue to function is a question for the parent organisation to decide and depends on the measure of help and co-operation extended by the public and no Government permission is required. Government will do all that they can for improvement of livestock so far as funds would permit.

248. (a)—Officers of the Veterinary Department are connected with the Livestock Improvement Association in an honorary capacity. Far from withholding co-operation, officers of this Department have provided the majority of the Branch Secretaries.

(b)—Does not arise.

249.—The question is not clear. If the reference is to stockmen maintained by the Department, the reply is in the affirmative. If, on the other hand the reference is to stockmen maintained by these private organisations it is for them to decide.



### Elephant Catching Companies

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMIRUDDIN** asked :

250. (a) Is it a fact that there are two elephant catching companies in the district of Nowgong, co-existing at present ?

(b) If so, what are their names and when they were registered ?

251. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Which of these Companies got Elephant Mahal or Mahals in 1940-41 and where, on which date or dates and under whose direction or order ?

(b) Whether there is any registered number of such Mahal or Mahals so settled ?

(c) If so, what are they ?

252. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that one of these Companies successively got two Mahals in two different places and in two different districts of the Assam Valley ?

(b) If so, under what consideration and on what principles ?

253. Is it a fact that the Minister-in-charge interfered in the matter of settlement of Elephant Mahal or Mahals and directed the Deputy Commissioner to settle two Mahals in the name of the one and the same Company to the exclusion of the other in the district of Nowgong ?

254. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many petitions were presented before the Minister-in-charge by the other Company in this matter ?

(b) If any enquiry was held ?

(c) If so, will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the report of the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong on the subject ?

255. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government propose to consider in future settlement of Elephant Mahals the respective claims of each and every Company co-existing with others in each district in accordance with the number of members constituting the Company ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to issue instructions accordingly to the District Officers ?

(c) Whether Government propose to abolish the Company system in the settlement of Elephant Mahals in future and introduce the old system of selecting Koonkidars by lot.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA** replied :

250. (a)—Government believe so.

(b)—The Nowgong Co-operative Elephant Catching Company, registered on 9th August 1940. The New Nowgong Kunkidars Association, Limited, registered on 28th September 1940.



251. (a)—The second named was granted *Kheddah Mahal* No. VI in Sibesar on the 30th September and a mela mahal in Nowgong on 16th November. The allotment was made by the Conservator in consultation with the Minister-in-charge.

(b) & (c)—In the case of the former only.

252. (a)—Yes, as already stated.

(b)—There were reports of damage in parts of Nowgong district, and the New Nowgong Kunkidars Association represented that the *Kheddah* granted them in Sibesar offered them inadequate scope for their Kunkis and therefore asked to be considered for hunting in the area of damage. Government decided that a small mela mahal should be opened and that it should be given to this Association.

253.—There was dissension in the then only registered company and the Deputy Commissioner was asked to report to which of the rival parties settlement should be given. As reported, a new Association composed of the great bulk of the Kunkidars had been formed. The Minister decided in consultation with the Conservator that it should be given the *Mahal*. There was no question of interference or of excluding the old Company.

254. (a)—None.

(b)—The Deputy Commissioner enquired into the claims of the elephant owners.

(c) Government are not prepared to lay on the table copies of correspondence with their officers.

255. (a)—The policy of Government is to consider all applications received which are in accordance with the conditions of the advertisements issued from time to time of areas opened for hunting. Due weight will be given to past experience of applicants and the results of previous working of individuals and Companies who apply.

(b) No instructions to District Officers are required for the purpose.

(c) No, Government can only consider the circumstances as they actually are.

### **Names of persons externed under the Defence of India Rules**

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE** asked :—

256. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Forward Block Organisation has been declared illegal in the Province of Assam ?
- (b) The names of the persons externed from the Province under the Defence of India Rules and their sources of income ?
- (c) Whether these persons get any help from Government ?
- (d) The names of the persons interned in the Province under the Defence of India Rules and their sources of income ?
- (e) Whether these persons get any help from Government ?



The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

256. (a)—No.

(b)—A list of persons directed to be removed from Assam by orders of the Assam Government is shown below :—  
Government have no knowledge of their private affairs.

*List of persons extened from Assam by orders of the Assam Government*

1. Sachindra Lal Singh.
2. Umesh Lal Singh.
3. Ananta Lal Dey.
4. Hariganga Basak.
5. Sushil Kumar Bhadra.
6. Apurba Kumar Das.
7. Abani Charan Sen.
8. Nilmoni *alias* Niloo Mukharji.
9. Brajendra Chandra Chakravarti *alias* Nani *alias* Lani.
10. Sushil Das (Gupta).
11. Pabitra Kumar Roy.
12. Kamaniya Kusum Das (Das Gupta) *alias* Nani.
13. Anil De *alias* Adhikari.
14. Sudhir Kushiari.
15. Prithwis Chandra Ghosh *alias* Chhorda *alias* Mani *alias* Manindra Nath.

(c)—No.

(d)—A list of those restricted to areas in Assam is shown below.  
Government have little information about their private affairs or income.

*List of persons restricted in Assam by orders of the Provincial Government*

1. Kiriti Bhuson Chowdhuri.
2. Nilmoni Borthakur.
3. Pranesh Chandra Biswas.
4. Kedar Nath Goswami.
5. Suresh Chandra Deb.
6. Digendra Nath Das Gupta.
7. Upendra Nath Sarma.
8. Haridas Deka.
9. Umakanta Sarma.
10. Harendra Nath Kolita.
11. Khagendra Nath Borbarua.
12. Profulla Chandra Goswami.
13. Ranendra Kumar Nandi.
14. Bistoo Bora *alias* Bisnoo Bora.

15. Rabindra Nath Dam.

16. Nikhilendra Nath Mitra.

17. Dr. Binoy Bhuson Chakravarty.

(e)—One gets an allowance of Rs.12 per mensem.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** With regard to (e), Sir, out of 17 persons interned, I see that only one person gets an allowance of Rs. 12 per mensem. May I know the reason why only one gets the allowance and the others do not?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** The cases of those who applied have been considered and this particular person was found to deserve this allowance.

### Plying of buses on Bongaigaon-Jogighopa Road

**Maulavi SYED ABDUR ROUF** asked :

257. With reference to starred questions Nos. 150-152 asked by Maulavi Md. Amjad Ali, M.L.A., on the 23rd November 1940, will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many buses were already holding permit to ply on the Bongaigaon-Jogighopa road at the time when Goalpara Commercial Corporation applied for permits for two buses on that road?

(b) Whether the then Superintendent of Police of Goalpara refused to grant permits to Goalpara Commercial Corporation on the ground that the traffic did not warrant more than the existing buses?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Abhoyapuri-Bongaigaon-Jogighopa Motor Bus Association has been running buses on Syndicate System ever since these two buses have been given permits?

(d) What was the nature of the safeguard required by the major Brahmaputra Ferry for which the settlement of Haripani Ferry 3 miles away at a concessional rate for 5 years was necessary?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi SAIYID SIR MUHAMMAD SAADULLA** replied :

257.(a)—Seven, but one of these was condemned and withdrawn from the road.

(b)—Yes. Subsequently there was a demand for better service.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—It was considered necessary in order to ensure that the management should be satisfactory to the lessees of the steam ferry who had undertaken to provide a convenient service between the town and the Railway.

### Lease of Dhubri-Fakirganj ferry Ghat

**Maulana ABDUL HAMID KHAN** asked :

258. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The period for which the Dhubri-Fakirganj ferry ghat has been leased out and what is the amount of bill money?

(b) Whether the local people will be allowed to run the ferry by boat as is done by the present lessee after the term of the present lease expires?

(c) When the term of the present lease expires?



**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI** replied :

258.(a)—The Dhubri-Fakirganj ferry is not leased singly but together with the Kamalbari and Gauhati steam ferries for 15 years commencing from the 1st April 1929. Under the terms of the lease, the lessee was to pay an annual rent of Rs.3,000 for the first six years and for the remaining period of the lease, if the receipts justified it, Rs.6,000 per annum.

(b)—The question of future running of the ferry after expiration of the present lease has not yet been taken into consideration.

(c)—31st March 1944.

### Scales of pay of Jail Warders

**Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY** asked :

259. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the different scales of pay of Jail Warders in the province of Assam ?

260. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Warders in Sylhet Jail have to work on their sentinel duties for 12 hours in a day out of 24 hours ?

(b) Whether they are allowed any extra remuneration for attending to duties beyond 8 hours ?

(c) Whether Government propose either to increase the scale of pay of the warders or to allow extra remuneration for overtime work beyond 8 hours in a day and night (24 hours) ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI** replied :

259.—A statement is furnished below :—

#### *Statement showing the scale of pay of jail warders*

Chief Head warders ...	...	Rs.45—1—50 per mensem each.
Head warders ...	...	Rs.30— $\frac{1}{2}$ —37 per mensem each.
Warders ...	...	Rs.20— $\frac{1}{3}$ —26 per mensem each.

260.(a)—No.

(b)—No.

(c)—No.

### Restrictions to political prisoners in jails

**Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY** asked :

261.(a) Do Government propose to abolish the present restrictions of political prisoners writing and receiving letters and receiving interviews in jails ?

(b) Is it a fact that letters are censored and interviews are given before jail officials ?

(c) If so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for the said restrictions ?

262.(a) Do Government propose to supply Badminton sets, Ping-pong sets and Carom sets, to the political prisoners in jails ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether such games are allowed to political prisoners in any of the jails in Assam ?



263.(a) Are Government aware that political prisoners classed in the different divisions are not allowed to mix with one another in the different jails of Assam ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state why such discrimination is made ?

(c) If not, do Government propose to enquire and state whether it is a fact that lower division prisoners are not allowed to go to the barracks of the upper division prisoners in Sylhet Jail ?

264. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of punishments to prisoners in each jail of the province in the year 1940, for tobacco smuggling ?

265. Is it a fact that whenever tobacco leaves or tobacco powder are found in the possession of a prisoner, he is punished ?

266. Is it a fact that no enquiry is held about the sources from which the aforesaid contrabands come inside the prison bars ?

267. Do Government propose to allow " Biri and Hukka " smoking to prisoners in a restricted manner, to avoid the crimes mentioned above ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI** replied :

261.(a)—No.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—To ensure that the privilege is not abused by use of the occasion to discuss matters subversive of jail discipline, but confined to private affairs.

262.(a)—Government have instructed the jail department to see that prisoners have suitable means of recreation, and always consider any proposals submitted by a Jail Superintendent.

(b)—Carom Boards are allowed to " B " division prisoners in the Tezpur Jail. Badminton has been allowed to the prisoners convicted under the Defence of India Act in the Sylhet Jail and to A and B division prisoners in the Jorhat Jail at their own cost.

263.(a)—Yes.

(b)—The whole purpose of the classification is to segregate prisoners of different classes as far as possible.

(c)—Does not arise.

