

Proceedings of the Sixteenth 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 Thursday, the 13th March, 1945.

PRESENT

The Hon'ble Mr. Basanta Kumar Das, Speaker, in the Chair, the ten Hon'ble Ministers and sixty-three hon. Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Correction slip to the Assam Legislative Assembly Debates (March Session, 1945), dated the 13th March, 1945.

No. 1

At page 383—

For the word "Thursday" occurring in the third line at the top of the Proceedings read "Tuesday".

A. K. BARUA,
Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Assam.

- (b) The number of deaths due to ... month during the aforesaid period ?
- (c) The reasons for outbreak of this epidemic disease in the said area ?
- (d) Whether this disease is still prevalent there ?
- (e) If so, what steps are being taken by the Public Health Department for stopping the disease in the said area ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN replied :

- 90.(a) & (b)—Figures of attacks and deaths due to infectious disease are not compiled separately for each circle or thana.
- (c)—Small-pox is endemic in the district of Sylhet and breaks out in epidemic form periodically due to low percentage of immune population and movements of infective cases.
- (d)—Yes.
- (e)—Mass vaccination is being carried out in the affected areas and the incidence is now on the decrease.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : As regards (c), Sir, the Hon'ble Minister says that due to low percentage of immune population the mortality is heavier. May I enquire from the Hon'ble Minister whether any special steps have been taken to improve this percentage ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : That is not the reply with regard to mortality but with regard to attacks of the disease, Sir.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Very well, Sir, then so far as the attack is concerned, whether any special steps have been taken ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : Special steps are taken to combat the disease and to prevent the spread of the disease by mass vaccination.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : But what about the low percentage of the immune population, Sir ? The Hon'ble Minister said that it was due to low percentage of immune population. May I know whether any special steps have been taken to improve the condition of the people so that there may be less attack ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : Sir, I have not understood the question.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Will the Hon'ble Minister please repeat the reply to (c), Sir ? Then she will understand the question.

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : The question is "Will Government be pleased to state the reasons for outbreak of this epidemic disease in the said area ?" And the reply is, "Small-pox is endemic in the district of Sylhet and breaks out in epidemic form periodically due to low percentage of immune population and movements of infective cases."

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : What is the question ?

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Whether any steps have been taken so that this low percentage of immune population may increase ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : When we hear of even a few cases, mass vaccination is done.

Dr. C. G. TERRELL : Sir, in the case of this epidemic, will the Hon'ble Minister please inform this House of the isolation arrangement, if any, that has been made ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : With regard to the district of Sylhet, Sir, I have not got the details here.

Dr. C. G. TERRELL : Sir, will Government be pleased to consider apart altogether from the Post-War Reconstruction Scheme the great importance of isolation hospital arrangement for small-pox cases when they occur, at any rate, as far as large towns and villages are concerned ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : The suggestion will be considered, Sir.

Agencies for procurement of rice and paddy

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked :

*91. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The names of the agencies employed so far in Assam for procurement and distribution of rice and paddy since the creation of the Supply Department in this Province showing their respective areas of operation ?

(b) Whether there have been complaints against any of these agencies ?

(c) If so, what are those complaints and what action has been taken on them ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

91.(a)—(1) Messrs. Steel Brothers & Co. Ltd. to operate in the Assam Valley.

(2) The Surma Valley Food-grain Syndicate in (Cachar district and Karimganj Subdivision).

(3) The Eastern Bengal and Assam Commercial Syndicate in Sylhet district minus Karimganj Subdivision.

(b) & (c)—Yes, against the Surma Valley Agencies about unfair dealings with cultivators, etc. and in consequence their contracts with Government were not renewed after 31st December 1944.

Eviction of families of immigrant trespassers

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE asked :

*92. Will Government be pleased to state how many families of immigrant trespassers have been evicted during 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944 separately ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI replied :
92.—The information is not available in Shillong ; its collection from the districts would involve a disproportionate amount of labour and it could not be obtained before the end of the Session.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR : Will Government be pleased to collect the facts and furnish the information as early as possible to the Members of this House ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI : I shall endeavour, Sir.

Eviction of immigrants in Barpeta Subdivision

Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY asked :

*93. Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that firing was taken recourse to recently in the Subdivision of Barpeta in order to evict the immigrants ?

*94. If the answer to question No. 93 above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Who opened the firing?
- (b) Under whose orders the firing was opened?
- (c) What was the number of casualties?
- (d) Whether any enquiry was made by any officer after the firing and report submitted to Government?
- (e) If so, who made the enquiry?
- (f) What is the result of that enquiry?
- (g) Whether Government propose to lay on the table a complete statement of the whole situation?
- (h) Whether there is any bar to immigrants coming from other provinces to Assam?
- (i) If so, what is the provision?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI replied:

93.—No.

94. (a)—(i)—Do not arise.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: Sir, is it a fact that firing was opened in the Barpeta Subdivision?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Sir, that is a question the reply to which is not pertinent for me.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: May I know Sir, who is the authority competent to furnish the reply?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of the Home Department.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Sir, this Question was discussed in reply to an Adjournment Motion. According to the version of the police, the firing had to be opened on the 6th February in order to protect the police party. According to the immigrants, firing was done in the process of eviction. All that Government can say is that eviction, if any, was done not under any Government orders. Therefore, my Hon'ble Friend, the Minister-in-charge of Revenue, in reply to the question as to whether there was any firing in the course of eviction under Government order gave the reply as 'No'.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: May I know Sir, who opened the fire?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: The police.

Scheduled buses of the Commercial Carrying Company

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY asked:

*95. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of scheduled buses (both passenger and goods) at present run by the Commercial Carrying Company on the Gauhati-Shillong Road?
- (b) The number of extra buses (both passengers and goods) allowed to be run by the Commercial Carrying Company on the said road at present?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied:
95.(a)—The number of scheduled vehicles excluding cars at present run by the Commercial Carrying Company on the Gauhati-Shillong road are:—

No. II	Service	2nd	Class	Buses	4
No. III	"	Inter	"	"	4
No. IV	"	3rd	"	"	4
No. V	" Luggage etc.	Lorries	"	"	12
No. VI	" Goods	"	"	"	20
No. VIII	" Horses and Cattle Vans	"	"	"	2

(b)—The number of extra bus vehicles allowed to be run on the said route under ordinary permits outside the scheduled services are:—

No. IV Service 3rd Class—9	} Twelve goods lorries out of which two
Goods vehicles under ordinary permits	
outside the scheduled services.	have been allowed temporarily up to
	9th May 1945.

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY: May I know, Sir, whether all these buses are run by the Commercial Carrying Company or by any other persons?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Sir Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Sir, agreement with the Company is that excepting those buses that are covered by their license, for each extra bus allowed to a private permit holder the Company shall be given one. So the reply I have already given 'No. IV Service 3rd Class—9 buses outside.'

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY: May I know the names, Sir?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I have not the names with me, Sir. Those were not asked.

Re Comrade Chanchal Sarma, a Communist

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY asked :

*96. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether comrade Chanchal Sarma, a Communist Prisoner, who has lately been transferred from Sylhet Jail to a Jail in Assam Valley, has recently represented his plan to Government for his release?

(b) If so, what reply has been given by Government on his representation?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

96. (a) and (b)—Orders have been recently issued for his release.

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY: May I know when?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Within this fortnight, Sir.

Amon and Buro crops in the Province

Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY asked :

*97. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) What was the output of Amon crops this year in each of the subdivisions of the Province?

(b) What is the prospect of the Buro crops this year up till now?

(c) What percentage of the Buro lands have now remained uncultivated in each of the Thanas of the subdivision of Sunamganj?

The Hon'ble Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA replied :

97. (a)—Information by subdivisions is not available. The total produce (winter rice) of the Province for 1944-45, as finally estimated by Deputy Commissioners is 12,67,100 tons in terms of cleaned rice.

(b)—The prospect is very satisfactory.

(c)—The information is not available here.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: With regard to reply to (1), may I enquire from the Hon'ble Minister what is the basis of his reply?

The Hon'ble Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: We expect normal yield per acre this year.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: Are not Government aware that Buro plantation has just been over?

The Hon'ble Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: Up till now the prospect is very satisfactory, Sir.

†Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: With regard to (a), Sir, may I know when the information will be available?

The Hon'ble Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: It will take some time to get the information from the District Officer.

†Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: Will the Hon'ble Minister please supply this House with his information?

The Hon'ble Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: If I get the information during the current session, of course I will do so.

†Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Are we to understand, Sir, that Government have asked for this information from the Subdivisional Officers?

The Hon'ble Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: Yes, Sir, we have asked the Subdivisional Officers to supply the information.

Cases under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance at Dibrugarh

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH asked:

*98. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the (i) number of cases sent up by the Police and the Excise Departments under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance for the year 1944 at Dibrugarh, (ii) number of cases in which sanction for prosecution was granted by the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, (iii) number and the names of the accused in which prosecution was not granted by the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur and (iv) reason for which prosecution was withheld in each case?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :
98.—A statement is placed on the table.

†Speech not corrected.

CASES UNDER HOARDING AND PROFITEERING PREVENTION ORDINANCE AT DIBRUGARH IN 1944

Number of cases sent up by

POLICE—60

EXCISE—51

No. of cases in which prosecutions sanctioned by Deputy Commissioner	No. of cases in which prosecutions sanctioned by Deputy Commissioner	No. of cases in which prosecution was not granted by Deputy Commissioner
42	27	18

Number and name of the accused in which prosecution was not granted by Deputy Commissioner

Reasons for which prosecutions was with held

SENT UP BY EXCISE:—

1. Abdul Hussain ..	For reasons of policy Deputy Commissioner has restricted prosecutions for the present as the action of the detecting officers may prove abortive unless the policy is implemented. Prosecutions of one and all cases are also not easy here for the following reasons:—
2. Raj Muhammad ..	1. We are a Front Line District.
3. Sultan Ahmed ..	2. Military tend to pay fancy prices.
4. Upendra Nath Paik ..	3. Goods position is difficult.
5. Nathua Mali ..	4. There are not enough Magistrates.
6. Ram Bahadur Singh ..	5. Absence of magistral courts over 3800 sq. miles prevent action.
7. Dhenu Singh Chettri ..	6. Travelling of witnesses is almost impossible.
8. Bhola Ojha ..	7. We are too busy with more important matters.
9. Hari Prasad Agarwalla ..	Prosecution premature.
10. Ramesh Chandra Paul ..	
11. Gauri Kairi ..	
12. Makdim Ali Rahim Bux ..	
13. Baneswari Renoti ..	
14. Messrs. A. Goni and Sons ..	
15. Army Stores ..	
16. Crescent Stores ..	
17. Salesman and Proprietor Gribala Stores.	
18. Haranath Kahar ..	

SENT UP BY POLICE:—

1. Mon Mohon Dey ..	Petty matter of offence.
2. Dhirendra Mohan Das ..	
3. Mohan Singh ..	
4. Mohan Singh ..	
5. Anwar Ullah ..	
6. Atul Chandra Mohajan ..	
7. Kishoreden Agarwalla ..	
8. Kishoreden Agarwalla ..	
9. Ram Lal Misir ..	
10. Mohon Nasta Sing ..	
11. Prasanna Kumar Devnath ..	
12. Biswanath Kanoo ..	
13. Sultan Ahmed ..	
14. Parmeswar ..	
15. Sree Narayan Sarma ..	
16. Bhotan Kurmi ..	
17. Kuya Singh ..	
18. Ramkeli Noonla ..	

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: May I enquire of the Hon'ble Prime Minister whether the number of cases in which prosecution was not sanctioned by the Deputy Commissioner is unusually large? There are 36 cases.

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

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: Is the Hon'ble Prime Minister satisfied with the reasons for not prosecuting the offenders?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Well, I am not satisfied with the reasons and I have taken steps to see that no such reasons are advanced in future.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: Thank you, Sir.

Non-availability of consumer goods at Dibrugarh

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH asked :

*99. (a) Is it a fact that miscellaneous consumers' goods are not available at Dibrugarh at controlled rates?

(b) Are Government aware that they are available at blackmarket rates at Dibrugarh?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

99. (a) & (b)—No. some varieties of consumer goods which are popular among the Military personnel, specially of foreign make, such as Horlicks, Blades, etc., have become scarce and those who can procure them do not hesitate to pay more than controlled price.

Srijut Dalbir Singh, a Congress Worker of Dibrugarh Town

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY asked :

*100. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of times, Srijut Dalbir Singh, a Congress Worker of Dibrugarh was imprisoned during the period beginning from 1941 up till now stating the allegations brought against him in each time?

(b) The Districts from which he has been externed?

(c) The number of times he has petitioned to Government for going to Dibrugarh to attend to his family matters?

(d) The number of times he has been allowed to go?

(e) Whether he was discharged in a case brought against him in a Court of Law in March 1944, for the violation of a Government order?

(f) Whether it is a fact that he has again been refused permission in October 1944, to go to Dibrugarh?

(g) Whether he narrated his urgent reasons for going to Dibrugarh in all his petitions to Government specially in one that he submitted on the 19th July 1944?

(h) Why he was driven out of Shillong when he went there to see the Hon'ble Premier in 1943?

(i) Whether Government propose to allow him to go to Dibrugarh now?

(j) If not, do Government propose to give him substantial allowance to maintain himself and his family?

(k) If not, why not?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

100. (a)—Three times since December 1941, twice for disobedience of orders, and once for attempt to seduce a Government servant from his allegiance.

(b)—Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, Nowgong, Darrang and Kamrup.

(c)—Three times.

(d)—Once, on which occasion he infringed the conditions of the permission.

(e)—No. He was not acquitted but convicted at Dibrugarh court under rule 26 (6), Defence of India Rules and imprisoned till the rising of the Court.

(f) and (g)—Government are not aware of the fact alleged, or of a petition, dated the 19th July.

(h)—Government are aware of no basis for the suggestion that he was driven from Shillong.

(i)—No.

(j) and (k)—Government have not been satisfied that any case is made out for an allowance.

Gandhi-Joyantee day and Hindu-Muslim Unity day

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY asked :

*101. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a joint application signed by Srijut Lakshesvar Borooah and others was submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur on 28th September 1944, asking for permission to hold a meeting to observe Gandhi-Joyantee day on 2nd October 1944 and Hindu-Muslim Unity day on 8th November 1944 ?

(b) If so, why permission to hold the meetings was refused by the Deputy Commissioner ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

101. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Under the power vested in Deputy Commissioner under Rule 56 of the Defence of India Rule he, in consultation with the Superintendent of Police, decided not to allow these meetings.

Re Bhagalus (Buro Paddy Reaper)

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY asked :

*102. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they propose to allow the Bhagalus (Buro paddy reaper) coming from Dacca, Faridpur and Mymensingh Districts to carry 12 maunds of paddy each as remuneration to their respective homes after the next Buro harvest ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that at present wages of labourers have generally gone up ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that the Bhagalus who had to pass Rahutali Ghati of the Sunamganj Subdivision in May 1944 were oppressed by the checking staff stationed there and heavy extortion made from them ?

(d) Whether Government propose to issue an order assuring that Bhagalus would be able to pass the Ghaties next year without any obstruction from the checking staff stationed there ?

(e) If not, why not ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

102. (a)—8 maunds of paddy was allowed in previous years and no increase is considered necessary.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Government have no information.

(d) and (e)—Orders will be issued if and when considered necessary.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: With regard to (a), do Government know that each of the Bhagalus can earn more than 8 maunds of paddy ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: It is probably so, Sir.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Is it not a fact, Sir, that in Sunamganj 12 maunds were given to each Bhagalu ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: That was before 1943. In 1943, on an apprehension that there might be shortage of rice, the quantity was reduced to 8 maunds.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: Do Government propose to allow each of the Bhagalu to carry 12 maunds?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I will consider that, Sir, and will enquire of the Subdivisional Officer, if it is necessary.

Re Supply of Gur

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked :

*103. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the quantity of Gur for which licenses for indent and sale were issued in the Barpeta subdivision during the year 1944 ?

(b) Are Government aware of the difficulties experienced by the people of Barpeta subdivision in getting Gur at controlled prices during the said year ?

(c) Are Government aware that black-marketing in Gur was rampant all over the subdivision during the said year ?

(d) Are Government aware that scarcity of Gur is still continuing there ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state what steps do they propose to take to remove the difficulties aforesaid ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

103. (a)—5,000 maunds.

(b)—Government have got no such information.

(c)—Government have no information.

(d) & (e)—Gur allotted on Government account is being moved by Govern-

ment agents and scarcity will disappear.

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS: As regards (b) and (c), will Government please make enquiries, Sir ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Very well, Sir, I will enquire from the Subdivisional Officer.

Re Supply of unwholesome food-stuffs

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH asked :

*104. (a) Is the Hon'ble Premier aware that there is a chorus of indignant protest throughout Assam against issue of foodstuffs that are unfit for human consumption from the Government supply stores particularly, Assam Valley Supply Syndicate ?

(b) If so, will the Hon'ble the Premier be pleased to state what steps have been taken to ensure the supply of better food-stuffs to the public ?

(c) Does the Hon'ble Premier propose to issue instructions to District and Subdivisional authorities to discard the rotten and otherwise unwholesome food-stuffs and get the foodstuffs cleansed before they are issued from the stores ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

104. (a)—Yes. There are occasional reports of stuff being unfit for human consumption but there is no allegation that Assam Valley Supply Syndicate is responsible for issuing such stuff.

(b) & (c)—In very few cases at the instance of the District Officers condemned stuff have been ordered to be destroyed and in some cases caused to be cleaned for consumption. General orders have been issued regarding proper storage and issue of cleaned and wholesome food-stuff.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: May I know from the Hon'ble Prime Minister if he has any objection to the stores being examined by the Civil Surgeon or District Health Officer or Urban Health Officer ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: It will be adding an additional burden to the District Medical Authority if the suggestion is made a matter of routine work. But if any sample is placed by any hon. Member of this House or any member of the public before the District Medical Authorities they will surely examine it.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: But this will be, I think, a check to the evil propensities of the dealers.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Well, it may check the evil propensities of some dealers, but the Civil Surgeon at Dibrugarh is also the Superintendent of the Berry-White Medical School and his dual functions keep him engaged very heavily and if we entrust upon him this additional burden he will have to curtail his attention to other duties. He will very naturally ask for extra remuneration.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: Will the Hon'ble Prime Minister take it from me that the Civil Surgeon of Dibrugarh is willing to do this for the public free of charge? Besides, there is also the District Health Officer who may also be entrusted to check the goods. There is also an Urban Health Officer who may also be entrusted for this purpose.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: If really bad foodstuff is being issued at Dibrugarh and if the Civil Surgeon of Dibrugarh is willing to attend to this work, free of charge, for the benefit of the public, we all ought to thank him. I will enquire from him whether he is willing to do this work free.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: What about the District Health Officer, Sir?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: If the Civil Surgeon himself looks into this case then there is no necessity for asking the Health Officer. He is only a Sub-Assistant Surgeon and he has not got proper training to inspect these stuffs.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: The District Health Officer of Dibrugarh is Mr. B. C. Gogai, M.B., and he is a D. P. H.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I spoke of the Municipal Health Officer.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: I mentioned the name of the District Health Officer, Sir. Is there any objection on the part of Government to permit him to check these stores?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: No, Sir.

Srijut SURENDRANATH BURAGOHAIN: Is it not a fact that the Assam Valley Supply Syndicate is merely a distributing agency of Government imported foodstuffs in the Province?

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

Srijut SURENDRANATH BURAGOHAIN: Who is the procuring agency for these imported foodstuffs, Sir?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Messrs. Shaw Wallace and Company of Calcutta.

Srijut SURENDRANATH BURAGOHAIN: In view of widespread complaints all over the Province, will Government consider the desirability of warning their own procuring agency with regard to importing only the right kind of foodstuffs?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: As I mentioned the other day, Sir, it is very difficult to say from what sources the unwholesome and adulterated foodstuffs come. There is a great number of links in the process of distribution of these stuffs. Messrs. Shaw Wallace and Company purchase them on Government account from surplus Provinces and send them to the distributing agents who are operating in the two Valleys. From the distributing agents, the stuffs come to the wholesaler, from the wholesaler they go to the retail sellers and then they are sold to the public. So, I cannot exactly say that only Messrs. Shaw Wallace and Company are responsible for the adulteration of the stuffs.

Srijut SURENDRA NATH BURAGOHAIN: Will Government consider the desirability of examining the stuffs first before they are actually procured?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: There is already such a suggestion which is being considered by Government.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BOROOAH: In view of the answer given by the Hon'ble Premier will the Hon'ble Prime Minister please issue orders to the District Public Health Officer or to the Civil Surgeon authorising them to examine the stock held by the Assam Valley Syndicate at Dibrugarh?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: To examine the godown of the Assam Valley Syndicate, I am enquiring of the Civil Surgeon whether he is willing to undertake this work. If he is unable to do so, I will ask the Assistant Surgeon to do it.

†Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI: Is it a fact that the Indian Tea Association has got an Inspector to inspect the food-stuffs in Calcutta before they are purchased and sent up to this Province?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I am not aware of that, Sir.

†Babu DAKSHINA RANJAN GUPTA CHAUDHURI: Do Government recognise that the complaint is everywhere in the Province?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: There are certain complaints from certain quarters.

†Babu DAKSHINA RANJAN GUPTA CHOUDHURI: In view of this reply Sir, is Government prepared to issue a general instruction to the District Officers so that the foodstuffs may be examined by the Civil Surgeons in the District headquarters and by the Assistant Surgeons in the Subdivisional headquarters?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: The suggestion will be considered.

†Babu RABINDRANATH ADITYA: May I know the reason why the Urban Health Officers have been prohibited from examining the stocks of foodstuffs?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I never said, so, Sir.

Officers for Post-War Reconstruction

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE asked:

*105.(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have sufficient number of qualified Engineers, Overseers and Sub-Overseers, etc., for the Post-War Reconstruction works in the Province for the Public Works Department?

(b) If not, what steps have been taken to meet the demands of the Province in this respect?

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN replied:

105. (a)—No.

(b)—The strength of the Public Works Department is being built up as men become available. Government are also endeavouring to recruit an Architect and a Specialist in re-inforced concrete construction work. Government are also taking steps to increase the number of seats available for boys from Assam in the Ahsanullah School of Engineering, Dacca, from 5 to 10 in the coming year.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Will Government be pleased to state whether the steps which they have already taken will serve the purpose?

†The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: We hope so.

†Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI: Do Government realise that the Public Works Department should have to play a very prominent part in the Post-War Reconstruction Scheme?

†The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: Yes, Sir.

†Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI: If so, do Government propose to select the best officers of the Department for the work?

†The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: We are already making an attempt to select the best officers.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Officers in the Textile Department

Maulavi MATIOR RAHMAN MIA asked:

69. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of various officers at present in the Textile Department?
- (b) What are their designations and monthly salaries?
- (c) Whether Government propose to form a committee of officials and non-officials to investigate about the value of immovable property acquired and the amount of bank balances kept by each of those officers subsequent to their appointment in the Textile Department?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied:

69. (a)—144 excluding the Provincial and Assistant Provincial Textile Commissioners.

(b)—

Designation	Monthly salary Rs.	Special pay Rs.
1. Deputy Provincial Textile Commissioner	750	150
2. Textile Inspectors	150	
3. Textile Examiner	150	
4. Textile Sub-Inspectors	80	
5. Assistant Textile Sub-Inspectors	55	

(c)—No.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: May I know, Sir, what are the respective duties of these 144 officers?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: It will take a long time to reply, yet I will attempt.

The hon. Members may remember that the Government of India issued an Ordinance last year which is called the Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order. Under that Ordinance no cotton cloth was allowed to be sold unless the price of the cloth is stamped on it by the mills. The stock that was issued before that Ordinance was promulgated had to be examined from each dealer and then tex-marked and the price had to be stamped on it in the whole Province. In order to carry out the provisions of that Order Government had to employ Textile Inspectors who were authorised to seize the stock that was without tex-mark and then to tex-mark it. This was the duty of the Inspectors. Now the directive that was issued contained very many technical terms with regard to counts and qualities of the cloth. The Textile Inspectors were not technically qualified men, and therefore one Textile Examiner, who was properly qualified, had to be appointed. Afterwards the Textile Sub-Inspectors and Assistant Sub-Inspectors were appointed for each subdivision in order to see that the Ordinance—Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order—is properly enforced in the Province. Then there is a Deputy Provincial Textile Commissioner, Rao Sahib Sundram. He was formerly our Weaving Superintendent. As he is a technically qualified man, he had to be appointed in order to help in carrying out

† Speech not corrected.

this Order and to give his technical advice. But when Assam got a separate quota of cloth at Bombay, it was found that unless a Government officer is posted there, it was not possible to get all the cloth that was allotted as our quota, he had to be deputed for six months to Bombay where he is doing his level best to secure our quota.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: Is it not a fact that these officers have little or practically no work to do in view of the fact that cloth merchants or dealers have not sufficient cloth to deal in?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: It is not so, Sir. I forgot to mention one thing that nobody can deal in cotton cloth now-a-days unless he gets license from our inspecting staff. So this staff is also engaged in issuing to each dealer the proper license and for this a small license fee is to be paid.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: The Question was "Whether Government propose to form a committee of officials and non-officials to investigate about the value of immovable property acquired and the amount of bank balances kept by each of these officers subsequent to their appointment in the Textile Department?" The insinuation that the hon. Questioner makes is that these officers have improved their property and have increased their bank balances after the appointment. Will Government please hold an investigation?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Unless one particular case is given to me I am not in a position to black-list all our officers because it will spread discontent. I am not, Sir, in any way challenging that the question ought not to have been put. If my hon. Friend can point out any particular officer then I will surely make an enquiry into it. But he wants to black-list the entire Department and ask each of the officers to tell the Government or the Committee how much immovable property he has acquired and what is the amount of his bank balance. Supposing these officers refuse to disclose, there is no power of the Government to compel them to give the accounts. If any one has acquired any immovable property, it may be in somebody's name and unless the accounts are in the name of the officer himself there is no way of tracing it. Similarly the banks are not competent either to give out the balances of their clients. So we find, Sir, that unless the officers themselves contribute to the success of the Committee such a Committee will be entirely useless.

Special Officer for Scheduled Castes Education

Srijut RAM NATH DAS asked:

70. Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to appoint a Special Officer to look to the educational interests of the Scheduled Castes as they have done in the case of the Tribal people?

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN replied:

70.—No.

Srijut RAM NATH DAS: May I know why Government did not like to appoint a Special Officer in view of the fact that the Scheduled Castes are most backward in education in the Province?

