



**Proceedings of the Fifth Session of the Second Assam Legislative Assembly assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935.**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 A.M., on Monday, the 27th September, 1948.

PRESENT

The Hon'ble Mr. Lakshesvar Borooah, Speaker, in the Chair, seven Hon'ble Ministers and fortyone Members.

## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **STARRED QUESTIONS**

(To which oral answers were given).

#### **Establishment of Military College in Assam**

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** asked :

\*30. (a) Do Government propose to move the proper authority to establish a Military College in Assam ?

(b) Do Government propose to select Goalpara as its proposed site ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

30. (a)—The proposal for the establishment of a Military School in Assam is under the consideration of the Government.

(b)—Selection of site will be considered after a decision is taken on the proposal.

(Starred Question No. 31 standing in the name of Srijut Bejoy Chandra Saikia and Nos.32-33 standing in the name of Srijut Beliram Das were not put and answered as the Questioners were absent).

#### **Booklet entitled "A Challenge to Assam Government"**

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** asked :

\*34. Are Government aware of the publication of the booklet entitled "A Challenge to Assam Government" ?

\*35. Will Government be pleased to state what steps are being taken against the author of the booklet "A Challenge to Assam Government" who has brought the charges against the Assam Government by his letter, dated the 22nd and 23rd March, 1948, addressed to the Secretary to the Government of Assam in the Education and Local Self-Government Departments ?



**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

34.—No.

35.—Does not arise.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** : How is it that Government has no information about this book ? The book was well circulated.

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) : It may be circulated among Members, but not sent to Government.

(Starred Question No.36 standing in the name of Srijut Hareswar Das was not put and answered as the Questioner was absent).

### Nationalisation of Tea Industries

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** asked :

\*37. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they propose to nationalise the Tea Industries in Assam ?

(b) Whether they propose to nationalise some of the Tea Gardens immediately to begin with ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied:

37. (a)&(b)—No.

### Teachers of the Aided High English Schools

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** asked :

\*38. (a) Are Government aware of the pecuniary difficulties of the teachers of the Aided High English Schools of the Province in these hard days ?

(b) If so, what steps are being taken to relieve their distress ?

\*39. (a) Is it a fact that most of the Aided High English Schools in the Province are getting Rs.20 to Rs.30 a month as grant-in-aid from Government ?

(b) Are Government aware that this amount is quite insufficient to run a High English School ?

(c) Do Government propose to raise the grant to Rs.200 (minimum) ?

\*40. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of students of the Government High English and Aided High English Schools of the Province, district by district ?

(b) How many students passed the Matriculation Examination from the Government High English and Aided High English Schools of the Province in the years 1947 and 1948, district by district ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

38. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Government have since raised the Dearness Allowance of each teacher of the Aided High Schools to Rs.10 per month with effect from 1st March 1948, and in addition to this a proposal to give higher initial pay to the teachers concerned is under consideration of Government.

39. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to give as much aid as possible and they will continue to do so bearing in mind the resources of the Province.

40. (a)—Statement is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the number of students of the Government High English and Aided High English Schools, district by district*

	No. of students in Government High Schools		Aided High Schools	
Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	1,317		3,284	
Silchar ...	713	} 1,386	4,077	} 5,369
Hailakandi ...	673		1,292	
Karimganj ...	499		2,470	
Jorhat ...	794	} 2,094	3,200	} 7,778
Sibsagar ...	652		3,927	
Golaghat ...	648		651	
Dibrugarh ...	1,574	} 2,207	4,199	} 5,014
Lakhimpur ...	633		815	
Tezpur ...	560	} 953	3,117	} 3,865
Mangaldai ...	393		748	
Gauhati ...	801	} 1,358	8,770	} 12,148
Barpeta ...	557		3,378	
Nowgong ...	636		5,918	
Goalpara ...	616	} 1,141	1,309	} 4,646
Dhubri ...	525		3,337	
Garo Hills ...	369		Nil.	



(b)—Statement for 1947 is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the number of students of the Government High and Aided High Schools who passed Matric Examination of 1947, district by district*

	Government High Schools			Aided High Schools	
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	...	...	121	146	
Silchar	...	...	67	104	121
Hailakandi	...	...	37		
Karimganj	...	...	49		82
Jorhat	...	...	60	148	217
Sibsagar	...	...	49		
Golaghat	...	...	39		
Dibrugarh	...	...	118		82
Lakhimpur	...	...	29		
Tezpur	...	...	32	52	60
Mangaldai	...	...	20		
Gauhati	...	...	81	105	395
Barpeta	...	...	24		
Nowgong	...	...	60		171
Goalpara	...	...	24	68	60
Dhubri	...	...	44		
Garohills	...	...	3		...

Statement for 1948 is not available at the moment.

### Scheme for Spread of Education among Tribal people

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

\*41. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any scheme has been prepared for the spread of education among the tribal people ?

(b) If so, what is that scheme ?

(c) Whether any attempt has been made by Government to ascertain the percentage of illiteracy amongst the tribal people of both Hills and the Plains ?

(d) What was the object of Government in appointing the Assistant Inspector for Education of the Tribals (Plains) ?



- (e) Whether the said officer was entrusted with the work to formulate a scheme for the spread of Education among the Tribal people ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

41. (a)—The report already obtained in this regard now awaits consideration.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—No.

(d)—For supervision, expansion and improvement of education among the Tribal people.

(e)—The hon. Member is referred to the reply to Question (a) above.

### Agricultural Demonstrators and Kamdars

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** asked :

\*42. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The duties of Agricultural Demonstrators and Kamdars ?
- (b) Whether they are to sell seeds only ?
- (c) Whether seeds which are sold by them are available in time and better than those available in the market ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware of the public feeling that the staff maintained in the Department of Agriculture is huge in comparison with the work done ?
- (e) What are the qualifications of the present Director of Agriculture ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

42. (a)—There are no Kamdars now. At present they are called Demonstrators. The duties of Demonstrators are as shown below—

- (i) Organising and conducting demonstrations of improved seeds, manures, fodders, cultural methods, implements, etc., in cultivators' fields. This includes selection of plots, recording details of all operations and the final results.  
This work has to be suspended to a great extent on account of the Grow-More-Food Campaign which required the operation of special schemes. It is being revived this year and the pre-war staff has been specially allotted for it.
- (ii) Reporting to proper quarters occurrence of serious insect and fungus pests so that timely control measures may be adopted.
- (iii) Organising multiplication of improved paddy seeds through registered growers and arranging purchase of improved seeds from them.
- (iv) Distribution of seeds and manures ; persuading cultivators to make and use compost and to combine for the execution of small irrigation projects ; distribution of improved poultry and eggs in rural the double cropping of paddy land, cultivation of *rabi* crops and for the adoption of other measures calculated to increase the production of food (grow-more-food activities).



- (v) Looking after stocks of seeds, manures, etc., and maintaining necessary records and accounts.
- (vi) Looking after departmental breeding stock in rural cattle breeding centres and maintaining fodder gardens.

(b)—Selling seeds forms only a part of their duties.

(c)—The Department of Agriculture makes every effort to issue seeds in time. But on account of inherent difficulty of transport in the interior, delays do sometimes occur.

The improved varieties of paddy, sugarcane and potato issued by the Department are definitely better than the ordinary local ones. In the case of pulses, oil-seeds, etc., the Department has no improved varieties of its own yet. But in the interest of greater production of food by extending *rabi* cultivation seeds of ordinary varieties of these crops are also issued.

(d)—No.

(e)—It is too late in the day to ask this question as the Director of Agriculture (Mr. R. C. Woodford) is on the verge of retirement.

### Operations performed by Veterinary Officers

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

\*43. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of major operations—Lepero-Gastronomy, Lepero-Hysterectomy, Caesarian Sections, Herniotomy—successfully performed in the last 10 years on small animals—dogs, goats etc., in the Assam Civil Veterinary Department?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the number of such operations performed year by year together with the names of the Veterinary Officers who performed such operations?

(c) Whether X-Ray was used in such operations?

(d) If so, who are the Veterinary Officers by whom the X-Ray work was performed?