264.—A statement is furnished below :—

**STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PUNISHMENTS TO PRISONERS IN EACH JAIL IN THE YEAR 1940 FOR TOBACCO SMUGGLING**

Jail	Number of punishments inflicted on prisoners for tobacco smuggling				
Silchar	...	...	...	...	10
Sylhet	...	...	...	...	66
Shillong	...	...	...	...	...
Kohima	...	...	...	...	...
Aijal	...	...	...	...	...
Dhubri	...	...	...	...	13
Gauhati	...	...	...	...	10



Jail	Number of punishments inflicted on prisoners for tobacco smuggling	
Tezpur	...	14
Nowgong	...	2
Jorhat	...	15
Dibrugarh	...	13
Sunamganj	...	3
Karimganj	...	5
Habiganj	...	10
South Sylhet	...	2
Mangaldai	...	...
Sibsagar	...	7
Golaghat	...	4
North Lakhimpur	...	2
Tura	...	3
Total	...	179

265.—Yes.

266.—No.

267.—The matter has been under examination. There are obvious objections, but Government are prepared to re-examine the desirability of such a relaxation when funds permit.

### Goalpara District Proja Conference

Maulana ABDUL HAMID KHAN asked :

268. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they have received copies of resolutions passed at the "Goalpara District Proja" Conference held at Ghagmari on the 20th—22nd December 1940 ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state what actions have been taken by them on the following Resolutions :—

(i) Resolution regarding imparting of education to the Bengalee immigrants through the medium of Bengali (both primary and higher education).

(ii) Resolution regarding reduction of rent by 50 per cent. in Zemindari and Court of Wards Estates ?

(iii) Resolution regarding the incident at Khoirabari in Mangaldai subdivision ?



- (iv) Resolution regarding introduction of free compulsory Primary Education in the Goalpara district ?
- (v) Resolution regarding modelling of the Rules of Debt Conciliation Boards according to the Bengal model ?
- (vi) Resolution regarding abolition of the Line System and giving lands to the landless people of Assam ?
- (vii) Resolution regarding Government service for the unemployed educated youths of Goalpara according to the population basis of the province (*viz.*, by fixing the ratio of each community in Government service according to population of each district) ?
- (viii) Resolution regarding grant-in-aid to Ghagmari High Madrasa and High School and Weaving School ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA**  
replied :

268.(a)—Yes.

(b)(i)—The responsibility for primary and vernacular secondary education rests with the Local Bodies. So far as English secondary education is concerned the medium of instruction is the vernacular, and where the number of pupils is sufficiently large to necessitate a separate staff or a separate institution the matter will be considered by Government with reference to the conditions in each locality and the merits of each case in accordance with Government's general policy.

(ii)—So far as Zemindars are concerned Government can not compel them to grant remission. The same consideration applies to Court of Wards also. The remedy for the tenants lies in section 33 of the Goalpara Tenancy Act.

(iii)—Government are not aware of any incident at Khoirabari. Probably the hon. member is referring to the case at Ghagrapara. This case went up to Sessions trials but the Judge agreeing with the jury gave benefit of doubt to the accused and acquitted them.

(iv)—The question of introducing compulsory education within the limits of Dhubri Municipality is under consideration.

(v)—No action can be taken unless specific amendments are suggested as the rules are based on the Bengal and the Central Provinces' Rules.

(vi)—Question of abolition or otherwise of the Line System has been dropped for the present. The establishment of Development areas is being examined by the Development Officer appointed recently.

(vii)—It is the rule to treat district cadres on the basis of the population of the district ; where cadres are established on a provincial or divisional basis it is not possible to provide for distribution among communities and also among districts on a population basis. But it is always the endeavour to see that so far as possible no district is neglected or obtains undue favour.

(viii)—The cases of these institutions will be considered along with those of other institutions. A recurring grant of Rs. 25 has been given to the Ghagmari Madrasa with effect from the 1st December 1940, and a non-recurring grant of Rs. 90 was also sanctioned for general maintenance.



**Maintenance of certain Lower Primary Schools****Srijut RAMNATH DAS** asked :

269. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Lower Primary Schools proposed to be taken up with the allotment in the last budget as well as in the last supplementary grant have been taken up ?
- (b) If so, will Government be pleased to state—
- (c) The total number of the schools so taken up ?
- (d) The number and the names of these schools that will fall under the following different heads separately :—
  - (i) Reformed Muktabs,
  - (ii) Tribal,
  - (iii) Scheduled Caste, and
  - (iv) General.

270. With reference to answer to question No.213, put by Srijut Siddhinath Sarma, M.L.A. in the last session of the Assembly, will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the schools of Jorhat subdivision were recommended by a Sub-Committee consisting of the Local Members of the Assembly, the Deputy Inspector of Schools and the Chairman of the Local Board ?
- (b) If so, will Government be pleased to lay on the table, the names and the number of the schools recommended by the said Committee under the following different heads :—
  - (i) Reformed Muktabs,
  - (ii) Tribal,
  - (iii) Scheduled Caste, and
  - (iv) General.

271. Will Government be pleased to state how many schools were taken up from the list submitted by the Local Committee and how many from outside that recommendation ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI** replied :

269.(a)—Yes, so far as the provision in the budget of 1940-41 is concerned. The supplementary grant referred to by the hon. member covers the amount given to the Welsh Mission to enable them to meet the deficit enforced by war conditions—in respect of maintaining primary schools in British villages in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills and is not connected with the question of taking over venture schools.

(b)—The information is given below—

(c)—339.

(d)—A statement is laid on the library table containing the information as far as available.

270. (a)—Yes.

(b)—A statement is laid on the library table.

271.—Five and seven respectively.



*Re restriction and regulation of jute cultivation in the Province*

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we begin the business of the day, may I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to make a statement regarding the discussions held and the decisions arrived at in the Jute Conference held recently in Shillong between the Government of Assam and the Government of Bengal on the question of restriction and regulation of jute cultivation in this province? During the budget discussion in the present session, the Hon'ble Prime Minister in reply to a cut motion moved by me assured this House that the Government of Assam had no intention to follow the example of Bengal. This is what he exactly said, "Neither Bihar nor Orissa accepted the idea of compulsory reduction of jute area. The Government of Assam did not accede to the request and the Government of Bengal approached the Government of India that the province of Assam is a potential danger to the restriction scheme. Assam has got a vast field....."

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** On a point of order, Sir. I beg to draw your kind attention to one of the adjournment motions that has already been tabled by me. Sir, I think, the hon. member can take part in that motion.

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** The motion has not yet come. May I finish it, Sir?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** No, I cannot allow the hon. member to finish what he began on account of the fact that I have got notices of some adjournment motions which are just handed to me by Secretary and which should be dealt with first.

**Adjournment motion re: the grave situation created by six months' notice served on Government by the Commercial Carrying Company, Limited, in respect of termination of their contract**

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have tabled two motions, which one should I move first?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The one we have received first.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Sir, I beg leave to move: "That this House is of opinion that the Assembly do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz. the grave situation created by six months' notice served on Government by the Commercial Carrying Company, Limited, on the 16th of November last in respect of termination of their contract for carrying traffic on the Gauhati-Shillong Road and failure of Government to satisfactorily, efficiently and expeditiously deal with the same."

Sir, I do not think that any one in this House would need or desire any information as to the urgency of the matter. It deals with the all-important subject of communication rendered more important and urgent by the emergency of the war. That the Government also view the matter in the same line will be clear from the following statement occurring in the letter of the Secretary, Provincial Transport Authority, acting in the letter of inspiration of his boss, the Head of Government which runs as follows:



"The Chairman suggests that the existing arrangement, that is monopoly of coaching traffic and limited competition in goods traffic should continue. Time is very short and if the Commercial Carrying Company do stop running their fleet from 1st June 1941, everything specially the military arrangements will be upset and it will then be necessary for the Provincial Transport Authority to use the emergency section of the Act or any other emergency power under the Defence of India Rules, to keep the traffic going."

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member is to show how it is a matter of urgent public importance.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** The location of the capital and its peculiar geographical setting renders the situation particularly grave. Everyone knows that the capital is served by two roads and two roads only on which traffic is controlled by practically the same agency, may be under different garbs. Sir, that the entire life of the province would be paralysed by a breakdown in communications, controlled by a monopoly interest is only natural in the circumstances. Yet, in such a matter, Government for reasons best known to them have adopted dilatory tactics and chosen to keep the public in a state of suspense. The company points a pistol at Government and tries to exact terms through threat and what is the attitude of the Government in reply?

Government do not hit back as any self-respecting Government would. Government on the other hand want to propitiate them. The company is not ashamed or afraid to hurl ungrateful and uncharitable remarks at Government who are feeding it.....

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member is arguing. He is to show the point in brief.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** On the 16th November notice was served on the Government that they should take note that.....

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Is that notice a public property now?

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Yes, Sir. It has been published in a paper namely, *Janasakti*, dated 21st May 1941 (7th Jaistha 1348 B.S.).

Sir, if I may be allowed, I can quote paragraph 12 of the letter which runs as follows:—

".....it had no difficulties to have its legitimate grievances redressed when the transport administration of Assam was in the hands of a Governor and a Member because it (i.e. the Company) could deal with persons who could understand what the irregular intensity of traffic meant, but since the new constitution has started, the Company feels that it has sometimes to deal with persons at the helm of affairs who are not properly acquainted with matters which involve the practical knowledge of the trade, or the agriculture and the industry. It has, therefore to meet with despair with regard to the redressing of its various grievances." Sir, it is a fling at all the hon. members of this House because it has very severely criticised our Government challenging their ability to deal with this matter.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** No adjournment motion can be moved for condemning the Commercial Carrying Company.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Yes, Sir. But as I have already stated, my point is that notice was served on the 16th November, 1940 but till 2nd May 1941 no action was taken. On the 2nd May a letter was addressed from Government to the Secretary, Provincial Transport Authority, that the Provincial Transport Authority should take action on the notice and on the 9th a letter was sent to the members of the Provincial



Transport Authority expressing the opinion of the Chairman of the Provincial Transport Authority. Sir, the Hon'ble Minister who is in charge of this Department is the same person who is the Chairman of the Provincial Transport Authority, if I really understand the constitution.

Sir, now my point is that this road is a very important one as I have already stated and that the notice was served and the Chairman as I have mentioned only in one paragraph of a letter admits it. The company was most unwilling to serve, but the Government did not take any notice at the proper time and practically at the end of the term, rather in the last month they took up the matter and I do not know what has happened since yesterday, because they refused to ply their vehicles from the 1st June 1941. So, Sir, it is very important and I have taken the first opportunity of bringing this up before this Hon'ble House.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Am I to understand that it is only the dilatory tactics of Government which are to be condemned and censured?

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Yes, Sir, this is only one of the points.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** That is the main point.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Yes, Sir, that is the main point.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Do Government object to it?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Most certainly, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am surprised that an indefatigable member like Mr. Mookerjee has taken shelter under a newssheet which printed some official correspondence but he could not get all the correspondence as the paper had published only 3 or 4 letters that passed between the Company and the Government and the Provincial Transport Authority. In the first place, he had the whole of Budget Session. He himself said that the notice was given in 1940, November 16th. He should have, if he was so very anxious about transport facilities of Shillong-Gauhati, taken action in that session and know what the Government was doing. But he has now taken shelter of the "Janasakti" and wants to discuss the matter. But he has now have rightly pointed out, Sir, the intention of my hon. friend. As you nature of assuming the role of an advocate for the Government. Many a time, he himself has said that he has not got the professional qualification and I refuse to give him the brief.