† The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: This question was carefully examined after the assurance given in the last Budget Session. It was found that we could better advance the cause of the Scheduled Castes in the Education Department by founding more scholarships and free studentships and accordingly we have already provided for in this Budget free remunerations to the students of the Scheduled Castes.

† Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: Is it a fact, Sir, that a Special Officer has been appointed for the Tribal people?

† The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: Yes.

Marnoi Combined Middle English and Middle Vernacular School

Srijut BELIRAM DAS asked :

71. (a) Is it a fact that the Marnoi Combined Middle English and Middle Vernacular School in Goalpara district is situated in a backward area inhabited by Scheduled Castes people ?

(b) Do Government propose to give any grant-in-aid to this school from the next financial year, by earmarking the grant so given to be spent towards the grant of free studentships to poor boys of Scheduled Castes and Tribals ?

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN replied :

71. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The question of giving a grant to the school will be considered next year along with other cases on receipt of an application in the prescribed form from the authorities of the school.

Public Health Dispensaries in Goalpara and Sylhet districts

Srijut JOGENDRA NARAYAN MANDAL asked :

72. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of Public Health Dispensaries in the districts of Goalpara and Sylhet ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that for want of medicine proper treatment cannot be given to patients in Public Health Dispensaries of the Province ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that Public Health Doctors of the Province are entrusted from time to time with survey works for patients of *Kala-azar*, Yaws, Naga sores and other tropical diseases and to submit report on that behalf ?

(d) If so, how often the reports are asked for to that effect ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN replied :

72. (a)—Goalpara	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sylhet	...	...	...	...	...	22

(b)—It is not correct to say that proper treatment cannot be given to patients in Public Health Dispensaries for want of medicines. Drugs for these Dispensaries are ordinarily obtained from the Government Medical Store Depot, Calcutta and some delay in getting supplies has occasionally occurred due to booking restrictions and present war time conditions. But in such cases the local officers are authorised to make local purchases of urgently required drugs to carry on till receipt of supplies from Calcutta.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Routine reports weekly—Special reports are submitted when directed.

Small-pox epidemic in Kamrup district

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR asked :

73. (a) Are Government aware that a large number of cases have lately occurred in which people are having serious attacks from small-pox within one year of their getting themselves vaccinated in several villages in Mauzas Dharmapur and Khetri-Dharmapur in Kamrup District ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to investigate into the matter and ascertain about the efficaciousness of the lymphs used in giving the vaccinations ?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN replied :

73. (a)—No such cases have been reported. Actually the year 1944 was bad as compared to previous years and 677 attacks and 187 deaths from Small-pox were reported from the Gauhati Subdivision but the incidence is now much less due to vigorous vaccination work being carried on.

(b)—Does not arise. All lymphs issued from the Shillong Vaccine Depot are thoroughly tested for potency and sterility before issue.

Dr. C. G. TERRELL: Will Government be pleased to draw the attention of the Director of the Vaccine Depot to the impossibility of the vaccine issued by them to more distant places in this Province being used for vaccination before it is time expired according to the instructions sent with the vaccine?

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN: Yes, I will indicate to the Director concerned.

Cases instituted and disposed of by Debt Conciliation Boards in Surma Valley

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN asked :

74. Will Government be pleased to state :—

- (a) The number of cases instituted and disposed of, year by year, by each of the Debt Conciliation Boards in the Surma Valley since their first constitution?
- (b) The number of year-old cases still pending before each of the Boards?
- (c) The number of Civil suits or decrees stayed, year by year, by each of those Boards since their first constitution?
- (d) The number of such stayed cases still remaining undisposed of (separate figures to be given for cases which are year-old and those that are not)?
- (e) The income and expenditure of each of these Boards, year by year, since their first constitution?
- (f) The amount of debts settled, year by year, since their first constitution by each of the Boards?

75. Are Government aware :—

- (a) That in order to defraud and to compel *bona fide* creditors to come to a forced agreement, bogus and collusive claims, sometimes to the extent of 40 per cent. of the total debts, are very often included in the list of debts?
- (b) That due to inclusion of such bogus claims, which are not enquired into by these Boards, the amount of the Agricultural debt settled by these Debt Conciliation Boards is mostly a fictitious and fabulous figure?
- (c) That these Boards do not decide disputed claims or take any action against the party who makes false or fictitious claims or conceals his property in the statement made in his verified petition?
- (d) That this attitude of the Boards is mainly responsible for manufacture of false and fictitious claims?
- (e) That in granting adjournments or instalments same standard is not maintained in the same nature of cases?
- (f) That in order to compel parties to come to an agreement, cases are unnecessarily dragged on for months without any plausible reason?
- (g) That discrimination is sometimes made in dealing with creditors, who are not agreeable to oblige the Board and harassing and vindictive measures in the shape of unnecessary long adjournments, disproportionately large number of instalments, repeated stay of civil proceedings and the like, are adopted to set them right?

- (h) That proceedings in civil courts are stayed absolutely without any enquiry even on *mala fide* petitions and that for as many times in the same case, as the debtor asks them to do ?
- (i) That cases stayed are not disposed of speedily and that many of those that were stayed three years ago still remain undisposed of ?
- (j) That due to functioning of these Boards rural credit has become extremely shy and that agriculturists have now-a-days absolutely no scope for getting any loan ?
- (k) If the replies to Questions (a) to (j) above be in the negative, do Government propose to institute an enquiry into these allegations by an experienced Judicial Officer ?

76. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that, excepting claims for arrears or decrees for rent, very few fresh claims based on bonds, promissory notes or other written documents come now-a-days before these Debt Conciliation Boards for disposal ?

(b) Is it a fact that relief in rent cases was never contemplated by the Assam Debt Conciliation Act, 1936 ?

(c) Are Government aware that all claims for rent and other debts incurred after January 1940 are excluded from the definition of the word 'debt' in the Bengal Agriculturists Debtor's Act ?

(d) In view of the changed condition, do Government propose to abolish these Debt Conciliation Boards ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI replied :

74. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f)—A statement is furnished below :

Statement showing number of cases instituted, number of cases disposed of etc. year by year in all the Debt Conciliation Boards in the Surma Valley.

Name of the Boards	Year	No. of cases instituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of year old cases still pending	No. of Civil Suits decrees stayed	No. of such stayed cases still pending			Income	Expenditure	Amount of debt settled	Remarks
						Year-old	under one year	Total				
Silchar Debt Conciliation Board.	1940-41	22	Nil	..	11	Rs. a. p. 11 0 0	Nil	Rs. a. p. Nil	* July to October.
	1941-42	423	208	..	261	..	..	..	1,416 14 0	2,052 0 0	40,754 6 6
	1942-43	453	384	..	319	..	..	..	2,155 9 0	3,964 0 0	53,899 2 3
	1943-44	454	439	..	283	..	..	..	2,166 7 0	3,107 0 0	68,647 15 6
	1944-45*	140	122	198	89	60	195	255	585 7 0	831 14 0	16,413 7 0	
North Sylhet Debt Conciliation Board.	1937-38	1275	436	..	839	2,171 11 0	1,562 8 0	41,369 0 0	† These figures represent expenditure on stamp. No figures from other expenditure have been reported.
	1938-39	1543	1284	..	718	..	..	..	4,675 9 0	750 0 0	1,39,641 0 0
	1939-40	2010	2394	..	942	..	..	..	8,664 12 0	975 0 0	2,22,530 0 0
	1940-41	1260	1668	..	570	..	..	..	6,520 9 0	581 4 0	1,59,756 0 0
	1941-42	863	793	..	330	..	..	..	3,329 2 0	450 0 0	53,815 0 0
Sunamganj Debt Conciliation Board.	1942-43	1075	1009	..	511	4,167 8 0	525 0 0	80,954 0 0	* July to October.
	1943-44	887	983	Nil	367	Nil	118	118	3,481 1 0	375 0 0	76,862 0 0	
	1940-41	3936	512	..	1183	..	..	..	9,207 0 0	7,933 0 0	52,204 0 0
	1941-42	1872	2200	..	771	..	..	..	7,503 0 0	5,678 0 0	60,732 8 0
	1942-43	1498	1600	..	963	..	..	..	5,395 0 0	4,825 0 0	72,927 0 0
Habiganj Debt Conciliation Board.	1943-44	1125	2393	530	766	451	258	709	5,155 0 0	4,256 0 0	1,54,611 0 0	* July to October.
	1939-40	1401	189	..	1200	..	..	..	3,027 0 0	2,789 0 0	2,509 0 0
	1940-41	1068	804	..	887	..	..	..	4,300 0 0	4,240 0 0	98,467 0 0
	1941-42	1135	839	..	1123	..	..	..	4,500 0 0	4,598 0 0	1,57,360 9 1
	1942-43	1823	1025	..	1314	..	..	..	4,795 0 0	4,879 0 0	2,31,499 14 1½
South Sylhet Debt Conciliation Board.	1943-44	1585	1470	1100	1526	809	1075	1884	5,069 0 0	4,917 0 0	2,31,356 0 0	* July to October.
	1939-40	48	542	..	73	..	..	..	63 10 0	302 8 0	The Board has not supplied complete figures.
	1940-41	1438	980	..	277	..	..	..	4,429 2 0	5,652 0 0	1,22,417 9 0
	1941-42	523	614	..	330	..	..	..	2,480 12 0	6,592 0 0	1,11,719 12 0
	1942-43	427	585	55	298	..	..	..	1,460 6 0	6,300 0 0	60,713 15 6
Karinganji Debt Conciliation Board.	1944-45*	127	145	..	91	40	245	285	462 13 0	1,420 0 0	39,574 9 9	* July to October.
	1940-41	963	630	..	No register is maintained from which these figures can be ascertained.	..	..	..	As the Court Fee Register and Cash Book have been stolen no figure can be supplied.	..	7,424 0 0
	1941-42	1256	938	..	73	..	..	..	..	..	1,22,417 9 0
	1942-43	1101	937	..	277	..	..	..	..	..	1,11,719 12 0
	1943-44	610	703	..	330	..	..	..	..	..	60,713 15 6

† Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Will Government be pleased to state the reasons why there is loss so far as Silchar and South Sylhet Debt Conciliation Boards are concerned?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Hon. Member's attention is drawn to the remarks column which explains.

† Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: What is that, Sir? I have gone through it but I fail to understand?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: In the remarks column these figures represent expenditure on stamp. No figures from other expenditure have been reported.

† Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: That relates to a particular place in a particular year. My question is quite different. I am sorry the Hon'ble Minister did not try to understand my question. My question is, "Will Government be pleased to state the reasons why there is loss so far as the Silchar and South Sylhet Debt Conciliation Boards are concerned whereas in other cases there was sufficient income?"

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: The remarks column will explain this.

† Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I have not understood it. I am putting my question. So far as the income of the Silchar Debt Conciliation Board is concerned, Sir, you will find that in the first year the income was Rs. 11 and the expenditure was nil, whereas in the 2nd year the income was Rs. 1,416-14-0 and the expenditure was Rs. 2,052. Next year the income was Rs. 2,155-9-0 and the expenditure was Rs. 3,964 and then again in the year 1943-44 the income was Rs. 2,166-7-0, whereas the expenditure was Rs. 3,107 and in 1944-45 from July to October the income is Rs. 585-7-0, whereas the expenditure is Rs. 851-14-0. So, Sir, here we find that the expenditure is more than the income. So it will be found in the case of South Sylhet also that the expenditure is more than the income, whereas in other places you will find, Sir, that the income is more than the expenditure. I want to know the reason of it, Sir. I hope the Hon'ble Minister will give a reply.

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: I can only repeat my reply, Sir. The number of cases instituted before this Board is much less than those instituted in other Boards.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the answer given for the Karimganj Debt Conciliation Board is sufficient?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Government consider the answer to be quite sufficient, Sir.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: How Government ascertained the income and expenditure of that Board?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Government have had difficulty no doubt.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: Is it a fact that the income of the Debt Conciliation Board is to be deposited in the Treasury every day?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: That may be so, Sir.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: Whether the income of that Board was deposited to the Karimganj Treasury from 1st January 1944 to 1st August 1944?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Does that Question arise, Sir?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It arises.

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: I cannot give a reply to that Question off-hand, Sir.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: Will Government take it from me that from 1st January 1944 to 1st August 1944, not a farthing was deposited in the Karimganj Treasury?

(No reply.)

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: What steps have been taken by Government to detect the culprit who has stolen the cash book and the register?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Exhaustive replies were given on similar questions the other day when the hon. Member was absent.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: Are Government aware of the fact that on a petition from the Chairman of the Debt Conciliation Board, another enquiry was started by the Police officer and the Police officer has submitted another report very recently?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: That is not known to me, Sir.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: May I know whether any audit was made by Government from the year 1940 to 1945?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: These questions were put the other day and exhaustive replies were given. The hon. Member was absent.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: Is there any harm in replying to my Question now, Sir?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: There has been no Government audit, Sir.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: Why not?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Because that is not necessary.

Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI: Have any rules been framed for the guidance of the members of these Boards?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Yes.

Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI: Is there any rule prohibiting members from taking remuneration from the parties?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: No. I may state that the Debt Conciliation Boards are not profit making institutions.

*Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Regarding the Karimganj Board it seems that no register is maintained showing the number of cases. May I know why such register is not maintained in the Karimganj Board?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: No such register is maintained other than that one which has been stolen.

*Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: The answer is, "No register is maintained from which these figures can be ascertained". May I ask why an exception has been made with regard to that particular Board?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: That is with reference to columns 10 and 11. This cannot be taken isolated.

*Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: No, it is column 6, Karimganj.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It appears from the answer that all these years there was no register kept.

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: It seems that is the information which we have received that no register is maintained under that heading.

*Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Did Government enquire why no register is maintained?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: That I shall do, if that is the desire of the hon. Member.

*Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: As regards South Sylhet the reply under column "Amount of Debt settled" is that "the Board has not supplied complete figures". May I know the reason?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: We do not know the reason. The Board was asked to supply the figures, but they were not supplied to us in complete form.

*Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Are Government satisfied with that? Why Government have not been supplied with the complete information?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: If the hon. Member desires I shall call for the information.

*Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: We desire and want the reply, Sir.

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: All right, I shall call for the information.

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI replied:

75. (a) & (b)—This appears to have been had recourse to sporadically in one Board only but the Board after due enquiry entertained and settled only the actual debts.

(c)—The Boards report that they exercise their powers duly in such matters.

(d)—No.

(e)—This is denied by the Boards.

(f) & (g)—This is denied by the Boards and Government have no information. If any specific complaint is made, Government will make an enquiry.

(h)—The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to Section 21 of the Assam Debt Conciliation Act, 1936.

(i)—A few complicated cases which were stayed three years ago are pending in Sunamganj, South Sylhet and Karimganj Boards.

(j)—No.

(k)—Government will make an enquiry if any specific allegation is made.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Reply to Question No. 75 (a) and (b) is "This appears to have been had recourse to sporadically in one Board only but the Board after due enquiry entertained and settled only the actual debts". May I know whether Government took any step against any particular Board for doing that?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: No, Sir.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: May I know how the Government is sure that such things do not occur in another Board?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: No such instance has come to our notice.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Will Government make an enquiry?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: If a specific instance is cited.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: The answer to (e) is, "This is denied by the Boards." May I know whether Government made any enquiry as to whether the reply is correct or not?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: No, Sir.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Are Government prepared to look into some of the records to determine whether these allegations are true?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Yes, I shall remember it and when I next go to Karimganj I shall look into it.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: My question is not particularly with regard to Karimganj.

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: But I took it to be so.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Answer to (k) is, "Government will make an enquiry if any specific allegation is made." Specific allegation to be made to whom?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Evidently to Government.

Babu DAKSHINA RANJAN GUPTA CHAUDHURY: Are we to take it that there is no procedure for supervision of these Boards except the inspection of the Hon'ble Minister himself?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: Again I refer to the reply to the question put by Maulavi Mabarak Ali the other day in which it was stated that the Boards were inspected occasionally by the Subdivisional Officer, Deputy Commissioner, Commissioner and also by the Debt Conciliation Board Supervisor where such a post existed.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Is it a fact that the Commissioner has already reported that the Boards in the Surma Valley have already outlived their utility and they should be abolished?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: For that I shall have to look into the file.

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI replied:

76. (a)—No.

(b)—No. Only rent not due was excluded from the jurisdiction of the Boards.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the reply to Starred Question No. 2 (a) asked by Maulavi Mabarak Ali in this Session.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: In answer to (c), Government says "Yes". Are Government accepting that definition in Assam also?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: A new question has been put, Sir. Reply to this is in the negative.

Result of the Ferry boat tragedy at Amingaon

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA asked:

77.(a) Will Government be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 162 (g) asked by Srijut Beliram Das, M.L.A., during the November Session of the Assembly, 1944 regarding the ferry boat tragedy at Amingaon and state whether the ferry license of the lessee of the Amingaon public ferry has since been cancelled?

(b) If not, when do Government propose to cancel the same?

(c) Are Government aware that the present lessee of the said ferry has not yet desisted from committing malpractices through his sub-lessee?

(d) Are Government aware that over-loading of passengers in the Ferry boats at Amingaon especially at dark nights still continues?

(e) Do Government propose to make an enquiry as to the numerous subsidiary boat ferries through different sub-lessees, employed by the said Ferry Lessee, with a view to cancellation of his license?

(f) Are Government aware that this boat ferry now runs as an adjunct to the steam ferry as a separate mobile unit, entirely disconnected with the steam ferry?

(g) In view of the huge congestion of traffic and military stores, do Government propose to split up the monopoly and settle the boat ferry with different lessees preferably Assamese or Local residents of either valley?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY replied:

77.(a) and (b)—Orders have already been passed to settle the ferry with persons other than the present lessee of the Steam Ferry.

(c)—No.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise in view of the reply given to Questions 77(a) and (b) above.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Action has already been taken on the line suggested.

Distribution of salt and import of mustard oil in the Province

Babu BIPIN BEHARI DAS asked:

78.(a) Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge be pleased to state whether Government have issued any circular to the district authorities not to give salt to the people throughout the Province if they do not take "Arhar Dal"?

(b) If so, why?

79. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The quantity of mustard oil imported by them in the Province from October 1944 to January 1945?

(b) Whether the import was made according to the requirement of the Province?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied:

78.(a)—No such circular has been issued by Government.

(b)—Does not arise.

Babu DAKSHINA RANJAN GUPTA CHAUDHURY: Will Government take it from me that unless anybody takes the "Arahar Dal" supplied by Shaw Wallace, he is not allowed to take salt?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This Question was sufficiently thrashed out the other day.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied:

79.(a)—20,846 maunds 7 seers.

(b)—Import depends on the allotment by other Provinces and the transport available.

Srijut SURENDRA NATH BURAGOHAIN: Will Government please give the House an idea about the extent of deficit in mustard oil for the period covered by the question?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: The import surely was not according to the requirement of the Province, but we are bound by the allotment made by the Government of India; the allotment made was one lakh maunds. I have stated very many times on the floor of the House that the import was delayed for absence of tank wagons; now that tank wagons have been provided, the import is going regularly.

Introduction of Hydro-Electric Power in this Province

Mr. F. W. BLENNERHASSETT asked:

80. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) What progress has exactly been made since the last Session of this Assembly in the introduction of Hydro-Electric Power to this Province?
- (b) Whether survey of any proposed project has been put in hand this cold weather?
- (c) If not, why not?
- (d) Whether Government have taken any steps to elicit public opinion on the subject of Hydro-Electricity?
- (e) What is exactly the policy of Government in the matter?
- (f) Whether they propose to press the Central Government to advance this Province's case for the development of Hydro-Electricity in or on the borders of Assam?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA replied:

80. (a)—This Government are awaiting advice and assistance from experts to be deputed by the Central Power Board recently formed, which help has been promised.

(b)—Some work has been done under arrangements made by the Electrical Adviser, Mr. Allsup, and it is intended that he should be re-employed on his superannuation as from the 12th March, for one year for the purpose *inter alia* of continuing and expanding his survey of the position.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Government are not yet in possession of specific proposals on which they can consult public opinion, but they are well aware of the general interest taken in this subject and hope that the presentation of the rough Reconstruction Scheme will furnish opportunity for the House and others interested to give their views.

(e)—Government need expert advice before they can formulate any precise policy on the subject, but they are deeply interested in the full examination of potentialities in this direction and have ventilated the subject on every possible occasion.

(f)—The answer may be found in that to Question (a) and in the light of discussions which may take place at the present session.

Mr. D. B. H. MOORE: May I know if the experts to be deputed by the Central Power Board have definitely undertaken to visit Assam?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: I am not quite sure of that, but we have been definitely promised by the Centre that we shall be getting an expert.

Mr. D. B. H. MOORE: In view of the great importance of this subject, and the fact that readings of low water levels can only be obtained between now and the end of May, will Government press for an early visit of the experts?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: As suggested by the hon. Member we shall see to that.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: Will Government inform us why Mr. Savage, the Hydro-Electric Expert of Tennessey Valley Authority, who visited some of the Provinces of India, was not invited to this Province?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This is altogether a new Question.

Requisitioning of shop houses in Marwari Patty of Jorhat

Srijut RAM NATH DAS asked:

81. (a) Is it a fact that many shop houses with running business situated in the Marwari patty of Jorhat town are being frequently requisitioned for the purpose of the Assam Valley Supply Syndicate?

(b) If so, do Government propose to stop such requisitioning of shop houses in that locality?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI replied:

81. (a)—No. In 1944 only 3 godowns were requisitioned of which one was empty.

(b)—No.

Housing difficulties at Shillong

Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI asked:

82. (a) Are Government aware of the present housing difficulties at Shillong?

(b) Are Government aware that the clerks of Shillong who have no houses of their own have been put to untold difficulties and inconveniences for want of accommodation?

(c) Do Government propose to take statistics of Government servants who have been forced to reside in hotels and messes leaving their wives and children away from Shillong for want of accommodation?

(d) Do Government propose to mitigate the hardships of these Government servants by providing Government quarters and requisitioning houses for their accommodation?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI replied:

82. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, some difficulties.

(c)—Government do not consider this to be necessary.

(d)—There are not enough houses available for Government to requisition accommodation for all their ministerial staff without causing considerable hardship to the public whose houses would have to be requisitioned. In their interest Government endeavour to use powers of requisition as little as possible and, as regards mitigating hardships by providing Government quarters this does not seem possible now.

Holding of Bazar at Muktapur in Jowai Subdivision

Rev. L. GATPHOH asked:

83. (a) Is it a fact that several representations and petitions have lately been made to Government by the people in the Jowai subdivision for permission to hold a bazar every alternate day at Muktapur, without interfering with the Jaintiapur Bazar?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken by Government in the matter ?

(c) Are Government aware that the income from Muktapur Bazar goes to build up the income of the Nripa Court of Wards Estate ?

84. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The connection between the Jaintiapur Bazar in the Sylhet District and the Muktapur Bazar in the Jowai Subdivision ?

(b) The reasons for restricting the right of the hillmen in the Jowai subdivision to holding a Bazar at Muktapur to one day only in the week ?

(c) Whether Government propose to review and alter the whole situation ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI replied :

83. (a)—Not since 1942.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Yes.

84. (a) and (b)—The Bazar at Muktapur only 2½ miles from Jaintiapur was sanctioned in 1940 to meet insistent demands of the Khasis of Jowai subdivision. One of the conditions of the lease, designed to safeguard the interest of the Jaintiapur Bazar, was that it should only sit once a week and not on days when Jaintiapur Bazar met.

(c)—Not as long as the Court of Wards is responsible for the settlement of the debts of the Nripa Estate which depends on the income of the Jaintiapur Bazar.

Rev. L. GATPHOH : The answer to Question No. 83 (c) is "Yes", and that to 84 (c) is "Not as long as the Court of Wards is responsible for the settlement of the debts of the Nripa Estate which depends on the income of the Jaintiapur Bazar".

Basing on the above replies, my question is : Are we to understand that Government have no objection to the hillmen of the Jowai subdivision holding Bazar every alternate day at Muktapur, without interfering with the Jaintiapur Bazar, in order further to increase the income of the Nripa Estate, out of which the debt of the estate is being paid ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI : The Question is so involved that it is not possible to give a specific reply.

Rev. L. GATPHOH : In the reply to Question Nos. 84 (a) & (b), it is stated, "One of the conditions of the lease, designed to safeguard the interest of the Jaintiapur Bazar, was that it should only sit once a week and not on days when Jaintiapur Bazar met". In view of this, read with answer to Question 83 (c), is it not a fact that the condition referred to is prejudicial to the interests of both the parties, viz., the Nripa Estate as well as the hillmen of the Jowai subdivision ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI : That is a matter of opinion, Sir.

Adjournment Motions

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Having regard to the fact that from 12 we shall take up the Supplementary Demands, it will not be possible for me to consider the remaining two * Adjournment Motions. They will be taken up the next day, i. e., day after tomorrow.

* This Assembly do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance and of recent occurrence namely : the panic and unbearable hardship caused to one thousand families of Nepali graziers and indigenous people in Bhurbandha, Laokhowa, Garaimari, Gakhirkhowa, Naltali, Kurhimari, Karaitangani, Dalapani and Hatibandha resulting in desertion of their hearths and homes on account of the settlement of Bhurbandha, Barghuli professional grazing reserves and Laokhowa Game Reserve in Nowgong, and also in scarcity of milk in Tezpur Town and Silghat area.

Haladhar Bhuyan.

*This Assembly do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance—to wit the sudden stoppage of the North Lakhimpur-Kamalabari and North Lakhimpur-Badatighat Bus services on account of petrol restriction.

Sarveswar Barua,

Result of Election to the Public Accounts Committee

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : As a result of the election to the Public Accounts Committee that was held the other day the following hon. Members have been elected to it under Rule 102 (2) of the Assembly Rules :—

1. Mr. Baidyanath Mookerjee,
2. Mr. Arun Kumar Chanda,
3. Khan Sahib Maulavi Dewan Md. Ahbab Chaudhury,
4. Srijut Beliram Das.
5. Mr. Binode Kumar J. Sarwan.
6. Maulavi Syed Abdur Rouf, and
7. Mr. A. Whittaker.

Discussion of the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure charged upon the revenues of the Province during the year 1944-45

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : We now come to the discussion, if any, of the supplementary statement of expenditure charged upon the revenues of the Province during the year 1944-45. *

(After a pause)

I take it that no discussion is going to be held on this item.

Correction slip to the Assam Legislative Assembly Debates (March Session, 1945), dated the 13th March, 1945.