(e) Is it a fact that the Director, Veterinary Department, Assam denied performance of such operations in the case of a certain Veterinary Assistant Surgeon who performed these operations and used X-Ray when he (the Director) forwarded this officer's application for recent appointment of Professor of Assam Veterinary College to the Public Service Commission?

\*44. (a) Will Government be pleased to state what amount has been spent by Government and Local Boards in Assam for the special drug M. & B. 693 since 1945 to date in treatment of rinderpest?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state (i) the approximate number of rinderpest cases treated with M. & B. 693 since 1945 and (ii) the percentage of cure by the application of this medicine?

(c) Is it a fact that the Director, Veterinary Department, Assam issued a circular *vide* letter No. C3-13/9140-9220 of 30th January 1947 to all the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons in Assam enclosing a copy of reprint of the article 'M.&B. 693 in rinderpest'?

(d) Is it a fact that the Director issued another circular—*vide* No. D2-6/-658 dated Gauhati, the 22nd April, 1947 to all the Chairmen of Local Boards in Assam stating that M. & B. 693 has a curative effect 85 per cent. to 90 per cent. in rinderpest cases and asked them to supply each Veterinary Assistant Surgeon with at least 4 thousand doses of M. & B. 693 (Veterinary) as Vaccine cannot be had easily?

(e) Is it a fact that the Director, Veterinary Department, Assam denied the curative value of M. & B. 693 in rinderpest cases and remarked as such



("it has no curative value in rinderpest") in forwarding the application of the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon to the Public Service Commission.

(f) Do Government propose to call for the records in original from the Public Service Commission and ascertain if these are facts?

(g) If so, why the Director made such self-contradictory remarks?

(h) Is it a fact that this costly drug was given to the Veterinary Field Assistant in Assam for use by them?

(i) Are Government aware that a large quantity of this drug was mis-used by the Veterinary Field Assistants?

(j) If so, who is responsible for this wastage of public money?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied:

43.—(a)—(e)—The information has been called for.

44. (a)—(j).—The information has been called for.

This information cannot be available here in Shillong. We have sent for the information from local Officers and it will be supplied to the hon. Member in time.

(Starred Question No.45 standing in the name of Srijut Bejoy Chandra Saikia and Nos.46 and 47 standing in the name of Srijut Beliram Das were not put and answered as the Questioners were absent).

### Grant of permits for Public Carriers and Stage Carriages in the Lower Assam

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** asked:

\*48. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The names of the routes, and

(b) The number of public carriers and stage carriages, the permits of which were granted for each route by the Regional Transport Authority, Lower Assam, in its meeting held on 27th and 28th January, 1948?

(c) The number of public carriers and stage carriages for which tenders were called, for each of the routes?

(d) Whether the Regional Transport Authority arrived at any decision in the meeting as to the number of permits to be increased?

(e) Whether some persons obtained permits, even without submitting any tenders whatsoever?

(f) If so, what are the grounds for granting such permits?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied:

48. (a), (b) & (c)—

Names of routes	No. of permits granted	No. for which tenders were called
(i) Golakganj-Bakshirhat ...	15	6
(ii) Dhubri-Tipkai-Jamiahat ...	15	not fixed.
(iii) Public carriers in Goalpara District (in all routes).	63	18



(d)—The Regional Transport Authority found it necessary to issue more permits than were advertised for.

(e)—No.

(f)—Does not arise.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** Will Government take it from me that one Mr. Banik obtained permit without submitting any tender?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** I have already said, Sir, that Government have no information. But if my hon. Friend insists, I will enquire into the matter.

### Assam Marwari Chamber of Commerce

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** asked:

\*49. (a) Are Government aware that there is an Association of the name of "Assam Marwari Chamber of Commerce" in the Province with its head office at Dibrugarh?

(b) Is it a fact that the Association has been negotiating with the Government of Assam and the District authorities at Dibrugarh on behalf of the Commercial Marwari businessmen?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether the said Association is legally constituted and is carrying on in strict accordance with the Societies Registration Act?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied:

49. (a)—No.

(b)—Government have no information.

(c)—The "Assam Marwari Chamber of Commerce" does not appear to have been incorporated either under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 or under the Indian Companies Act, 1913.

### Subdivisional Agents appointed in the Province for import of salt

**Babu KHAGENDRA NATH SAMADDAR** asked:

\*50. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many Subdivisional Agents were appointed in the Province of Assam for import of salt against permits in the year 1946?

(b) How many of them could import salt on permit?

(c) How many Subdivisional Agents in the District of Nowgong, Assam, were given permits in the year 1946, for the import of salt in that district and what were their names?

(d) Who amongst the Agents so appointed in Nowgong imported salt and who defaulted in importing salt from Calcutta or Chittagong?

(e) Whether Government promised to pay reasonable transport costs on salt, like sugar and wheat products to those Subdivisional Agents, who could procure salt against permits from Calcutta or Chittagong?

(f) If so, whether the Subdivisional Agents at Nowgong who imported salt against permits from Calcutta or Chittagong, were paid rebate for transport charges like sugar and wheat products?

(g) If not, why not?



- (h) If the answer to Question (f) above is in the affirmative, who are the persons who have been paid rebate and to what amount?
- (i) Whether during the enforcement of control on salt, in 1946-47, the wholesalers were given rebate, i.e., reasonable transport charges for the transport of salt from the headquarters and the centres of the Subdivisional Agents to their respective zones of operation?
- (j) Whether the appointed Subdivisional Agents who reported salt from Chittagong and Calcutta to headquarters at Nowgong District, have been paid their reasonable transport costs as yet?
- \*51. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) How many Subdivisional Agents were appointed at Nowgong for distribution of sugar and wheat products in the year 1946-47 and what were their names?
- (b) Whether any security was demanded from them?
- (c) If so, what were the amounts demanded from each Agent?
- (d) When the price of sugar increased during the aforesaid period?
- (e) Whether any additional security was demanded from those Agents?
- (f) If so, what was that amount?
- (g) Whether all these additional securities were furnished in time by all the Subdivisional Agents?
- (h) If not, who were the defaulters?
- (i) Whether these securities were refunded at the time of decontrol of sugar?
- (j) If not, why; and what are the amounts still to be refunded?
- \*52. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) How many Subdivisional Agents were there for wheat products at Nowgong after decontrol of sugar and what were their names?
- (b) Whether there was any fresh demand of security for wheat products only from the Subdivisional Agents in addition to the joint security deposits for sugar and wheat products from each of the Agents?
- (c) If so, how much from each of the Agents were demanded and accepted?
- (d) Whether all the Subdivisional Agents furnished the security deposits so demanded?
- (e) If not, who were the defaulters?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the party placing the separate security deposits for wheat products only in addition to the security money deposited beforehand were eliminated from the security money that the party who defaulted and who were unable to deposit the said security were given the sole agency for distribution of wheat products in the District of Nowgong?
- (g) If so, why and what are the names of the parties that were eliminated from agency and what is the name of the party so appointed?
- (h) Whether there were complaints from public and responsible quarters of Nowgong District against this appointment which caused inconvenience to the public?
- (i) Whether Government are aware that the party so appointed were most irregular in payment of securities and that it was testified to by the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that the party so appointed were also irregular in payment of the value of food-stuffs?



**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

50. to 52.—The informations are being called for, and will be supplied afterwards.

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table).

**Srijut Hem Ram Bardoloi**, formerly a clerk in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

102. (a) Is it a fact that one Hem Ram Bardoloi of Tribal Community resigned his clerkship under the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong very recently ?

(b) What is the reason of his resignation ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

102. (a) —Yes.

(b)—The resignation was voluntary.

### Salary of the Director of Veterinary Department

**Maulavi MD. MAKSED ALI** asked :

103. (a) Is it a fact that the Pay Committee recommended that the salary of the various Heads of Departments should range from Rs. 1,000—1,500 per mensem ?

(b) If so, why the Director of Veterinary Department is proposed to get a salary of Rs. 450 to Rs. 800 per mensem ?