My hon. friend has asked for leave of the House and I object to it on two grounds that it is neither urgent and it is not in public interest to have a discussion now.

I object to the statement of my hon. friend that Government took action on 2nd May only.

There has been various correspondence between the Government and the Company.

Then, as regards the so-called dilatory action of Government complained of by the hon. member, the delay occurred on account of the main ground of the notice that was served on the Government that the Company was suffering various losses. The Government asked them to supply traffic figures to judge whether there were actually losses or not. The figures that have been supplied are unaudited and they were supplied only in May last. Therefore, the Government could not get sufficient time to deal with the matter finally. Hence there has been no delay on the part of Government.



It is not a matter of urgent public importance, because the Company are running their services although the date of their notice has already expired.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Who is responsible for the publication in the newspaper ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** I am going to ask my hon. friend to take the responsibility of the publication in the *Janasakti*.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** May I ask the Hon'ble Premier whether they take the responsibility of refuting the statement ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** I am not relying on that publication. Mr. hon. friend is relying, and so onus is on him.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Having heard the hon. member who has tabled this adjournment motion, and the Hon'ble Premier, I am disposed to think that the matter is important in some respects, but whether it is a matter for an adjournment motion is to be considered by me. The hon. mover has relied upon some publication in the newspaper *Janasakti* and the Hon'ble Premier has admitted that the publication is only of some of the correspondence that passed between the Commercial Carrying Company and the Government and between Government and the Provincial Transport Authority. I do not like to decide at once now whether the matter is also a matter of urgent public importance. This matter may stand over for to-morrow. I shall go through all the correspondence that passed between the Government and the Company and that has been published and shall give my decision to-morrow.

**Adjournment motion regarding the policy underlying the action of the Government of Assam in entering into an agreement with the Government of Bengal in the matter of Jute restriction**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Hon'ble Mr. Mookerjee may now ask for leave to move his second adjournment motion.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** Sir, I beg leave to move that this House is of opinion that the Assembly do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the policy underlying the action of the Government of Assam in entering into an agreement with the Government of Bengal in the matter of jute restriction involving this Province in a debt of four lacs of rupees among other consequential losses.

Sir, the motion relates to a very important matter connected with the future prosperity of the province and is agitating public mind. It is extremely urgent and I am taking the first opportunity to air the public feeling in the matter as this Government entered into an agreement with Bengal Government only the other day in respect of jute restriction. Sir, the question of jute control was raised by my hon. friend Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury while we were discussing the demand on Agriculture during the present Budget Session, and he remarked—"The policy that the Government is going to adopt will be suicidal and detrimental to the best interests of the province. Such acceptance shall be nothing short of a catastrophe. I humbly submit that there is yet time. The offer from the Government of Bengal which is apt to strike at the very root of the



economic life of our cultivators should be rejected in unequivocal terms." Then, at the end of his speech he said— "Local condition in Assam, its acreage under actual jute cultivation and its vast cultivable wastes do not justify any restriction or regulation. The Government of Assam should decide their policy once for all."

In reply to this Sir, the Hon'ble Premier said— "As I mentioned the other day, as neither Bihar nor Orissa accepted this idea of compulsory reduction in jute area, Assam did not accede to the requests of Bengal. The Government of Bengal approached the Government of India that Assam is a potential danger to their restriction scheme because Assam has got a vast field to be brought under plough—a fair portion of which will be suitable for jute cultivation. The Government of Assam refused to mortgage their future and the position still stands there. It took me great pains to explain this side of the question to the Hon'ble Commerce Member of the Government of India who discussed this matter with me and the other Assam representatives at Lucknow in last December. They were all satisfied that Assam has got a good case in not following the lead of Bengal. The policy advocated by my hon. friend is the same as the policy adopted by the Ministry."

But what we find is that just after a few weeks of this declaration, the Government of Assam has practically entered into a contract with the Government of Bengal on the same terms. By this we find, Sir, that the province will lose the jute duty and at the same time a burden of four lacs of rupees will be placed on the shoulder of this province. So, Sir, I think what I have stated is quite enough to show that the matter is of urgent public importance. and I have taken the first opportunity to express the public opinion on the floor of this House.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Do Government object to the motion?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Yes, Sir. My hon. friend is rather premature, as there has been no concluded agreement up till now between the Government of Assam and the Government of Bengal. We had certain discussions with the Hon'ble Ministers from Bengal and certain terms were suggested by them for an agreement that has to be drafted by Bengal. They have neither sent those terms for the agreement to us yet nor have we made yet any concluded agreement. The whole matter is in the process of negotiation, and, therefore, my hon. friend is premature.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** May we know the terms of the agreement?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** It will be out of etiquette, Sir, to make the terms known to the public when the whole matter is in a process of negotiation with another Government.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** May I know whether our Government are going to accept the terms of the Government of Bengal or reject them? And also whether they can put forward their own terms?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** My hon. friend, who sat in a number of Committee meetings, knows that although an agreement is made in the meeting, the members have got the right to send in their suggestion for incorporation in the decision.



While discussing the Motor Vehicles Rules over which we sat for five days and over which a conclusive agreement was reached, some of my hon. friends sent their dissenting notes with a view to having them incorporated in the draft. Sir, although we have discussed the matter and a certain points of agreement have emerged in the discussion, the Hon'ble Ministers of Bengal have taken note of them and said that they would let us know in writing if they can accept those terms of the agreement. We do not know yet whether they would agree to them.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** May we take it that certain terms have been proposed by the Government of Assam?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Sir, may I be permitted to ask another question, namely that some terms were published in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" of the 26th May. May I know whether these terms are refuted by the Government or they agree that these terms are correct?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** I won't say anything as regards those terms. It is for my hon. friend who relies on press report to say whether they are correct or not.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** We have got no other alternative but to depend on press reports, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I may draw the attention of the hon. member to the terms of the motion? His motion is that he wants to discuss the policy underlying the action of the Government of Assam in entering into an agreement with the Government of Bengal. But from what has been said by the Hon'ble the Premier, it appears that the Government have not yet entered into the agreement.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** But, still, Sir, may I request the Hon'ble the Premier to let the House know about the policy relating to this jute restriction, although the agreement has not yet been finally executed? It was said during the discussion on my previous adjournment motion that I did not take proper steps while the Budget Session was going on during March last. Sir, as there was sufficient time then, I did not do so. Now, Sir, if I miss this opportunity, the Hon'ble the Premier might say that I did not move the matter in proper time, and thus I would be debarred from bringing any adjournment motion. Our Government has certainly got some policy, it was stated in reply to the cut motion that was moved by my hon. friend Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury that the Hon'ble the Premier was at one with the hon. mover. But, now, Sir, we find in the paper that though he accepted the principle at that time, the principle now followed is quite contrary. So, my point is this that it will be quite prudent on the part of Government if they give us some idea about their policy relating to jute restriction, just to remove misapprehension from the public mind.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member read from the Assembly proceedings what the Hon'ble the Premier said. These statements really indicate the policy of Government. Does the hon. member want to know whether there has been any change in that policy?

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Exactly so, Sir.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** All I can say, Sir, is that I follow exactly the policy that I laid down there.



**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** What does the hon. member propose to do with this motion ? There is the denial on the part of the Hon'ble the Premier that there has not yet been any agreement with the Government of Bengal.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** But, Sir, from the newspaper it is clear that the terms have already been settled. If the terms are settled and if it is a matter between two Governments, then, Sir, practically the whole thing is over, only the signatures have to be made.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** The Hon'ble the Premier says that what has been published in the paper is not correct.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Sir, I have not read the paper.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** Shall I read it, Sir ? This is dated Shillong, the 22nd May.

"An agreed settlement is reported to have been arrived at between the two provinces at the second and concluding sitting of the Jute Conference between Bengal and Assam Governments held yesterday at the Constitution Hall for regulating production and sale of jute.

The Finance Minister of the Government of Bengal is reported to have suggested that so far as the existing jute lands in Assam are concerned, the Bengal Government would apply the same policy of regulation of production as they did in the case of Bengal. So far as lands under different schemes of development are concerned, the Finance Minister has suggested that they will be left unregulated for the next five years after which they will come under the schemes of regulation. The Government of Bengal, he is reported to have further suggested, will advance four lakhs of rupees without interest to be repayable in 20 years in order to enable the Assam Government to have the necessary survey work carried out. He further suggested that for regulating jute production and sale the Government of Assam will have to pass a legislation within 6 months and combined effort should be made to press the Government of Bihar to fall into line with them for the regulation of jute.

All the above suggestions except the passing of the resolution within six months were reported to have been accepted with some modifications. The difficulties of passing a legislation in such a short time was, it is reported, explained by the Hon'ble Sir Muhammad Saadulla who also is reported to have expressed the hope that the general election is to take place by the month of December next. The Premier so opined that it would not be possible to apply the new schemes of regulation before 1943 and it was agreed by the Minister of Agriculture of Bengal. It is further learnt that when the agreement will be signed by both the Governments the amount of four lakhs of rupees will be made over to the Assam Government. The Hon'ble Ministers of Bengal are reported to have accepted the proposal of Sir Muhammad Saadulla of sending an officer of the Agricultural Department or Revenue Department to Bengal for studying the methods adopted there."

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Sir, I need read only one sentence to show the hopelessness of relying upon press reports. I hope hon. members, specially the member who quoted this paper, will kindly listen to it.

"The Finance Minister of the Government of Bengal is reported to have suggested that so far as the existing jute lands in Assam are concerned, the Bengal Government would apply the same policy of regulation of production as they did in the case of Bengal."



What right has the Government of Bengal to apply the same regulation here ?

This is an absolutely hopeless report.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** This portion may be hopeless, but there are other portions.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** I have not got anything to say about the reporting or of the news editing of the paper.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** The Hon'ble the Premier may try to ascertain whether there is any substance in regard to other matters which are reported in the paper.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Well, Sir, I cannot tell my hon. friend immediately. The Government of Bengal has offered us 4 lakhs of rupees for carrying survey works which will be beneficial to Assam. But there are certain other terms which are still under correspondence with the Government of Bengal. We have accepted those terms with some amendments and we will see whether those amendments are embodied in the draft agreement.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** So, it is clear that what the Assam Government wants has already been placed before the Government of Bengal. So, may I know what are the terms ? Sir, the Hon'ble the Premier has made nearly everything clear, but I do not know why he is suppressing the exact terms. I assume, he could rely on the hon. members to keep his confidence. It is better that the Hon'ble the Premier should give us some idea of it to allay public anxiety.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** As I have already stated, the terms are still in the process of negotiation and it will not be etiquette to disclose them. It may mislead the public as it has not yet been finally settled.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** There may be a general answer whether there has been any change of policy.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** I have already said that there is no change of policy.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI :** May I take it, Sir, that the terms of the Assam Government are within the accepted policy that was enunciated during the Budget Session ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Surely, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Having heard the hon. member who has tabled this motion and the Hon'ble Premier, I am disposed to think that the matter is of very urgent public importance. The policy which forms the subject matter of the discussion is a matter of vital importance to the people of the province. The hon. mover has stated in his motion a definite fact that the Government have entered into an agreement with the Government of Bengal in the matter of jute restriction involving this province into a debt of 4 lakhs among other consequential losses. The hon. member has relied upon a publication in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" to the effect that this Government have agreed to certain terms of which the undertaking of a liability of a debt of four lakhs of rupees from Bengal Government is one.