No. 2

At page 407—

In line 2, for the figure "4" before the word "Demands" under the heading "Voting on Demands for Supplementary Grants for 1944-45" substitute the sign "+".

A.G.P. (L.A.) No. 32-125+2-8-6-1945.

A. K. BARUA,
Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Assam.

On the recommendation of this Expenditure Committee the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 1,49,520 be granted to the Minister-in charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "7.—Land Revenue".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs. 18,77,700

II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for :—

A. General Establishment—

(1) Pay of Establishment	...	...	Rs.
(2) Allowances and honoraria	...	...	6,000
(3) Contingencies	...	...	15,248
	...	...	4,000

Total 25,248

(4) Pay of officers—Deduct recoveries from the Defence Department. —25,248

D. Charges on account of land revenue collection

... 99,000

* Appendix D.

† For Statement showing by major heads the amounts of Supplementary Grants which the Assembly are asked to vote in the present session, see Appendix E.

G. Land Records—(b) District charges—	Rs.
Allowances and honoraria	50,000
K. Charges in England	520
Total	1,49,520

The explanatory note *appended explains the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :—

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,49,520 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of head '7.—Land Revenue'."

In moving the other Demands, I would request the Hon'ble Minister concerned to refer only to the main Demand instead of reading the whole thing. This would save a lot of time.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 2

9.—Stamps

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI :

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 7,280 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "9.—Stamps".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs.
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	47,000
A. Non-Judicial	Rs.
C. Superintendence	520
D. Value of stamps supplied from Central Stores	1,760
	5,000
Total	7,280

The explanatory note †appended explains the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :—

"That an additional sum of Rs. 7,280 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945 for the administration of the head '9.—Stamps'."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 3

10.—Forests

The Hon'ble Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 21,58,938 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "10.—Forests".

*EXPLANATORY NOTE

- A. (1)—Due to entertainment of temporary staff in connection with requisition work.
- (2)—Due to the grant of increased rate of dearness allowance.
- (3)—Due to the grant of increased rate of dearness allowance and rise in prices.
- (4)—Represents recoveries from the Defence Department on account of services rendered by Assam Officers in connection with the requisitioning of land on behalf of the Central Government.
- D.—The excess represents commission paid on land revenue collected in March 1944 in the earlier part of current year and better collection during the current year.
- G.—The excess is due partly to the increased rates of travelling allowance owing to increased touring for miscellaneous duties by the Supervisor Kanungoes and Mandals and of the increase in motor fare and boat and cart hire as a result of the war, and partly to the increased rates of dearness allowance sanctioned during the current year.
- K.—Due to larger expenditure on stores purchased from England.

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

- A.—Due to increase in the rate of commission paid to Stamp Vendors owing to the high cost of living and also due to higher demand for stamps.
- C.—Owing to payment of dearness allowance and increased expenditure under contingencies.
- D.—Due to increased demand and increase in the cost of paper, etc.

Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs.14,49,200
 II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for:—

A.—Conservancy and Works

	Rs.
A—I. Timber and other forest produce removed from forest by Government Agency	30,280
A—II. Timber and other forest produce removed from forest by consumers and purchasers	32,830
A—III. Drift and waif wood and confiscated wood	810
A—IV. Rent of leased forests and payment to shareholders in forest managed by Government	5,640
A—V. Live-stock, stores, tools and plant	58,400
A—VI. Communications and buildings	1,53,600
A—VII. Organisation, improvement and extension of forests	4,585
A—IX. Miscellaneous	14,183
A—X. Suspense	17,00,000
Total A—Conservancy and Works	20,00,328

B.—Establishment

	Rs.
B—1. Salary of Superior Officers	1,730
B—2. Pay of Establishment	19,610
B—3. Allowances and honoraria	1,01,730
B—4. Contingencies	35,540
Total B.—Establishment	1,58,610

Grand Total 21,58,938

*These have been detailed in the explanatory notes.

*** EXPLANATORY NOTES**

A.—I. Mainly due to departmental operation of sissoo timber in the Haltugaon Division and loading charges of minor forest produce in the Lakhimpur Division.

II. Mainly due to entertainment of additional temporary establishments and construction of storage sheds at various centres in the Lakhimpur Division for collection of minor forest produce and fire-wood for supply to the Defence Department.

III. Due to payment of more salvage fees as a greater number of drift timber has been collected.

IV. As more revenue is collected from Zamindari forests more expenditure on account of payment of the Zamindar's share is necessary.

V. For meeting the price of 7 trucks and 2 lorries and of cutting tools, viz., saws, axes, hoes, etc., for supply to contractors and for departmental use.

VI. Mainly for construction and improvement of roads and bridges including tramway for speedy extraction of war timber and for construction of sheds for accommodating the extra staff.

VII. For silvicultural and regeneration works.

IX. For meeting the cost of delivery charges of motor trucks, increased price of cloth and making charges of subordinates uniform and dearness allowance of work-charge establishments at increased rates.

X. The provision has been made on the basis of last year's actuals which was Rs. 14,01,053. For heavy increase in transaction Rs. 5,00,000 has been provided in the current financial year. The unrecovered amount of the current year will be recovered and adjusted in the accounts of next year and thus increase the revenue surplus of that year.

B.—Establishment

1. To meet the pay of Mr. M. N. Pait and special pay of Assistant Forest Utilisation Officer.

2. Due to entertainment of more temporary staff to cope with the increased work and grant of more leave to subordinates on medical grounds.

3. Mainly to meet the extra cost of travelling allowance of officers and subordinates for extra touring in connection with war supply and the war allowance and dearness allowance of establishment at the increased rates.

4. Mainly for (1) maintenance of departmental trucks and (2) sundry expenses including money order commission for remitting increased revenue to the Treasuries.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 21,58,938 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head '10—Forests'".

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 4

11.—REGISTRATION

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 9,090 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "11.—Registration".

I.—Grants originally passed by the Assembly	Rs.
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for by the Registration Department—	1,73,500
A. District Charges—	Rs.
2. Pay of Establishment	3,000
3. Allowances and honoraria	6,000
4. Contingencies	18
5. Grant-in-aids, etc. (Contributions to Khasi States)	72
Total	9,090

The reasons for this Supplementary Demand have been given in the explanatory notes*.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 9,090 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head '11—Registration'".

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 5

13.—OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 2,792 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "13.—Other Taxes and Duties".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs.
II.—Sub-head under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	6,400
A. Collection charges—	
Entertainment tax	2,792
†The reason for this Supplementary Demand is explained in the explanatory notes.	

* EXPLANATORY NOTES

2. Due to more clerks and other subordinates going on leave and filling up of vacancies by promotion and outside recruitment and also on account of raising of rate of remuneration of extra writers from Re. 1-3-0 to Re. 1-8-0 and entertainment of night chowkidars.
3. Due to revision of the rates of dearness allowance sanctioned after the passing of the Budget.
4. Due to temporary enhancement of the rent of the Palonghat Sub-Registry Office building in the district of Cachar from Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 per month.

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

Due to increase in the cost of special entertainment stamps on account of increased demands.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 2,792 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head '13.—Other Taxes and Duties'".

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 6

18B AND 68B.—N. E. D. WORKS

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 26,980 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "18B and 68B.—N. E. D. Works".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly

II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—	Rs.
18B-N. E. D. Works financed from ordinary revenues—	7,31,700

A. Works

In the explanatory notes* the reasons for which this Demand is necessary have been given.	Rs.
	26,980

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 26,980 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head '18B and 68B.—N. E. D. Works'".

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 7

25 —GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 3,24,416 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs.
	26,19,000

II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—

H. Ministers	Rs.
	5,000

* EXPLANATORY NOTE

The office of the Executive Engineer, Embankment and Drainage Division was temporarily accommodated in the office of the Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department. With the growing activities of the Department and the consequent increase of staff, the existing accommodation has become quite inadequate and it has become urgently necessary to provide a separate building for the office of the Executive Engineer, Embankment and Drainage Division. A separate building has accordingly been constructed at a cost of Rs. 26,980. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote an additional grant of Rs. 26,980 under this head.

M(a) Civil Secretariat—						Rs.
(i) Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	...	22,700
(ii) Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	...	38,300
(iii) Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	39,700
(iv) Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	16,300
Total						1,22,000
M(b) Civil Secretariat—Publicity Department						13,200
G—Local Fund Audit Establishment—						
(1) Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	7,297
(2) Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	134
Total						7,431
I. Provincial Legislative Assembly—						
Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	...	55,468
J. Legislative Assembly Department						6,900
K. Provincial Legislative Council—						
Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	...	11,091
L. Elections for Legislatures						3,008
M(c) Legislative Department						1,971
R. Commissioner—Allowances and honoraria						3,365
District Administration—						
S. General Establishment—						
(1) Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	...	7,210
(2) Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	23,750
						30,960
(3) Pay of officers— <i>Deduct</i> —recoveries from the Defence Department	...	...	...	...	...	—30,960
(4) Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	51,000
T. Sub-Divisional Establishment						9,800
U. Other Establishments—						
(a) Process Serving Establishment	...	...	...	...	...	22,800
(c) Launch Establishment	...	...	...	...	...	3,700
(d) Staging Bungalow Establishment	...	...	...	...	...	8,000
W (a). Works	...	...	...	...	...	3,235
W (b). Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	700
X. Charges in England—						
(a) Expenditure by the High Commissioner	...	...	...	...	...	747
Total						3,24,416

In the explanatory notes* the reasons for which this Supplementary Demand is necessary, have been given.

* EXPLANATORY NOTES

H. The excess is due mainly to the grant of increased rate of dearness allowance.

M(a)(i) Due to the appointment of Deputy Secretary and Under-Secretary, Supply Department and Under-Secretary, Finance.

(ii) Due to the opening of new branches and entertainment of additional staff to cope with increased work.

(iii) Due mainly to the grant of increased rate of dearness allowance.

(iv) Larger contingent expenditure resulting from increased staff and correspondence and high prices of all articles, etc.

M(b) The Demand consists of the following items:—

(i) A sum of Rs. 10,000 is required for the purchase of a new 15 cwt. truck. A van built on this chassis will always be on tour almost continuously. It will tour the Surma Valley and the Assam Valley, carrying exhibits of interests in matters relating to Veterinary, Public Health, Agriculture and Live-Stock, etc. In addition to this the van will be able to carry exhibit and personnel for large combined exhibitions on special occasions such as N. W. F. rallies or visits of Hon'ble Ministers. Both type of Tents will be carried, so that an effective and interesting exhibition can be set up anywhere in a short time. Particular efforts will be made to give these exhibitions at Mass Literacy Centres.

Community Wireless sets have to be distributed and they are of such a fragile nature that they cannot be sent by Rail. The van is also required for delivering wireless sets, amplifier sets, batteries, battery charges, cine projectors, etc., and to fetch them for repairs, to take the Wireless Electricians on tour and to carry propagandists. The possession of this vehicle will reduce expenditure as the Publicity Officer and the other officers also may tour by means of it. The cost shown includes the cost of Building the body.

(ii) A sum of Rs. Rs. 330 is required for 6 cold weather liveries and 1 hot weather livery of six Chaprasis of the Publicity Department. No provision was made for this purpose in the original Budget for 1944-45. The expenditure does not exceed the rate fixed by the Government and the Chaprasis are entitled to get this year.

(iii) A sum of Rs. 2,055 is required under allowances and honoraria. Rupees 600 is the travelling allowance of the Editors who attended the Press Advisory Board's meeting held on the 2nd April 1944. This Press Advisory Board for Assam was constituted to advise Government in general, and the Publicity Department in particular on matters of mutual concern to them and the Press. Rupees 1,055 is for the increase in the grain compensation allowance. This expenditure also was not anticipated last year. This Government after careful consideration, granted some concession to the Government servants to enable them to meet expenditure abnormally increased due to the War.

G. (1) Due to increased expenditure on account of the higher rates of dearness allowance sanctioned during the year and increase in touring.

(2) Due to the rise of incidental charges for the carriage of office records by the Audit staff when on tour.

I. Due to the raising of the salaries of the Hon'ble Speaker and the Members of the Assembly.

J. Due to the increase in the rates of dearness allowance, halting allowance and larger expenditure under contingencies on account of increase in prices, additional accommodation in Members' Hostels, etc.

K. The additional grant is required to meet the increase in the pay of the Members of the Legislative Council.

L. The amount is required to meet the expenditure in connection with the bye-election to the Central Legislative Assembly. This amount is repayable by the Central Government.

M.(c) To meet the increased expenditure for leave salary and increase in the rates of dearness allowance.

R. Due to grant of increased rate of dearness allowance.

S. (1) Due to the entertainment of extra clerical staff to cope with the continuous increase in work including requisitioning work.

S. (2) Due mainly to increased rate of dearness allowance.

S. (3) Represents recoveries from the Defence Department on account of services rendered by Assam Officers in connection with the requisitioning of land on behalf of the Central Government.

S. (4) Due to the increased rate of dearness allowance, rise in prices, and increased correspondence work.

T.U. (a) & (d) Due mainly to the grant of increased rate of dearness allowance.

U. (c) The excess is due to the unavoidable repairs of the Deputy Commissioner's steam launch and more use of it in connection with official duty.

W. (a) Represents cost of extension of the Local Rates building at Sylhet.

W. (b) Due to repair of departmental buildings damaged by storm.

X. Excess due to increase in leave salary and share cost for the maintenance of High Commissioner's establishment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 3,24,416 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 8.

27.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 1,47,839 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head. "27.—Administration of Justice"

					Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	...	...	9,04,600
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for:—					
B.—Law Officers—					
(b) Legal Remembrancer, etc.—					
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	200
(c) Mufassil Establishment—					
(1) Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	90
(2) Contingencies	...	...	...	...	1,500
C.—Administrator General and Official Trustee	...	...	...	...	182
D.—District and Sessions Judges:—					
(i) Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	26,300
(ii) Contingencies	...	...	...	...	14,600
G. Deputy Commissioner's Civil Court Establishment	...	...	...	...	13,200
I.—Criminal Courts—					
(i) Contingencies...	...	...	...	...	91,700
M. Charges in England	...	...	...	...	67
				Total	1,47,839

†The reasons for this Supplementary Demand have been detailed in the explanatory notes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum of Rs. 1,47,839 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment, during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head '27.—Administration of Justice'"

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 9.

28.—JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, move that an additional sum of

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

- B—(b) Larger expenditure for purchase of books, etc.
 (c) Due to the increase in the number of criminal cases and to payment of retaining fees to some Subdivisional Government pleaders.
 C.—Due to increased rates of dearness allowance.
 D (i) and C—Due to the grant of increased rate of "Remuneration to copyists" owing to increased rates and higher outlay on D (ii) and 1. (i)—Due to the grant of increased rate of allowance to Assessors and Jurors and increased rate of diet and road money to witnesses.
 M—Due to increased expenditure for supply of publications.

Rs. 1,83,084 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head "28.—Jails and Convict Settlements".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly					Rs.
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—					11,40,100
A.—District Jails—					Rs.
(1) Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	1,596
(2) Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	5,022
(3) Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	19,736
(4) Contingencies (non-contract)	...	...	...	...	95,730
(5) Contingencies (contract)	...	...	...	...	6,572
D.—Jail manufactures—					Rs.
(a) Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	439
(b) Contingencies non-contract	...	...	...	...	3,548
(c) Deduct—Recoveries from Jails	...	...	...	...	14,642
B.—Charges for Police Custody					20,000
E. Works—					Rs.
(a) Original Works	...	...	...	...	3,799
(b) Repairs—Jails	...	...	...	...	12,000
Total					1,83,084

The reason for this Supplementary Demand has been given in the explanatory notes*.

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

- A.—District Jails—
 (1) Due to war allowance of Jail Superintendents.
 (2) Mainly due to entertainment of temporary Assistant Jailers, Warders and Clerks, to cope with the increased volume of work in the Jails, owing to admission of a large number of political prisoners and ex-military prisoners in the Jails.
 (3) Mainly due to grant of dearness allowances at increased rates and also treatment of Jail Officials, not anticipated, in the Welsh Mission Hospital, Shillong.
 (4) Due to purchase of foodstuff, such as paddy, Dal, etc., at the prevailing market rates which are very high, also increased scale of diet and clothing and bedding to security prisoners and also admission of military prisoners in excess of anticipated jail population.
 (5) Due to high prices of miscellaneous articles and also increased rates of personal allowance to security prisoners.
 D.—Jails manufacturers—
 (a) Due to grant of dearness allowance.
 (b) Due to rise in prices of raw materials such as iron, yarn, etc., purchase for the manufactory department.
 (c) An excess of Rs. 30,761 is anticipated under this head on account of less recovery for supply of Jail-made articles to Jails for want of materials but there will be saving of Rs. 16,119 under the head, "Deduct—Recoveries from other Departments of Government" due to supply of more Jail-made articles to those Department than was anticipated. There is a net excess of Rs. 14,642 to be met by supplementary grant.
 B.—The excess is due to the increase in the number of under-trial prisoners and grant of increased rate of diet allowance and conveyance charges owing to general rise in prices of all articles.
 E.—Works—
 Original Works.—The existing grant of Rs. 15,000 under the head "Works—Original Works" has already been exhausted for urgent departmental projects, so an additional sum of Rs. 3,799 is necessary for the under-noted urgent departmental works.

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Reconstruction of 5 bachelors warders' cookshed in the Sibsagar Jail. | Rs. |
| 2. Reconstruction of eastern, northern and western side of the bamboo enclosure walls of the South Sylhet Jail. | 1,335 |
| 3. Construction of two Kutcha two-seated latrines with wooden seats for 5 married warders in the Gauhati Jail. | 2,130 |
| | 334 |
| Total | 3,799 |

Repairs.—The extra expenditure necessitated is due to the exorbitant rise in the prices of building materials, such as bamboo, cane and thatch, etc., and also in the cost of labour in the present abnormal times.

The initial grant was also found inadequate to cover all the buildings which needed repairs, as departmental buildings have considerably increased in number.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs.1,83,084 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "28—Jails and convict settlements".

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 10

29.—Police

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.7,46,276 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration- of the head "29.—Police".

Rs.

Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 34,03,200

II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for:—

A.—Superintendence—

Rs

(1) Pay of Establishment ... 7,366
(2) Allowances and honoraria, etc. ... 5,275

D. E. F.—District Police—

(1) Allowances and honoraria, etc. ... 2,40,000
(2) Hospital Charges ... 7,570

River Police—

(1) Allowances and honoraria, etc. ... 1,606
(2) S. L. Establishment ... 23,800

Railway Police—

(1) Supervising Staff ... 4,700
(2) Crime and other police ... 8,740

C. I. D—

(1) Allowances and honoraria, etc. ... 46,120
(2) Contingencies ... 5,750

Works—

(1) Original Works ... 77,154
(2) Repairs ... 43,000

4,71,081

Deduct—Short recoveries from Defence Department ... 2,45,195

D.—Village Police ... 52,000

Deduct—Share payable by Central Government ... —22,000

30,000

Total ... 7,46,276

†Explanatory notes explain the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs.7,46,276 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head "29.—Police".

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 11

30.—Ports and Pilotage

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.50 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "30.—Ports and Pilotage".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs.
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	2,000
D. Port Establishment—Charges for Survey of Steam Vessels	Rs. 50

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.—Superintendence.—(1) The excess is due to increase of staff, conversion of Lower Division posts into the Upper Division and officiating arrangements in places of Head Clerk and some Upper Division Clerks.

(2) The excess is due to the grant of dearness allowance at an enhanced rate with effect from 1st July 1944.

D. E. F.—District Police.—(1) The excess is due to the grant of war allowance, increased rates of daily allowance and dearness allowance at enhanced rates with effect from 1st December 1943 and 1st July 1944.

(2) The excess is due to increase of staff, rise in prices of medicine, and grant of dearness allowance.

River Police.—(1) The excess is mainly due to the grant of dearness allowance at an enhanced rate with effect from 1st July 1944.

(2) The excess is due to the grant of dearness allowance at an enhanced rate and for repairs to steam launches for which there was no budget provision.

Railway Police.—(1) The excess is mainly due to the posting to a post previously held by an I. P. Officer of an officer of the Provincial cadre whose pay is debitable to a voted head, and to the grant of war allowance and dearness allowance at an enhanced rate.

(2) The excess is mainly due to the grant of dearness allowance at an enhanced rate with effect from the 1st July 1944.

Criminal Investigation Department.—The excess is due to the grant of war allowance, increased rates of daily allowance and dearness allowance at an enhanced rate with effect from 1st December 1943 and 1st July 1944.

(2) The excess is due to the rise in prices of articles of clothing and other miscellaneous articles, and the use of more stamps due to increase in correspondence.

Works.—(1) The excess is due to the construction of new buildings for the accommodation of Railforce.

(2) The excess is due to the fact that for many years the grant under this head has been insufficient and a state was reached when it was imperative either to repair a large number of buildings thoroughly or declare them uninhabitable and condemn them.

Deduct Recoveries from the Defence Department.—This represents the cost of the additional staff entertained for defence purposes for which a smaller amount is expected from the Government of India than was estimated when the original budget was framed.

D. In the budget for the current year a sum of Rs. 3,25,000 was provided but this has proved inadequate due to the growth of the system of village responsibility, the detailed cost of which could not be fully anticipated either by District Officers or by Government.

The Government of India will re-imburse the Provincial Government 50 per cent. of the total expenditure incurred on protection of Railways during the year 1944-45. Out of the amount of Rs. 52,000 required Rs. 22,000 approximately will be paid by the Government of India while the Provincial Government will have to meet the balance of Rs. 30,000 which the Assembly is now asked to vote.

* The explanatory note states the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 50 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "30.—Ports and Pilotage".

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 12

37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian.

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 6,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian".

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	49,000
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	
A—Government secondary schools—	
	Rs.
1. Allowances and honoraria	1,800
2. Contingencies (non-contract)	3,800
G. Charges in England	400
Total	6,000

† The explanatory notes explain the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 6,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 13

37.—Education (Other than European)

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 4,02,760 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "37.—Education (Other than European)".

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

The cost of transportation of the hydraulic pump required for survey of Steam Vessels was debited to the head repairs and carriage of Tools and Plant under "50—Civil Works". It has since been decided that such expenditure should be debited to the head "30.—Ports and Pilotage—Ports Establishment—Charges for Survey of Steam Vessels" with effect from 1st April 1944. A sum of Rs. 50 is required for expenditure during this year for this purpose.

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. A sum of Rs. 1,800 is needed to meet the cost of dearness allowance, etc., of officers, clerk and menials of the Pinemount School, Shillong.

2. Due to the re-opening of the Boarding establishment of the Pinemount School a sum of Rs. 3,800 is required to meet the extra expenditure for the purpose.

G. To meet the expenditure for supply of publications for which no provision was made in the original budget.

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs.	
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for :—		45,51,100
1. University Education—		
A—Government Arts Colleges—		
(a) Allowances and honoraria	Rs.	
(b) Contingencies (contract)		25,500
2. B—Direct grants to non-Government Arts Colleges		6,978
3. C—Government professional colleges—		2,000
Law College—Allowances		
(a) Ditto—Training College—		1,300
Contribution to the St. Edmund's College for training of teachers		
(b) Ditto ditto—Allowances and honoraria		2,900
5. Engineering College—Contributions to Bengal and Aligarh for Assam students.		3,000
		2,000
6. Secondary Education—		
(a) Government Secondary schools for boys—		
Allowances and honoraria		
(b) Ditto—Schools for girls—Allowances and honoraria		53,000
7. Direct grants to non-Government secondary schools		3,500
8. Primary Education—		31,000
Government Primary schools—Allowance and honoraria	Rs.	
9. Grants to Local Bodies for Primary Education		19,500
10. Direct grants to non-Government Primary schools		1,74,882
11. Special Education—		4,800
(a) Government Special Schools—Normal or Training Schools		
(b) Institution for higher Sanskrit learning at Sylhet—		5,500
Allowances and honoraria.		800
(c) Government Madrasa at Sylhet—Allowances and honoraria		3,000
12. Direct grants to non-Government Special schools		10,700
13. Grants to Local Bodies for special schools		1,400
14. General charges—		
(a) Direction — Allowances and honoraria		
(b) Ditto — Inspection — Allowances and honoraria		10,000
(c) Ditto — ditto — Contingencies (contract)		22,000
(d) Ditto — Scholarships		1,000
(e) Ditto — Miscellaneous—Other Miscellaneous		10,000
Grants — Grants for Mass Literacy Campaign charges—		8,000
Total		4,02,760

†The explanatory notes explain the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 4,02,760 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head " 37.—Education (Other than European)."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 14

38.—Medical

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 2,06,694 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head " 38.—Medical."

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	Rs.
			13,18,300

II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—

A.—Medical Establishment—

(a) Superintendence—

						Rs.
1. Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	...	8,971
2. Pay of establishment	...	...	...	...	...	7,406

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. (a) An additional sum of Rs. 25,500 which could not be foreseen is required to meet the expenditure for dearness allowance, cash and war allowances granted to officers, clerks and establishment menials of Government Arts colleges.

(b) An additional sum of Rs. 6,978 is required for the purchase of furniture, etc., for the new hostel and Muslim Mess of the Cotton College, Gauhati.

2. A sum of Rs. 2,000 is required for the construction of a temporary hostel for the Jagannath Barua College, Jorhat.

3. This sum of Rs. 1,300 is required for dearness allowance, etc., granted to officers, clerks and menials of the Earle Law College.

4. (a) The amount of Rs. 2,900 is needed for payment of a temporary grant to the St. Edmund's College for deputation of five additional teachers for training.

(b) This amount of Rs. 3,000 is required for deputation of additional teachers from aided schools to the Training College.

5. This amount of Rs. 2,000 is needed to meet the additional demand made by Bengal and also for contribution to be made to the Aligarh University for training of Assam students.

6-10. A total sum of Rs. 2,86,682 involved in these items is needed to meet the expenditure for dearness allowance, etc., to the teachers of Government and non-Government Secondary schools and Government and non-Government primary schools.

11. (a) Of the sum of Rs. 5,500, (1) Rs. 2,000 is required to meet the expenditure for dearness allowances granted to Government servants; (2) Rs. 2,000 is needed to meet the cost of rents for hiring buildings for normal schools, the buildings of which have been taken over by the Military; and (3) Rs. 1,500 is required to meet the cost of dearness allowance granted to contingency menials of Government special schools.

(b) and (c). A total sum of Rs. 3,800 involved in these items is required to meet the cost of dearness allowance, etc., to Government servants.