(c) Is it a fact that the present Director of the Veterinary Department is a technically qualified person and a foreign degree holder ?

(d) Is the present Director of Agriculture a foreign diploma holder ?

(e) If not, why such a difference in the scale of pay has been made between these two officers ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

103. (a)—(e)—In fixing scales of pay for the Heads of Departments, the Government accepted the principle enunciated by the Pay Committee, according to which Heads of Departments fall into three categories *viz.* :—

(i) Minor Departments, (ii) Departments where the charges are substantially heavy needing technical and administrative ability and involving heavy responsibilities and (iii) Departments which are, by the nature of their responsibilities in between categories (i) and (ii). The Veterinary Department is a Minor Department and in fixing the scale of Rs. 450—800, the technical



qualifications of the individuals holding the post were not a factor taken into consideration. It is the responsibility of the charge which was the main factor in fixing the scale.

The Pay Committee has recommended the scale of Rs. 1,000—1,500 for certain responsible departments and scales ranging between Rs. 800 and 1,250 for certain less responsible departments according to the above principle.

### **Government and Local Board Dispensaries in rural areas**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

104. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of providing each of the Government and Local Board Dispensaries in rural areas with a Lady Doctor or a Nurse or Midwife, experienced and well trained ?

(b) Do Government propose to direct the Dhubri Local Board to spend the amount of money saved due to provincialisation of Dhubri Hospital, for starting hospitals in deserving areas and for providing Midwife in each dispensary ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

104. (a)—It is very desirable for all hospitals and dispensaries to have Lady Doctors, Nurses, Midwives ; but in view of the acute shortage of personnel, it is not possible to do so.

(b)—Government have already requested the Local Boards to divert the money saved to rural areas.

### **Establishment of a Hospital at Mankachar**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

105. (a) Are Government aware that there has been a move for long for the establishment of a Hospital at Mankachar ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the copies of the relevant portions of remarks made from time to time by the Heads of the Department and the Hon'ble Ministers during the course of their inspection of Mankachar Dispensary in the last decade with date of such inspection ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

105. (a)—No.

(b)—The relevant papers are not available and have been called for.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** : Will Government forward the reports, when received, to us and let us know what action has been taken?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** : I shall consider this, Sir. But may I know from the hon. Questioner whether he speaks of a Public Health dispensary or a charitable dispensary ?

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** : The question was with regard to a hospital.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** : Hospital at Mankachar ?

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** : Yes.



**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** That is the duty of the Local Board as Mankachar is in the rural areas.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** There were remarks from the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Medical Department during the course of his inspection. When these are received will Government kindly take action?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** I cannot promise anything but I shall consider about that.

### Issue of Opium licenses in Dibrugarh Subdivision

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** asked :

106. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many licenses for opium have been issued to persons in Dibrugarh Subdivision after Opium Prohibition Act came into force?
- (b) The reasons for issuing these licenses?
- (c) To whom these licenses have been issued?
- (d) Who was the issuing officer?
- (e) How many applications have been received by the Government in this respect?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA** replied :

106. (a)—One so far.

(b)—Strictly on grounds of shattered health due to advanced age as advised by the Inspector General of Civil Hospitals.

(c)—Shrimati Hajanwanti of Makum Junction.

(d)—The Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur on obtaining the sanction of Government.

(e)—No other application has been received from Dibrugarh Subdivision.

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** ইয়াত কোৱা হৈছে যে Inspector General ৰ certificate মতে এজনী মাইকী মানুহক license দিয়া হৈছে। Opium Prohibition Act ৰ medical ground ত license দিবৰ নিগিৰ্ত্তে কিবা provision আছে নে?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA:** Assam Opium Prohibition Act ৰ Exemption clauses তেই তাৰ provision দিয়া আছে।

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** সেই provision ত মানুহক license দিয়াৰ কথা নাই—হাস্পাতালক license দিয়াৰ কথা হৈ আছে।

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA:** সকলো কথা আইনতেই আছে।



**Subdivisional Opium Prohibition Committee in Dibrugarh**

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** asked :

107. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Who selected the members for the Subdivisional Opium Prohibition Committee in Dibrugarh ?

(b) Who introduced these names to Government ?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA** replied :

107. (a) and (b)—The Honorary Prohibition Commissioner under section 32(1) of the Assam Opium Prohibition Act.

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** Honorary Prohibition Commissioner ডাঙৰীয়াই এই Subdivisional Committee form কবিবৰ সময়ত কাৰ লগত পৰামৰ্শ কৰিছিল ?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA:** Opium Prohibition Act, 1947 ৰ section 31 ত পৰিষ্কাৰ কৈ লিখা আছে যে Honorary Prohibition Commissioner এ এই বিলাক কমিটি constitute কৰে।

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** সেইটো বুজিছো। কিন্তু তেখেতে যেতিয়া এই বিলাক মানুহ নিযুক্ত কৰে তেতিয়া কানিৰ সন্মুখত অভিজ্ঞতা থকা কোনো মানুহৰ লগত পৰামৰ্শ কৰি নিযুক্ত কৰিছিল নে ?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA:** জৰুৰ কৰিছিল।

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** মোৰ পৰা মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই মানি লবনে যে কানি সন্মুখত কোনো অভিজ্ঞতা নথকা মানুহক সেই কমিটিত লোৱা হৈছে ?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA:** সেইটো matter of opinion, Sir. দায়িত্ব Honorary Prohibition Commissioner ৰ, আৰু তেখেতে সেই দায়িত্ব মতে সেই committee নিযুক্ত কৰিছে।

**Private Technical and Industrial Institutes**

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

108. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The names of those private Technical and Industrial Institutes in the Province which are receiving recurring and non-recurring grants from the Government ?

(b) The amount granted to each of such Institute in a year ?

(c) What are the technical and industrial subjects that are taught in each of these Institutions ?

**Srijut BIMALA PROSAD CHALIHA** (Parliamentary Secretary replied) :

108. (a) to (c)—Government grants are made to Technical, Industrial and Rural Development Institutions as well as individual enterprises as a measure of encouragement, and also help.



A list of grants and subsidies paid during the years 1947-48 and 1948-49 (upto 31st August) together with other information is placed on the Library table.

### Unqualified Doctors of Bilasipara and Lakhiganj Bazar

**Maulavi MD. MAKSED ALI** asked :

109. (a) Are Government aware that many under-qualified and unqualified doctors are practising at Bilasipara and Lakhiganj Bazar and also in many interior places in the District of Goalpara ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state why they have allowed these persons to continue practice without licence and qualification ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to enquire and state whether the Questioner brought this fact to the notice of the Civil Surgeon, Dhubri, with a request to ascertain as to whether the doctors that are practising both at Lakhiganj and Bilasipara hold any medical licences ?

(d) Is it a fact that the Civil Surgeon, Dhubri, has not made any enquiry into the matter ?

(e) Do Government propose to call for necessary report from the Civil Surgeon ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS** replied :

109. (a)—Unqualified doctors are practising in various parts of the Province, but information about those practising at Bilasipara and Lakhiganj Bazar is not available.

(b)—There is no law to prevent such people from practising.

(c)—The enquiry does not appear to be necessary for the reasons stated in answer to (b) above.

(d)—No information is available.

(e)—No report is necessary.

### Gauhati Disturbances

**Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS** asked :

110. (a) Is it a fact that there were disturbances in May last between different people of Gauhati over some Railway affairs ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state—

(i) how many persons were injured by beating or shooting during the said disturbances and what are their names ?

(ii) whether any person has died of injury ?

(iii) whether any steps are being taken against the persons who caused the injuries ?

(iv) how many houses were looted, set fire to, broken or damaged during the said disturbances ?

(v) who are the owners of these houses ?

(vi) the total value of the property looted or damaged ?

(vii) how many medicine shops have been looted ?

(viii) whether any medicines have been destroyed ?

(ix) whether the culprits implicated in the disturbances have been brought to book or steps are being taken against them ?

(c) What steps Government propose to take to prevent recurrence of outbursts of such feelings in future ?



The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

110. (a)—Yes.