Now the Hon'ble Premier has declined to state whether these statements in the paper are either correct or false. He has only referred to a certain portion of the publication to the effect that the Government of Bengal have dictated certain terms to this Government and stated that the Bengal Government have no right to dictate such terms and therefore such publication is hopelessly misleading.



I definitely asked him what he had got to say with regard to the other portions of the publication, but he has declined to say anything on the plea that it would be out of etiquette to disclose the terms when the other Government is considering them. But I do not think that this is a sound plea when this Government has proposed certain terms which this House has a right to know and there has been a publication in a newspaper of the terms proposed by Government. It would have been better for the Hon'ble Premier to say whether this Government have really proposed these terms which only remain to be accepted by the Government of Bengal. If the Government of Bengal accept these terms they would constitute an agreement.

In this view of the matter I consider that this is a matter of very urgent public importance and need be discussed by this House.

I would now ask, whether the hon. member has the leave of the House to move this motion.

(Only 3 members rose in their seats.)

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** As 20 members, i.e., the number required by our rules, have not risen in their seats, the hon. member has not got the leave of the House to move this motion.

### **Adjournment motion on account of the failure of Government to grant adequate relief to the people of the flood-affected area of the district of Cachar.**

**Babu SANAT KUMAR AHIR :** সভাপতি মহাশয় আমার প্রস্তাবটি পড়িতে পারি কি ?

“পরিষদের এই মত যে একটি জনসাধারণ সম্বন্ধীয় জরুরী সুস্পষ্ট বিষয় আলোচনার জন্য পরিষদ মূলতুবী হউক । বিষয়টি হইল গত মাসে কাছাড়ে জলপ্লাবন এবং বন্য-পীড়িত লোককে যথোচিত সাহায্যদানে সরকারের ক্রটি ও অক্ষমতা ।”

সভাপতি মহাশয়, আমি যে বিষয়ে আলোচনা করিতে চাই তাহা অতি জরুরী । ইহা জন সাধারণের দুঃখ দুর্দশার কথা । গত মাসে কাছাড়ে খুব বৃষ্টি হয় ও তাহাতে জেলার কোন কোন অংশ বন্যায় ভাসিয়া যায় । বন্যা আসে বড় অসময়ে—আমন ধানের আশা আর নাই । বহু ঘর বাড়ী পরিয়া গিয়াছে, খাইবার জল নষ্ট হইয়া গিয়াছে—জ্বর এবং পেটের ব্যারাগ দেখা দিয়াছে—গরু এবং মহিষেরও কষ্ট হইয়াছে কিন্তু এই বিপদ তুলনায় সরকারী সাহায্য কিছ ই পাওয়া যায় নাই । জেলার কর্তারা কি করিতেছেন কেহই জানেনা এবং বুঝেনা । অথচ গতবারের বন্যার সময় সরকার ও জনসাধারণ একযোগে কাজ করিয়াছিল । কৃষক ভাইরা তাহাতে শান্তি পাইয়াছিল কিন্তু এবার সরকার নিজের ভাবে চলিতেছে আর লোকের হাহাকার চলিয়াছে । এখন খাজনা আদায় বন্ধ রাখিতে হইবে । লোককে টাকা দিয়া সাহায্য করিতে হইবে—আরও নানা রকমের ব্যবস্থা করা আবশ্যিক । কাজেই আমি নিবেদন করি এই বিষয়টির জরুরী আলোচনা হউক ।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Have Government any objection to this motion being moved ?



**The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no objection to the discussion of this motion before the House.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Then this motion will be discussed as the Government do not object, and I fix 3 p. m. to-day to be the time when this motion will be taken up for discussion.

**Presentation of Notification under Section 296 of the Assam Municipal Act, 1923.**

**The Hon'ble Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI:** I beg, Sir, to present the following Notification \* under section 296 of the Assam Municipal Act, 1923 :—

Notification No. 8709-L. S. G., dated the 21st November, 1940.

### Governor's assent to Bills

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Information has been received from the Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Assam that, under the provisions of section 75 of the Government of India Act, 1935, His Excellency the Governor has assented to the following Bills which were passed by both Chambers of the Assam Legislature :—

1. The Assam Embankment and Drainage Bill, 1940.
2. The Assam Legislative Chambers (Members' Emoluments) (Amendment) Bill, 1940.

### Re Election of a member to the Tezpur-Balipara Railway Local Advisory Committee.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The next motion regarding election of a member to the Tezpur-Balipara Railway Local Advisory Committee, stands in the name of the Hon'ble Maulavi Abdul Matin Chaudhury, whom I do not find to be present.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** I may say, Sir, that in view of the unfortunate absence of the member to the Tezpur-Balipara Railway Local Advisory Committee this motion has been taken up. But I find that one hon. member from Tezpur attended to-day. It is well known that one member should be elected to the Advisory Committee from those people who reside within three miles from Tezpur. This may be postponed now, so that I may consult the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department after that we can take up the matter.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I do not see why this motion should be made. I do not think that simply because the member is in jail there should be a fresh election. By going to jail the member has not certainly forfeited his right to be a member of the Committee. So, this motion is not a proper motion to be made.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** The Hon'ble Minister is absent to-day. He will come to-morrow and he will decide.

\*See Appendix H.



**The Assam Motor Vehicle Rules, 1940**

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:**  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Joint Conference of both the Houses on the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.

Hon. members will find the report placed on their table. The Report on the face of it presents a formidable difficulty inasmuch as four hon. members out of eight have subjoined notes, not so much of dissent, but notes on better drafting. I have gone through all these annexures and have come to the conclusion that the acceptance of some of these notes of the hon. members who have signed subject to the amendments proposed by them, will greatly improve the drafting of the rules concerned. But before I go through them it is my duty, Sir, to thank those hon. members of both the Houses as well as the public who submitted those criticisms on the draft, rather, the provisional rules framed by Government which were considered by the joint conference of the hon. members of both the Houses. In the Report mention has been made of them. I now request that hon. members of this House will kindly go through the recommendations made by the joint conference, and I can assure them that all the members of the conference spared no pains in order to make the rules as workable and popular as possible.

Perhaps it will be better for me to mention, Sir, that in the recommendations of the joint conference hon. members will find two notable omissions; the first is that in the rules there has been made no mention about the constitution of the Provincial Transport Authority and the Regional Transport Authorities, although they found a place in the rules as framed by Government. The reason for this omission is the wording of section 44 of the Indian Motor Vehicles Act of 1939 by which the Legislature has been given no power whatsoever over the constitution of these bodies. Section 44(1) of Act IV of 1939 reads as follows: "The Provincial Government shall, by notification in the official Gazette, constitute for the province a Provincial Transport Authority to exercise and discharge the powers and functions specified in sub-section (3) and shall in like manner constitute Regional Transport Authorities to exercise and discharge throughout such areas ..... as may be specified in the notification ..... the powers and functions conferred by or under this Chapter ....."

The Joint Conference discussed this section thoroughly, and it also had the advantage of obtaining the opinion of the Legal Remembrancer, who was also of the opinion that in view of the wording, the constitution of these bodies is left entirely to the Provincial Government, and not to the Legislature. Therefore the joint conference decided to omit those sections of the provisional rules framed by Government earlier. They have however recommended, at the time when the rules are to be published, to put on the fly-leaf or on a leaf before the letterpress the constitutions of these bodies, so that the public may know who constitutes the Provincial and Regional Transport Authorities.

Another matter of great importance was the constitution of the appellate authority. Hon. members may remember that in our provisional rules an appeal from the Provincial Transport Authority was to be heard by a Board of three Hon'ble Ministers, and it was contended that as the Chairman of the Provincial Transport Authority was the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Home Department, who at the present time is also the Prime Minister, the Board of three Ministers would find themselves in a delicate situation



if they had to revise the orders of a body over which their Chief presided. The Joint Conference gave much thought over this matter and have ultimately recommended that the appellate authority should be the Revenue Tribunal and not a Board constituted *ad hoc* of three Hon'ble Ministers.

Then, Sir, the subject, I should say, is one for technical experts, because apart from one particular chapter of the Act and therefore of the rules the functions of the Provincial and Regional Transport Authorities as regards the granting of permits to run public vehicles on different roads are of a technical character. Therefore we have accepted the advice of our technical experts on the subject and left the rules where they were. Only those rules which the Committee thought would act harshly on the public have been touched and brought into form which will appeal to the public.

My thanks are due to those hon. members who even after the Report was framed took the trouble of going through the rules very critically and have given their thought and labour to improve the Report. I refer, Sir, to the help which has been rendered by the recommendations made by Mr. Whittaker, the leader of the European Group here, and Mr. Gawthrop who is a member of the Upper House. We have also to thank two other hon. member of the Upper House, *viz.*, Rai Sahib Apurba Kumar Ghosh and Maulavi Abdul Hai, who have also subjoined a few recommendations for bettering the draft. As I have stated, Sir, I have gone critically through these recommendations and I have no hesitation in saying that so far as redrafting of rule 5 is concerned, Mr. Whittaker's draft is far better than the one drafted on the body of the Report, and we can very well accept his draft. Similarly, I find, Sir, that Mr. Gawthrop's suggestion as regards rule 6 will improve the wording and clear the meaning of the rule and I will recommend to my hon. friend here to accept the amendment. But as far as rule 11 is concerned, I have considered the matter because both Messrs. Whittaker and Gawthrop suggest the same amendment. But in my opinion the Committee's draft is better and we should adhere to that. I would mention, Sir, that as it will be apparent by a reference to the original rule and the Joint conference's recommendations, the Joint Conference's draft is better than the suggestion. In the rule 11 (Drivers of Motor Vehicles on hire to be inspected by the Inspector of Motor Vehicles) it is laid that: "every person who has applied for an initial licence to drive a motor vehicle on hire and has received a provisional licence under the above rule shall appear for examination before the Inspector of Motor Vehicles at such time and place as may be appointed. If he fails to appear, or to satisfy the said Inspector as to his ability to drive, the Licensing Authority may suspend or cancel the licence as he thinks fit". This was improved upon by the Joint Conference and they wanted this to be substituted by the following—"Every person who has applied for initial professional licence and has received provisional licence under the above rule, shall appear for examination before the Inspector of Motor Vehicles at such time and place as may be appointed. If he fails to appear and satisfy the said Inspector as to his ability to drive, the Licensing Authority shall cancel the licence."