12. A sum of Rs. 10,700 is required to meet the cost of dearness allowance to the extent of 60 per cent. to be granted to teachers of Government Aided Madrasahs and Tols.

13. A total sum of Rs. 1,400 is needed to meet the cost of travelling allowance of representatives who attended the convocation of the Assam Sanskrit Association and also to meet the arrear and current year's pay of the 3rd clerk of the Assam Sanskrit Board.

14. (a) A total sum of Rs. 10,000 is required to meet the cost of dearness allowances, etc., of officers, clerks and menials and also the cost of Primary Education Committee appointed by Government.

(b) and (c). A total sum of Rs. 23,000 is required to meet the cost of dearness allowance, etc., of Government servants and contingency menials.

(d) An additional amount of Rs. 10,000 is needed to meet the cost of increase in the value of scholarships tenable outside the province and to grant new special scholarships to deserving students.

(e) A sum of Rs. 3,000 is needed to meet the cost of increased rate of travelling allowance and fixed travelling allowance of officers and also the cost of dearness allowance, etc., of officers and menials for which no provision exists in the budget.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 15

39.—Public Health

The Hon'ble Miss MAVIS DUNN : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 4,70,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	14,06,400
II.—Sub-Heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
A.—Public Health Establishment—	
(a) Superintendence and other Establishment—	
	Rs.
Pay of Officers ...	3,000
Pay of Establishment ...	6,000
Allowances and Honoraria ...	32,000
Contingencies—Non-contract ...	41,000
Contingencies—Contract ...	8,800
C.—Epidemic Diseases—	
(a) Malaria—	
Pay of Officers ...	4,600
Pay of Establishment ...	3,900
Contingencies—Non-contract ...	3,44,500
Contingencies—Contract ...	25,200
F. Works—	4,69,000
Maintenance by P. W. D.—Repairs ...	1,800
Total ...	4,70,800

†Objects of this expenditure are in the list before the hon. Members.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER.—The Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 4,70,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health."

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Public Health Establishment—(a) Superintendence and other Establishment—The extra amounts required under "Pay of officers", "Pay of Establishment" and "Allowances and Honoraria" are due to the creation of one additional post of Assistant Director of Public Health, creation of the cadres of Rural and Assistant Rural Health Inspectors on better scales of pay in place of former Vaccination Inspector and Sub-Inspectors and Epidemic Assistants as a result of reorganisation of Public Health Department with effect from 1st April 1944 for which a Motion was moved in the Budget Session of the Legislative Assembly 1944, and which was approved by the House. The increased grant required is also for increases in the rates of travelling and dearness allowances and sanction of war allowances.

The extra grants required under "Contingencies" are mainly due to increase in the manufacture of vaccine lymph to meet abnormally large demand from Military authorities and for Road Projects and also on account of the prevalence of small-pox in various place in the Province. Lymph is however supplied to the Military authorities and for Road Projects on payment which will be reflected in the receipt side of the budget.

C.—Epidemic Diseases—(a) Malaria—"Pay of officers."—The increase is due to the appointment of a Malariologist for Baniachung Anti-Malarial Measures. "Pay of Establishment"—The extra grant is due to sanction of anti-malarial measures for Baniachung. "Contingencies"—The extra amounts required are due to the supply by the Government of India of larger quantities of quinine substitutes and to the adjustment of certain bills for quinine which were accepted during the last financial year but for which no debit was raised then by the suppliers.

The increased expenditure is also due to purchase of Barley Flour and Condensed Milk for free distribution to indigent Malaria patients in connection with the last Malaria epidemic at Baniachung.

F. Work.—The additional sum is required to meet the cost of special repair works to the pipe water-supply at Cherrapunji, Nongpoh as the result of increased cost of labour and materials.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 16

40.—Agriculture

The Hon'ble Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 5,89,984 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "40.—Agriculture".

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional amount will be accounted for—	26,65,400
B.— <i>Superintendence</i> —	
(a) Allowances and Honoraria...	Rs.
(b) Non-contract contingencies ...	10,100
(c) Miscellaneous contract contingencies ...	4,950
	2,575
C.— <i>Experimental Farms</i> —	17,625
(a) Jorhat, Titabar, Karimganj and Upper Shillong Farm—	
(i) Allowance and Honoraria ...	
(ii) Non-contract contingencies ...	2,020
(iii) Contract contingencies ...	86,400
	1,450
	89,870
(b) Shillong Fruit Garden ...	
D.— <i>Agricultural Experiments and Research</i> —	4,910
(a) Deep Water Paddy Farm ...	
(c) Scheme for Agricultural Marketing ...	2,420
(d) Scheme for Fruit Culture ...	3,480
(e) Grow-More-Food Campaign ...	4,564
	2,20,650
E.— <i>Subordinate and Expert Staff</i> —	2,31,114
(b) Economic Botanist ...	
F. Agricultural Education ...	11,780
H. Agricultural Demonstration and Propaganda ...	2,855
	11,700
I. <i>Other Charges</i> —	
(a) Seed Depots ...	
(c) Breeding Operations ...	1,23,200
	13,140
(d) Khanapara and Sylhet Cattle Farms ...	
(e) Deduct—Recoveries ...	49,500
	500
K.— <i>Works</i> —	
(a) Original works ...	
(b) Repairs ...	19,140
	14,650
Total	5,89,984

The reasons have been given in the explanatory notes†.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 5,89,984 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the "head 40.—Agriculture."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 17

42.—CO-OPERATION

The Hon'ble Dr. MAHENDRA NATH SAIKIA to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 17,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "42.—Co-operation".

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	2,53,200
Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly at the	5,332
November Session.	

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

B—(a)—Due to increased rates of travelling allowance and dearness allowance.

(b)—Due to the office rent of the Agricultural Inspectors which was not originally provided.

(c)—Due to increased expenditure on service stamps owing to increased activities of the Department and high price of country stationery.

C—(a) (i)—Due to increased rates of dearness allowance.

(ii)—Due to high price of cattle food, seeds and manures and high rates of wages of labourers.

(iii)—Due to increased pay and dearness allowance of contingency menials and high price of stationery and other articles purchased locally for management of the farm offices.

(b)—Due to high rates of wages of labourers, manures, etc.

D—(a)—Due to high rates of wages of labourers.

(b)—Due to higher rate of pay of the Senior Marketing Officer and leave salary, advance increment of the establishment and due to tour of the Senior Marketing Officer to Bihar to purchase seeds and owing to higher rates of mileage and daily allowance of the establishment.

(c)—Due to increased rates of dearness allowance and high rates of wages of the labourers.

(d)—Due to the debit of the pay of the Assistant Deputy Directors of Agriculture under this head and owing to the increase of staff and advance increments and for the distribution of seeds and manure. Moreover a sum of Rs. 3,09,400 was shown in the budget as deduct—Share payable by the Central Government under this head whereas only a sum of Rs. 24,000 is to be shown under this head, i. e., the share payable by the Central Government on account of contingencies of storage (Rs. 48,000) only those from seeds and manures being credited to receipts sides instead of reduction in expenditure.

E—(b)—Owing to the Economic Botanist's tour to Bombay twice for attending the meetings of the Indian Central Cotton Committee, and due to the leave salary, increase of staff, increased rates of mileage and daily allowances of the establishment and higher rates of wages of labourers, dearness allowance and high price of manures, etc. Over and above increased expenditure is due to increased use of service stamps owing to increased correspondence and for purchase of furniture for the Economic Botanist's Office and high rates of wages of labourers in the two training classes and in the training Farm at Kakilamukh.

F—The excess is due to larger expenditure under "Contingencies" owing to rise in prices.

H—Due to high price of manures and wages of the labourers and for the travelling allowance and dearness allowance for the increased staff.

I—(a)—The excess amount is required for the purchase of Sugar-cane Mills and Gur boiling pans but the amount is recoverable.

(b)—Due to high price of cattle and cattle food.

(c)—Due to high price of cattle food, seeds and manures and high wages of labourers.

(d)—Deduct—Recovery was less than the budget estimate owing to larger costly sale.

K—(a)—Due to high price of materials and labour.

(b)—Due to high price of materials and labour and repairs to most of the buildings of all the Farms.

II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—

A—*Direction*—

3. Allowances and honoraria—

(1) Travelling allowance of officers	...	...	400
(2) Travelling allowance of Establishment	...	...	350
(3) Dearness allowance	...	...	4,800

4. Contingencies—

(1) Purchase of books	...	...	250
(2) Contract contingencies	...	...	2,900

B—*Superintendence*—

3. Allowances and Honoraria—

(1) Dearness allowance	...	...	4,460
(2) House-rent and other fixed allowances	...	...	2,400
(3) Travelling allowance of Establishment	...	...	2,040

Total ... 17,600

†The reasons have been given in the explanatory notes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 17,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "42—Co-operation."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.18

43.—Industries

The Hon'ble Dr. MAHENDRA NATH SAIKIA: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir to move that an additional sum of Rs.24,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "43.—Industries".

*EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.3 (1)—Constant tours of Assistant Director of Industries outside the province in connection with war supplies and his tours to attend the Silk Conference at Delhi and the tours of the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies in connection with the working of the consumers' co-operative movement involved more expenditure than usual. Besides the travelling allowance of the members of the Advisory Board for Scientific and Industrial Research was higher than was anticipated at the time of framing the budget.

A.3 (2)—The existing provision of Rs. 1,250 proved inadequate, owing to the constant touring of all the three officers, two of whom had to tour outside the province on several occasions.

A.3 (3)—The existing provision of Rs. 804 is short of the actual requirements owing to the increased rates of allowances sanctioned by Government from time to time.

A.4 (1)—Certain additional books have been purchased under unavoidable circumstances for the use of the office of the Director of Industries and Registrar, Co-operative Societies, and the members of the Advisory Board for Industrial and Scientific Research.

A.4 (2)—Owing to the increased volume of correspondence, with the rapid development of the consumers' co-operative movement, the expenditure on stamps has been rather unusually high. Besides this, some new furniture for additional staff sanctioned for this office during the current year had to be purchased. The unexpected expenditure in connection with the shifting of the Deputy Inspector's office to a new building is to a large extent responsible for the excess.

B.3 (1)—Due to the increase in the rates of dearness and other allowances, the amount provided for in the budget has proved inadequate for the actual requirements.

B.3 (2)—There was no provision for the fixed travelling allowance of the Assistant Auditors of Co-operative Societies, sanctioned by Government in July 1944. Hence the amount is essentially necessary.

B.3 (3)—The excess is due to the appointment of extra staff of two Superintendents of Consumer's Co-operative Stores, ten Assistant Auditors and twelve peons sanctioned by Government in July 1944.

Rs.

Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 3,41,200

II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary demand will be accounted for—

A.—Industrial Development—

	Rs.
1. Pay of Officer ...	3,587
2. Pay of Establishment ...	12,092
3. Allowances and honoraria ...	6,263
4. Contingencies ...	2,058
	<hr/> 24,000

B.—Industrial Education—

(c) B. Barooah Scheme ...	1,300
Deduct—Receipt from the Fund ...	—1,300

Total ... 24,000

Sir, the reasons have been clearly explained in the explanatory note†.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 24,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head “43.—Industries”.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.19

47.—Miscellaneous Departments

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.6,709 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up for payment in the course of the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head “47.—Miscellaneous Departments”.

Rs.

Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 1,20,400

II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for:—

	Rs.
(1) A—Inspector of Factories ...	1,544
(2) B—Labour ...	3,134
(3) C—Inspector of Steam Boilers ...	2,000
(4) E—Provincial statistics—vital statistics ...	31
	<hr/> 6,709
Total ...	

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

A—As there was no provision in the budget for the staff sanctioned by Government in connection with the War Supply Work, a supplementary demand for Rs.24,000 is unavoidably necessary.

B—The excess is mainly due to the entertainment of the staff sanctioned by Government for the Higher Motor Mechanics section of the Prince of Wales Technical School, Jorhat, and the entertainment of an additional temporary clerk sanctioned by Government for the Technical School, for which no provision was made in the budget. The grant of dearness allowance at increased rates is also partially responsible for the excess. The expenditure will, however, be met from the fund and hence no liability will involve to Government.

The reasons for which the grant is necessary has been explained in the explanatory notes†.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 6,709 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up for payment in the course of the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.20

50.—Civil Works (excluding tools and plant and establishment charges)

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.19,92,411 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works (excluding tools and plant and establishment charges)".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	Rs.
Supplementary grant voted at the November Session of the ...	34,57,900
Assembly.	28,066

II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for:—

A. Original works—	Rs.
(a) Buildings—	
1. Land Revenue ...	
2. General Administration ...	12,085
3. Jails and Convict Settlements ...	2,45,860
4. Police other than Assam Rifles ...	49,236
5. Education other than European ...	1,03,300
6. Medical ...	95,900
7. Agriculture ...	10,861
8. Civil Works ...	7,575
	16,707
	5,41,524
(b) Communications—	
1. Ordinary Roads ...	92,440
2. Boat bridges and ferries ...	10,946
3. Petrol Tax Project—Ordinary ...	1,08,000
4. Motor tax Projects—	
(i) Provincial Roads ...	49,403
(ii) Local Board Roads ...	7,600
	2,68,389

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

- (1) The increase is due to the additional dearness and war allowance granted to officers and staff.
- (2) The increase is due to various causes—enhancement of the special pay granted to the Assistant Labour Commissioner and the dearness allowance at increased rates of the additional staff sanctioned for the Labour Commissioner's office, additional journeys undertaken by the Labour Commissioner in connection with the Labour Investigation Committee and the meeting of the Standing Labour Committee, and increase in the house rent for the office of the Labour Commissioner.
- (3) The increase is due to the enhanced rate of travelling allowance and to the purchase of scientific instruments in connection with a fuel Economy Campaign enjoined by the Central Government.
- (4) The provision allotted to meet the travelling allowance of Muslim Marriage Registrar and Kazis fell short of requirements.

B. Repairs—

	Rs.
1. Buildings	1,44,400
2. Communications	9,55,600
3. Tea Rates Works	80,000
	<hr/>
	11,80,000
	<hr/>

D.—Grants-in-aid for communications—

Grants to Local Boards	2,498
	<hr/>
Total	19,92,411

Sir, in the long explanatory notes† the reasons for this have been given.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

“That an additional sum of Rs.19,92,411 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of the payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head “50.—Civil Works (excluding tools and plant and establishment charges).”

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. A—(a) *Buildings—Land Revenue.*—The circle offices at Tezpur and Mangaldai were burnt down by saboteurs during 1942 and had to be reconstructed as soon as possible. In the public interest the work is considered as one of imperative urgency and has been taken up during the year. The work is estimated to cost Rs.47,725 and a sum of Rs.12,085 is required for expenditure during this year.

2. *General Administration.*—(a) The Senior Extra Assistant Commissioner's quarter at Sibsagar were burnt down by miscreants during 1942 and had to be rebuilt urgently. The work is estimated to cost Rs.9,381 and a sum of Rs.6,000 is required for expenditure during this year.

(b) A sum of Rs.3,000 is required for expenditure during this year against the estimated cost of Rs.6,502 for the work of extension of the Treasury building at Gauhati which has become urgently necessary.

(c) Due to revision of estimate, the work of certain additions and alterations in the Deputy Commissioner's court building at Gauhati which was originally estimated to cost Rs.3,500 and was in progress has become a major work. The work is now estimated to cost Rs.5,914 and a sum of Rs.3,325 is required for expenditure during this year.

(d) A minor work estimated to cost Rs.4,106 of certain additions and alterations in the court building at Nowgong was in progress. Due to increased rate the estimate for the work had to be revised and the work is now estimated to cost Rs.6,750 which has thus become a major work. A sum of Rs.2,644 is required for expenditure on this work during this year.

(e) The accommodation in the Deputy Commissioner's court building at Gauhati is most inadequate and unsatisfactory due mainly to the new offices such as Rationing, Textile, Drugs Control, etc. Therefore it has become essentially necessary in the interest of public service to provide for further extension of the court building at a cost of Rs.9,500 of which Rs.5,000 will be spent in the current financial year.

(f) Due to opening of new offices and expansion of the various existing departments it become urgently necessary to provide for accommodation by constructing office buildings the cost of which is estimated to be Rs. 2,25,897 during the current year.

3. *Jails and Convict Settlements.*—(a) It was necessary to provide temporary barracks in the Gauhati Jail to accommodate the increased number of prisoners. The work estimated to cost Rs.11,000 was taken up, while the work was in progress certain other additional works were considered urgently necessary and the estimate had therefore to be revised. The amount of the revised estimate is Rs.22,000 and a sum of Rs.8,853 is required for expenditure during the year.

(b) A sum of Rs.40,383 is required against the estimated cost of Rs.48,089 for the work of construction of a temporary jail (barracks) and temporary bamboo palisading in the Dibrugarh Jail which has become urgently necessary to accommodate the increased number of prisoners.

4. *Police other than Assam Rifles.*—(a) The work of reconstruction of the building at Dhubri Police Station and Reserve in the district of Goalpara double storied was taken up during 1943-44. Due to increased rate of labour and materials the estimate had to be revised which now stands at Rs.50,000. A sum of Rs.35,500 is required for expenditure during this year.

(b) The abnormally high price of materials and labour and change of specifications have necessitated the revision of estimate for the work “Constructing the Police buildings at Karimganj”. The revised estimate for the work now stands at Rs.1,07,728 against the original sanctioned estimate of Rs.65,000. A sum of Rs.47,800 is required for expenditure during the year.

(c) In November 1943, when the Assembly voted the supplementary demand for the creation of the Police outpost at Laitumkhrah, Shillong, Government proposed that the construction of the necessary buildings at an estimated cost of Rs.37,676 might be postponed, till the prices of building materials and labour fall, for it might be possible to house the staff meantime in hired houses. But, from the experience of the last few months, Government have realised that the pressure on accommodation in Shillong has increased and is likely to increase in future to such an extent that it will not be possible for them to get suitable hired houses for this outpost and they have no other option left but to approach the House again for a sum of Rs.20,000 which will be spent during this year.

5. *Education other than European.*—(a) The permanent buildings of the Government High Schools at Sylhet and Silchar have been occupied by the Military. It has therefore become essentially necessary to provide temporary accommodation for these schools elsewhere. Two projects estimated to cost Rs. 75,000 each have been sanctioned and have been taken up. The amount involved in these projects will be recovered from the Military. A sum of Rs.42,450, viz., Rs.24,000 for the Silchar and Rs.18,450 for the Sylhet buildings is required for expenditure during this year.

(b) The main hostel buildings of the Cotton College, Gauhati have been taken over by the Military. As no hired accommodation was available it became essentially necessary to provide accommodation for the students elsewhere. The work is estimated to cost Rs. 50,000 and a sum of Rs.49,591 is required for expenditure during this year.

(c) The estimate for the work of construction of a compound wall around the Government Girls' High School at Sylhet estimated to cost Rs. 3,642 had to be revised as certain additional items of work had to be taken up. This revision has changed the work into a major one which is now estimated to cost Rs. 7,500 and the vote of the Assembly is necessary to finance the work. A sum of Rs.3,859 is required for expenditure during this year.

6. *Medical.*—There was no residential quarters for the Subdivisional Medical Officer at Maulavi-Maulvibazar. It was necessary to provide him with such quarters. The property of the Mission Girls' School at bazar has been taken over by Government at a cost of Rs. 10,861 and this sum is required for expenditure during this year.

7. *Agriculture.*—A quantity of electrical propaganda equipments was received during the year for the Publicity Department. As there was no proper storage accommodation the laboratory room of the Government Wireless Electrician which building is classifiable under the head "Agriculture" has to be extended for proper storage of this equipment at a cost of Rs. 7,575.

8. *Civil Works.*—(a) The temporary Maulvibazar Public Works Department Division was started late in 1943-44. No accommodation being locally available it was considered essentially necessary to provide quarters for the clerks. The Military have agreed to pay for the construction of quarters for the unmarried clerks and those for the married clerks have been provided out of the provincial revenues. This work is estimated to cost Rs. 5,887 and this sum is required for expenditure during this year.

(b) The office of the Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department, Tezpur had to be extended to accommodate the office of the Subdivisional Officer, Planning. The work is estimated to cost Rs. 2,606 and a sum of Rs. 1,000 is required for expenditure during this year.

(c) The new Mechanical subdivision at Sylhet was re-opened late in last year. The office of the Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department, North Sylhet Buildings Subdivision, Sylhet had to be extended to provide accommodation for the office of the Subdivisional Officer, Mechanical Subdivision. The work is estimated to cost Rs. 5,320 and the full amount will be spent during this year.

(d) Due to the increased activities of the Public Works Department the number of officers and staff in the Public Works Department Secretariat had to be increased to cope with the increased work. The existing accommodation in the Public Works Department Secretariat building proved quite insufficient and certain additions and alterations to the existing building of the Public Works Department Secretariat became imperatively necessary. The work is estimated to cost Rs. 15,000 and a sum of Rs. 4,000 is required for expenditure during this year.

(e) A sum of Rs. 500 is required against the estimated cost of Rs. 720 in connection with provision of office accommodation for the Executive Engineer, Planning (South), Shillong.

(B) COMMUNICATIONS

1. Ordinary Roads

(a) It was necessary to strengthen all the temporary bridges on the North Bank of the Brahmaputra to carry vehicles of heavier weight coming to India under Lease/Lend. This work was taken up towards the close of last year and funds required last year were provided by obtaining a supplementary grant. The work is in progress and a sum of Rs. 55,364 is required for expenditure during this year.

(b) In pursuance of the policy formulated by the Government of India, this Government had decided to undertake the preparation of Schemes for Post-War Planning of roads and bridges in this Province. This decision was made after the budget for the current year was submitted and it is held that the expenditure required in connection with the preliminary of these schemes should be debited to the Departmental budget. A sum of Rs. 35,000 required is for expenditure during the year.

(c) A portion of the North-Gauhati-Amingaon Road (from Charali to rainy season ferry ghat) which is under the Gauhati Local Board, is in a poor condition and as the steam ferry North Bank Ghat and the North Gauhati-Charali Road are under the Public Works Department, the improvement and maintenance by the Public Works Department of this short intermediate length of road forming part of the approach road to the ferry ghat is considered an urgent necessity. The work is estimated to cost Rs. 6,473 and sum of Rs. 1,000 is required for expenditure during this year.

(d) Due to high rates of earthwork the estimate for the work "Division of the Maulvibazar-Manumukh Road at the 10th and 11th mile" had to be revised from Rs. 4,217 to Rs. 5,730. This revision has changed the work from a minor to major work. The vote of the Assembly is now necessary to finance the work. A sum of Rs. 76 only is required for expenditure during this year.

(e) The Inspection Bungalow at Jhanzi was burnt down by miscreants during 1942, making it necessary to rebuild it. The work was approved last year but could not be taken up for want of materials. The estimated cost of the work is Rs. 10,000 and a sum of Rs. 1,000 is required for expenditure during this year.

2. *Boat, Bridges and Ferries.*—(a) The Sylhet-Fenchuganj Road has been taken over by this Department for maintenance from the North-Sylhet Local Board together with the ferries at Maglabazar and Fenchuganj. A sum of Rs. 2,400 is required for expenditure during this year to provide ferry boats on these ghats against the estimated cost of Rs. 6,720.

(b) To cope with heavy traffic it was found necessary to provide 3 inboard engines and one Class XII mar for the Lohit and Dikrong ferries in the Central Assam Division. The estimated cost of this is Rs. 15,000. A sum of Rs. 8,546 is required for expenditure during this year.

3. *Petrol Tax Projects.*—Due to resumption of certain works which have since been declared inescapable the budget provision of Trs. 50 under the head proved inadequate. An additional sum of Trs. 1,08 is therefore required for expenditure during the year on the following works:—

	Rs.
(i) Improving the Sylhet-Sunamganj Road Sections 'B' & 'C'	81,000
(ii) Improving the North Trunk Road from Dumnichowki to Garubhassa, Section I.	20,284
(iii) Improving the road from Putkibari to Garubhassa	50,000
(iv) Construction of a bridge over Borgong	6,600
	<hr/> 1,57,884
Deduct—Budget provision	50,000
	<hr/> Say 1,08,300
	<hr/> 1,07,884

4. *Motor Tax Projects—Provincial Roads.*—(a) The trains between Shaistaganj and Habiganj have ceased to run. This has placed a great deal of traffic on the Habiganj-Shaistaganj Road. The road is very narrow almost throughout and is not safe for increased traffic. Hence it has become urgently necessary to improve this road. The work was estimated to cost Rs. 37,649. A sum of Rs. 39,549 is required for expenditure during this year the excess is due to some unforeseen circumstances. Besides this, a further sum of Rs. 9,854 is required to meet the demands for incomplete works as the budget provision of Trs. 20 made under this head has proved inadequate to meet demands.

(b) *Local Board Roads.*—A sum of Rs. 7,567 is required to meet demands for incomplete works as the budget provision of Trs. 40 made under the head has proved inadequate.

B.—Repairs—

1. Buildings.
2. Communications.

An additional sum of Trs. 11,00 is required to meet demands for repairs to Buildings and Roads as the original budget provision has proved inadequate, on account of abnormal rise in prices of materials and labour.

Due to pre-occupation with Defence works, lack of materials, and difficulty in obtaining both transport and labour, adequate attention could not be paid to maintenance during the past few years. Moreover, as the result of intensive Army movement many roads have had to bear very heavy traffic causing excessive wear. As the supply of materials has now become easier and the transport position less difficult it is considered that Buildings and Roads should not be allowed to deteriorate further without repairs being undertaken on a substantial scale, to make good the ravages of the past and prevent further deterioration. An additional sum of Trs. 11,00 is required for expenditure during this year.

3. *Repairs—Tea Rates Works.*—A sum of Trs. 80 is required for maintenance of roads improved from the Tea Rates Road Fund. In view of Government decision to maintain these roads to 6 ton standard, the Budget provision of Trs. 1,10 has proved inadequate.

D.—Grants-in-aid—

The additional grant is required in connection with the improvement of Public Works Department roads transferred to Garo Hills District Fund Committee. The excess expenditure is due to the increase in the price of labour and material.

Supplementary Demand No. 21**56.—Stationery and Printing.**

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 32,555 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing."

Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Rs.
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	...	4,99,600
C. Purchase of plain paper used with stamps	...	4,450
D. Government Press	...	28,105
Total	...	32,555

†The reasons for asking this supplementary demand has been detailed in the explanatory note.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :
 "That an additional sum of Rs. 32,555 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '56.—Stationery and Printing'."