(b) (i)—40. Names are given below :—

1. Haripada Mukherjee, 2. Nepal Lahiri, 3. Prafulla Chandra Sarkar, 4. Sunil Kumar Chakravarty, 5. Sitesh Chandra Das, 6. Surendra Nath Sarma, 7. Anupama Datta, 8. Gauranga Mali, 9. Sashi Kanta Datta, 10. P. C. Bagchi, 11. Suresh Chandra Mukherjee, 12. G. H. Maitra, 13. R. B. Bhattacharjee, 14. Surendra Kumar Dey, 15. Dr. A. M. Roy, 16. Purna Biswas, 17. Jogeswar Raj Bongshi, 18. Sidheswar Bezbarua, 19. Gajendra Barua, 20. Nalini Datta, 21. Braja Lahiri, 22. Constable 632 Ananda Ram Barua, 23. Constable 1053 Lal Bahadur Magor, 24. Constable 2045 Dhan Bahadur Thapa, 25. Bijoy Chandra Ganguli, 26. Ajoy Kumar Nath, 27. N. C. Paul, 28. Ajit Kumar Dey, 29. Raimohan Nath, 30. Jitendra Mohan Chakravarty, 31. Hridai Ranjan Sarkar, 32. N. G. Das, 33. Anil Chandra Biswas, 34. Nirondi Mohan Datta, 35. Indu Bhusan Datta, 36. Makhan Datta, 37. Birendra Kumar Chakravarty, 38. Jamini Chakravarty, 39. Basanta Kumar Goswami, 40. Girija Sarma.

(ii)—One person died of stabbing injury.

(iii)—Yes. Case No. 64(5) under section 326, Indian Penal Code, was taken up, investigated and finally reported as true under sections 147/436/304, Indian Penal Code, but evidence available was not enough to prosecute any one.

(iv)—22 houses were looted and 6 of them were damaged also ; 3 houses set on fire ; 5 houses damaged.

(v)—Houses—1. Jagadish Bhattacharjee of Panbazar, 2. B. N. Mukherjee of Uzanbazar, 3. Monoranjan Roy of Panbazar, 4. Alarekha Mandal of Pensionpara, 5. Md. Faizur Ali of Dighlipukhuripar, 6. Ali Mia of Dighlipukhuripar, 7. Abdul Mannan of Uzanbazar, 8. Abdul Gani of Uzanbazar, 9. Upendra Kumar Deb of Uzanbazar, 10. Susil Ranjan Roy of Uzanbazar, 11. Ajoy Kumar Nath of Railway Colony, 12. Nabin Kumar Majumdar of Railway Colony, 13. Mritunjay Chatterjee of Railway Colony, 14. S. C. Das Gupta of Railway Colony, 15. R. A. Singha of Railway Colony, 16. Bhubanjit Singh of Railway Colony, 17. Jamini Kumar Chakravarty of A. V. Stores, Gauhati, 18. Bijoy Bangali of Panbazar, 19. Dr. J. N. Roy of Money Making Pharmacy of Panbazar, 20. Jatindra Ghose of Panbazar, 21. S. Das of Uzanbazar, 22. S. Ghosal of Panbazar, 23. Kamai Chandra Barua of Uzanbazar, 24. Lalit Chandra Barua of Uzanbazar, 25. Nirode Mohan Datta of Bamunmaidan, 26. M. C. Datta of Kumarpara, 27. Abinash Ch. Bose of Railway Colony, 28. Umesh Chandra Das Gupta (deceased) of Railway Colony, 29. One School house of Gauhati Railway Colony, 30. Jogesh Chandra Dey of Railway Colony.

(vi)—Total value of property.

(a)—looted Rs. 69,699-2-0.

(b)—damaged Rs. 12,246-4-0.

(vii)—According to information received from Local Officers, no medicine shop was looted.

(viii)—Medicine shops destroyed—

1. Money Making Pharmacy.

2. Assam Valley Stores of Panbazar, Gauhati.

(ix)—Yes. Case No. 64(5) under section 326, Indian Penal Code, was taken up, investigated and finally reported as true under sections 147/436/304, Indian Penal Code ; no evidence.

(c)—Precautions have been taken : A Peace Committee of responsible persons of all communities has been formed to help in the maintenance of Law and Order and in preventing recurrence of such unhappy incidents.



### Pass system between the Pakistan Dominion and Assam Government

**Srijut BEJOY CHANDRA SAIKIA** asked :

111. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether they have introduced any pass system between the Pakistan Dominion and the Assam Government ?
- (b) What measures have been taken by Government against the swelling in of population in Assam ?
- (c) Whether they propose to place on the table a list of immigrants in each district from the year 1939 to 1947 ?

112. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a detailed statement with regard to the refugee problem in Assam under the following heads :—

- (i) Number of released Andaman prisoners coming as refugees from East Pakistan ; and
- (ii) Nature and life history of such refugees ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI** replied :

111. (a)—This pertains to a matter which falls within the list of Central subjects.

(b)—Government in so far as it lay in its power have discouraged immigration wherever appropriate by withholding facilities for settlement to outside persons. Government have besides approached the Government of India for regulation and control of immigration into the Province—the subject being a purely Central one.

(c)—There is no such list in existence nor is the preparation of the same possible, with population not fixed to any area.

112. (i) & (ii)—Government have no material for the purpose.

### Grant of loans to individuals, Co-operative Societies and Land-holders

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

113. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the conditions laid down for grant of loans to individuals, Co-operative Societies and land holders ?
- (b) Whether any such loans have been granted to anybody ?
- (c) If so, to whom and for what purpose ?

**Srijut BIMALA PROSAD CHALIHA** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

113. (a)—Industrial loans are granted for small industrial undertakings on production of a security of the value of 200 per cent of the amount of loan asked for, in accordance with the rules for the grant of industrial loans in Assam. Loans are granted to any Co-operative Society on condition that the Society abides by rules for the grant of State loans to a Co-operative Society. Copies of the rules are placed on the Library table.



(b) & (c)—The hon. Member has not stated in respect of which period he wants these informations. Industrial loan and State loan issued during the last three years with the names and addresses of parties to whom the loans were issued and the purpose are given in the list below :—

*During the year 1945-46*

To Srijut Hangsadhar Barua, Lamb Road, Gauhati, for maintenance and improvement of Pisciculture.

To Mr. Narayan M. Marak, Manager, Paper Manufacturing Industry, P. O. Mankachar, Goalpara, for purchase of paper making equipment.

*During the year 1946-47*

To Srijut Mukheswar Majumdar, Baligong, Raha, P. O. Phuluguri, Headmaster, Phuluguri Middle English School, New Amolapatty for opening a Calico Dyeing and Printing workshop.

*During the year 1947-48*

To Srijut Debendra Nath Sarma, Barulumukh, Santipur, Gauhati, for improvement of Pisciculture.

To Srijut Nila Kanta Sarma, Amolapatty, Nowgong (Assam), for improvement of Soap Factory.

**Muslims coming from and going to Pakistan**

**Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS** asked :

114. (a) Is it a fact that under Government orders almost every Muslim coming from Pakistan either on business or to see his relatives in the District of Goalpara is kept under police surveillance or is closely watched ?

(b) Are Government aware that every prominent Muslim of Goalpara going to Pakistan or *Via* Pakistan to Calcutta or other places either on business or to see his relatives is followed by the Police ?

(c) How many persons were sent up in police custody by the South Salmara thana of Dhubri and Mankachar thana and Golakganj thana of Goalpara District since October 1947 upto July 1948 under section 109 of the Criminal Procedure Code ?

(d) How many of them have since been discharged ?

(e) In how many cases charge sheets were not at all submitted ?

(f) Do Government propose to watch the movement of persons going to and coming from Pakistan for business or to see relatives, etc. ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI** replied :

114. (a)—No.

(b)—No. It would be a waste of Public money to do so.

(c)—In Mankachar Police Station, 6 persons. In South Salmara Police Station, 17 persons. In Golakganj Police Station, 25 persons.

(d)—41 persons have been discharged.



(e)—Charge sheets were not submitted in 41 cases.