**Mr. A. WHITTAKER:** That is in the annexure and not in the rule.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** I am sorry, Sir. I read from the wrong place. Mr. Whittaker is correct. The Joint Conference's recommendation of rule 11 runs thus—"Every person who has applied for an initial licence to drive a Motor Vehicle as a paid



employee and has received a provisional licence under the above rule shall appear for examination before the Inspector of Motor Vehicles at such time and place as may be appointed. If he fails to appear, or to satisfy the said Inspector as to his ability to drive, the Licensing Authority may suspend or cancel the license as he thinks fit.' Both Messrs. Whittaker and Gawthrop think that there should be no power for "suspending" the licences. The Licensing Authority should straightaway cancel the licences. I think, I should place before the House the following consideration why I think, the power of suspending the licence should also be left with the Licensing Authority. Sir, a driver may fail to appear for examination on a particular date fixed by the Motor Vehicles Inspector, because there may be a genuine reason as to why he could not appear but if we adopt the recommendation of Messrs. Whittaker and Gawthrop, then in that case, the Licensing Authority will automatically cancel the licence. It may be that on certain occasion on account of a genuine cause a driver may not be able to appear. I will give a concrete example. Suppose, a driver may run public Vehicle from Karimganj to the interior side of Ratabari and the Motor Vehicles Inspector may want that the driver should appear at Sylhet for examination on a particular date. But there may be flood and the road may become impassable and the driver may not be able to appear before the Inspector inspite of his best endeavour to do so ; and for a reason, which is beyond his control and which prevented him from appearing before the Inspector, he should not be punished with the cancellation of his licence. Under all these circumstances it will be better if the Licensing Authority be given the power to suspend the licence. It is for this reason, I say that the Joint Conference's draft seems to me better than the recommendations made by Messrs. Whittaker and Gawthrop.

**Mr. A. WHITTAKER :** Would the Hon'ble Prime Minister please say whether the Act empowers the Licensing Authority to suspend ? I have no objection to the discretion. But my main point is that no authority has under the Act the power to suspend. He can either cancel or not cancel but he has not the power to suspend the licence. I think, the words "may cancel" instead of the words "shall cancel" will meet the case and the words "as he thinks fit" should be omitted. He should not have the power not to suspend but only to cancel the licences.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** I am obliged to Mr. Whittaker for the point he has raised but the Act is silent both as regards empowering or preventing "suspension". So as there is no mention of such power either way we think that the word "suspend" may remain there but my hon. friend Mr. Whittaker has suggested that the words "may cancel" instead of the words "shall cancel" will probably meet the case.

I find, Sir, that the suggestions made by Mr. Whittaker about rules, 12, 33 and by Rai Sahib Apurba Kumar Ghose of the Upper House about rule 38, are very suitable and should be adopted. So far as Rai Sahib Apurba Kumar Ghose's recommendation is concerned, it refers to rule 38 which provides for Revision under rule 37. Rai Sahib suggests that certain procedure should be adopted.



Then there was another recommendation made by Maulavi Abdul Hai about rule 57. I am afraid, Sir, my recommendation will be not to accept the suggestion made by Maulavi Abdul Hai. What he suggests, refers to the motor vehicles that are in possession of manufacturers and dealers and which are kept for show or for demonstration to the intending purchasers. Now in sub-rule (i) of rule 57, this provision finds a place that when such a vehicle is used on the road, save in the case of a motor cycle, the holder of the certificate or a *bona fide* employee of the holder must always accompany it and only three persons in all (including the driver) shall be carried at any one time. The Committee discussed this matter and came to the conclusion that on the plea of demonstration some of the drivers may carry more people and take some remuneration for carrying them. Therefore we think that the limit of three persons including the driver should remain there. What Mr. Hai suggests is that the limit which has been put there should be omitted.

There are suggestions of improvement by my hon. friend Mr. Whittaker the Leader of the European Group, as regards rules 76, 90, 91 which I recommend to the House to adopt. Similarly regarding rule 92, Mr. Gawthrop's draft will help to clear the context. Mr. Gawthrop has suggested that under rule 98 which lays down the conduct of drivers and conductors at a time they ply these vehicles that the vehicles should contain or exhibit a time table and fare table in some conspicuous part. Probably it will be good but I do not think that this suggestion should find its place in that rule; it may be given in some other appropriate place. So it is left for the consideration of the hon. members.

There is suggestion by Rai Sahib Apurba Kumar Ghose as regards rule 109 and I think, Sir, we should better accept it. So far as I remember it was discussed in the Committee that we should omit that item from rule 109. It was an omission at the time of taking down reports.

What was originally intended that the owners of any transport vehicle should keep records of the earnings of the coaching and goods and it should be submitted to the authorities as specified but it was thought by the Joint Conference that we should not place these people to such an awkward situation as to show what is their earning on different items. It was proposed to omit it but as a slip, it remained in draft.

Then there are two more suggestions—one as regards rule 171(3) by Mr. Gawthrop and by Mr. Whittaker about rule 195. We should better adopt them. Mr. Whittaker has taken exception to one phrase in the penultimate paragraph of the report where it says "The Joint Conference also strongly recommends to Government that the fees for motor cars running on the special timing on the Gauhati-Shillong Road should be reduced from Rs. 2 to Re. 1". He wants that the word "strongly" should be omitted.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Those were the recommendations as to how the report should be worded, and not a part of the rule.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Then there are three more matters which I better place before the House and one as regards the fifth schedule. Mr. Gawthrop suggests that that heading in the fifth schedule need not remain. The fifth schedule lays down laden and unladen weights which should be permissible in certain roads and the heading of the fifth schedule is—Areas in which rule 200 is not applicable. Mr. Gawthrop suggests that heading need not be put in. I see no objection in retaining the heading.



Then Mr. Gawthrop suggests as regards Appendix I of the report. I think, Sir, the recommendation is better and ought to be accepted.

Then there is also another recommendation by Mr. Gawthrop that the extra rules for hills which are in the nature of only executive instructions should come out of the rules. If I remember aright, Sir, this was also decided by the Committee. Therefore, I suggest, Sir, that Mr. Gawthrop's suggestion be accepted by the House and the special instructions should be removed from the rules.

Sir, I have placed all the suggestions made by my hon. friends of the Committee and I recommend Sir, that these be adopted by the hon. members of this House so that we can have a unanimous decision on these rules and if we accept all these recommendations here, including, the recommendations made by the hon. members of the Upper House, probably they will reciprocate the same feeling and they will accept the recommendations made by the members of this House and then there will be no trouble in having the rules passed by the Legislature in both the Houses.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The Hon'ble Premier will now have to move that the Report be taken into consideration.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** I beg, Sir, to move that the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940 as reported by the Joint Conference of both the Houses be taken into consideration.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Motion moved:

"That the Assam Motor Vehicle Rules, 1940 as reported by the Joint Conference of both the Houses be taken into consideration".

**\*Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** May I know one point, Sir Whether any amendment to any rule will be allowed.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Yes, I shall give time for that.

**\*Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** May I know, Sir, why this recommendation of the Joint Conference is not incorporated in the rule, published regarding the roads, and special timing. This is not a recommendation under the Notification of 18th March 1941 and Notification No.2192-A. The timings are published for the Shillong-Gauhati Road and also it is stated here as *N. B.* that users of special timing No.1 down, timing No.3 up, timing No.4 evening, shall pay a fee of Rs.2 for each journey and shall receive a receipt from the time keeper. Then a rule is put there and I do not see any reason why this rule has not been changed by the Joint Conference. When there is unanimous recommendation from the Joint Conference it appears to me that the rule could be conveniently changed instead of having recommendations. This also is published as a rule.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** What the Hon'ble Premier has got to say?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** We have already decided that the special instructions for motor rules will be omitted from these rules, but surely we will give our very sympathetic and favourable consideration to the recommendation of the Joint Conference so far as fees are concerned. All that my hon. friend wants is that it should be incorporated in the Instructions of Government. I will have no objection if this can be fitted in any of the rules.

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\*Speech not corrected by the hon. member.



**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I think the hon. member may take note of this.

**\*Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** If it is the recommendation of the Joint Conference that this may be one of the rules placed before the Legislature, I do not understand why this procedure has been adopted instead of amending the rule.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member will please see the point. The Joint Conference decided to suggest to the final authority, *i.e.*, the Legislature to make certain alterations in the rules. When the Joint Conference suggested any alteration of the rule, effect cannot be given to that suggestion straightaway. This is the point and I think the hon. member will have realised it.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** I raised this point, Sir. The Hon'ble Premier who was the Chairman of the Conference told me that it was practically outside our jurisdiction.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** What was that?

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** It was about the special timing, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. Rev. Nichols-Roy's point is that the fixation of fees is already in the rule. If there ought to be any change, that change should be made in the rule. So, the Joint Conference ought to have made their recommendations to this House and this House should have a right either to accept that suggestion or reject it.

**\*Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** My point is that the Joint Conference strongly recommended to Government that the fees for motor cars running in special timings on the Gauhati-Shillong road should be reduced from Rs.2 to Re.1. I do not see why that recommendation was not inserted in the rule.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** If the hon. member wants that it should be in the rule, he is at liberty to table a motion for that.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Let me explain the situation. There are some misunderstanding as regards Rev. Nichols-Roy's point. The rule which the Joint Conference considered refers to different fees, *e.g.*, registration fees, car driving license fees and fees of that sort. But it had no jurisdiction to discuss what the Government should do to reimburse themselves for the special timings for a limited few private owners on the Gauhati-Shillong Road. The fees of Rs.2 are for special timings, that is very early at 4 o'clock in the morning and at 9 o'clock in the evening. These timings lay great stress upon the Time-keepers who have got to regulate the traffic on the road. Government realised the fees of Rs.2 from the public in order to reimburse the Time-keepers who are poorly paid people and who have got to work 24 hours—day and night—and who otherwise are put to great hardship. It is only the owners of the private cars who utilise the special timings and are required to pay this small amount of Rs.2. After discussion of the special timings which have gained popularity and the fact that Government give to the Time-keeper what they realise from the public, the Committee decided that it should be reduced from Rs.2 to Re.1.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** From what I have heard from the Hon'ble Premier it appears to me that this House will have first to decide whether the matters relating to the fees and timings for the regulation of motor traffic should be left to the Executive Government or should be decided by this House. If the House agree that the matters relating to fixation of rates of fees and timings should be in the rules, then the House will have to

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\*Speech not corrected by the hon. member.



frame the rule. But if the House decide that the two matters should be left to the Executive Government, then the House should decide whether the Executive Government may frame rules relating to the timings and fees. I give emphasis on these two points. Hon. members may table amendments to the rule that will come for discussion.

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** What is the time limit, Sir, for sending amendments?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Does the hon. member like that the matter should be postponed so that hon. members may give their views on it?