Supplementary Demand No. 22**57.—Miscellaneous**

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 1,70,491 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Rs.
II —Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	...	31,54,200
A. Expenditure on account of state prisoners and detenues	...	18,500
C. Donation for charitable purposes	...	5,250
D. Special commission of enquiry	...	4,300
F. Irrecoverable temporary loans and advances written off	...	59,300
G. Rents	...	1,184
I. Contributions—	...	
(a) Contributions, etc., to Local Bodies—	...	
Grants to Municipal Boards for special purposes	...	1,287
K. Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—	...	
(a) Expenditure in connection with the control and distribution of cloth and yarn.	...	11,000
(b) Expenditure in connection with purchase and distribution of ammunitions.	...	21,900
Deduct—Receipts and recoveries from sale proceeds	...	
(c) Compensation for loss of property owing to political disturbances.	...	—21,900
(d) Control of vagrancy	...	15,270
(e) Expenditure in connection with Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance Order.	...	5,000
Total	...	49,400
Total	...	1,70,491

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

- C. To meet the increase in the cost price of paper.
 D. Due to larger expenditure on overtime allowances, increased rates of dearness allowance, purchase of plant and furniture and other contract contingencies owing to increase in prices.

†The reason is given in the explanatory note.

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. Due to grant of allowances to persons detained under the Defence of India Rules and to security prisoners and their families.

C. Due to increase in the number of non-criminal lunatics, maintenance charges of destitutes and orphans and higher charges for contingent expenditure as a result of the increase in prices and charges for labour.

D. Represents expenditure in connection with the Economic Advisory Board Meetings and the Karimpur Enquiry Commission.

F. Due to the write-off of old outstanding agricultural loans.

G. Represents rents of building temporarily hired by Government for official use.

I. The original provision under the head is Rs. 5,718. The actual grants, shown below, have resulted in a shortage of Rs. 1,287 for which a supplementary demand is necessary.

Rs. 5,000 to the Sylhet Municipal Board for Sylhet Town ferries.

Rs. 275 to Hailakandi Town Committee for the Herbertganj Bazar.

Rs. 640 to the Shillong Municipal Board for Public Works Department Fire Brigade.

Rs. 740 to Maulvibazar Municipal Board for Channighat ferry.

Rs. 350 to Gauripur Town Committee towards the cost of revaluation of holdings.

Rs. 7,005

The first four items are permanent commitments, but in distributing the grants the original estimate had to be exceeded and the fifth item is an unforeseen charge.

K.—*Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges*—

(a) In consequence of a strong representation made by this Government, Assam has been constituted as a separate zone with a monthly quota of cloth and yarn to be procured directly from the Bombay Presidency quite independent of Bengal. As a result Bengal has recently imposed a total ban on all movement of cloth into Assam. The problem of procurement of cloth directly from the Bombay Presidency has therefore become more acute specially in view of the fact that Assam dealers have practically no business connection with Bombay mills or their quota holders in Bombay. To obviate these difficulties Government have had to make their own arrangements for the procurement of their provincial quota and for that purpose Government have appointed one Deputy Provincial Textile Commissioner and posted him in Bombay so that he may help our procuring agents in securing our due share of cloth and yarn by remaining in constant personal touch with the Textile authorities in Bombay, and that he may be able to get this Government's quota of cloth and yarn sent to this Province as expeditiously as possible in these days of transport difficulties. The above amount is required to meet the pay, travelling allowance, etc., of the said officer and his staff stationed in Bombay.

(b) Owing to the difficulty felt by the owners of licensed arms and dealers in Assam, in procuring ammunition, Government approached the Central Government for aid and arranged purchase of stock, 54,955 rounds of frozen 12 bore ammunition was procured from the Government of Bombay. This ammunition had to be distributed to different districts in Assam for sale to the public. In doing so Government incurred an expenditure as noted below :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
1. Cost of purchase incurred by the Commissioner of Police, Bombay	18,537	5	0
2. For transport	1,289	0	0
3. Freight	1,418	7	0
4. Escort charges	655	3	0
Total	21,899	15	0

The cost to Government is about Rs. 40 per 100 rounds of ammunition and the dealers were allowed a credit at this rate to sell at Rs. 43 per 100. Thus the amount spent by Government has been fully recovered. The sale proceeds are being adjusted by reduction of expenditure under the head noted above. As the expenditure has been incurred by Government in the first instance, a supplementary demand has become necessary.

(c) The Government of Assam have had occasion to review the questions of (a) compensation to Government servants or their dependants and also to those who helped Government, for injury or loss of life caused as a result of the political disturbances and (b) compensation to them for loss of property as a result of such disturbances.

The Government of India authorised the payment of compensation to their servants under the above circumstances and the Provincial Government also decided to follow the Government of India in these matters and accordingly sanctioned compensations amounting to Rs. 15,270 to certain sufferers.

No provision was made in the current year's budget as it was not possible to frame any accurate estimate for the purpose owing to no claim being preferred when the original budget estimate was framed.

(d) In July 1943 a very serious situation was created by the migration into Assam of large numbers of poverty-stricken persons; mostly women and children; from the neighbouring province of Bengal, in search of better conditions which were supposed to be reigning in this Province in respect of food supply. The Government felt it was absolutely necessary to stop this migration and to take measures to bring about the return of as many of these people to their homes and as a result several batches were

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,70,491 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head '57.—Miscellaneous'."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 23.

63.—Extraordinary Charges

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 36 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head "63.—Extraordinary Charges".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly

II.—Sub-head under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for— Nil

A.—Charges in India—

(i) Loss due to enemy action

† The reason is given in the explanatory note. ... Rs. 36

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 36 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head '63.—Extraordinary Charges'."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 24.

64 B.—Civil Defence.

The Hon'ble Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 1,72,666 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head "64B—Civil Defence".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly

Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for:—

1. Expenditure on A.R.P. (Voted)	Rs. 14,92,200
Deduct—Share payable by the Central Government	Rs. 9,22,134
	—8,06,868
	<hr/> 1,15,266

sent back to their homes in Bengal. A large number of these immigrants were beggars often in an advanced stage of disease and to safeguard the health not only of the civil population but also of the armed forces it was considered vital either to return these people to Bengal or to concentrate them pending convenience in camps constructed in Golakganj, Shaistaganj and Silchar. The camps constructed were provided with sick annexes, cook houses, latrines and burial grounds. The camps were also provided, as also medical and sanitary staffs for attendance on the inmates. Stocks of foodstuffs

In the year 1943-44 approximately Rs. 27,000 was spent on these measures, and in the current financial year a further expenditure of Rs. 5,000 is anticipated which the Assembly is asked to vote. The Government of Bengal have at the instance of the Central Government been asked to accept liability for the total expenditure involved and their reply is awaited. Meanwhile an appropriation is necessary.

(e) The Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance, 1943 came into force during 1944-45 and hence no provision could be made in the original budget for the current year. The expenditure during the current year is now estimated at Rs. 49,400 and a supplementary grant is necessary for the purpose.

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

Government have decided to sanction the grant to Government servants under their control who are paid from Provincial revenues, of compensation not exceeding actual proved loss for their personal kit lost in enemy occupied territory in which they were on duty or as the result of enemy action.

No provision was made in the current year's budget as there was no question of such payment when the original budget estimate was framed. A sum of Rs. 35-12-0 has only been sanctioned to an officer of the non-excluded areas and the Assembly is asked to vote a sum of Rs. 36 only.

2. Expenditure on items borne entirely by the Central Government—
Expenditure in connection with the administration of the War Injuries

	Rs.
Compensation Insurance scheme	5,000
Deduct—Share payable by the Central Government	—5,000

3. Expenditure on Schemes subject to special allocation—

(i) Expenditure on administration of Motor Vehicles Spare Parts Control

	Rs.
Orders 1943	94,800

(ii) Expenditure on buildings	10,000
Deduct—Recoveries from the Central Government	—47,400

57,400

Total ... 1,72,666

†The reasons for the demand have been given in the explanatory notes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 1,72,666 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head ‘64B—Civil Defence’.”

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 25.

64A.—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI : On the recommendation of his Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir to move that an additional sum of Rs.25,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head “64A—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund”

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	25,00,000
II.—Sub-head under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
64A.—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund	25,00,000

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The excess expenditure is due to the increase in the case of A. R. P. Officers and creation of the post of Blood Transfusion Officer and Provincial Casualty Officer and also (i) provision of expenditure for A. R. P. publicity as approved by Government of India, (ii) provision for Medical and Surgical treatment under the War Injuries Scheme and (iii) provision for purchase of A. R. P. equipments from the Government of the Punjab and from Jhansi.

2. The grant is required for the administration of the War Injuries Compensation Insurance Scheme and the entire expenditure is recoverable from the Central Government. But, as the expenditure will be met at the first instance from the Provincial accounts, a Supplementary Demand has become necessary.

3 (i) The grant is necessary to meet the expenditure incurred for the Offices of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller and Regional Controllers of motor spare parts as separation of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller's Office from that of Assam Transport with effect from 1st April 1944. No provision was made in the budget for 1944-45, as the separation had not been planned when that budget was framed. Of the total amount half the expenditure will be recoverable from the Government of India while under arrangements accepted by provinces the Provincial Government will have to bear the other half viz., Rs. 47,400.

(ii) With the separation of the office of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller from that of the Assam Transport organisation since no existing accommodation could be found for the former, it has become essential to erect a separate office building for Provincial Motor Transport Controller with adequate accommodation at a cost of Rs. 65,000. This could not be foreseen when the budget for 1944-45 was framed and so this demand for a supplementary grant for Rs. 10,000 is required for defraying the part of the expenditure that will fall during the current financial year.

††The reason is explained in the explanatory note.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 25,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head '64A—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund'."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 26

85A.—Capital outlay on Provincial Schemes connected with the War

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.1,11,95,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head "85A.—Capital outlay on Provincial Schemes connected with the War."

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	Rs.	46,60,500
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—			
1. A. <i>Grain storage scheme—</i>			
		Rs.	
Expenditure on establishment and purchase of food-stuffs, etc.	...		+3,45,33,000
Deduct — Recoveries on account of sale proceeds	...		—2,50,88,000
			<hr/>
			+94,45,000
2. B. <i>Motor Transport Organisation—</i>			
(1) Expenditure on buildings	...		45,000
(2) Deduct—Recoveries on account of hire and sales of vehicles	...		14,86,500
			<hr/>
			15,31,500
3. <i>Consumers goods scheme—</i>			
Expenditure on establishment and purchase of goods, etc.	...		16,14,000
Deduct — Recoveries on account of sale proceeds	...		—14,00,000
			<hr/>
			+2,14,000
3. <i>Civil Canteen Stores—</i>			
Expenditure on establishment and purchase of goods, etc.	...		50,000
Deduct — Recoveries	...		—45,000
			<hr/>
			+5,000
Total	...		<hr/>
			1,11,95,500

††EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the original budget for the current year a sum of Rs. 25,00,000 was provided for the purpose of creating a Revenue Reserve Fund for post-war reconstruction for which a certain amount would be set apart annually from provincial revenues. The amount in the fund will be invested and will be available when need arises. In view of a larger revenue surplus anticipated in the current year's revised it is proposed to transfer a further sum of Rs. 25,00,000 to the Fund during this year and the Assembly is asked to vote the amount.

†Sufficient explanation has been provided in the note, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,11,95,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head '85A.—Capital outlay on Provincial Schemes connected with the War'."

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: On a point of order, Sir. The Hon'ble Minister is asking for a Supplementary Grant for Rs. 1,11,95,500, but the explanatory note to which he has referred.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This Demand will come up for discussion again. There is a Cut Motion on that.

Maulavi MABARAK ALI: This will not be covered by Cut Motion, Sir. In the last line, in clause 1 of the explanatory note which runs as follows:—"A supplementary grant of 94.45 lakhs is therefore necessary under this head." In the explanatory note it is said that "In the original budget for the current year a gross expenditure of Rs. 3,88,20 was provided for purchase of food-stuffs, etc., against which Trs. 3,49,12 was anticipated to be recovered by sales but owing to the expansion of the activities of the supply and procurement scheme the expenditure on purchase of food-stuff and on establishment will go up to Trs. 7,33,53 while recoveries are estimated at Trs. 60,00,00 thus leaving a lag of Trs. 1,33,53 against Trs. 39,08 taken in the original budget." Now "A supplementary grant of Trs. 94,45,00 is therefore necessary under this head."

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: One zero is to be omitted, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is a Cut Motion on this from Mr. Abdul Bari Chaudhury. The House will be able to discuss this when we come to that.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 27

Loans and Advances, etc.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 2,66,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc".

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. In the original budget for the current year a gross expenditure of Trs. 3,88,20 was provided for purchase of food-stuffs, etc., against which Trs. 3,49,12 was anticipated to be recovered by sales, but owing to the expansion of the activities of the supply and procurement scheme the expenditure on purchase of food-stuff and on establishment will go up to Trs. 7,33,53 while recoveries are estimated at Trs. 60,00,00 thus leaving a lag of Trs. 1,33,53 against Trs. 39,08 taken in the original budget. A supplementary grant of Trs. 94,45,00 is therefore necessary under this head.

2. B. (1) The erection of an office building for the Assam Transport Organisation at a revised estimated cost of Rs. 1,40,348 is an incomplete work of 1943-44. The additional fund necessary in the current year and the increased cost of materials require the expenditure of a sum of Rs. 45,000 this year.

(2) In the original budget for the current year Rs. 88,00,000 was estimated as the income of the organisation in hire and sales of vehicles, etc., but the receipts will be lower by Rs. 20,80,000 as the increase in earnings has not been like anything like that anticipated when the fleet was increased, because the conditions and circumstances proved impossible to keep the number of "shut downs" at the level hoped for when the original budget for the current year was framed. There will, therefore, be an excess of Rs. 20,80,000 under deduct recoveries but this Rs. 5,93,500 will be met from savings in the provision for establishment, purchase of vehicles, etc.

A supplementary grant of Rs. 14,86,500 is, therefore, necessary under this item.

3. No provision could be made in the original budget for this scheme. This represents expenditure on purchase of certain goods for distribution to the public and the entire expenditure in the scheme will be recovered from sale proceeds. It is estimated that the scheme is likely to cost about Rs. 16,14,000 during the current year while recovery is estimated at Rs. 14,00,000 leaving a lag of Rs. 2,14,000.

4. This represents expenditure on opening stores for supplying certain articles of daily use to Government servants at controlled prices. As no provision was made in the original budget for this scheme it is necessary to provide for expenditure on purchase of goods, etc., during the current year. It is estimated that a sum of Rs. 50,000 will be required for gross expenditure while recoveries are estimated at Rs. 45,000 leaving a lag of Rs. 5,000 which the Assembly is asked to vote.

Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs. 6,24,000

II.—Sub-head under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for :—

A—Advances Rs. 2,66,000

†The explanatory note explains the position:

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 2,66,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945 for the administration of the head ‘Loans and Advances, etc’.”

I think this finishes the moving of all the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1944-45.

Now I take up the Cut Motions on Demand No. 1.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN : Sir, the point which I wish now to raise will very vitally concern the Hon'ble House. Sir, there are certain natural courses in which the Supplementary Demands are to come before the House, that is, a Supplementary Demand is naturally expected to be presented before the House, that is, a Supplementary Demand adopted by the House could not be met with the amount which was originally voted. But this year there is something unusual and unheard of. The total expenditure which this House voted during the last Budget Session was Rs. 3,94,47,800 but the Supplementary Demands which now we have been asked to vote are for Rs. 2,18,10,471. This shows, Sir, that the Supplementary Demands which are now before us to vote are not incidental but from the perusal of the whole demand and from a perusal of the explanatory notes it will be seen that Government had adopted certain very important schemes and policies and to meet the expenditure of those schemes and new policies we have now been asked to vote over those expenditures which they have already incurred. Sir, who knows if those new items of expenditure were presented before the House at the proper time and the House would get a chance what would be the fate of these—the expenditure might have been turned down by the House. But now although we find that some of the expenditures are not at all necessary or might be neglected even then we have no hand in the matter (A voice :—why not ?) because of the fact that the expenditure has already been incurred. On this ground, Sir, I would submit to you whether this is not an infringement on the rights and privileges of the House. If the Hon'ble Chair takes due care, the rights and privileges of this House will not be infringed by the Government in this way. If there can be a clear verdict that such unusual Supplementary Demands should not be presented then I think, Sir, we may be saved from the arrogance of the Ministry, as I should say.

If I am allowed I can point out several instances in which the Ministry failed to discharge their duties properly. During the last Budget Session they did not come forward before the House with that Demand. This Demand did not appear to them all on a sudden in the midst of the Session.

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

A sum of Trs. 2,00 was provided in the original budget for objection book advances but on the progress of actuals the expenditure is likely to go up to Trs. 7,00. Of this excess of Trs. 5,00 a saving of Trs. 2,34 is available under other heads of Loans and advances bearing interest which will be utilised to meet the excess in part and a supplementary grant is necessary for the balance of Rs. 2,66,000. This will not, however, affect the provincial balance as this will appear both on the receipt and the expenditure sides.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: What is the procedure the hon. Member suggests the Government to follow?

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: Sir, first of all, you will kindly allow me to point out certain matters. In some of the Demands we find that the Supplementary Demands have exceeded the original Demands. And in that case what should be the procedure, Sir? If the Ministry had found that there was such a serious matter which they could not but take up in hand, I would suggest, they might have called an interim sitting of the House even in the midst of the year. Supplementary Demands generally come if it is found that in the execution of certain items of expenditure a small amount is necessary just to give it a complete shaping, but if we find that the original Demand has been doubly increased by this Supplementary Demand, it seems very unnatural. For the future, I would suggest, Sir, if they find they are faced with certain difficulty, as is the unusual case this year, and if they want the House should not be deprived of its legitimate rights and privileges, they should call a special Session of the House for the purpose. If I remember aright, Sir, I think in Bengal also at one time certain occasion arose and special sitting of the House was summoned just to have the verdict of the House on certain matters.

Mr. ARUN KUMAR CHANDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here to-day through the courtesy of the Hon'ble the Prime Minister and I would like to know if Maulavi Abdur Rahman is still functioning as the Chief Whip of the Government Party.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: Obviously, Sir.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: In this connection, may I be permitted to point out that when an expenditure of one lakh of rupees was incurred by the Government as war contribution before taking the sanction of this House, did not our hon. Friend Mr. Rahman support the procedure of Government at that time?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no reason for complaint that we have not come before the House for the necessary sanction of the expenditure. A Supplementary Demand is asked for when it is found that the original Budget estimate is likely to exceed the amount due to unforeseen expenditure. For every item for which we have asked for supplementary grant we have given reasons for the same in the explanatory note. It is because we are passing through abnormal times, because out of procurement expenditure that we find it very difficult to estimate correctly what the actual expenditure will really come to. Budget is framed about 6 months before the expenditure is incurred and it is very difficult to forecast at the beginning how much the actual expenditure we will have to incur. Therefore, Sir, we are forced to come before the House with Supplementaries. Of course, a large amount is involved this year just because of the uncertainty of the situation. Explanation will be furnished to hon. Members on every point for which they want information. There is no question of usurping the power of the Assembly or incurring expenditure without obtaining sanction of this Assembly. It is because we want sanction of this Assembly, that we have come to this House with our Demands.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does Maulavi Abdur Rahman wish to say anything?

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: The point which we very much urge is that whether after incurring the expenditure Government can come before the House to take its verdict. That is the point for serious consideration of us all. Had this amount been very small, of course, the House would not have minded it but we find that it is almost equal to the original amount.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I quite appreciate what the hon. Member Maulavi Abdur Rahman has said. It really appears that an unusually large expenditure has been incurred by Government over and above the expenditure sanctioned by the House for the year 1944-45. If Government could foresee that such an expenditure was going to be incurred under different grants it would have been better if Government could obtain the verdict of the House before the expenditure was actually incurred. Now, in this House the practice of coming before the House with Supplementary Demands in respect of expenditure already incurred stands established for a long time. In the

past such Demands for expenditure incurred and brought before the House by Government were passed by the House. So, Government have practically followed the previous practice in respect of the Demands under discussion and if the House desires that this practice should no longer continue, then the House may take such steps as it thinks necessary for compelling Government to come before the House for Supplementary Demands for expenditures before they are actually incurred and as soon as Government can foresee after the Budget is passed that such expenditure have become necessary. In this respect I cannot compel Government to adopt the procedure which the hon. Member suggests. It rests with the House to take such steps as would bring about a change in the practice that is being followed by Government in having Supplementary Demands passed by the House.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you would kindly allow me, I would like to speak a few words in this connection. Sir, 'Supplementary Demand' is provided for in the Constitution Act itself and this is a very normal procedure. If the Ministry had incurred expenditure on a matter on which the House objected at the time of passing the original Budget, then alone some objection can be taken on the ground that without taking the vote of the House Government had embarked on certain policy or incurred some expenditure. Excepting in one matter, and that is the question of dearness allowance to Government servants, the Supplementary Demands only follow the policy laid down by the House in the original Budget Session. This time the sum that is placed before the House by way of a Supplementary Demand is rather big, i.e., Rs. 2,18,10,471 out of which a sum of over a crore and 11 lakhs is wanted for carrying the grain storage and foodgrains purchase scheme, a scheme which had obtained the vote of the House and also some big expenditure for the Motor Transport Organisation which also was undertaken by Government with the suffrage of the House. Then, Sir, this House passed certain Bills of enhanced salaries of the Hon'ble Ministers, the Hon'ble Speaker and the hon. Members of both the Houses. That payment is made to the hon. Members from the beginning of the financial year whereas the Hon'ble Ministers are drawing their enhanced salaries from the 1st July 1944, i.e., three months later. Although the war bonuses to Government servants have been given from the 1st July 1944, without taking the specific vote of the House, the expenditure for dearness allowance and rice concession was specifically put in the original Budget and passed by the House. That cost about 70 lakhs of rupees to the Exchequer. So, between the Head the Capital Outlay connected with war, i.e., Grain Storage and Food purchase and Schemes of Standard Cloth and Motor Transport Organisation, and this dearness allowance given to the Government servants, the amount very nearly comes to 2 crores of rupees. Therefore, the additional expenditure that is wanted is more apparent than real, for we have explained that for the food storage and food-purchase scheme we get back our investment but there is a time lag. The value of stock in hand plus the outstanding sale proceeds are in the neighbourhood of a crore and 30 lakhs. Therefore, the amount of extra money that Government spent or propose to spend without the approval of the House is very little and will be recovered in full.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.1

7.—LAND REVENUE

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion No. 1* is not moved.

*1. Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury to move:—

That the provision of Rs.6,000 under Supplementary Demand No.1, Major head—7.—Land Revenue, Minor head—A.—General Establishment, Sub-head—(1).—Pay of Establishment at page 1 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-1945 be reduced by Rs.100 i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 1,49,520 do stand reduced by Rs. 100. (To raise a discussion about the requisition of houses, homestead and land by Government officers).

Cut Motion No.2** is not moved, the hon. Mover being absent.

Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,49,520 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "7.—Land Revenue".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.2

9.—STAMPS

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : There is no Cut Motion under this Grant therefore I am putting the main demand.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 7,280 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head "9.—Stamps."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.3

10.—FORESTS

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : There are two Cut Motions †under this Grant but I see they are not moved. Therefore I am putting the main Demand.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 21,58,938 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "10.—Forests."

The question was adopted.

**2. Maulavi Matior Rahman Mia to move :—

That the provision of Rs.50,000 under Supplementary Demand No.1, Major head—7.—Land Revenue, Minor head—G.—Land Records, Sub-head—(b).—District charges, Detailed-head—Allowances and Honoraria at page 1 of the list of Supplementary Demands for grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs.100 i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.1,49,520 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To raise a discussion about the corruption in the Land Record Staff) .

†1. Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury to move :—

That the provision of Rs.58,400 under Supplementary Demand No.3, Major head—10.—Forests, Minor head—A.—Conservancy and Works, Sub-head—V.—Livestock, Stores, tools and plant at page 2 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs.100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.21,58,938 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To raise a discussion about the proper utilisation of the demand.)

†2. Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury to move :—

That the total provision of Rs.21,58,938 under Supplementary Demand No.3, Major head—10.—Forests at page 3 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs.100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.21,58,938 do stand reduced by Rs.100. (To raise a discussion over the Supplementary Demand as it far exceeds the original grant).

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.4

11—REGISTRATION

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is no Cut Motion under this Grant. I am therefore putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 9,090 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "11.—Registration".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.5

13—OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 2,792 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "13.—Other Taxes and Duties".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 6

18 B AND 68 B—N. E. D. WORKS

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 26,980 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "18B and 68B.—N. E. D. Works".

The question was adopted

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 7

25.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 13,200 under Supplementary Demand No.7, Major head- 25.— General Administration, Minor head- M(b).—Civil Secretariat- Publicity Department at page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs.100, i. e. the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs.3,24,416 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

Sir, during the last Budget Session a Motion was moved by the Hon'ble Premier to make the Publicity Department permanent and it was supported by all Sections of the House. But we regret to find that no appreciable work has been done by this Department within this period of one year. We had high hopes about this Department, but unfortunately those hopes did not materialise. During the last year we have noticed that the Publicity Department confined their activities in issuing pamphlets only in connection with tour programme of the Hon'ble Ministers which could be found in the *Assam Gazette* as well. The Publicity Department also informs us about vast quantity of salt being imported every month but unfortunately these salts are not available to the consumer. We don't know how far this is based on truth. In the Supplementary Demand a provision has been made for Rs.13,200. In the Explanatory Note it has been stated that "a sum of Rs.10,000 is required for the purchase of a new 15 Cwt truck, A van built on this chassis will always be on tour almost continuously. It will tour the Surma Valley and the Assam Valley, carrying exhibits of interest in matters relating to Veterinary, Public Health, Agriculture and Live-Stock. etc. In addition to this the van will be able to carry exhibits and personnel for large combined exhibitions on special occasions such as National War Front rallies or visits of Hon'ble Ministers. Both types of tents will be carried, so that an effective and interesting exhibition can be set up anywhere in a short time. Particular efforts will be made to give these exhibitions at Mass Literacy Centres."

Regarding this Explanatory Note, Sir, I am constrained to say that I am not satisfied with this explanation for which a big sum of Rs. 10,000 is required.

As regards the National War Front rally I doubt whether this Department will any more exist as a resolution has been passed in the Central Assembly for its abolition.