(f)—No. It would be a waste of public money to do so.

### Permits for Stage and Public Carriers in the Garo Hills

**Mr. MANIRAM MARAK** asked :

115. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The name or names of the authorities who can grant the permits for Stage and Public Carriers in the District of Garo Hills ?

(b) Whether it is a nominated body ?

(c) If so, who nominated ?

(d) If not, whether it is an elected body ?

(e) Whether there are any Garo Members in it ?

(f) If not, why not ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

115. (a)—Lower Assam Regional Transport Authority.

(b) & (c)—It is a statutory body the members of which are nominated by Government from time to time.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—No.

(f)—Members are selected from the different areas within the jurisdiction of this Authority according to the volume of cases originating from these areas.

**Mr. MANIRAM MARAK** : May I request the Hon'ble Minister to include a Garo as one of the members ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** : That will be considered, Sir, when the Board is newly constituted.

### Ex-servicemen trained under the Technical and Vocational Training Scheme

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

116. (a) Is it a fact, that some Ex-servicemen were trained under the technical and vocational training scheme ?

(b) If so, how many of them were trained in different subjects from the beginning to the end of 31st July, 1948 ?

(c) Is it a fact that the training scheme is going to be abolished ?

(d) If so, why ?

(e) Do Government propose to retain the institutes where such training was given for the benefit of civilian un-employed youths ?

**Srijut MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

116. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Seventy-seven Ex-servicemen in grade II as Blacksmiths, Electricians and Mechanics (General) and 50 in Grade III as Blacksmiths, Carpenters, Electricians, Mechanics (General), Turners, Wiremen and Motor Mechanics.



Ninety-seven *Ex-servicemen* are also receiving vocational training in the trades :—

(1) Stenography, (2) Cutting and tailoring, (3) Handloom Weaving, (4) Soap Making, (5) Calico printing, (6) Typewriting.

(c)—Yes, the scheme has been sanctioned by the Government of India for the period up to 31st August 1949.

(d)—Presumably because there will be no demand for this training from *Ex-servicemen* of the Province after 31st August 1949.

(e)—Should funds be available Assam Government propose to retain the Centre for training civilians.

### District Administration in Nowgong

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE** asked :

117. (a) Are Government aware that the District Administration in Nowgong is much handicapped in all its branches for want of an Additional District Magistrate to cope with the increased works in the District ?

(b) Are Government aware that flood occurs almost every year in Nowgong and that the Deputy Commissioner has to occupy himself with the flood relief works for months together ?

(c) Are Government aware that the Deputy Magistrate's works—both official and non-official—have enormously increased under the present regime ?

(d) Are Government aware that the Deputy Commissioner has to spend a good part of his time in attending to these works and various Committees and public meetings ?

(e) Are Government aware that due to the aforesaid reasons there is very little time left for him to attend to Judicial and Revenue works ?

(f) If so, do Government propose to appoint one Additional District Magistrate for Nowgong ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI** replied :

117. (a) to (f)—Government are aware that shortage of staff and increased work on account of Government undertaking various nation building and commercial activities leave less time than before for the Deputy Commissioners to devote to judicial and revenue work. Nowgong is not the only instance in this respect, and was given an Additional District Magistrate upto 30th September 1947. Government have, however, decided bearing in mind the lack of suitable senior officers and the need for economy, to post Sadar Subdivisional Officers instead of Additional District Magistrates where necessary and possible. The case of Nowgong will be treated, along with other districts, on its merits. An extra Magistrate is soon being posted there, and the appointment of a Sadar Subdivisional Officer will also be considered.

### Jaipur Bazar-Naharkatia Road

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** asked :

118. Will Government be pleased to state —

(a) The amount spent in Jaipur Bazar-Naharkatia Road under Dibrugarh Local Board during the period from September, 1946 to June 1948 ?

(b) On what item the amount was spent ?

(c) What amount has been paid by the Board to the Forest Department as royalty for stones and shingles used on this road during this period ?



**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

118 (a)—Rupees 17,538 only.

(b)—Bamboo mats, Chowkidar's shed, First class Wood work, bolts, nuts, nails, bamboo bridge, broken stone metal, including consolidation, earth work, dusting over metal surface, jungle clearing at the berms, maintenance of diversion portion, dressing berms, temporary diversion road, boat and boat man during flood, providing guard posts, removing loose stones and using them in patching pot holes, filling culvert with boulders and shingles, repairing culvert, picking old road surface, making diversion road, collection of boulders and laying them, filling a portion with brick bats, 10"—12" dia. nahar post in bridge, carting and extracting roots of trees and dressing and levelling diversion road, spreading sand, white washing the guard posts, establishment charges and some other petty items.

(c)—The royalty was paid by the Contractor and not by the Board. Information is therefore not available.

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI :** মই প্রশ্নত শুধিছিলো যে জয়পুর-নাহৰ-কটীয়া আলিত কিমান টকা খৰচ কৰা হৈছে। উত্তৰত কোৱা হৈছে ১৭,৫৩৮ টকা। মই শুধিছিলো কি কি item ত টকা খৰচ কৰা হৈছিল। মই আলিৰ কথা শুধিছিলো কিন্তু তান উত্তৰত Chowkidar's shed ৰ কথা কৈছে।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** আপুনি কোনটো, কি প্রশ্নৰ কথা কৈছে ?

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** ১১৮ (b); মই আলিৰ কথা শুধিছিলো, ইয়াত Chowkidar's shed ৰ কথা কেনেকৈ আহিল ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR :** Sir, it is the responsibility of the local body concerned. The accounts are audited every year and the responsibility will be fixed on them if they have misspent any portion of the amount meant for the road. When the question of a particular road is considered, a Chowkidar's shed for looking after the same road may necessarily arise.

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI :** উত্তৰত দিছে যে কন্ট্ৰেক্টৰৰ পৰা royalty আদায় কৰা হয় ; লোকেলবোৰ্ডে কৰেষ্ট ডিপাৰ্টমেন্টক directly নিদিয়ৈ। মই জানো যে জয়পুর-নাহৰকটীয়া আলিৰ নিগিভে এটা পয়চাও royalty কন্ট্ৰেক্টৰে দিয়া নাই। মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে এই সম্বন্ধে enquiry কৰিবনে ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR :** I will do, Sir.

**\*Maulavi ABDUL HALIM :** জয়পুর-নাহৰকটীয়া আলি কিমান দীঘল জানিব পাৰো নে ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR :** This is a new question, Sir.

*A voice—*৫ মাইল।



**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ক আৰু এটা কথা জনাই থকা হোঁজো যে যোৱা ৩ বছৰৰ ভিতৰত এটুকুৰা পাথৰো এই আলিত পৰা নাই। এই আলিত মই পুৱাৰে পৰা বাতিলৈকে ঘূৰি ফুৰিব লাগে আৰু সেই কাৰণে মই এই কথা জনো।

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** I have already stated that it is mainly the responsibility of the Local Board concerned. If the matter is properly agitated there the hon. Member may have some remedy.

**Local Board Roads maintained by the Dhubri Local Board**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked:

119. Will Government be pleased to state —

- (a) The number of Local Board Roads at present maintained by the Dhubri Local Board (to be shown Thana by Thana) ?
- (b) The total mileages of roads, Thana by Thana, maintained by the Dhubri Local Board ?
- (c) The names of the roads in Mankachar Thana (maintained by the Board) ?
- (d) The mileages of the Roads in Mankachar Thana (maintained by the Board) ?
- (e) The names of the Roads sanctioned by the Board for Mankachar Thana *Elaka* ?
- (f) The date and year of such sanction ?
- (g) The date of survey for such sanctioned roads ?
- (h) Mileages of each sanctioned road in Mankachar Thana ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied:

119. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) & (h)—The information has been called for.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** Will Government please let us know what action is taken when the information called for will be received ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** Government has already called for the information. As soon as that comes, if the hon. Member desires, Government will certainly act up to it. Hon. Member knows that these are mainly the responsibilities of the Local Board concerned. He himself is an influential member in that Local Board area. So it will be better if he takes action with the Executive Officer of the Local Board.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** The latter part of the reply given by the Hon'ble Minister is rather vague. Government should take some action because the Board is already superseded. As this is an undeveloped area, Government should give priority to that area.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** Government will surely do their part.