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** Yes, Sir, at least till to-morrow.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Very well. I have no objection to postpone the matter till to-morrow. But I ask hon. members to go on tabling amendments, if they like, from to-day. The rules will be taken up on Thursday next. So, hon. members may go on tabling amendments up to 12 A. M. of Wednesday next. I think this will give ample time to the hon. members. It will be practically three days' time. The office must receive the amendments in good time to tabulate them. But the motion to take the matter into consideration would be taken up to-morrow after question time.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** May I make one point clear, Sir. It was said by the Hon'ble the Premier that 4 of the hon. members of the Joint Conference gave their suggestions, rather note of dissent in some matters. In this connection, I think it is better on my part to state that the report was received late by me and unfortunately I was absent on the date when it reached my headquarters. The next day I received a wire to send it back at once. So, practically it was impossible for me to go through it and I thought unless they got it with my signature the Assembly Department might feel some difficulties. So I signed it and sent it back. I could not go through it. Now, only to-day I have got the printed report. I may I be allowed to move amendments although as a member of the Conference I have already signed it? As I find, there are many mistakes which have been found out by my hon. friends; if I go through it critically it may so happen that I may also find out some. Sir, it was simply impossible for me to go through the report as within an hour it was handed over to me by my man on arrival I received telegram to send it back at once.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Yes, I know members of the Committee felt difficulty in going through the report in time. It was really on account of the insistence of the Assembly Department to get the report as early as possible so that Assembly Department might circulate the printed report to the hon. members, that some members of the Committee might not have got proper time to go through it. In that view of the matter, I allow Mr. B. Mookerjee to table any amendments, if he likes, and to point out mistakes just as Mr. Whittaker has done.

Now, the adjournment motion would come up at 3 P.M. to-day but if we meet at 2 P.M. we shall have practically no business to transact till 3 P.M. So, I would like to adjourn the House till 3 P.M.

#### Adjournment

The Assembly then adjourned till 3 P.M.



## After adjournment

## Adjournment motion on account of the failure of Government to grant adequate relief to the people of the flood-affected area of the district of Cachar

**Babu SANAT KUMAR AHIR :** “পরিষদের এই মত যে একটি জন-সাধারণ সন্দ্বন্ধীয় জরুরী সুস্পষ্ট বিষয় আলোচনার জন্য পরিষদ মূলতুর্বা ইউক। বিষয়টি হইল গত মাসে কাছাড়ে জনপ্রাণন এবং বন্যাপীড়িত লোককে যথোচিত সাহায্য দানে সরকারের ক্রটি ও অক্ষমতা ”।

সভাপতি মহাশয়, কাছাড়ে প্রায় বৎসর অল্প বিস্তর প্রাণন হইয়া থাকে, এর ফলে আমাদের জেলার অবস্থা ক্রমেই খারাপের দিকে চলিয়াছে। সামান্য কয়েকদিন বৃষ্টি হইলেই বন্যা হইয়া যায়। এইবার ও বড় অসময়েই বন্যা হইয়াছে। কয়েকদিন বৃষ্টি হইতেই জেলার বিভিন্ন অংশ জলমগ্ন হয়। হাইলাকান্দি শিলচরের মধ্যে রেলের রাস্তা ডুবিয়া যায়। মাটিজুরীর রাস্তাও ডুবিয়া যায়। হাইলাকান্দি ও শিলচরের মধ্যে কয়েক দিন যাতায়াত করা সহজ ছিল না। হাইলাকান্দি মহকুমায় যেমন জল বেশী হয় আবার বামের দিকেও জল খুব বেশী হয়। সোনাই, কাকিমনী প্রভৃতি নদীর দুই পার ছাপাইয়া জল গ্রামগুলিতে প্রবেশ করে; চাতলাভালীতেও সেই অবস্থা। কোন কোন জায়গায় জল গতবারের বড় বন্যার জল হইতেও বেশী হয়। শিলচর সহরেও জল উঠে। তারাপুর, অধিকাপুর, ইটখোলা নুতনপট্টির বহুলোককে ঘরবাড়ী ছাড়িতে হয়। সহরের বহু স্থলে বাবুরা আশ্রয় লন। কমিশনারের খালি অফিস ঘরেও বহুলোক জমা হয়। শিঙ্গরি ভকৎপুর প্রভৃতি গ্রামের লোকেরা কলেজে আশ্রয় লয়। কিন্তু এই তুলনায় সরকার হইতে কোন উচিত সাহায্য দেওয়া হইয়াছে বলিয়া আমরা জানি না। সরকারী কর্তারা যে সব গ্রামের লোক জলে ভাসিয়া যায় তাহাদের জন্য কোন রকম নৌকার ব্যবস্থা করেন নাই। কেউ তাহাদের খোঁজ নেয় নাই। বহুলোকের ঘর বাড়ী জলে পড়িয়া গিয়াছে। জলমগ্ন গ্রামগুলির পানীয় জল নষ্ট হইয়া গিয়াছে কিন্তু জল বিশুদ্ধ করা হয় নাই। আমন ধানত গিয়াছে—লোকের ঘরে এমন বীজ নাই যে আবার ক্ষেত করিতে পারে। কিন্তু এখনও রাজস্ব আদায় হইতেছে—নিলাম ইস্তাহার ও বাহির হইতেছে। এই অবস্থায় লোক বাঁচে কিরূপে? আমিত দেখিতেছি সামনে দুভিক্ষ আছে অথচ জেলার কর্তারা বিষয়টির গুরুত্ব বুঝিতেছেন না। গেল বন্যার সময় সরকার ও জন সাধারণ এক সঙ্গে কাজ করায় লোকের কত সাহায্য হইয়াছিল কিন্তু এবার জেলার কর্তা কাহারও সাহায্য চান নাই অথবা লন নাই। তিনি Air Raid Precaution লইয়াই ব্যস্ত কিন্তু লোক যদি অভাবে ও অনাহারে মরিয়া যায় কাহাকে তিনি বাঁচাইবেন? কংগ্রেস কর্মীরাও এখন অনেকে জেলে অথবা জিলার বাহিরে সামান্য কিছু টাকা লইয়া শ্রীযুত চন্দ মহাশয় কংগ্রেসের পক্ষ হইতে বন্যাপীড়িত স্থানে কিঞ্চিৎ সাহায্য করিতেছেন কিন্তু তাহাদের টাকার জোর নাই। তবুও কংগ্রেস এই ভাবে সেবা কাজে লাগে বলিয়া দেশবাসীর মধ্যে কংগ্রেসের প্রতি এমন শ্রদ্ধা। এই সরকার জনপ্রিয় সরকার। এই সরকারেরও কর্তব্য জনসেবার ব্যবস্থা করা। খালি অফিসারদের উপর ভার দিয়া



রাখিলে চলিবে না। স্বেচ্ছাসেবকের দরকার। আমি এজন্যই বিষয়টি এখানে উপস্থিত করিলাম। সরকার খালি অফিসারদের কথার উপর নির্ভর করিয়া উচিত ভাবে এই দুঃসময়ে সাহায্য না করেন তবে তাহারাই দেশের লোকের শ্রদ্ধা পাইবেন না। তাহাদের কর্তব্যে ক্রটি হইবে।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved is :

“পরিষদের এই মত যে একটি জনসাধারণ সম্বন্ধীয় জরুরী সুস্পষ্ট বিষয় আলোচনার জন্য পরিষদ মূলতুবী হউক। বিষয়টি হইল গত মাসে কাছাড়ে জনপ্রাণন এবং বন্যা-পীড়িত লোককে যথোচিত সাহায্যদানে সরকারের ক্রটি ও অক্ষমতা”।

The English meaning of the motion is that this Assembly is of opinion that the Assembly do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the inability and apathy of Government in granting adequate relief to the people of Cachar who suffered from floods during the last month.

**The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose this motion. When my hon. friend Mr. Ahir moved the motion this morning, I did not oppose it at that stage only because I wanted not to deprive the House from discussing the situation arising from the Cachar floods.

My hon. friend is perfectly right when he describes the extent and duration of the flood. The Government have been taking prompt action in the matter since the receipt of the news of floods in Cachar. On the 7th of May we received a wire from the Deputy Commissioner. On the flood : on the 8th and 9th also the situation was reported to us. The Government then immediately wired back to the district officer about the take prompt and necessary action in the matter. The Deputy Commissioner asked for a sum of Rs.2,000 to grant gratuitous relief to the 10th to people, and this was immediately sanctioned by Government. The flood affected reports received Government have every reason to believe that every possible action has been taken in the matter.

I am quoting something from the report of the Subdivisional Officer. This report is dated 10th May. The Subdivisional Officer says in his report, “On the 7th, we officers met and distributed affected areas in 7 circles and deputed officers for rescue and relief works where necessary. By now we have got reports from all the officers deputed which go to show that most of the house-plinths have gone under water and the villagers adversely affected.....It appears from the reports of the officers deputed that villagers and their cattle have been shifted to places of safety and all possible help rendered. The water is at present receding very slowly. I personally visited some of the worst affected villages in boat. I also cholera from Barband and cases of dysentery from Bakrihaor. One case of Kanchanpur were reported and medical relief immediately sent. The officer-in-charge Katlicherra wired that some villagers of Dholai area were in great distress for foodstuff and required immediate relief. The division of your approval the Officer-in-charge has been ordered to give 3 days' doles to the really deserving persons. Some rice has been ordered to give 3 days' at Katlicherra bazar for the purpose and the Divisional Inspector of Police has been deputed to work in that area with the Katlicherra police staff. I have also arranged some rice at Bhuiya's shop at Lala Bazar for emergency”.



My hon. friend said that there was scarcity of boats. The Subdivisional Officer also says, "we had to experience great difficulty about boats for rescue and relief work, and though all available small country boats were utilised for the work, this was found most inadequate. I was compelled to wire to Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj, to send some suitable boats for rescue work". Then, he says, Sir, "reports from officers show that at present there is no immediate danger to life and property. The situations are being carefully watched and requisite measures will be taken according to necessity".

The Deputy Commissioner again sent a report on the 14th May, and there he says, "little damage was done, as there are few standing crops at this time of the year. But many people were forced to abandon their homes and take refuge on *tilas*, of which the district has plenty. Hailakandi became worse affected than Silchar. The floods began there from 6th May, and could not get away due to the height of the Barak preventing drainage from the Katakhal. It was found necessary to start a little temporary relief in providing rice for certain destitute families in badly affected areas, and in rescue work. The measures will be stopped as soon as possible. In Sonai Thana there are similarly affected areas always suffering from flood, where people have little resources and require help in such an emergency. This help is only being given once. In Silchar Thana a few families had to be helped in their places of refuge". Again, he says "No relief has been necessary in Katigora, Barkhola, Udharband and Lakhipur Thanas. Some good silt has fallen on the paddy fields, and I think there is enough local *aus* seed for planting now".

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI:** On a point of information, Sir. Who is the Deputy Commissioner of Cachar?

**The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN:** Mr. A. H. S. Fletcher.

Now, Sir, the money that was sanctioned by the Government, *i. e.*, Rs.2,000, has already been expended and the Deputy Commissioner in his recent report says that no more relief is necessary now. On receipt of this motion, Sir, the Deputy Commissioner of Cachar was 'phoned and he has said that this Rs.2,000 already sanctioned for gratuitous relief has sufficed to meet all needs, and demands are coming in for agricultural or seed loans. Enquiries are being made and the Deputy Commissioner says that he will approach Government when these are completed and he is satisfied that such loans are necessary. There was a demand from one place for a test relief work but the Deputy Commissioner after personal enquiry found that it could not be undertaken at present as the land is under crop. No further relief is considered by the Deputy Commissioner necessary at present.