As regards the last sentence "Particular efforts will be made to give these exhibitions at Mass Literacy Centres". I can assure hon. Members that there are few Mass Literacy Centres and the centres that at all exist are in name only. So there will not be any scope for any exhibitions in these centres. I submit, Sir, that I do not find any utility for the Supplementary Demand.

With these words, I commend my Motion for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

"That the provision of Rs. 13,200 under Supplementary Demand No. 7, Major head—25—General Administration, Minor head—M(b).—Civil Secretariat—Publicity Department at page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 3,24,416 do stand reduced by Rs. 100".

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. Friend's Motion is to reduce this particular Demand of Rs.13,200 by a hundred rupees in order to show that he is against the expenditure proposed. In his speech, he stated that he wants that the entire sum of Rs.13,200 be not voted by the House. I don't think he can do so or it is his motive to do so. In the Supplementary Demand a sum of Rs.330 has been provided for 6 cold weather liveries and one hot weather livery of six chaprasis of the Publicity Department. The poor chaprasis' liveries should not be cut out.

There is a sum of Rs.2,055 required under allowances and honoraria. A part of this, viz., Rs.1,055 is for the increase in the grain compensation allowance.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: I want to reduce this Demand by Rs.100.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: At the close of his speech, my hon. Friend said that he wanted to reduce the entire sum.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: He wants only reduction of Rs.100.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Any way, Sir, it is not his intention to cut out the money for the poor people. But his criticism is against the proposed expenditure of Rs.10,000 for the purchase of a new 15 Cwt. truck. Sir, he began by saying that high hopes were entertained by the public, but those hopes have not been realised. Sir, the Publicity Department has now been made permanent. A scheme of development was placed before the House and the House was pleased to approve the scheme. If during the 9 months the Department has not been able to give sufficient satisfaction to my Friends, it is partially due to the fact that a scheme for the appointment of some Assistant Publicity Officers in the districts has been held up. As I mentioned before, we have not incurred any expenditure in appointing Assistant Publicity Officers in the districts. The main sum which has been criticised by my hon. Friend is the allotment of Rs.10,000 for the purchase of a new 15 cwt. truck. Now, Sir, to deny the immense benefit which our rural people will derive from exhibitions, is not the mover's motive and this van will help people in making these exhibitions more interesting, for it will carry exhibits of Veterinary, Public Health, Agriculture and Live-Stock, etc. My Friend objects that it will carry the personnel. Probably he thinks of the Hon'ble Ministers. It is not so. The personnel who will be showing these exhibits to the public will travel by this van.

Then again, my Friend objects that there are no Mass Literacy Centres, probably in the Surma Valley. There will be nothing to exhibit before them. But Mass Literacy Centres do exist in the Assam Valley. At least that Valley should not be denied the benefit of such a van. If my Friend could show that the exhibits are of absolutely no interest to our public then alone he could curtail all this proposed expenditure. While my Friend was in charge of National War Front, probably in April 1944, he had himself seen the benefit of all exhibitions in connection of a rally which was arranged at Sunamganj, but though the Pandal was blown down by a storm, the exhibits were

highly appreciated by the public and they all evinced great interest. Now that everyone wants that in the Post-War Reconstruction planning we should have better Veterinary, Public Health, Agriculture and Live-Stock schemes, it is all the more necessary that exhibits showing the advantages of the great benefits that the Veterinary Department can put forward upon the people and their cattle, and the benefits of better housing, cleaner living and measures to prevent diseases or its spread and better agriculture—all this will increase the utility of the Publicity Department. I, therefore, suggest, Sir, that as the utility of the Publicity Department has been recognised by this House, this special feature of its activities should not be denied to the public.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member want to press his Motion?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: No, Sir. I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I hope the hon. Member has got leave of the House to withdraw his Motion.

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.3,24,416 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.8.

27.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is a Cut Motion in the name of Maulavi Abdul Bari Choudhury. Is he going to move?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Yes, Sir. I beg to move that the provision of Rs.1,590 under Supplementary Demand No. 8, Major head—27.—Administration of Justice, Minor—head—B.—Law officers, Sub-head—(c)—Mufassil Establishment (total), at page 8 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs.100, i. e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs.1,47,839 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

Sir, my intention is to raise a discussion for not allowing a retaining fee to the Government Pleader of Sunamganj. The other day the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge stated on the floor of this House that a retaining fee of Rs.25 per month has been fixed for Government Pleaders of Karimganj and Habiganj respectively. I submit that the work of the Government Pleader of Sunamganj is not less strenuous. He is to deal with many cases, generally Excise cases and cases relating to Forest. So in the fitness of things, I think, a similar fee ought to be prescribed for the Government Pleader of Sunamganj.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

"That the provision of Rs.1,590 under Supplementary Demand No.8, Major head—27.—Administration of Justice, Minor head—B.—Law officers, Sub-head—(c)—Mufassil Establishment (total) at page 8 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45, be reduced by Rs.100, i. e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs.1,47,839 do stand reduced by Rs.100."

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the Motion moved by my hon. Friend Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury, I am glad to inform the hon. Member that we have already sanctioned Rs.30 per month as retaining fee to the Government Pleaders of Sunamganj, Karimganj and Maulvibazar. They will get at that rate from the 1st February 1945.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then does the hon. Member press his Motion?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: No, Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I hope the hon. Member has leave of the House to withdraw his Motion.

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,47,839 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment, during the year ending 31st March 1945, for the administration of the head "27.—Administration of Justice".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.9.

28.—JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then comes Supplementary Demand No.9. Here also Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury has got a Cut Motion to move.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 95,730 under Supplementary Demand No. 9, Major head—28, Jails and Convict Settlements, Minor head—A.—District Jails, Sub-head—(4)—Contingencies (non-contract) at page 9 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs. 1,83,084 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

My intention is to raise a discussion about the quality of food supplied to the jail population.

Sir, my Friends who have recently been in jail and are attending this Session of the Assembly will bear me out when I say that the quality of rice supplied to the ordinary prisoners is bad. The rice is coarse and full of husk and pebbles and in ordinary circumstances it is unfit for human consumption. In every District and Sub-divisional jail we know big gardens of vegetables are grown but unfortunately these vegetables are not made available for the consumption of the unfortunate convicts. They are simply supplied with curry of *Kochu*, *Sak* and other inferior things. At the present time, once in every week fish is supplied to them but the fish that is generally supplied is bad and rotten. From many persons I have received complaints that though there is provision of milk in the Jail Manual, even in case of sick convicts milk is not supplied. I do hope that the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge would take immediate steps in the matter and issue necessary instructions to all Superintendents of Jails.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

"That the provision of Rs. 95,730 under Supplementary Demand No. 9, Major head—28.—Jails and Convict Settlements, Minor head—A.—District Jails, Sub-head—(4)—Contingencies (non-contract) at page 9 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45, be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs. 1,83,084 do stand reduced by Rs. 100."

Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion moved by my hon. Friend Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury. I fully endorse the remarks made by him in supporting the Motion. It is very well known that the diet given to the prisoners is very unsatisfactory and requires to be looked into.

There is an item, I find, that due to the increase of allowance of the security prisoners there has been some extra expenditure, but the amount of increment is very small indeed. The Hon'ble Minister-in-charge, has not shown the same liberality in increasing the allowance as he has, in the matter of giving additional allowance to the Jail staff.

Then with regard to the clothing of the prisoners, I am not conversant with the difficulties which the ordinary prisoners are undergoing, but so far as.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The discussion is about the food supply in jails. Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: As regards food my information is that although vegetables are grown in the jail by the prisoners themselves, they do not get the benefit of eating those vegetables. Where do they disappear is a mystery? It is reported that they are sold in the market in order to purchase potatoes and some

other vegetables. But even these bazar vegetables are not given and the prisoners have to depend on *Kochus* and not on cabbages which they themselves grow.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Abdul Bari Chaudhury has only placed his general grievances instead of pointing out any particular jail where bad quality of food is supplied. But so far as availability of things is concerned it has always been pointed out to the hon. Members in this House by the Hon'ble Premier that it is very difficult now-a-days to get things even for the civil population outside the jail. So far as our prisoners are concerned we are giving our best attention to the matter and we are trying our best to supply them food as best as we can when it is available.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : On a point of information, Sir. When the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Jails went to Jorhat, was not the condition of bad rice brought to his notice ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : So far as rice is concerned, I had recently paid visits to different jails in the Assam Valley districts, specially Tezpur, Gauhati and Jorhat and in the Jorhat Jail I was shown some sample of rice which was being supplied to the prisoners. Sir, that was really not so good, but was not totally unfit for consumption. I at once had a discussion with the Deputy Commissioner on this and we decided to get paddy from outside and get it husked inside the jail, so that the prisoners could get better rice.

Sir, had the hon. Member come forward with any specific instances I could have certainly looked into them.....

Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI : On a point of information. May I know what the Hon'ble Minister means by "not so good" ? Does he mean that it was fairly good ? May we know what was the percentage of stones and husk in it ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : I meant it was not altogether unfit for consumption.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : We want to know whether it was good or bad ; this is the plain question.

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : I can tell the hon. Member that prisoners in the Jorhat Jail are now getting better rice after the arrangement made for husking paddy inside the jail.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till five minutes past 2 P.M.

After lunch.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Does the hon. Member press his Motion ?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURI : No, Sir. I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I hope the hon. Member has got the leave of the House to withdraw his Motion.

(After a pause)

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Now, I am putting the main demand before the House. The question is :
"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,83,084 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head "28.—Jails and Convict Settlements".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 10.

29.—POLICE

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : There is a Cut Motion to this demand.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: I do not like to move it†, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 7,46,276 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head "29.—Police".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 11

30.—PORTS AND PILOTAGE

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: No Cut Motion to this Demand. Is there going to be any discussion on the main Demand? (*After a pause.*) Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 50 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head "30.—Ports and Pilotage".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 12

37.—EDUCATION—EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Is there going to be any discussion on the main Demand? There is no Cut Motion to this Demand. (*After a pause.*) Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 6,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head "37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 13

37.—EDUCATION (OTHER THAN EUROPEAN)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There are some Cut Motions to this Demand.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Yes, Sir, I will move.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 1,74,882 under Supplementary Demand No. 13 Major Head—37.—Education, Minor Head—9.—Grants to Local Bodies for Primary Education at page 14 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45, be reduced by Rs. 100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 4,02,760 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

†Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY to move:—

That the provision of Rs. 52,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 10, Major head—29.—Police, Minor head—D.—Village Police, at page 11 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs. 100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 7,46,276 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To raise a discussion that the whole expenditure should be borne by the Central Government).

Sir, this Cut Motion raises a very important matter. It wants to raise a discussion on the matter of dearness allowance that has been granted to the Local Board primary school teachers and provision for which has been made in the Supplementary Budget.

The hon. Members are aware that during the last November Session of the Assembly, a Resolution was adopted by the hon. House to fix the pay of primary school teachers at Rs. 40 and for granting a time scale of pay to these teachers. Along with this Resolution two memorials signed by no less than 47 hon. Members were submitted—one to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the other to the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Education. The memorials urged upon the Government to grant a sufficient dearness allowance to these teachers as an immediate measure and to fix a living salary for them. The Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition was also kind enough to put in his signature to these memorials with a short note.

I am sorry, Sir, neither the Resolution nor the memorials did receive kind consideration in the hands of the Government. It appears that still they do not completely realise the gravity of the situation. Batches of poor teachers parading the streets of Shillong in the cold of November did not, it appears, leave any impression on their mind. They still want to delude themselves with the false notion that it is a charge of the Local Boards and it is the Local Boards which should come to their rescue. The finances of the Local Boards are too well-known to them. Apart from the question of finances, why do they forget that 3/4ths of the total expenditure incurred by the Boards for Primary Education come from the Government Exchequer? The Boards have to depend upon Government even for their venture schools. So, where is the justification of this argument? Sir, during the last November Session, the Hon'ble Premier as well as the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge were very kind to receive these teachers in deputation. They treated them with all sympathy and kindness. The teachers were assured that their hard case would receive every consideration.

No doubt, the Government gave their serious consideration to the matter but the decisions that they have arrived at will not satisfy the dire needs of the teachers. The Government decision has been embodied in the form of a Resolution and it has been published in the *Assam Gazette* of the 7th February, 1945. It is important on more than one point of view. With your permission, Sir, I will read out the Resolution. It runs as follows:—

"Government have had under consideration the representations received from the primary school teachers of the Province for increase of their pay and also the Motion adopted by the Legislative Assembly recommending the minimum salary of the primary school teachers to be raised to Rs. 40 per mensem.

The great majority of the primary teachers are employees of the local bodies and it is the duty of these bodies to ensure that they are adequately paid. No statutory obligation in this respect rests upon Government.

2. Having regard, however, to the fact that most of the local bodies had limited resources, Government agreed to bear 60 per cent. of the cost towards a grant of Rs. 3 per mensem as dearness allowance, to primary teachers employed by the Boards. They consider that a further advance on this is now essential and that both they and the local bodies should contribute to this advance. But they are anxious to ensure that some immediate relief is given to the teachers and have therefore decided to make a further contribution on their own account at once. This contribution will consist of the entire cost of the following concessions—

(1) Those primary teachers who are in receipt of the dearness allowance which is shared by Government and the local bodies will get sufficient to bring their emoluments upto Rs. 20 per month;

(2) Those primary teachers who are not in receipt of the shared dearness allowance will get Rs. 4.

These concessions will be allowed with effect from 1st November, 1944.

3. Government wish to make it clear that, in their view, local bodies which have given dearness allowance should give a further concession at least equivalent to the concession now given and that those bodies which have not accepted Government's

previous offer should do so now. The further concession should, if necessary, be secured by raising the income of the local bodies. The aim should be to ensure to primary teachers generally a minimum salary of about Rs. 24 a month. Government expect local bodies to realise their responsibility in this matter, and will have to consider the application of compulsory methods if, in the case of any bodies, this expectation is not realised. As some local bodies are already levying the local rate at the maximum rate, Government propose to sponsor an amending Bill in the Legislature to enhance the maximum of local rates hitherto in force."

I am afraid, Sir, that the Government did not enunciate a sound principle in the Resolution. We cannot but take exception to the first concession that the teachers who are in receipt of dearness allowance will get sufficient to bring their emoluments upto Rs. 20 per mensem; that is, no teacher will be allowed to exceed Rs. 20. What about the old senior teachers who are drawing Rs. 20 or more? Then again, while the teachers getting the minimum salary of Rs. 12 per mensem and a dearness allowance of Rs. 3 will get an additional sum of Rs. 5 to raise their pay to Rs. 20, the teachers getting more than Rs. 12 as their substantive pay will get less than Rs. 5. This is a great anomaly and it will give rise to a great dissatisfaction and heart burning amongst the senior teachers.

I do not like to dilate on the second concession. I think, all Boards will take advantage of the Government Resolution and contribute their due quota of the first dearness allowance of Rs. 3 allowed to the teachers.

Another draw back, in the Government Resolution, is that it is silent about the teachers serving under the Municipal Boards. They are no less hit than the Local Board teachers. These concessions should also be extended to them.

From the Resolution itself, it is very difficult to understand what is this concession. Is it an increment in their pay or is it a dearness allowance for the war time period? Many teachers asked us on this point. We could not give a straight answer. The last paragraph indicates it to be an increment in the pay. Any way, I do hope that this point will be clarified by the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge.

The Local Boards realise their responsibility. But this is a responsibility which they have not got the capacity to discharge for want of funds. Many of the Boards are already levying local rates at the maximum rate. Government have not sponsored an amending Bill to enhance the maximum of local rates hitherto in force. So, where is the possibility of realising the aim that has been set out by Government in this Resolution, even in distant future?

So, should not Government extend their generosity a little further to ensure a minimum pay of Rs. 24 to each teacher? This minimum has been recognised by them and it should be allowed to the teachers at any cost.

Again, I repeat, Sir, that there should not be any discrimination between teacher and teacher. The senior teachers should not be penalised for no fault of theirs. As their number is very small, it being not more than 10 per cent., it will not entail expenditure of a big amount of money.

I do hope, Sir, my suggestion would receive the earnest consideration of the Hon'ble Education Minister.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

"That the provision of Rs. 1,74,882 under Supplementary Demand No. 13, Major head—37.—Education—Minor head—9.—Grants to Local Bodies for Primary Education at page 14 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 4,02,760 do stand reduced by Rs. 100."

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is an all Assam agitation with regard to the increase of salaries of primary school teachers. Sir, the primary school teachers are unanimous in their demand to have the effect of the Assembly decision arrived at in the last Session. We have all been flooded with telegrams from all parts of Assam to give effect to that Motion. The dearness allowance, which is said to bring the monthly remuneration of the primary teachers upto Rs. 20 temporarily, cannot save the poor ill-paid teachers in these stringent days. They have decided to

adopt a dangerous course by passing a resolution, that is, to apply for leave from the 1st of April 1945. Sir, if this unwanted catastrophe is brought about there would be deadlock in the infant education of the Province. I cannot understand why their demand should not be satisfied when huge sums of money are unnecessarily being wasted. Even the posts of Sub-Inspectors of Schools can be abolished without doing much harm to primary education. At a later stage I will prove how this can be done without any harm to any body. I will appeal to the House to support this Motion and to see that the decision of the House in the last Assembly Session is respected. I therefore request Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury to press his Motion.

Srijut MAHADEV SARMA: মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাক্তারীয়া,—মৌলভী আব্দুল বাবী চৌধুরী মহোদয়ে প্রাইমারী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ দৰ্জহা সম্পৰ্কে যি আলোচনা উপাধীন কৰিছে সেই বিষয়ে মই নীৰবে ভোট দিয়াত কৈ দুআঘাৰ কথাৰে তাক সমৰ্থন কৰিব খোজোঁ। আলোচনা প্রসঙ্গত তেখেতে যি বিলাক কথা কৈছে সেই সকলো কথা মই সমৰ্থন কৰোঁ। প্রাইমারী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকল নিতান্ত নিৰীহ, সেই কাৰণেই বোধহয় গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে তেওঁ বিলাকৰ সম্পৰ্কে যি প্রস্তাব গ্রহণ কৰিছে তাত যথেষ্ট খুঁত বৈছে। সেই খুঁতৰ উল্লেখ প্রস্তাবকে কৰিছে আৰু মই আশা কৰোঁ যে এতিয়া সেই খুঁত বিলাকৰ প্রতি আমাৰ গভৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষিত হৈছে আৰু সেই খুঁত বিলাক সংশোধন কৰিবলৈ গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে যত্ন লব। মোৰ মনত আছে, সব কালত আমি চহৰত পঢ়িবলৈ আহোতে তাৰ নিম্নপ্রাইমারী স্কুলক প্রাইমারী স্কুল নুবুলি “দুখীয়া স্কুল” বুলিছিল। সেই স্কুল বিলাকৰ ঘৰৰ যেনেকুৱা জীপ অৱস্থা শিক্ষক সকলৰো তেনেকুৱাই জুৰুলা অৱস্থা। আজি কালিৰ দিনতো সি সেই দৰেই থাকিবনে? তাৰ অলপ পৰিবৰ্তন নকৰিবনে? দুখীয়া শিক্ষক সকলৰ প্রতি সদায় উদাসীন থকা উচিত নে? এতিয়াও চহৰত যি বিলাক প্রাইমারী স্কুল আছে তাৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ প্রতি একো সুবিধা দিয়া হোৱা নাই। মই আশা কৰো গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই শ্ৰেণীৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ প্রতি ও দৃষ্টি দিব। মজলীয়া স্কুলৰ শিক্ষকৰ প্রতিও সুবিচাৰ কৰা হোৱা নাই। সেই স্কুল বিলাকত যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে তাত আঙ্গোৱাহ আছে আৰু শিক্ষক সকলৰ আবেদনত তাৰ বিতং উল্লেখ আছে। শিক্ষক সকলৰ সেই যুক্তিযুক্ত আবেদনৰ প্রতি দুনাই মই গভৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰো। প্রাইমারী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ সমানে ২০১ কুৰি টকা দৰ্জহা কৰাত আগৰে পৰা সিমান টকাত কাম কৰি থকা শিক্ষক সকলৰ প্রতি অবিচাৰ কৰা হৈছে। কাৰণ পিচত কানত সোমায়ো এজনে পুৰনাজনৰ সমানে দৰ্জহা পাব পাৰিব। সেই ক্ষেত্ৰত যোগ্যতা আৰু অভিজ্ঞতালৈ দৃষ্টি ৰখা হোৱা নাই। টকাৰ কালৰ পৰা চালেও ই অবিচাৰবে কথা। এইটোৰ নিমিত্তে পুৰণি শিক্ষক সকলে মনত বৰ দুখ পাইছে। সকলোৰে অনুভব কৰা এই বিষয়ত মই বেছি সময় নলৈ ইমানকৈ কওঁ যে এই শিক্ষক সকলৰ প্রতি যেন গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে দৃষ্টি দিয়ে আৰু দুখীয়া শিক্ষক বিলাকৰ বাতে ভাল হয় তাৰ প্রতি মন দিয়ে। চিৰকাল তেওঁবিলাক যেন দুখীয়া স্কুলৰ দুখীয়া শিক্ষক হৈয়ে নাথাকে।

(Srijut Mahadev Sarma, M.L.A., spoke in Assamese in support of the Cut Motion and urged that the primary school teachers should be given adequate increment of pay and that those senior teachers who are in receipt of pay of Rs. 20 should also be given the concessions allowed to junior teacher.)

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to add a few words with a view to clarify certain points so far as the Resolution of the Government is concerned with regard to the increment in the primary school teachers' salary. Sir, the point which the Mover, Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury has raised about the teachers serving under the Municipalities, is a real one and the Government ought to give serious consideration to it. It is a fact that the primary school teachers serving under the Municipalities are getting a bit higher pay but the cost of living in towns being admittedly higher they are unable to enjoy the amenities of life in a town which average people are having. Their expenditure has increased far more than that of the primary school teachers in the mufassil. The Resolution, which the Government have adopted for the increment in pay of the primary school teachers, does not give any benefit to the teachers serving under the Municipalities. I, therefore, request, the Hon'ble Minister for Education to see that some concession might be given to them.

Then, with regard to the point regarding the anomaly in the Resolution. Sir, if we have been able to interpret the Government Resolution which appeared in February in the Assam Gazette correctly, it seems that the primary school teachers, who are now

receiving Rs. 17, have been totally deprived of getting any concession. The concession which Government intend to give to these teachers is in view of the fact that ordinary living expenses of the people during these days have become too high and just to give them a bit of relief Government, either by pressure of the Legislature or by themselves taking into consideration the seriousness of the question, have thought it necessary that some sort of concession should be given to the teachers. If they have thought like that I do not find any reason why those who are now receiving Rs. 17 and upto Rs. 20 should be deprived of getting anything. If we interpret the Resolution it will be clear that only those who are getting Rs. 12 upto Rs. 17 are entitled to get some concessions provided they get Rs. 3 from the local bodies concerned. I would urge that whatever might be the contributions of the Local Boards, that should not be taken into consideration if Government really feel the necessity and if they feel the serious and miserable plight of these teachers. Government should give their own contributions, no matter, whether Local Boards give their own contributions or not. That was the unanimous demand. It was also demanded that at least Rs. 10, as an interim arrangement, be given to these teachers at a flat rate but the Resolution was otherwise. I think Sir, the Hon'ble Minister will not spare to give proper replies to the points raised by the hon. Mover and that he will kindly clarify the whole situation.

Srijut SURENDRANATH BURAGOHAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak a few words in support of the Motion before the House.

The part of the Supplementary Demand that is presented to the House is necessitated by what had transpired during the November Session of this House. The Government Resolution, which has been quoted in extenso by the hon. Mover, takes note of two things. It has taken note of the Motion that was passed by the Assembly and also it has taken note of the representations received by Government from the primary school teachers. But, Sir, I fail to find anything in that Resolution about the representation that was submitted to the Government under the signatures of a large number of hon. Members of this House during November Session. That representation which my hon. Friend, the Mover has chosen to call 'memorial', recommended that Government should grant a dearness allowance of Rs. 15 with effect from the 1st April, 1944. But with regard to that representation Government did not do anything and no explanation had been forthcoming from the Government for not having done anything in the matter. On the other hand, we find that Government had increased by 50 per cent. the pay of the menials like *orderlies* and employed *chaprasis* by Government. The recommendation for granting a dearness allowance of Rs. 15 to these teachers is not, therefore, unreasonable. Therefore, Sir, in view of what I had stated, I extend my support to the Motion before the House.

Babu DAKSHINARANJAN GUPTA CHAUDHURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, various hon. Members have spoken and various remarks had been made on the floor of this House in favour of the primary school teachers. During the last Session we heard many kind words from the Hon'ble Minister of Education extending his full sympathy to the poor primary school teachers, but there was a big "but", to all that the Education Minister said which reduced his sympathy into merely verbal assurance. In these hard days it is a recognised fact and that is, Government have recognised that if one is to carry on his existence, if he is to exist only, he requires at least a minimum salary of Rs. 40. That scale has been recommended even for menials by the Government in their various Departments. I do not know, Sir, why inspite of sympathy expressed by the hon. Members of the House and the outside people, Government did not come to the rescue of the poor teachers. The Resolution has been published by the Government in the Gazette but that Resolution does not carry us any where for the solution of that problem. And though the House recommended to raise the salary of the primary school teachers to a minimum of Rs. 40, the Government Resolution which has been published in the Gazette, has created a puzzle and has not touched the fringe of the problem. Every where, beginning from the Central Government to the Provincial Government, a graded scale has been recognised in case of dearness allowance but here, since the lot of the primary school teachers is peculiar, the decision in their case is also peculiar—nowhere to be found in the world. The Resolution comes to this that the minimum salary of the teachers will be raised to Rs. 20. Everybody drawing from Rs. 12 to Rs. 19, will get Rs. 20 and those who are

getting Rs. 20 or more will get nothing. This is a great injustice and no allowance has been given for seniority or efficiency. This is absurd on the face of it. Even when those Government servants who are getting more than Rs. 1,000 per month, are to get dearness allowance it is shameful to know the Government decision that those teachers who are getting Rs. 20 per month are not to get anything in the shape of dearness allowance. I appeal to Government to remove this absurd discrimination and do what is just and proper. Government has no reason to flout the unanimous decision of the House which decided that minimum should be raised to at least Rs. 40. As was recommended in the representations submitted to the Hon'ble Premier and the Hon'ble Minister of Education by Members themselves, I think, Government ought to have allowed the fact whether the Local Boards come to the rescue of the teachers or not. With these words, I support the Motion before the House.