## Nowgong Municipality

**Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA** asked :

120. (a) Are Government aware of the several encroachment cases in the Municipality of Nowgong lately brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner ?

(b) Are Government aware that some air-passages of the said Municipality have been occupied by some members of the Municipal Board ?

(c) If so, do Government propose to enquire as to how this could happen and who are responsible for this ?

(d) Are Government aware that there have been several encroachments on the public roads within the Municipality of Nowgong and that no effective steps have been taken by the authorities to evict such encroachers ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state the names of those against whom eviction proceedings have been taken and what steps have been taken against each ?

(f) Are Government aware that there have been several such encroachments on the Assam Trunk Road itself within the Nowgong Municipality and that no steps have yet been taken to evict the encroachers ?

121. (a) Are Government aware of the inundation of a very large part of Nowgong town every year by rain-water ?

(b) Are Government aware that rain-water in Nowgong town cannot flow out for several months due to poor drainage system of the town ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to enquire and state as to what effective steps can be taken to drain out such water and what adequate financial aid can be given to the Nowgong Municipality for the purpose ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

120. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes—but they were vacated sometime back.

(c)—In view of the reply to Question (b), no enquiry is necessary.

(d)—Yes. To the last part of the Question the reply is in the negative. Steps have been taken to evict the encroachers.

(e)—Eviction proceedings have been started among others against—

- (1) Lalchand Toddi.
- (2) Seikh Mulukchand.
- (3) Bejusa Kanu.
- (4) Feru Sarkar.
- (5) Selatmatddin.
- (6) Atmaram Koch.
- (7) Badu Khalifa.
- (8) Kasimaddin.
- (9) Nazimaddin Seikh.

Lalchand and some others have vacated the place, they encroached upon. Steps have been taken for the eviction of the others.

(f)—Yes, some encroachments along the Assam Trunk Road are reported. Encroachment cases have been started against the encroachers.

121. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes. Rain-water cannot flow out quickly on account of the higher level of the flood water in the Kallong river and may also be due to defective drainage system.



(c)—Government will consult expert opinion and decide about steps and financial aid on the basis of that advice.

**Nalbari-Dhamdhama Public Works Department Road**

**Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

122. Are Government aware—

- (a) That a big breach nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$  a furlong in length has been caused in the Nalbari-Dhamdhama Public Works Department road in Gauhati Subdivision at village Dhamtola by the flood of the Pagladia river in June last?
- (b) That this breach has caused great damage to cultivation in several villages of Batahgila, Natun-Dehar and other neighbouring Mouza?
- (c) That the heavy traffic that used to be carried on by this road has been consequently interrupted?

123. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether they have received any public representation bringing this matter to their notice?
- (b) Whether they have received a report from the Subdivisional Officer, Embankment and Drainage, Nalbari, suggesting certain measures to be undertaken to check this impending danger?
- (c) If so, whether the suggestions have been examined?
- (d) What steps do Government propose to take to prevent this impending calamity?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

122. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It may be so.

(c)—Yes. But the interruption was temporary. Traffic is being maintained by a diversion alignment fit for all kinds of vehicular traffic.

123. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Under examination.

(d)—Providing tree spurs have been proposed by Executive Engineer (Embankment and Drainage), Gauhati to prevent further erosion in the river.

**Road construction in Goalpara under the Post-War Development Scheme**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

124. Will Government be pleased to state in tabular form—

- (a) The number of village roads constructed or now under construction in the District of Goalpara under the Post-War Development Schemes?



- (b) The total mileages of such roads in each Thana of the District ;
- (c) The name of such road in each Thana ;
- (d) The total population of each Thana ;
- (e) The total mileage of Local Board Roads in each Thana of the District ?

125. (a) Will Government be pleased to state who is responsible for equitable distribution of public money on road projects under the Post-War Development Schemes ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the recommendation of the Road Communication Board is final and binding on Government ?

126. (a) Is it a fact that the Thana of Mankachar is practically cut off from its District Headquarters at Dhubri for want of communication ?

(b) Is it a fact that the attention of Government has been drawn on several occasions to this fact ?

(c) Is it a fact that for want of good communication with the District Headquarters, the Deputy Commissioner, Garo Hills, is being appointed for some time past as Additional Deputy Commissioner for Mankachar Thana ?

(d) Whether it is feasible to raise the existing Trunk Road from Mankachar to Hallidayganj, above the flood level ?

(e) If not, do Government propose to construct a new road through this Thana Elaka to connect it with Hallidayganj ?

(f) Do Government propose to ply a launch between Hallidayganj and Dhubri, touching some stations in South Salmara Thana ?

(g) Do Government propose to connect Mankachar in no time with the District Headquarters at Dhubri ?

(h) If not, will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to include Mankachar in the Garo Hills for administrative purposes ?

(i) If the reply to question (h) above is in the negative, do Government propose to provide a Magistrate with the powers of Munsif at Mankachar to remove the difficulties of the people ?

(j) If not, do Government propose to extend the operation of the Assam Rural Panchayat Act at the first instance in Mankachar and South Salmara areas ?



The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY replied :

124. (a), (b), (c) & (d)—A statement furnishing the information is furnished below :

*Statement showing the mileage of village roads in each Thana of Goalpara District which are now under construction for improvement under the Post-War Programme*

Serial No.	Name of Village Roads	South Salmara Thana	Dhubri Thana	Golakganj Thana	Blasipara Thana	Gossaigaon Thana	Kokrajhar Thana	Sidli Thana	Bijni Thana	Manakachar Thana	Goalpara Thana	Dudnai Thana	Lakhipur Thana	North Salmara Thana	Total mile	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Rangjuli-Simalutala	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	15	
2	Nibari to Trunk Road	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	12	
3	Jagighopa-Chapar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	9	
4	Improvements of Road from Dimakuri to Mahamayahat-Kaldoba-Ghari-Aldanga thence to Buxhirhat.	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	
5	Golakganj to Soulmali via Gaikhowa thence to Binyachera Kacharihat.	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	
6	Dhubri-Patamari	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	
7	Bashbari via Joldoba to D. K. Road between Tamarhat and Dingadinga.	..	..	15	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	
8	Salkucha village Road to Lakhiganj	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	
Total		..	11	34	10	1	..	..	..	..	12	15	..	9	92	
Population ..		..	89,947	94,146	85,464	1,01,584	86,893	85,926	59,165	71,996	39,671	56,418	53,995	81,391	1,06,463	



(e)—Information not readily available is being collected and will be supplied to the hon. Member later.

125. (a)—Government distribute money on the advice of the Assam Road Communication Board.

(b)—No.

126. (a)—If road communication is meant, the Fakirganj-Mankachar road has recently been eroded by the river Brahmaputra in places and makes communication difficult. Alternative route is being provided *via* Phulbari and Tura at a very early date.

(b)—Yes in April, 1948.

(c)—Mankachar Thana represents a thin strip of riverine area between the foothills of Garo Hills District and the Brahmaputra. In revenue and other normal administration matters this area is a natural part of Goalpara District. Like other riverine areas, communication by land is difficult but normally river communication is good and sufficient. It is only when times are abnormal and there is unhealthy excitement in the area and its neighbourhood that the Deputy Commissioner, Garo Hills is temporarily made Additional Deputy Commissioner for emergent control.

(d) & (e)—No. The question of re-aligning the existing road is under consideration.

(f)—No.

(g)—Yes. The proposed roads from Phulbari-Hallidayganj and Hallidayganj-Garobadha also *via* Phulbari and Tura will connect Mankachar with Dhubri.

(h), (i) & (j)—Do not arise.

### Survey work of Jiadhol Nodi

**Srijut BIJOY CHANDRA SAIKIA** asked :

127. (a) Are Government aware that in the Dibrugarh Subdivision the Jiadhol Nodi having not its proper course is affecting three Mauzas, *viz.*, Dhemaji, Bordoloni and Dhakuakhana for the last 5 years ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have given any kind of relief to the Raiyats of those affected Mauzas ?