Besides this, Sir, before the floods had begun, agricultural loans were being realised in the district of Cachar. Since after the flood the Deputy Commissioner has already allowed postponement of all coercive measures till September 1941, and ordered for discharge of the temporary loan-staff, which was requisitioned for realisation of these loans. From these it will be clear, Sir, that everything that was possible for the relief of the sufferers has been done. My hon. friend claims ignorance, and it is a matter of surprise that although he considers that the measures taken were not adequate he did not, before tabling this motion, complain to the Government that such relief was inadequate. Nor has any representation been received from the public complaining about the inadequacy of the relief measures.



So, in the circumstances, Sir, I think that Government deserve commendation rather than censure for what they have done.

**Dr. C. G. TERRELL:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to say a few words in support of what the Hon'ble Finance Minister has just told us from my personal experience. Because I happen to come from that part of Surma Valley in Sylhet, about 20 miles south of Karimganj, I think I can tell you just a little first hand about the efforts that have been made and are being made in connection with the flood relief. I had the idea that there might possibly be some question raised about flood relief, and two or three days before coming up here I went to call on the Subdivisional Officer of Karimganj, Mr. Jarman, and asked him a few questions about what is being done. He kindly gave me access to his file which was quite of considerable volume and I went through it. I was very much impressed indeed with the efforts that are being made by most of the officers he had deputed under him to investigate any questions of hardships all over the district.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** On a point of information, Sir. Is the hon. member speaking of Cachar or of Karimganj subdivision ? This motion relates to Cachar.

**Dr. C. G. TERRELL:** Mr. Mookerjee is right when he says that I am speaking of Karimganj, but these two places, viz., Karimganj and Cachar are very close to each other, and Karimganj was actually mentioned in the question that was brought up. So, I hope you will allow me, Sir, to say just a few words because I think, they have a definite bearing in support of the steps that Government have taken in this direction.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question before the House is what relief has been granted to the people of Cachar.

**Dr. C. G. TERRELL:** I am afraid, I cannot speak directly with regard to the interests of Cachar. I was only trying to point out that other parts of the district have been affected by the flood. In the flood affected areas action is being taken by Government in investigating the cases of hardship and in putting them right.

**Mr. P. TRINKLE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a resident of Hailakandi, I would like to say a few words about it. This flood was a serious one but from my personal observation, I consider that this flood is not so serious as some that we have experienced in Hailakandi. It was similar in height at that of September 1938 but there is a difference between the present flood and that one. In 1938, crops were planted and great damage was done. This time, Sir, very few crops have been planted and therefore the amount of damage is not so great.

Sir, the hon. member has mentioned the shortage of boats in the Hailakandi Subdivision which made relief works difficult. A large amount of the boating on the Katakhal river is done by contractors from Karimganj. These naturally made for their home district which was also being badly flooded and this created a scarcity of boats.

Now with regard to the point as to what Government have done, I would propose to say what I know myself. First of all, the Deputy Commissioner visited Hailakandi and issued a notification restricting prices—that there should be no excessive profiteering on account of the flood. Again the Subdivisional Officer of Hailakandi also issued a request to all the Tea Garden Managers and other landowners asking them to permit the villagers to graze their cattle on the high lands in their possession. This was allowed by the people to whom the request was made. These are the few points



that have come to my own notice with regard to this flood and therefore I do not think, Sir, that Government should be censured for having done nothing with regard to the recent flood (*applause*).

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:**—Mr. Speaker, Sir. I like to say something on this. I heard from the Hon'ble Finance Minister that only a sum of Rs. 2,000 has been given in Cachar as gratuitous relief during this flood. Sir, the motion is to censure the Government for not granting proper relief and I say this sum of Rs. 2,000 is inadequate, in proportion to the need to help the number of population of the flood affected areas of this district.

**Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN:** On a point of order, Sir. The hon. mover of the motion submitted his notice in Bengali and he also spoke in Bengali. But now I find that the speakers who are either opposing or supporting the motion are delivering their speeches in English. I am afraid, whether the hon. mover can follow.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member may deliver a speech in Bengali if he likes.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** Sir, as the relief granted was only for Rs.2,000, a large number of people were in trouble. Each man was in need of relief and it is not known how this amount of Rs.2,000 was distributed. Mr. Fletcher, the Deputy Commissioner, is the representative of the Government and he really committed a crime by not taking proper and necessary action (*loud laughter*) for the protection of the people from the impending danger.

Sir, the condition of the people as described is quite true and I should say that it will be worse in the near future because *Murali* paddy which the people would have got in the month of *Bhadra* or last part of *Sraban* has been destroyed and I do not think they can be now resown. Then as regards *amon* paddy, it cannot be grown on low lands at all. The trouble for the *amon* crops will be in the next winter. So, I think, Government have failed to help the people adequately. In this connection I like to speak about Karimganj. At the time of flood, I went up to Badarpur, Kaliganj, Patharkandi to see the condition of the people.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The present motion is to censure the Government for what they have done with regard to Cachar and if the hon. member now introduces anything with regard to Karimganj, that will not be fair.

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY:** The hon. member went up to Badarpur which is at the boundary of Cachar.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** I went to Badarpur just to see personally the condition of the people of Cachar, because Badarpur bridge works as water-gate to Cachar.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI:** The adjournment motion is about Cachar but the hon. member is speaking about Karimganj.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Yes, I have pointed out that.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** There was flood in Rathabari and Patharkandi sides in Karimganj subdivision and the new Subdivisional Officer ran just like a mad man, although he did not know all the places, for the help of the people. (*Laughter*). I must congratulate him for this. Just like a Chaprassi, even the Subdivisional Officer went to boatmen and caught hold of them and sent the boats to Patharkandi side and he visited other places also. His officers also were very busy with him. Police officers also took active parts.



**Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI:** Sir, the adjournment motion is for censuring the Government ; but now it appears that my hon. friend is commending the Government for their action ?

Is he opposing the motion ?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member wants that the Deputy Commissioner of Cachar should have also run like a mad man. (*Loud laughter*).

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** But, Sir, the people of Karimganj are appreciating the activities of Mr. Jarman, the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj and other officers and Inspector of Police for their prompt action.

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** What about the hon. member ?

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** I did what I could in my humble capacity.

Then, Sir, I say the same will be the condition of Karimganj afterwards in the month of *Bhadra* and in the winter. People will be in trouble really at that time. Now in the present time the trouble is that the price of rice has gone high up and rice is being sold at about Rs. 6 per maund and the good seed for cultivation is not available.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** What 6 rupees ! I challenge, Sir. Our report never says that *paddy* is selling at Rs. 6.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** Sir the Subdivisional Officer asked us to participate in a Committee. The rate went up to 13 annas for  $4\frac{1}{2}$  sheers of rice but we lowered it to 8 annas.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI:** Is it rice or paddy ?

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** Price of rice.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. member should remember that we are discussing matters about Cachar.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** It has connection, Sir, as when Cachar is affected Karimganj is also affected ; when Karimganj is affected Maulvibazar is also affected and so on. The link is there. The Government should know the trouble which is coming very soon. I am alarming them.....

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** But the hon. member is to censure Government.

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** I know, Sir, from this high place the Government do not know the difficulties. I do not want to take up the time of the House more, but only I say that as a result of the high price, the people, and the labourers are really in difficulty.

**Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN:** Sir, whether the hon. member has got any personal experience with regard to Cachar flood ?

**Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI:** I went to Badarpurghat and I have some petty property in Cachar also. The Badarpur bridge over the Kusiara can speak of the condition of Cachar. Then, Sir, I said that some people are now really in difficulty. The gratuitous relief granted by Government in time of flood is over and I do not say it was quite insufficient in Karimganj, but up to this day it ought to have continued which I think has been stopped. I request Government through



a censure motion, to consider the condition of the people, the labourers whose labour does not pay so much as they require for their livelihood. So, Sir, the people cannot meet two ends by their labour ; I place this before the House specially before the Hon'ble Prime Minister who has direct information and knowledge on many occasions of our valley specially of flood affected areas. I am referring to Hon'ble Prime Minister because the Hon'ble Finance Minister has neither the experience of these places nor did he kindly go there to see the people even in better times. Coming to the present question I say that in Cachar district the Deputy Commissioner really deserve censure because he could not work promptly to help the people properly and adequately. That is our information.

**Maulana ABDUL HAMID KHAN:** মাননীয় রাজস্ব সচিব কাছাড়ের ডিষ্ট্রিক্ট ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটের রিপোর্ট অনুযায়ী বন্যা পীড়িত লোকের জন্য ২ হাজার টাকা পাঠাইয়াছেন, আবশ্যক হইলে আরো পাঠাইবেন—ইহাতে যথেষ্ট উদারতা তিনি দেখাইয়াছেন সেই জন্য আমি তাহাকে আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ দিতেছি। কিন্তু দুঃখ এবং পরিতাপের বিষয় এই যে যখন কাছাড়ের বন্যা পীড়িত কৃষকেরা অনাহারে মরিয়া যাইতেছে তখন তাহাদেরই মনোনীত প্রতিনিধি, তাহাদেরই হাজার হাজার টাকায় ও তাহাদেরই রক্তে পালিত শিলংরে এক উজ্জন মন্ত্রী আরামে ঘুমানিতেছেন। (ভগবান) আল্লাহ তাহাদের দেখিবার শক্তি না দিয়াছেন এমন নয়। তাহারা বিহারে চলিয়া যান—দিল্লীতে যান, বোম্বেতে যান, লক্ষ্মীতে যোড়া মন্ত্রী যান—বিভিন্ন অভিযানে যান কিন্তু যখন লক্ষ লক্ষ লোক বন্যায় ভাসিয়া যায়—অনাহারে মরে—যখন তাহারা শিশুকে কোলে নিয়া হাহাকার করিয়া আল্লাহকে ডাকে তখন এই প্রজাদের হাজার হাজার টাকায় পালিত মন্ত্রীরা স্বচক্ষে প্রজার দুর্দশা দেখিবার সময় পান না বা দেখা আবশ্যক মনে করেন না; তখন তাহারা কেবল কৰ্মচারীদের উপর নির্ভর করিয়া রাজস্ব করিতে চান। এমতাবস্থায় ইহাকে জনপ্রিয় বা গণতন্ত্রমূলক গভর্নমেন্ট বলা চলে না। যদি সর্বদাই অফিসাররা সমস্ত করিবে—Deputy Commissioner, Subdivisional Officer প্রজার দুঃখ-দুর্দশার প্রতিকার করিবে—তাহাদের দুর্দশা দেখিবে—তাহা হইলে হাজার হাজার টাকা খরচ করিয়া মন্ত্রী মণ্ডলী সৃষ্টি করিবার আবশ্যকতা ছিল না। জনসাধারণ জানে যে তাহাদের মনোনীত লোক মন্ত্রী হইয়া তাহাদের দুঃখ-দুর্দশা মোচন করিবে—এই তাহাদের আশা। আমার মনে হয় শুধু সরকারী কৰ্মচারীদের উপর নির্ভর না করিয়া মন্ত্রীরা নিজে গিয়া বন্যা পীড়িত লোকদের দুর্দশা দেখিলে শুধু দুইহাজার টাকা দিতে পারিতেন না—৫০ হাজার টাকা দিতে বাধ্য হইতেন। কারণ এইসব প্রজা তাহাদের নিজের দেশের লোক এবং মন্ত্রীরা তাহাদের মনোনীত প্রতিনিধি। এই হাউসে কৃষক প্রজাদের দুঃখের কথা যখন উঠে তখন সদস্যদিগকে হাস্য আমোদ করিতে দেখা যায় কিন্তু আল্লাহ তায়ালার মজির্জ হইলে যেক্রপ রুশিয়ায় কৃষক মজুর প্রজার উপর উৎপীড়নের ফলে “জারের” যেমন দশা হইয়াছিল তেমনই যে এখানেও হইবে না তাহা কে বলিতে পারে? এই সমস্ত অত্যাচারীত নিপীড়িত কৃষককুল একদিন সমস্ত ক্ষমতা নিজের হাতে লইয়া রাজস্ব করিবে না তাহা কে বলিতে পারে? আমি আশা করি মাননীয় রাজস্ব মন্ত্রী কাছাড় ও সিলেটের বন্যা পীড়িত প্রজাকুলের অবস্থা স্বচক্ষে দেখিয়া তাহাদের