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did never expect that after the decision arrived at by Government and published in the Gazette, last month, there will be again a discussion in this House about the salary of the primary school teachers. The hon. Mover began by saying that the Government did not take into consideration the Motion that was adopted by the House during the last Session and he also said that we did not take into consideration the representation made by the hon. Members of the Legislature in certain petition. I can inform the House that we have carefully gone into the matter and we have carefully considered the vote of the House as well as the representation made by the hon. Members of the Legislature and the decision which we have come to is the utmost that we could do in the matter. Of course, we do not claim perfection for our decision; it might be defective and it may not satisfy all, but we have already stated in the Resolution and I again want to impress the fact upon the hon. Members of this House that the Government cannot take any responsibility for pay and allowances of the teachers who are working under the local bodies.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: But that Resolution was unanimously passed by this House, Sir.

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: Yes, that might be passed. Government is mainly concerned with granting dearness allowance to their servants whereas these teachers are not Government servants. Hon. Members while making their recommendation conveniently forgot the fact that these teachers are not the employees of the Government. In the resolution also I laid particular stress on the words 'immediate relief' and it is only with a view to give immediate relief that Government have decided to give certain concessions to the primary school teachers.

Now, many of the hon. Members referred to the fact that the municipal teachers are not getting anything. I will point out to the hon. Members that the Motion moved by our hon. Friend Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury is only to raise discussion about the granting of dearness allowances to the Local Board primary school teachers. So the pay of the municipal primary teachers is beyond the scope of this Motion.

Then, the hon. Mover and certain other hon. Members were also referring to anomalies in the granting of concessions. I do not understand the anomaly. From the Resolution it will be clear that those teachers who are getting pay below Rs. 20 will get an amount to make up Rs. 20 and those getting Rs. 17 will get another amount of Rs. 3 to make it up to Rs. 20.

We have not included those teachers who are getting Rs. 20 and above. Of course, we are giving more relief to the teachers who are getting less, in the shape of big concessions. Some of the teachers came here and represented to me certain of their grievances. For instance, some of the municipal teachers said that they would not be benefitted by this Resolution at all, and there were some teachers who are not getting any concession from the Resolution. I can only say that we will give our due consideration to the defects that have been pointed out in the Government Resolution.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: May I know about the teachers under the Local Boards?

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: That is not our responsibility as they are not under Government. But we are prepared to help the Local Boards only in raising their local rates.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Has the Government decided to shoulder that responsibility?

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: No. Moreover, this Motion is not quite in order because in the Supplementary Demand presented there is no provision for the concessions contemplated in the Government Resolution. The amount provided is for granting 60 per cent. contribution under the previous decision of the Government.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I am putting the question.

The question is:

"That the provision of Rs. 1,74,882 under Supplementary Demand No. 13, Major head 37.—Education, Minor head 9.—Grants to Local Bodies for Primary Education at page 14 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs. 100; i.e. the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 4,02,760 do stand reduced by Rs. 100".

The Assembly divided

AYES—26

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Arun Kumar Chanda. | 14. Srijut Mahadev Sarma. |
| 2. Mr. Baidyanath Mookerjee. | 15. Srijut Mahi Chandra Bora. |
| 3. Srijut Bepin Chandra Medhi. | 16. Babu Nirendra Nath Dev. |
| 4. Babu Dakshina Ranjan Gupta Chaudhuri. | 17. Srijut Purandar Sarma. |
| 5. Srijut Ghanashyam Das. | 18. Babu Rabindra Nath Aditya. |
| 6. Srijut Haladhar Bhuyan. | 19. Rai Sahib Doulat Chandra Gohain. |
| 7. Srijut Ghana Kanta Gogoi. | 20. Srijut Ram Nath Das. |
| 8. Srijut Kameswar Das. | 21. Srijut Sarveswar Barua. |
| 9. Babu Kamini Kumar Sen. | 22. Srijut Siddhi Nath Sarma. |
| 10. Babu Karuna Sindhu Roy. | 23. Srijut Surendranath Buragohain. |
| 11. Mr. Kedarmal Brahmin. | 24. Maulavi Abdul Aziz. |
| 12. Srijut Lakshesvar Borooah. | 25. Khan Bahadur Maulavi Mahmud Ali. |
| 13. Babu Lalit Mohon Kar. | 26. Srijut Dhirsingh Deuri. |

NOES—33

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir Muhammad Saadulla. | 14. Maulavi Md. Abdus Salam. |
| 2. The Hon'ble Mr. Naba Kumar Dutta. | 15. Khan Sahib Maulavi Dewan Muhammad Ahbab Chaudhury. |
| 3. The Hon'ble Maulavi Munawwar Ali | 16. Maulavi Badaruddin Ahmed. |
| 4. The Hon'ble Srijut Hirendra Chandra Chakravarty. | 17. Maulavi Ghyasuddin Ahmed. |
| 5. The Hon'ble Khan Sahib Maulavi Mudabbir Hussain Chaudhuri. | 18. Khan Bahadur Maulavi Keramat Ali. |
| 6. The Hon'ble Dr. Mahendra Nath Saikia. | 19. Maulavi Muhammad Maqbul Hussain Chaudhury. |
| 7. The Hon'ble Maulavi Abdul Matin Chaudhuri. | 20. Maulavi Mabarak Ali. |
| 8. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi Sayidur Rahman. | 21. Khan Bahadur Maulavi Mufizur Rahman. |
| 9. The Hon'ble Miss Mavis Dunn. | 22. Maulavi Muzarrof Ali Laskar. |
| 10. The Hon'ble Srijut Rupnath Brahma. | 23. Maulavi Naziruddin Ahmed. |
| | 24. Mr. E. H. S. Lewis. |
| | 25. Mr. D. B. H. Moore. |
| | 26. Mr. C. W. Morley. |
| | 27. Mr. R. A. Palmer. |
| | 28. Mr. A. Whittaker. |

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 11. Khan Bahadur Hazi Abdul Majid Chaudhury. | 29. Srijut Bhairab Chandra Das. |
| 12. Maulavi Abdur Rahman. | 30. Srijut Bideshi Pan Tanti. |
| 13. Maulavi Syed Abdur Rouf. | 31. Rev. L. Gatphoh. |
| | 32. Mr. C. Goldsmith. |
| | 33. Mr. Jobang D. Marak. |

The question was lost.

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS: On a point of order, Sir. Can the hon. Mover of this Motion having pressed the Motion for vote and to division and having been present in the House, remain neutral?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes, he can do it. Hon. Members may remember that if the hon. Mover wanted to withdraw it could not have been withdrawn on any objection from any Member. If he at all desired to withdraw the Motion he might have felt helpless in the matter and he, therefore, decided to remain neutral.

Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI: Any hon. Member is entitled to change his mind at any moment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Quite so.

Then comes the next Motion of Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury. Will he move it?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Motion relates to a very important matter and in spite of my reluctance I am moving it.

Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 5,500 under Supplementary Demand No. 13, Major head—37.—Education, Minor head—11—Special Education, Sub-head—(a).—Government special schools—Normal or training schools at page 14 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 4,02,760 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

Sir, the importance of a Normal School for primary education cannot be over-estimated. The Silchar Normal School is the only school of its kind in the Surma Valley. The School along with its hostel was taken over by Military about 3 years back. For this, the training of primary school teachers is suffering a good deal. The poor teachers, going to Silchar for training, neither find any accommodation to live in nor they find proper facilities for training.

Sir, as the war conditions have considerably improved, may we hope that all these buildings, e.g., the Normal School and its hostel will be released without further delay? I hope this matter will receive the consideration of the Hon'ble Minister of Education.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That the provision of Rs. 5,500 under Supplementary Demand No. 13, Major head—37.—Education, Minor head—11.—Special Education, Sub-head—(a).—Government special schools—Normal or training schools at page 14 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 4,02,760 do stand reduced by Rs. 100."

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the training of teachers is a very vital matter and has suffered for the occupation of the Normal School and its hostel buildings. Sir, the Government are quite alive to the necessity of their immediate release. Government are already taking

steps in the matter and it is hoped that very soon these buildings will be released by the Military.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Mover press his Motion?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: No, Sir. I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I hope the hon. Mover has got leave of the House to withdraw his Motion.

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Will there be any discussion on the main Demand? (Voices: No.)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 4,02,760 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '37.—Education (Other than European)'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 14

38.—MEDICAL

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Is there to be any discussion on the main Demand? There is no Cut Motion to this Demand. (After a pause) Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 2,06,694 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '38.—Medical'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 15

39.—PUBLIC HEALTH

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is a Cut Motion* in the name of Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury. Does he move it?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: No, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Is there going to be any discussion on the main Demand? (After a pause) Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 4,70,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '39.—Public Health'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 16

40.—AGRICULTURE

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Any discussion on the main Demand? (After a pause) Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 5,89,984 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '40.—Agriculture'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 17

42.—CO-OPERATION

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 17. There are no Cut Motions. Any discussion on the main Demand? (After a pause) Then I am putting the main Demand.

*Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY to move:—

That the provision of Rs. 3,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 15, Major head—39.—Public Health, Minor head—A.—Public Health Establishment, Sub-head—(a).—Superintendence and other Establishment, Detailed head—Pay of Officers at page 16 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45 be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 4,70,800 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To raise a discussion for not providing offices to the Subdivisional Public Health Officers).

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 17,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '42.—Co-operation'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 18

43.—INDUSTRIES.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 18. There is no Cut Motion. Is there to be any discussion on the main Demand ?

(After a pause).

Then I am putting the main Demand :

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 24,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '43.—Industries'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 19

47.—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Any discussion on the main Demand ? There is no Cut Motion.

(After a pause).

Then I am putting the main Demand :

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 6,709 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '47.—Miscellaneous Departments'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 20

50.—Civil Works (excluding tools and plant and establishment charges)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 20. No Cut Motion. Any discussion on the main Demand ?

(After a pause).

Then I am putting the main Demand :

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 19,92,411 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '50.—Civil Works (excluding tools and plant and establishment charges)'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 21

56.—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 21. No Cut Motion. Is there any discussion on the main Demand ?

(After a pause).

Then I am putting the main Demand :

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 32,555 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '56.—Stationery and Printing'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 22

57.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 22. No Cut Motion. Any discussion on the main Demand ?

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN : (Rising to speak).

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member oppose it ?

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: No. I will only make certain observations Sir. It will be seen that under sub-head K.—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—some provision has been made and an explanation has been furnished to the following effect.

"In consequence of a strong representation made by this Government, Assam has been constituted as a separate zone with a monthly quota of cloth and yarn to be procured directly from the Bombay Presidency quite independent of Bengal. As a result Bengal has recently imposed a total ban on all movement of cloth into Assam. * * * To obviate these difficulties Government have had to make their own arrangements for the procurement of their provincial quota and for that purpose Government have appointed one Deputy Provincial Textile Commissioner and posted him in Bombay so that he may help our procuring agents in securing our due share of cloth and yarn by remaining in constant personal touch with the Textile authorities in Bombay. * * *

This morning, in reply to certain Questions it has been stated that one Superintendent of Government Emporium has been appointed as Deputy Provincial Textile Commissioner as a measure to procure cloth and yarn for this Province. Government of late appointed three agencies, viz. Messrs. H. K. Dada of Bombay, Messrs. A. Latiff R. Ahmed and a Co-operative society. It is stated in the Explanatory Notes that the post of Deputy Textile Commissioner was created with a view to help our agents in Bombay in the matter of procurement of cloth and yarn. But there is complaint and there is public resentment that this Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner of Textile are simply bent upon giving the entire monopoly to the Co-operative Society which has been formed in this town of Shillong and it is also whispered that the chairman of this textile Co-operative society is a relation of some of the high officials and he is receiving a salary of Rs. 3,000. (Babu Kamini Kumar Sen : May we know the relationship ?) The relationship might be enquired into by the Government. My submission is that Government took up a scheme and arranged procurement through those three agencies. But why there is disparity ? The Co-operative society which is functioning in Shillong is getting the preference. It is also reported that some of the agents have been given very small quota whereas one particular agency has been given the lion's share.

Now, coming to the details of procurement and coming to the actual needs of the Province, we find that Government have made an extensive arrangement only by appointing three agents; one Commissioner and one Deputy Commissioner of Textile, and by creating a big number of posts which fact was revealed this morning in reply to certain Questions. As many as 144 officers have been appointed for this Department. All these are meant for helping the people of the Province by giving them the requisite quantity of cloth and yarn. But, Sir, this question is agitating the minds of the people—whether people are really benefited by these arrangements. There can be no denial of the fact that the people are really starving for want of mill-made cloth. That this is so is evident from the speeches made by the hon. Members in this House and also from the agitation in the countryside. If we look into the condition of the towns we will be wrong. But those hon. Members having any idea of the rural areas must admit that there is real scarcity going on mostly in the higher families who are well-off and can afford to buy at any price the mill-made cloth, but the fact is that cloths are not available and they are in extreme difficulty. I may cite the case of one gentleman who owns three elephants and who is a big merchant. He came to me one day and stated that he has got four daughters and two nieces and was in extreme difficulty. He did not mind the cost at all; he came to the town several times for this purpose but he failed to obtain a single pair of *saree*. He sought my help, but I myself was helpless; with great difficulty I could manage one pair myself recently from Sylhet. So, I say, Sir, there is no use only appointing 144 officers, a Commissioner and a Deputy Commissioner. If we want to do any good to the people we should really provide them with cloth instead of merely appointing officers.

Mr. E. H. S. LEWIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to the explanatory notes under sub-head K(b) regarding Government action in getting ammunition for 12 bore guns, and in (c) regarding compensation to Government servants for property lost, etc., I would like to ask something, on a point of information,

In March last year when the Japanese threat to the Dimapur area was arising, in the Lakhimpur district—may be in others also—the Government seized shot guns and all private arms owned by other than Military personnel. Amongst the persons whose arms were seized there was one senior Indian employee of the Assam Oil Company, whose gun was given either to him or to his father by the Government as a reward. He gave it up, and it was sent down, I understand, for arming people who

were not armed. At the end of December last when the renewal of gun licences was due, the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh, visited Digboi and when this employee went with his licence he explained that he could not show the gun because it was still in Government hands but presumed the licence could be renewed. He was told "Oh, yes, with payment of the usual fee of Rs. 10". He said "I have not got my gun". He then sent a letter to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, and the reply came back from his Head clerk conveying the Deputy Commissioner's order that "the licence-holder will have to pay Rs. 10 if he wishes the license to be renewed, and if he does not pay, the licence will be cancelled. The return of guns is no concern of the Deputy Commissioner". It seemed such an unsympathetic method of dealing with the matter that I wrote a letter to the Commissioner of Divisions, I think, it was the end of January or the first week of February, saying that those people whose guns had been taken away last March had no word from Government whether, and when, their guns would be returned, and I thought the least Government might do was to renew their licences free of charge till such time as they can return the guns. Up to now I have had no reply, and that unfortunate man has had to pay Rs. 10 to renew his licence for a gun which he may never see again.

Srijut MAHADEV SARMA:

মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, এইটো ভিনাওৰ ভিতৰত "A—Expenditure on account of state prisoners and detenus সম্পৰ্কে গভৰ্ণমেন্টৰ ডিমাণ্ডৰ ওপৰত মই অলপ মন্তব্য কৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে। বিবোধিতা কৰি যেতিয়া লাভ নাই তেতিয়া গভৰ্ণমেন্টৰ বিশেষকৈ প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ দৃষ্টি এই বিষয়ে আকৰ্ষণ কৰাই বিধান। এইটো কোনেও নুই কৰিব নোৱাৰে যে ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰ উপত্যকাৰ, ছিকিউৰিটি প্ৰিজনাৰ সকলক গভৰ্ণমেন্টে যি ভাবে 'এলাৰেন্ছ' দিয়া উচিত আছিল সেইমতে দিয়া নাই আৰু তেওঁবিলাকৰ প্ৰতি অবিচাৰ কৰা হৈছে বুলি মই ভাবোঁ। বহুক্ষেত্ৰত বহুবাৰ তেওঁবিলাকে গভৰ্ণমেন্টৰ ওচৰত দৰখাস্ত দিও বিফল মনোৰথ হৈছে। কিছুমান ক্ষেত্ৰত এনেকুৱা মানুহক বন্দী কৰা হৈছে যিবিলাকে গোটেই পৰিয়ালৰ একমাত্ৰ উপাৰ্জজনকম মানুহ। তেওঁবিলাকক বন্দী কৰিও গভৰ্ণমেন্টে কোনো 'এলাৰেন্ছ' দিয়া নাই। এইটো বৰ অন্যায় কথা। মই বিশ্বাস কৰোঁ এনে অবিচাৰৰ ঘাই কাৰণ গভৰ্ণমেন্টে যি বিলাকৰ ওপৰত বিশ্বাস কৰে—অৰ্থাৎ পুলিছৰ ৰিপোৰ্ট ভাল নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে বোধ হয় গভৰ্ণমেন্টে তেওঁবিলাকক 'এলাৰেন্ছ' দিয়া নাই। মই আশা কৰোঁ গভৰ্ণমেন্টে অকল পুলিছৰ ৰিপোৰ্টৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ নকৰি অন্য অফিছাৰৰ দ্বাৰা বিচাৰ কৰাৰ আৰু তেওঁলোকক 'এলাৰেন্ছ' দিব। তেওঁবিলাকক ইমান দিন দীঘলীয়া কৰি বন্দী কৰি থৈ তাৰ ওপৰত অবিচাৰ কৰা অন্যায়। যিবা সাধাৰণ খবচৰ বা বাজে খবচৰ কাৰণে মাহেকত মাত্ৰ ৭১০ টকা দিয়া হয় বহুতৰ পক্ষে সি পৰ্য্যাপ্ত নহয় বা যথেষ্ট নহয় বুলি প্ৰতিবাদ স্বৰূপে বহুতে সেই ৭১০ টকাও গ্ৰহণ কৰা নাই। মই আশা কৰোঁ গভৰ্ণমেন্টে এই সকলোবিলাকৰ কথাও বিচাৰ কৰিব আৰু সকলো বন্দীকে উপযুক্ত "এলাৰেন্ছ" দি সিবিলাকৰ কষ্ট কিছু পৰিমাণে লাঘৱ কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিব।

(Srijut Mahadev Sarma, M.L.A. spoke in Assamese on the Motion and contended that adequate family allowances should be granted to the security prisoners. He also urged Government not to depend on police report regarding security prisoners but to cause enquiries to be made by district civil authorities).

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall take up the last point first, viz., the complaint placed before the House by Srijut Mahadev Sarma. As I mentioned only a few days ago, that although according to the Government of India, a personal allowance for the daily needs of security prisoners at the rate of Rs. 5 is to be allowed, it was the Assam Government who at their own responsibility had raised this allowance to Rs. 7-8. This sum is intended to meet the personal requirements of security prisoners who do not like, or cannot afford, to bear such expenses as, for example, the price of blades or tooth paste, tooth brush and things of this sort. In one case, as I mentioned again the other day, we had increased this allowance to Rs. 20. It is unfortunate that some security prisoners refused to accept Rs. 7-8, but the majority of them took this amount as meeting their needs. My hon. Friend also mentioned that many security prisoners who applied for family allowance had not got it. He is correct there. I laid elaborate figures before the House the other day. I won't repeat them for fear of taking further time of the House; but I may mention this that I do not

rely merely on Police reports. I ask Deputy Commissioners to enquire and they generally enquire through Extra Assistant Commissioners. It is our information that the Police agency is sometimes utilised. There have been cases where sums recommended by the Deputy Commissioners have been increased by me; in some cases even by 50 per cent. When a necessity for an allowance is found or proved, then alone Government comes with a grant. I always review the cases personally and in many cases I have granted allowances without any recommendation from the Deputy Commissioners. If any security prisoner applies again, I will reconsider the matter. I said so in reply to a Question only two days back.

Then again, I come to the complaint lodged by Mr. Lewis. It is a genuine complaint. Guns of private persons were seized by Government and handed over to those who were without arms and who guarded the Railway lines at a time when a swoop by the Japanese was impending. It is known, and I can place before the House now, that the Japanese had been within 19 miles as the crow flies of the Bengal and Assam Railway at certain parts. The people were guarding these lines and were given arms which they had not got.

My Friend Maulavi Abdul Aziz has submitted a Question and I am replying to him. I will ask each Deputy Commissioner to see if they can return the guns to these people and I hope within a month or so, many of the guns will be returned to their respective owners.

I will now come to the complaint of Maulavi Abdur Rahman. No body is more cognisant of the facts than myself that there is not sufficient mill-made cloth in the Province. My hon. Friend is complaining that we have posted an officer at Bombay who is supporting one particular party and not all others. He did not complain that the post was unwanted. I can lay facts and figures and also I can place before the House my knowledge and experience gathered from official reports of the extreme difficulty in procuring cloth in open market in Bombay. My hon. Friend's particular complaint is that the Provincial Co-operative Textile Society has at its head, at the present moment, a young man who has been in business for the last 15 years and he is a brother-in-law of the Textile Commissioner. Being relation is no offence.

* Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Particularly wife's brothers are always ruling and are in an advantageous position.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Sayid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I will lay certain facts from which my hon. Friends will be able to judge for themselves how beneficial his chairmanship has become to the Society. The Society was formed sometime in October last year and the bye-laws were drafted about the same time and according to the bye-laws they had to have 37 ordinary members who normally have a share capital of Rs.40,000 (forty thousand) per share. This Society will have one representative of each subdivisional Co-operative Society whose share capital will amount to five thousand rupees. Then in order to make the Society representative each Deputy Commissioner was requested to send up two names from each subdivision to be made members of this co-operative Organisation if they want. I told the Society that they would not be given any agency if they could not raise five lakhs of rupees as capital to start with. A huge capital is required in order to procure our cloth. I will just give a very rough idea of the capital that is required. We have been given 4,600 bales per month. The average price of one bale is in the neighbourhood of Rs.1,200. So, even if we take only 4 thousand bales for procurement the total cost per month is in the neighbourhood of 48 lakhs of rupees. Anyone dealing with this business knows that a consignment to arrive in Assam from Bombay generally requires three months' time. The agency dealing in our cloth quota shall have to invest forty-eight lakhs of rupees per month and it must be prepared with three months capital with him and which will amount to over a crore of rupees. It was this youngman, the brother-in-law of the Commissioner who gave in mortgage his own tea gardens in order to induce a particular Bank to advance him more than one crore of rupees for this Society consisting of traders and the Co-operative Societies of the subdivisions.

*Srijut SURENDRANATH. BURAGOHAIN: On a point of information, Sir. Is it not a fact that the Chairman is elected by the members?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Why do you disturb me? I am laying down one fact.

The idea was conceived by our Textile Commissioner Mr. Hadi Hussain. His brother-in-law came to me with the idea of starting a fish culture society. I gave him my advice and told him to go to Bengal where they have started developing fisheries by rearing fish in tanks near about Calcutta. By accident, the Textile Commissioner and his brother-in-law travelled together and they must have discussed the idea of Co-operative cloth marketing and procuring and the brother-in-law gave up the idea of fish culture and caught hold of the cloth purchasing scheme and devoted all his personal money and energy and now he has been going to Bombay to procure the quota that has been given to Assam. Originally, the Society was given only 20 per cent. of the quota for procuring and sending to Assam. As my Friend, Maulavi Abdur Rahman has stated before the House that a Sylheti young man who has been enterprising enough to open his own business long before this procurement scheme of the Assam Government was mooted, we patronised that young man named A. Latiff R. Ahmed and gave him 20 per cent. of the quota to buy. After working for two months this Sylheti young man gave up his business and requested another firm to buy his quota. For some reason or other, or for want of any instruction, the other firm, from the second month, refused to buy on account of Sylhet and therefore his quota was lying unused. If somebody does not immediately buy his quota that will lapse and Assam will suffer and so Rao Saheb Sundaram, our Deputy Provincial Textile Commissioner, immediately asked the Society, who has got a big capital of over a crore of rupees, advanced by a Bank, to take this up and so the Society got 40 per cent. to send uptill now. The Society has procured the largest amount of cloth and, therefore, simply because the Chairman, who has been elected by the founders, happens to be a relation of our Textile Commissioner, the Society should not be condemned. It is open to the Society, now that they have got full 37 members and the Subdivisional Co-operative Societies, to throw the 'brother-in-law' out and elect somebody else. Now, my Friend has stated that this Chairman is drawing a salary of Rs.3,000 per month. That is not so. No body can take any money from a co-operative society unless it is resolved by the society itself. The Society has not yet decided to pay their Chairman any money. Uptill now, he says, he has spent over Rs.20,000 during the last 5 months from his pocket. He had been to Bombay. He had been to Madras to secure the quota of yarn and he has been running about. He says, he has not been paid a single farthing by the society; whereas he has mortgaged 2 tea gardens to raise the capital on behalf of the society. Sir, this is the state of affairs. Instead of condemning the gentleman on account of relationship, I suppose, Assam public ought to thank him for the extreme earnestness that he has shown in procuring the mill-made cloth from Bombay and Ahmedabad for Assam. My Friends may say that if he is so up and doing why we are not getting the cloth? I will also detail this. The cloth cannot be booked direct to Assam on account of some railway regulation. We have taken that matter up with the Central Government. Therefore, we had to depend on an intermediary to handle it at Calcutta. On account of some difficulty in the destination not being marked on some bales, some extra work was thrown upon them and unless the terms of commission was resettled the agent at Calcutta refused to do any work. Our Commissioner went to Calcutta and has set it right. Uptill now, that is by the end of February, 2,700 bales have come to Assam and that agent Messrs. Shaw Wallace and Company, has arranged to send to Assam 200 bales daily. So, in a short time, that is within one month, I am perfectly sure, that mill-made cloth which is so scarce now will be available to the public. But I must warn by again repeating the figure which I have placed before the House many times that they cannot expect the same lavish supply as they had in pre-war times, that is, to buy any quantity of cloth. Our normal import before the war was 12,000 bales per month. Now we have been given only 4,600 bales per month.

Mr. E. H. S. LEWIS: Sir, can I take the Hon'ble Prime Minister's reply to my point to mean that the men, who had their guns seized and not yet returned, will have the licence fees refunded to them?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I cannot say that off-hand, Sir, whether the licence fees for the period the guns were in Government custody will be returned. I cannot say what will be the attitude of Government on that point. I have passed orders to each Deputy Commissioner to return the guns as early as possible.

Mr. E. H. S. LEWIS: Will Government consider that point, Sir?

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.1,70,491 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '57.—Miscellaneous'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 23.