(c) If not, why not ?

(d) Whether Government contemplate to survey the course of the Jiadhol Nodi for straightening up its course to Karha Nodi ?

(e) If so, do they propose to take up the survey work of the Jiadhol Nodi by this year ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

127. (a)—Government have no information regarding the causes of the flooding of areas referred to. They are prepared to make an enquiry.



(b) & (c)—The amount sanctioned in Lakhimpur District in the shape of agricultural loan and gratuitous relief from 1946 up-to-date is given below. No record prior to 1946 is available in the Secretariat.

Year		Agricultural loan		Gratuitous relief	
		Rs.		Rs.	
1946	...	...	2,00,000	...	50,000
1947	...	..	8,000	...	* 10,907 * 10,000
1948	...	...	12,000	...	59,000 (up to 11 now).

\* From the Indian Peoples Famine Trust Fund.

(d) & (e)—The scheme may be investigated in the coming cold weather provided adequate Technical Staff are available.

### Khudia-Rangafali-Mohania Road

**Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

128. Are Government aware —

(a) That the construction and development of the Khudia-Rangafali-Mohania Road in Gauhati Subdivision which Government have been pleased to take into their consideration for development in the near future (*vide* Proceedings, Assam Road Communication Board's meeting, dated 12th April, 1947, P. 6 item No. ) has become emergent owing to the big breach caused to the Nalbari-Dhamdhama Road at Dhantola village by the flood of the Pagladia in June last ?

(b) That this Khudia-Rangafali-Mohania Road starts from the Nalbari-Dhamdhama Road near Nalbari and passes through a large number of undeveloped and backward tribal villages and touches the Gohain-Kamal Road near Dhamdhama ?

129. In view of the above circumstances do Government propose to undertake steps to improve this Khudia-Rangafali-Mohania Road during the coming dry season or to allot an adequate grant to the Gauhati Local Board earmarking the same for the improvement of this road ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

128. (a)—According to the advice of the Assam Road Communication Board in their second meeting the improvement of this road was to be considered only after completion of the present programme. This case will, however, be reconsidered along with other roads at the next meeting of the Board.

A diversion has already been provided at the breach on the Nalbari-Dhamdhama road which is fit for all vehicular traffic.

(b)—The road has not been surveyed, but Government are prepared to accept the statement.

129.—Due to financial difficulties Government regret that they do not propose to undertake the improvement of the road. The matter of giving grant to the Gauhati Local Board for this road will have to be moved officially by the Local Board through regular channels.



**Jorhat Public Works Division****Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

130. (a) Is it a fact that the Jorhat Public Works Division with headquarters at Jorhat is still temporary ?

(b) What other Public Works Department Divisions of more than five years' standing are still temporary ?

(c) When do Government propose to make the above Divisions permanent ?

(d) Are Government aware that in consequence of some Public Works Department Divisions of more than five years' standing remaining temporary, many officers both executive and ministerial with long service have been deprived of the benefits attached to permanent posts ?

(e) If so, what steps Government propose to take to bring these officers into the permanent cadre ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

130. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Nowgong Division.

(c)—The question of making a few Divisions including the above two Divisions permanent is under consideration.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—This is covered by the reply to 130 (c).

**Breach on the Khutikotia Road****Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE** asked :

131. (a) Are Government aware that due to breach on the Khutikotia Road during the last flood in Nowgong, a vast area including the town of Haibargaon was heavily inundated ?

(b) Is it a fact that a representation was made to the Hon'ble Minister concerned by the people apprehending a breach of the road on 26th June last ?

(c) Are Government aware that the road was heavily breached by flood on 24th July last submerging the area mentioned above, and causing a loss of nearly five lakhs of rupees ?

(d) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether any steps were taken between 26th June and 24th July last to prevent a breach ?

(e) If so, what are these ?

(f) If not, why not ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

131. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No such representation appears to have been received.

(c)—Yes. The loss as estimated by the Deputy Commissioner is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 10,000.

(d)—No.



(c)—Does not arise.

(f)—This *bund* is not maintained by the Public Works Department or any Government agency but by the Local Board. It is the Local Board Road which serves as a *bund*.

### Improvement of road communications in Goalpara District

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM asked :

132. Will Government be pleased to state whether as a test relief measure, they propose to take up the construction of Diara-Kalapara Road in Mankachar Thana this year by giving it the necessary priority ?

133. Will Government be pleased to state whether they have decided to take up Sadustila-Kapripara Road under the Post-War Schemes in Mankachar Thana ?

134. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is a proposal for construction of a road from Hallidayganj to Garobadha in the Garo Hills ?

(b) Whether there is any proposal for construction of a road from Hallidayganj to Andoha in Goalpara district ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that a survey was made of Hallidayganj and Andoha Road ?

(d) What is the distance of Mankachar proper from Garobadha and Andoha respectively ?

(e) Whether Government are aware that Hallidayganj-Andoha Road will serve the public better than Hallidayganj-Garobadha Road ?

135. Will Government be pleased to state —

(a) Whether they propose to take up construction of permanent bridges on the river "Kala" at Mankachar Mukhdanga and Garobadha in the near future ?

(b) If so, when ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY replied :

132.—No. Apparently Diara-Kalapani Road is meant possessing 11th priority in the list of Post-War Schemes for Dhubri Subdivision. No work can be taken up until survey is completed and estimate framed thereafter.

133.—No.

134.(a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—No. The place named Andoha cannot be located.

(d)—Mankachar to Garobadha is approximately 13 miles.

(e)—No.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM: In reply to (b) & (c) it is stated that the place named Andoha cannot be located. The name of the place is Andoha and not Andoha. Will the Hon'ble Minister please see that the information is given on the correct name ?



**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY :** We can reply only to the question as it is placed before us.

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

135. (a) & (b)—Construction of permanent bridges at Mukdanga and Garo-badha have been recommended by the Assam Road Communication Board, and will be taken up in due course.

Determination of most suitable and stable sites, necessity of special Plant and Machinery for major bridges as well as transport difficulties are handicaps to speedy progress of construction.

### **River Control Project at Karukol (Garo Hills)**

**Mr. MANIRAM MARAK** asked :

136. (a) Do Government propose to take up a river control project at Karukol (Garo Hills) so that a vast flooded waste land in that locality may be put under cultivation ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to take up the above project as early as possible ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

136. (a) The proposal is under preliminary investigation.

(b) If found technically sound Government will consider and take action in due course.

### **Lower Primary School Teachers under Local Bodies**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

137. (a) Is it a fact that Government have sanctioned Rs.10 per month for each Lower Primary School Teachers under the service of Local Bodies from April 1948 ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state the reason for their failure to give effect to it so long ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

137. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Sanction has since been issued.



### Employees of the Mechpara Wards Estate

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE** asked :

138. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The qualification of acquiring interests in landed properties of the Mechpara Wards Estate, Goalpara, by the employees of the said Estate ?
- (b) The names with designation of the employees of the Mechpara Wards Estate, Goalpara, with whom settlement of land has already been made ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the following employees of the Mechpara Wards Estate, who are outsiders, have been granted settlement of land under the Mechpara Wards Estate, the first one being granted land within the Goalpara Mechpara Kachery Compound which was refused to others before ?  
(1) Sree Kamala Kanta Baisya (Naib) ? and (2) Sree Ganga Mohan Chaudhury (Sheristadar) ?
- (d) If so, why ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that some employees of the Mechpara Wards Estate, who are *bonafide* permanent tenants of the said Estate have been refused settlement of the said land with them ?
- (f) If so, why ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHAUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

138. (a) to (f)—Information has been called for from the local officers and it will be forwarded to the hon. Questioner as soon as it is received.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE :** The answer to this Question is that information has been called for from the local officers and it will be forwarded to the hon. Questioner as soon as it is received. May I know from the Government whether they are ready to take action against those local officers who have failed to send the information in time so that the officers concerned will be more careful to give special attention to the Assembly Questions ?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** When the hon. Member received the admitted copy of the Questions from my Department ?