সাহায্য করিবেন ও নিজের কর্তব্য পালন করিবেন। আমি তাঁহাকে এই বিষয়ে বার বার বিনীত নিবেদন করিতেছি। Deputy Commissioner এদেশের হর্তাকর্তা নয়। দেশের লোক মঞ্জীদেব হর্তাকর্তা করিয়া দিয়াছে। এখন মঞ্জীরা তাহাদের কর্তব্য পালন করুন। এখনও আমাদের দেশের লোক প্রতিবাদ করিতে জানে না কিন্তু আমার মনে হয় যে এমন দিন আসিবে যখন তাহারা এইসব অত্যাচারের প্রতিরোধ করিতে বাধ্য হইবে। তাই আমি বলিতেছি যে শিলং সহরে শুধু ভোগবিলাসে আরাম না করিয়া—কষ্ট ও তকলিফ করিয়া একবার গরীব প্রজাকুলের দুয়ারে গিয়া মঞ্জীরা স্বচক্ষে সব দেখুন। টাকা দিয়া কিছুই হইবে না। জনসাধারণ চায় মঞ্জীদেবের নিকট নিজদের দুঃখের কথা প্রকাশ করিতে—তাহারা চায় মঞ্জীরা নিজে তাহাদের দুর্দশা দেখেন। ইহাতে তাহারা মনে বল ও আশা পাইবে। মঞ্জীরা তাহাদের কর্তব্য করুন—দেশের লোক ইহাই চায়—শুধু টাকা চায় না। আমি আশা করি রাজস্ব মন্ত্রী তাহার কর্তব্য করিবেন।

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I like to add only a few words. Sir, three points were raised by the hon. mover who moved this motion. One of them has been accepted by the hon. Revenue Minister, that is about the condition of the Cachar district during the last flood. The other point is about the adequacy of the relief granted by the Government. Sir, on that point there is some difference. The Hon'ble Revenue Minister has admitted that really the condition there was as serious as the boats available in the district of Cachar were not sufficient to cope with the situation so as to give relief to those people who were flooded out. But when he says that an amount of Rs.2 000 was enough to cope with the situation, I really fail to understand how he can justify his utterance. Sir, can the condition which was so serious, as I have already stated, be met with Rs.2,000 only? Will any sensible member in this House admit it? I am, however, glad to hear from the Hon'ble Minister that they will take steps. But I am really very sorry when he said that Rs. 2,000 was sufficient for the purpose.

Then, as regards another point which was raised by my hon. friend that during the previous flood the public were taken into confidence, but this time public co-operation has not been called for in meeting the flood situation. My point is this, Sir, that in a public calamity Government should always invite public opinion and co-operation. There is no humiliation in it. What is Government? They are the representatives of the people. If the Government really want to meet the serious situation, in that case, I think every body will admit, public help is absolutely necessary. We require volunteers to meet the situation. How many Government officers are there in Cachar? Sir, this point was conveniently left aside by the Hon'ble Revenue Minister and he relied on the report of the Deputy Commissioner. My point is this, Sir. Although I did not go personally to the places, I have got the information about the actual condition of the people there. It pained me much to hear that at present there is no necessity for any money but that so far as agricultural loans and other things are concerned, they are making enquiries and, if necessary, information will be sent to the Government. But as has already been said by the Maulana Sahib, it is the duty of the Government to send there



one of the Ministers—if the Hon'ble Revenue Minister has got no time—to look into the condition in Cachar. There are nine other Ministers and some one of them may visit the flood affected areas personally. Sir, there are two sides of this matter. One side has been raised by the hon. mover that is the public side. He, as the representative of the people, says that the relief was not adequate. On the other hand, there is another representative of the public who is Mr. Trinkle. Of course, among these two representatives—if I may be permitted to say—there is difference. My hon. friend Mr. Trinkle who comes from the subdivision of Hailakandi is the representative of the European tea planters. Mr. Ahir is the representative of Indian labour.

**The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY:**  
Not of cultivators.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Sir, I am really very sorry to hear the Hon'ble Minister from Cachar saying that Mr. Ahir is not the representative of the cultivators but is the representative of the poor labourers. But every body should admit that he is in closer touch with the public than the Hon'ble Minister and Mr. Trinkle. So, Sir, there is this difference between these two representatives. When it has been said by the hon. mover who is really in closer touch with the general public that the relief is not adequate, in fairness of things the Government should not rely on the report of the Deputy Commissioner. They should make another move in the matter and, as I have already suggested, one of the Hon'ble Ministers should go there and enquire into the situation and provide adequate and proper relief to the suffering people.

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** Is the Hon'ble Minister from Cachar to go there?

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** No, Sir, I have not got that audacity to suggest that the Hon'ble Minister from Cachar should go there. I leave it to his sense of patriotism; but as he is so anxious to show that Mr. Ahir is not the representative of cultivators I would like to ask him what he has done for the cultivators if he is really their representative. My point is that I do not like to censure either the Government or the Deputy Commissioner. I quite understand that there are difficulties on the part of Government. But what I really fail to understand is the stand that has been taken by the Hon'ble Revenue Minister. He admits the gravity of the situation but at the same time tries to avoid taking steps to meet the situation by quoting from the report of the Deputy Commissioner of Cachar. So, Sir, I hope I have been able to prove that the amount of Rs.2,000 cannot be considered adequate when the gravity of the situation has been admitted by Government. I hope therefore that Government will take proper steps to arrange for adequate relief to the people of the flood affected areas of the district of Cachar. The present attitude of the Hon'ble Minister is very peculiar and self-contradictory as he admits gravity of the flood but not the need for relief.

**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY:** May I know from the Hon'ble Revenue Minister for what purpose the two thousand rupees has been granted?

**The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN:**  
It was for gratuitous relief.



**Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY :** It is not clear whether the grant was for the purpose of purchasing food for the flood affected people.

**The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN :** It was for temporary relief.

**The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard my hon. friends who have spoken in favour of this motion. I find that all of them are determined to censure Government on mere supposition, but having no personal knowledge of the flood that overtook the district of Cachar. Even the hon. mover said in course of his speech that he was not aware of the relief measures, if any, taken by the local officers there. So, from this I conclude that all these speeches have been made without any adequate data before them.

Now, my friend Mr. Mookerjee said that I have admitted the gravity of the situation, but that is not so. I merely said that I agreed so far as the extent and duration of the flood are concerned. But as regards its effect, I have already told the hon. members that at this time of the year there were few standing crops on the field so that the damage to crops in Cachar was reported to be not considerable. If only Rs.2,000 had been given it was given according to the necessity and I might assure the hon. members of this House that enquiries are still being made. The Deputy Director of Agriculture has been summoned by the Hon'ble Minister here to go into the matter in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner said that enquiries are being made as to the necessity of giving seed loans or any other relief. So if on enquiry, any necessity is made out then Government will be quite willing to give more money for the purpose. I think with this assurance the hon. mover of this motion will feel inclined to withdraw his motion.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Does the hon. mover want to withdraw his motion ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** The hon. mover of the motion could not follow the Hon'ble Minister's speech.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Will the Hon'ble Minister give a gist of his speech in Bengali ?

**The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN :** দেখুন আপনি যে নিন্দার প্রস্তাব আনিয়াছেন এটা সঙ্গত হয় নাই কেননা আমরা যথেষ্ট করিয়াছি। এর জন্য হাজার হাজার টাকা দেওয়া হইয়াছে এবং enquiry হইলে পর যদি আরো টাকার দরকার হয় তাহা হইলে সেই টাকা Government দিবেন। এই assurance আমি আপনাকে দিতেছি এবং আপনাকে প্রস্তাবটি উঠাইয়া নিতে অনুরোধ করিতেছি।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** আপনি, কি প্রস্তাবটি উঠাইয়া নিতে চান ?

**Babu SANAT KUMAR AHIR :** সভাপতি মহাশয়, আমি প্রস্তাবটি উঠাইয়া নিতে চাই।

The adjournment motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.



*Re putting of certain starred questions*

**Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN:** One word, Sir. With regard to certain questions I could not come in the morning time and in my absence the most important question of mine has lapsed. I want to get a special favour in this matter from the Hon'ble Chair as well as from Government.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I am sorry, that is no question of favour. The hon. member knows the rules and regulations that are being observed in this House. The hon. member could authorise some other hon. member to put his questions. I am sorry I cannot accommodate the hon. member.

**Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** Sir, may I bring to the notice of the Hon'ble the Premier about a short notice question which I tabled during the last Budget Session. What about that short notice question? I expected that the reply would come up to-day, Sir.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Yes, Sir. The hon. member will get a reply during this session.

**Adjournment**

The Assembly was then adjourned till 11 a. m., on Tuesday, the 3rd June, 1941.

SHILLONG:

*The 28th June 1941.*

A. K. BARUA,

*Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Assam.*



## APPENDIX H

*The 21st November 1940*

**No.8709-L.S.-G.**—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 296(2)(i) of the Assam Municipal Act (Assam Act I of 1923) as subsequently amended, the Governor of Assam is pleased to make the following amendments in the Municipal Election Rules published with notification No.656-L.S.-G., dated the 13th February, 1937 :—

## AMENDMENTS

In the second sentence of rule 19(1) for the word "Chairman" *substitute* the word "Magistrate" and *delete* the last sentence.

S. P. DESAI,

*Secretary to the  
Govt. of Assam in the Edn. & L.S.-G. Deptts.*