63.—EXTRAORDINARY CHARGES

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 23. There is no Cut Motion. Any discussion on the main Demand? (After a pause). Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.36 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945 for the administration of the head '63.—Extraordinary Charges'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 24.

64B.—CIVIL DEFENCE

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 24. There is no Cut Motion. Any discussion on the main Demand? (After a pause). Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.1,72,666 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '64B.—Civil Defence'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 25.

64A.—TRANSFER TO REVENUE RESERVE FUND

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 25. No Cut Motion. Any discussion on the main Demand? (After a pause). Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.25,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '64A.—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 26.

85A.—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON PROVINCIAL SCHEMES CONNECTED WITH THE WAR.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 26. There is a Cut Motion* in the name of Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury. Does he want to move?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: No, Sir.

* Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY to move:

That the provision of Rs.94,45,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 26, Major head—85A.—Capital outlay on Provincial Schemes, Minor head—1A.—Grain Storage Scheme (total), at page 31 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1944-45, be reduced by Rs.100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.1,11,95,500 do stand reduced by Rs.100.
(To raise a discussion about the waste of foodgrains purchased by Government through their Agents entailing a huge loss to the Province).

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Any discussion on the main Demand? (After a pause). Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.1,11,95,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head '85A—Capital outlay on Provincial Schemes connected with the War.'"

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 27.

LOANS AND ADVANCES, ETC.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Demand No. 27. No Cut Motion. Any discussion on the main Demand? (After a pause). Then I am putting the main Demand.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.2,66,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1945, for the administration of the head 'Loans and Advances, etc.'"

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think this finishes all the Supplementary Demands for Grants moved in the House.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 11 A.M., on Thursday, the 15th March, 1945.

SHILLONG,

The 17th May, 1945.

A. K. BARUA,
Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly,

Appendix D

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE CHARGED ON THE REVENUES OF THE PROVINCE DURING 1944-45, LAID BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY, UNDER SECTION 81 OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT

(Charged—Non-excluded Areas)

	No. 1	Rs.
8.—PROVINCIAL EXCISE—		
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule		20,300
Additional amount now required	...	2,800
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—		
A.—Superintendence—		
Allowances and Honoraria	...	2,800

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is mainly due to the necessity of more frequent touring by the Commissioner of Excise in connection with works relating to Drugs Control Order, Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinances, procurement and distribution of Consumer Goods, etc.

	No. 2	Rs.
10.—FOREST (NON-EXCLUDED AREAS) CHARGED—		
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule		1,64,300
Additional amount now required	...	8,347
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—		
B.—Establishment (charged)—		
1.—Salary of superior officers	...	900
3.—Allowance and Honoraria	...	7,280
C.—Loss or gain by exchange	...	80
D.—Charges in England	...	147
		<hr/> 8,347

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. Mainly to meet the special pay sanctioned to the Forest Utilisation Officer at 20 per cent. of his pay.
3. For meeting the cost of travelling allowance for extra touring of officers in connection with war supply and war allowance recently sanctioned by Government.
- C & D.—On the basis of actuals of last year provision has been made under C and provision under D has been made according to actual calculation.

12.—CHARGES ON ACCOUNT OF MOTOR VEHICLES TAXATION ACT—

	No. 3	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule		Nil
Additional amount now required	...	10,000
II.—Sub-head under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—		
C.—Compensation to local bodies, etc.	...	10,000

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The construction of the Sylhet-Shillong Motor Road through the Khyrim State has brought about the fall of State revenues in the shape of bazaar tolls, etc. and so the Government decided to pay a compensation of Rs. 10,000 to the Khyrim State during the current financial year to compensate the loss. The decision was made too late to make any provision in the current year's Budget, so an additional appropriation of Rs. 10,000 will be required during the current financial year.

No. 4.

22.—INTEREST ON DEBT AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS (CHARGED)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	7,68,700
Additional amount now required	89,667
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for—	
A.—Interest on ordinary debt—	
(1) Interest on permanent loans	15,800
(2) Floating loans—	
(a) Discount on Treasury Bills	34,000
(b) Interest on ways and means advances	34,367
3. Other items—	
(a) Expenditure connected with the issue of new loans	5,500
	<u>89,667</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Represents provision for payment during the current year of the cumulative interest up to 1943-44.
2. (a) & (b) The amounts represent discount on Treasury Bills and interest on ways and means advances taken to finance the schemes relating to purchase of food-stuff and standard cloth and motor transport organisation.
3. (a) The excess represents commission paid to the Reserve Bank of India for the management of Assam Government Treasury Bills to which they are entitled under the agreement with the Bank.

No. 5

25.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (CHARGED)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	11,30,500
Additional amount now required...	34,635
II.—Sub-head under which the demand will be accounted for—	
H. Minister	
P.—Director of Land Records—	30,000
1. Pay of officers	4,485
2. Allowances and Honoraria	150
Total	<u>34,635</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- H. Due to the increase of pay and allowances of Hon'ble Ministers.
- P. 1. Due to leave salary of the Director for which no provision was made in the original Budget.
2. Due to larger requirement on account of increase in the rates of travelling allowance.

No. 6

27.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	2,53,300
Additional amount now required	13,121
II.—Sub-heads under which this additional appropriation will be accounted for—	
A. Share cost for the maintenance of the Calcutta High Court.	10,500
B. Law officers—	
(a) English Law officers (charged)	1,754
D. District and Sessions Judges—	
(i) Pay of Officers	533
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	334
Total	<u>13,121</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. A sum of Rs. 1,35,500 was provided in the current year's Budget on account of the share cost for the maintenance of the Calcutta High Court on the basis of demand made in the previous years. The Government of Bengal have now reported that a sum of Rs. 1,46,000 is estimated to be payable to that Government for this purpose. An additional sum of Rs. 10,500 is therefore necessary to meet the expenditure.

B. (a) To meet the travelling allowance and fees of the Advocate-General who represented this Government before the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta, in some security prisoner's case.

D. (i) Represents proportionate leave salary of Justice Mr. Edgley debited to Assam.

(ii) Due to more tours on official duty.

No. 7

29.—POLICE (CHARGED)—	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	3,20,300
Additional amount now required	70,750
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—	
A.—Superintendence—	Rs.
Pay of officers	4,400
B.—District Executive Force—	
District Police—	
(1) Pay of officers	50,930
(2) Allowances and honoraria, etc.	10,100
M.—Charges in England—Expenditure of the High Commis- sioner.	5,320
Total	70,750

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Superintendence.—The excess is due to the adjustment of pay of special officers for which no provision was made in the Budget, e.g., Mr. Ali.

B.—District Police.—(1) The excess is due to the increase in the number of posts, viz., Commandant, Railforce, and the appointment of Mr. Dhar to the I. P. Cadre.

(2) The excess is due to the grant of war allowance and daily allowance at enhanced rates with effect from 1st December 1943 and 1st July 1944.

M.—This is required to meet the leave salaries of officers for which no provision was made in the original Budget.

No. 8

42.—CO-OPERATION—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs.
Additional amount now required	23,200
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
A.—Direction charges—	
Allowances and honoraria—charged	2,000

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Director of Industries' frequent tours outside the Province involved more expenditure than usual, with the result that, the current year's provision in the Budget has proved inadequate. A supplementary grant of Rs. 2,000 is essentially necessary to meet the excess expenditure already incurred and some unavoidable expenditure to be incurred during the remaining period of the year.

No. 9

50.—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT CHARGES—NON-EXCLUDED AREAS—(CHARGED)

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule Rs.
Additional amount now required 48,600

II.—Sub-heads to which the Supplementary grant will be 19,200

accounted for by the Public Works Department—

A. Direction charges—

(a) Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department—

(i) 1. Pay of Officers

(ii) 3. Allowances and Honoraria 5,444

(b) Superintending Engineers— 3,000

(iii) 3. Allowances and Honoraria

(iv) D. Charges in England 500

10,256

Total 19,200

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(i) Due to leave salary of Mr. G. W. Gordon, I.S.E., from July to October 1944 having been drawn in advance in India and debited to Direction charges.

(ii) Due mainly to the cost of passage of Mr. G. W. Gordon, I.S.E., for which there was no Budget provision.

(iii) Due to raising the rates of travelling allowance.

(iv) Due to leave salary of Mr. G. W. Gordon, I.S.E., for November 1944 to February 1945 not provided for in the original Budget; also due to provision for leave salary of Mr. K. E. L. Pennell having fallen short of actual requirement.

EXCLUDED AREAS

No. 10

7.—Land Revenue

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule Rs.
Additional amount now required 27,200

II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be 370

G.—Land Records (b) District Charges—Kanungo Establishment—

(1) Pay of Establishment

(2) Allowances and Honoraria 250

(3) Contingencies (contract) 40

(4) Works—Repairs 30

50

Total 370

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(1) The excess is due to payment of leave salary to the Supervisor Kanungo in Sadiya Frontier Tract and payment of field allowance to the officiating Supervisor Kanungo.

(2) The excess is due to increased rates of dearness allowance sanctioned during the current year.

(3) The excess is due to payment of pay and cash allowance and travelling allowance to Supervisor Kanungo's Chairman in Balipara Frontier Tracts at enhanced rate.

(4) The excess is due to increase in the rates of building materials and labour.

No. 11

9.—Stamps

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule Rs.
Additional amount now required 100

II.—Sub-head under which the demand will be accounted for— 15

A.—Non-Judicial 15

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Due to increased rates of fees paid to stamp vendors on account of rise in cost of living.

No.12

10—Forests—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule ...	2,02,200
Additional amount now required ...	1,09,510
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—	
A.—Conservancy and works—	
I.—Timber and other produce removed by Government Agency ...	260
II.—Timber and other produce removed from forest by consumers and purchasers.	11,325
V.—Live-stock, store, tools and plant ...	39,160
VI.—Communications and buildings ...	14,080
VII.—Organisation, improvement and extension of Forests ...	21,190
IX.—Miscellaneous ...	5,935
Total A.—Conservancy and Works ...	91,950
B.—ESTABLISHMENT	
2.—Pay of subordinates and office establishment ...	1,200
3.—Allowance and Honoraria ...	12,200
4.—Contingencies ...	4,160
Total B.—Establishment ...	17,560
Total ...	1,09,510

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. I.—More elephant tusks received unexpectedly in the Sadiya Division, hence more money is required for payment of rewards to the finders.

II.—The extra expenditure is mainly due to the construction of storage sheds for minor forest produce in 8 centres in the excluded areas of the Lakhimpur Division.

V.—The excess expenditure is mainly due to purchase of 4 lorries for the Working Plan Division and one truck for Sadiya Division and for purchase of paddy at the increased rates for elephant ration.

VI.—Mainly due to the construction of new roads in the Sadiya Division for speedy extraction of war timber.

VII.—The extra grant is required mainly for silvicultural and regeneration works in the Sadiya Division.

IX.—The extra amount is mainly due to meet the cost of free rations supplied to the staff engaged in Rangapahar area for departmental operations.

B.—ESTABLISHMENT

B. 2.—Mainly due to transfer of subordinate staff from Non-excluded to Excluded areas.

3.—Extra money is required mainly to meet the cost of extra travelling allowance for officers and subordinates and payment of dearness allowance at the increased rates.

4.—More money is required for meeting the cost of service postage for increased correspondence and for the maintenance of Departmental trucks.

No.13

25.—General Administration (Excluded areas)—					Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule					...
Additional amount required					3,68,700
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—					33,191
S. General Establishment—					
1.—Pay of officers					...
2.—Allowances and Honoraria					5,100
3.—Contingencies					11,607
4.(a)—Works—Original Works					12,364
(b)—Repairs					800
X.—Charges in England—Expenditure by the High Commissioner					1,000
					2,320
					<hr/> 33,191

EXPLANATORY NOTES

S. 1. Due to creation of some new posts.

2. Excess expenditure is due to the grant of war allowance at 10 per cent. and cash allowance at enhanced rates and also due to increase of travelling allowance.

3. Due to abnormal rise in prices of articles, etc., the original budget provision proved quite inadequate. Rs.5,000 was also incurred in connection with the purchase of a house for the residence of the Sub-Treasury Officer, Sadiya, for which there was no Budget provision.

4.(a)—Due to the establishment of an out-post at Khimyang, Tirap Frontier Tract.

(b)—Due to the repairs of the clerks' quarters of the Political Officer, Tirap Frontier Tract.

X.—To meet the leave salaries of officers going on leave in England.

No.14

27.—Administration of Justice—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule					Rs.
Additional amount now required					900
II.—The sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—					862
(C).—Mufassil Establishment—					
3. Contingencies					...
I.—Criminal Courts—					Rs.
1. Allowances and Honoraria					650
2. Contingencies					32
					180
Total					<hr/> 862

EXPLANATORY NOTES

C.—Due to increase in the number of criminal cases.

I.—1. This is required to meet the excess expenditure relating to "Remuneration to copyists". The original Budget provision was not adequate.

2. This is required to meet the excess expenditure relating to "Diet and Road money to witnesses". Expenditure under this item is of an uncertain nature and cannot be accurately estimated beforehand.

No.15

28.—Jails and convict settlements—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule ...	Rs. 9,400
Additional amount now required ...	10,051

II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—

A.—District Jail—	
(1) Allowances & Honoraria ...	1,729
(2) Contingencies non-contract ...	4,142
(3) Ditto contract ...	333
B.—Charges for Police custody—	
Contingencies ...	3,607
K.—Works—(b) Repairs—Cattle Pounds ...	240

Total ... 10,051

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. 1. Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rates.

2 & 3. Due to increase of jail population which was not anticipated.

B.—The additional amount is required due to abnormal rise in the price of foodstuffs, etc., and a large increase in the number of prisoners.

K.—The additional amount is required to meet the expenditure on account of repairs to the Lokra cattle pound for which there was no Budget provision.

No.16

29.—Police—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule ...	Rs. 1,45,000
Additional amount now required ...	28,933

II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—

B.—District Executive Force—

(a) District Police—	
(1) Pay of establishment ...	8,920
(2) Allowances and Honoraria ...	10,900
(3) Contingencies ...	900

M.—Charges in England—Expenditure by the High Commissioner ... 8,213

Total ... 28,933

EXPLANATORY NOTES

B (1) Increase is mainly due to increase in Force.

(2) The excess is due to the grant of dearness allowance at enhanced rates and increase of daily allowance.

(3) The excess is due to increase in the prices of clothing and use of more stamps for increase of correspondence.

M.—To meet the overseas pay of officers.

No.17

37.—Education (other than European)—

Rs.

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule

1,53,900

Additional amount now required

11,388

II.—The sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—

1. Primary Education—Government Primary Schools

6,000

2. Direct grants to non-Government Primary Schools

5,388

Total ... 11,388

EXPLANATIONS

1. Rs. 6,000 is required for dearness and cash allowances granted to Government Primary School teachers.

2. The total cost for grant of dearness allowance to teachers of non-Government Primary Schools in Lushai Hills (North and South) will amount to Rs. 5,388.

No. 18

38.—Medical (Excluded Areas)—Charged—

Rs.

The amount originally included in the authenticated schedule

2,63,700

Additional amount now required

14,138

II.—The Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for :—

B. Hospitals and Dispensaries—(a) Ordinary Dispensaries—

Rs.

(1) Allowances and Honoraria

5,415

(2) Contingencies (contract)

8,723

Total ... 14,138

EXPLANATIONS

(1) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rates.

(2) Due to increase in the price of miscellaneous articles and also due to grant of

dearness allowance to contingency menials at the increased rates.

No.19

50.—Civil Works (excluding tools and plant and establishment)—

Rs.

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule

4,01,600

Additional amount now required

73,122

II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—

A—Original works—(a) Buildings—

General Administration

Police other than Assam Rifles

17,252

(b) Communications—

970

Ordinary Roads

B—Repairs—

1. Buildings

15,800

2. Communications

10,700

3. Miscellaneous

27,600

800

73,122

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A—Original works—

(a) Buildings—

General Administration—

1. Due to the increased transactions on account of Defence works in the Tirap Frontier Tract it has become urgently necessary to extend the Sub-treasury building

and to construct a strong room. The work was taken up at an estimated cost of Rs. 8,741.

2. No residential accommodation for the Treasury and Clerical staff under the Political Officer, Tirap, is locally available and hence the construction of some quarters estimated to cost Rs. 8,511 has been undertaken.

The full amount of the estimate will be required for expenditure during the year.

Police other than Assam Rifles—

As there is no housing accommodation at Kohima it has become urgently and imperatively necessary to requisition certain private houses for the Civil Police at Kohima. A sum of Rs.970 is required for payment of compensation to the parties concerned.

(b) Communications—

Ordinary Roads—

(a) In view of increase in traffic and the necessity for transport of war timber and sleepers over the Lohit Valley Road it has become an urgent necessity to strengthen the existing bridges on this road to 6 tons capacity. The work is estimated to cost Rs. 30,900 and a sum of Rs. 15,000 is required for expenditure during the year.

(b) The removal of certain culverts on the Lohit Valley Road damaged by flood has become urgently necessary and hence the work estimated to cost Rs. 1,344 has been taken up. A sum of Rs. 800 is required for expenditure during the year.

B—Repairs—

Due to increased rates of labour and materials.

No.20

50.—Civil Works—(Establishment and Tools and Plant charges)—Excluded Areas—

	Rs.
I. Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule ...	47,800
Additional amount now required	34,750

II.—Sub-heads to which the supplementary grant will be accounted for by the Public Works Department :—

B. Charges on construction—

	Rs.
(i) 1.—Pay of Officers	1,350
(ii) 2.—Pay of Establishment	3,000
(iii) 3.—Allowances and Honoraria	15,800
(iv) 4.—Contingencies	600
(v) G—Tools and Plant	14,000
Total	34,750

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(i) Due to opening of a new Division at Kohima.

(ii) Due mainly to the grant of advance increments to certain classes of Government servants, 33½ per cent. increase in pay of temporary overseers and opening of a new division at Kohima.

- (iii) Due to raising the rates of travelling allowance and other fixed allowances and grant of extra dearness allowance and war allowance to Government servants.
 (iv) Due to purchase of a type writer and increased cost of materials.
 (v) To meet the cost of a staff car and a 15 cwt. truck for Sadiya Frontier Tract.

No.21

54-A.—Famine Relief—

	Rs.
Appropriation originally included in the authenticated schedule ...	500
Additional amount now required	1,400
II.—Sub-head to which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—	
Gratuitous relief	1,400

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The additional amount is required to meet (1) the expenditure in connection with gratuitous relief to Baigo village in the North Cachar Hills and (2) the expenditure for the purchase of ploughing cattle in the Tirap Frontier Tract, for which there was no Budget provision.

No.22

57.—Miscellaneous (Excluded Areas)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule ...	1,63,500
Additional amount required	78,096
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
C.—Donation for Charitable purposes	42
E.—Petty Establishment—	
(a) Circuit and Sessions houses	244
(b) Other petty Establishment—	
(1) Transport and Commissariat Establishment ...	45,510
(c) Ledo Area Improvement Establishment	4,577
J.—Miscellaneous Durbar Charges	19,320
K.—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—	
Expenditure connected with the control and distribution of cloth and yarn.	2,361
M.—Works—	
(a) Original Works	5,757
(b) Repairs	285
Total	78,096

EXPLANATORY NOTES

C.—This is for “contingencies”. The original estimated provision proved inadequate.

E.—(a) This is due to the grant of dearness allowance at higher rates for which there was no Budget provision.

(b) (1) This is due to the following :—

(i) Increase of wages of Porters and Sirdars in the Sadiya and Balipara Frontier Tracts.

(ii) Fluctuation of market prices of articles and clothing.

(iii) Due to non-arrival of clothing from Bombay and late arrival of implements from Calcutta owing to Transport difficulties, the Political Officer had to purchase some clothing and implements locally to meet immediate needs pending arrival of the same from other Provinces.

(c)—There was no provision in the Budget for it. The expenditure had to be incurred in connection with the sanitary and hygiene arrangements made in places near military camps.

J.—This is for “contingencies.” The excess expenditure is due to the high cost of scarlet broad cloth purchased for the presents to the hills tribes in large quantity. The Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills, had to incur Rs. 3,000 in addition in connection with the purchase of rum for which there was no provision in the Budget.

K.—It has become necessary to appoint certain staff at Sadiya and Haflong, for the administration of the Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Control) Order, 1943. The amount is required to meet the pay, travelling allowance, etc., of the said staff.

M. (a) *For Ledo Area Improvement Establishment.*—There was no provision in the Budget for it.

(b) This is required to meet the expenditure incurred in connection with the repairs to the Bhalukpung-Jamiri Road in the Balipara Frontier Tract for which there was no provision in the Budget.

No.23

63.—EXTRAORDINARY CHARGES (EXCLUDED AREAS)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	...	Nil.
Additional amount now required	... ..	73,394

II.—Sub-head under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—

A. Charges in India—	Rs.
(i) Loss due to enemy action	... .. 73,394

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This consists of two items—

(1) Loss of money in the Kohima Treasury due to enemy inroads into the Naga Hills in April 1944 (Rs.6,120).

(2) Government have decided to sanction the grant to Government servants under their control who are paid from Provincial revenues, of compensation not exceeding actual proved loss for their personal kit lost in enemy occupied territory in which they were on duty.

No provision was made in the current year's Budget as there was no question of such payment when the original Budget estimate was framed. The claims now received are large but after careful scrutiny Government have decided to sanction an amount totalling Rs. 67,274 for officers of the excluded areas, and an additional appropriation is necessary for this sum.

Statement showing by major heads the amounts of Supplementary Statement of expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province during 1944-45

Heads	Amount included in the authenticated Schedule			Additional amount now required			Amount as it will finally stand			Number of demand
	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total authenticated amount	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total amount	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total amount	
7. Land Revenue....	..	27,200	27,200	..	370	370	..	27,570	27,570	10
8. Provincial Excise	..	20,300	20,300	2,800	..	2,800	23,100	..	23,100	1
9. Stamps ..	..	100	100	..	15	15	..	115	115	11
10. Forests ..	..	2,02,500	3,66,500	8,347	1,09,510	1,17,857	1,72,647	3,11,710	4,84,357	2 & 12
12. Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.	..	..	..	10,000	..	10,000	10,000	..	10,000	3
22. Interest on debt and other obligations	7,68,700	..	7,68,700	89,667	..	89,667	8,58,367	..	8,58,367	4
25. General Administration ..	11,28,000	3,68,700	14,96,700	34,635	33,191	67,826	11,62,635	4,01,891	15,64,526	5 & 13
27. Administration of Justice ..	2,53,300	900	2,54,200	13,121	862	13,983	2,66,421	1,762	2,68,183	6 & 14
28. Jails and Convict Settlements	..	9,400	9,400	..	10,051	10,051	..	19,451	19,451	15
29. Police ..	3,20,300	1,45,000	4,65,300	70,750	28,933	99,683	3,91,050	1,73,933	5,64,983	7 & 16
37. Education (other than European) ..	..	1,53,900	1,53,900	..	11,388	11,388	..	1,65,288	1,65,288	17
38. Medical ..	..	2,63,700	2,63,700	..	14,138	14,138	..	2,77,838	2,77,838	18
39. Public Health ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
40. Agriculture ..	23,200	..	23,200	2,000	..	2,000	25,200	..	25,200	8
42. Co-operation ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
50. Civil Works (Excluding Tools and Plants).	..	4,01,600	4,01,600	..	73,122	73,122	..	4,74,722	4,74,722	19
Ditto (Establishment, Tools and Plants).	48,600	47,800	96,400	19,200	34,750	53,950	67,800	82,550	1,50,350	9+20
54-A. Famine Relief ..	..	500	500	..	1,400	1,400	..	1,900	1,900	21
57. Miscellaneous ..	..	1,63,500	1,63,500	..	78,096	78,096	..	2,41,596	2,41,596	22
63. Extraordinary charges ..	..	..	..	..	73,394	73,394	..	73,394	73,394	23
Total	27,26,700	17,84,500	45,11,200	2,50,520	4,69,220	7,19,740	29,77,220	22,53,720	52,30,940	

Appendix—E

Statement showing by major heads the amounts of Supplementary Grants which the Assembly are asked to vote in the present Session

Heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly and authenticated by His Excellency	Supplementary grants voted in the November 1944 Session	Grant asked for in present Session	Grant as it will finally stand	Number of Supplementary demand
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
7.—Land Revenue	18,77,700	..	1,49,520	20,27,220	1
9.—Stamps	47,000	..	7,280	54,280	2
10.—Forests	14,49,200	..	21,58,938	36,08,138	3
11.—Registration	1,73,500	..	9,090	1,82,590	4
13.—Other Taxes and Duties ..	6,400	..	2,792	9,192	5
18-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works.	7,31,700	..	26,980	7,58,680	6
25.—General Administration ..	26,19,000	..	3,24,416	29,43,416	7
27.—Administration of Justice ..	9,04,600	..	1,47,839	10,52,439	8
28.—Jails and Convict Settlements ..	11,40,100	..	1,83,084	13,23,184	9
29.—Police	34,03,200	21,329	7,46,276	41,70,805	10
30.—Ports and Pilotage	2,000	..	50	2,050	11
37.—Education (other than European) ..	45,51,100	..	4,02,760	49,53,860	13
„ „ (European)	49,000	..	6,000	55,000	12
38.—Medical	13,18,300	..	2,06,694	15,24,994	14
39.—Public Health	14,06,400	..	4,70,800	18,77,200	15
40.—Agriculture	26,65,400	..	5,89,984	32,55,384	16
42.—Co-operation	2,53,200	5,332	17,600	2,76,132	17
43.—Industries	3,41,200	..	24,000	3,65,200	18
47.—Miscellaneous Departments ..	1,20,400	..	6,709	1,27,109	19
50.—Civil Works (Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment).	34,57,900	28,066	19,92,411	54,78,377	20
56.—Stationery and Printing	4,99,600	..	32,555	5,32,155	21
57.—Miscellaneous	31,54,200	..	1,70,491	33,24,691	22
63.—Extraordinary charges .. ..	..	..	36	36	23
64.A.—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund.	25,00,000	..	25,00,000	50,00,000	25
64.—B—Civil Defence	14,92,200	..	1,72,666	16,64,866	24
55.—A—Capital Outlay on Provincial schemes connected with war.	46,60,500	..	1,11,95,500	1,58,56,000	26
Loans and Advances bearing and not bearing interest.	6,24,000	..	2,66,000	8,90,000	27
Grand total	3,94,47,800	54,727	2,18,10,471	6,13,12,998	