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD NAZMAL HAQUE :** On 14th of this month, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** The time surely is very short.

**Srijut MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :** If after receipt of the information from the local officers Government find any necessity to take action, surely action will be taken.

### Borkochari and Teok liquor shops

**Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA** asked :

139. (a) Are Government aware that the Government made a commitment in the last Session of the Assembly for abolition of the Borkochari and Teok liquor shops ?



(b) Will Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken to implement the assurance given by them during the last Session of the Assembly for the abolition of the Borkochari and Teok Liquor Shops?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA** replied :

139. (a)—No commitment for abolition of the shops was made. It was said that the question of abolition of the Borkochari liquor shop was under consideration. The question has not yet been finally decided. It is connected with the bigger question of introducing Prohibition of liquor in the Province which is still under examination.

There was no contemplation of abolition of the Teok liquor shop and no assurance was given for its abolition.

(b)—*Vide* answer to question (a) above.

**Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA** : মোৰা পৰিষদৰ অধিবেশনত মই গভৰ্ণমেণ্টক অনুৰোধ কৰিছিলো যে টিয়কত liquor shop দিয়াৰ কাৰণে ৰাইজৰ মাজত অসন্তোষৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে, সেই কাৰণে ৰাইজৰ মাজৰ পৰা সেই liquor shop উঠাই দিব লাগে। তেতিয়া গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে কৈছিল যে এই বিষয়ে consider কৰি চাব। এই consideration গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে এতিয়ালৈকে শেষ কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে। কেতিয়া এই consideration শেষ হ'ব মই জানিব পাৰোনে ?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA** : ইয়াত কোৱা হৈছে যে—

“The question has not yet been finally decided. It is connected with the bigger question of introducing Prohibition of liquor in the Province which is still under examination”.

টিয়কৰ সম্বন্ধে কোৱা হৈছে যে “There was no contemplation of abolition of the Teok liquor shop and no assurance was given for its abolition”.

**Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA** : ইয়াত under consideration বুলি লিখা আছে। মই শুধিছো এই consideration কেতিয়া শেষ হ'ব।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER** : গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই Houseত কিবা assurance দিছিল নে ?

**Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA** : Consider কৰিম বুলি কৈছিল।

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA** : গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে কোনো assurance দিয়া নাছিল।

**Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA** : পূৰণি liquor shop তাত আকৌ নতুনকৈ পাতি দিয়া হৈছে ; সেই কাৰণে ৰাইজে আপত্তি কৰিছিল, কাজেই prohibition ৰ কথা ইয়াত নুঠে। ৰাইজে যেতিয়া ইমান আপত্তি কৰিছে, ৰাইজৰ আপত্তিলৈ চাই এই liquor shop উঠাই দিয়াৰ কথা গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে বিবেচনা কৰিব পাৰে।

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA** : উত্তৰত স্পষ্টকৈ কোৱা হৈছে যে, আমি আকৌ এই বিষয়ে বিবেচনা কৰি চাম।



**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA:** মই প্ৰশুকাৰী বৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াৰ পৰা জানিব পৰোনে যে বৰকছাৰী আৰু টিয়ক liquor shop ক'ত ?

**Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA:** টিয়ক যোৰহাটত আৰু বৰকছাৰী গোলাঘাটত।

### Opium cases detected in Dibrugarh Subdivision

**Srijut BHDRA KANTA GOGOI** asked :

140. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Opium cases have been detected in Dibrugarh Subdivision after the Opium Prohibition Act came into force upto the end of August last ?
- (b) How many of these cases have ended in conviction and acquittal of accused persons and how many cases are still under trial ?
- (c) In how many Opium cases bail has been granted by the Magistrate of Dibrugarh and under what section ?

141. Will Government be pleased to state the names of the persons empowered under the Opium Prohibition Act for search and arrest in Dibrugarh Subdivision Mouza by Mouza ?

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA** replied :

140. (a)—140 cases were detected up to 31st August 1948.

(b)—93 cases ended in conviction, 4 cases in acquittal and 43 under trial.

(c)—In 13 cases bail was granted by Magistrate under Section 497, Criminal Procedure Code.

141.—None empowered as yet.

### Tura Fund and Garo Hills District Fund

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

142. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The total income of Tura Fund and Garo Hills District Fund separately head by head for the last year ?
- (b) The total number of people served by the Tura Fund ?
- (c) The total number of people served by the Garo Hills District Fund ?
- (d) The total number of Garos and non-Garos served under the District Fund and Tura Fund separately ?
- (e) The total amount of rates and taxes realised from the people under the Tura Fund and the District Fund ?
- (f) Whether there is any proposal for amalgamation of these two funds in the near future ?



The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

142. (a)—The income of the Garo Hills District Fund in the year 1947-48 was Rs.1,25,469. The statement showing the details of income is furnished below.

*Statement showing the Income of the Garo Hills District Fund for the year 1947-48*

Name of local body	Income							Total income
	Opening balance	Compensatory grant	Recurring grant	Refund of unpaid wages	Miscellaneous	Other taxes	Other sources of income	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.
Garo Hills District Fund.	32,121 7 7	1,11,552 0 0	13,698 0 0	67 0 0	152 0 0	..	..	1,25,469 0 0

The information in regard to the income of the Tura Fund has been called for.

(b)—2,908.

(c)—2,20,661.

		Garos	Non-Garos
(d)—District Fund	...	1,79,626	41,035
Tura Fund	...	1,499	1,409

(e)—The information has been called for.

(f)—No.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** Will the information, when received, be forwarded to us ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** Yes, Sir.

### Outbreak of Cholera in Goalpara District

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

143. Will Government be pleased to state in tabular form—

(a) the number of persons attacked with cholera in each Thana of Goalpara District during the period from 15th July 1948 to 14th August 1948 ?

(b) The total number of deaths in each Thana in the said district during the said period ?

(c) The first day of the outbreak of cholera in each Thana ?

144. (a) Are Government aware that for eleven days from the date of the outbreak of cholera at Jhagrarchar in Mankachar Police Station, no medical aid was available to the people ?



(b) Are Government aware that only one Rural Health Inspector with partial help of the Local Sub-Assistant Surgeon worked during this period in spite of the outbreak of cholera throughout the whole Thana Elaka?

(c) Are Government aware that neither sufficient vaccines nor Doctors or Health Assistants were made available to the people during this period?

(d) Is it a fact that the whole of South Bank consisting of Mankachar, South Salmara and Lakhipur Thanas are subjected to yearly flood?

(e) Are Government aware that well-protected Ring-wells are essential to provide the people with pure drinking water during flood and epidemics?

(f) Will Government be pleased to state the amount of money spent actually last year for water supply in the District of Goalpara and the amount allotted this year in that district for the purpose (to be shown Subdivision by Sub-division)?

(g) Will Government be pleased to state the amount of money spent last year in each of the three Thanas of Mankachar, South Salmara and Lakhipur for the purpose?

(h) Do Government propose to provide one Ring-well to each village under these Thanas, starting work from cholera affected villages?

(i) Do Government propose to spend the sanctioned amount for water supply through "Self-Help Board" to give maximum benefit to the public?

(j) In view of experiences gathered this year, do Government propose to post permanently some Health Assistants in each suitable centres in the said area to take preventive measures against any outbreak of epidemic?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS replied :**

143. (a)—Golakganj Thana	...	...	...	20 attacks.
Gosaigaon Thana	...	...	...	5 "
Mankachar Thana	...	...	...	48 "
Bilashipara Thana	...	...	...	13 "
South Salmara...	...	...	...	154 "
Dhubri	...	...	...	56 "
Dudnai	...	...	...	4 "
North Salmara...	...	...	...	24 "
Lakhipur	...	...	...	53 "
Goalpara	...	...	...	21 "
Total				398

(b)—Golakganj thana	...	...	...	8 deaths.
Gosaigaon	...	...	...	3 "
Mankachar	...	...	...	31 "
Bilashipara	...	...	...	6 "
South Salmara	...	...	...	91 "
Dhubri	...	...	...	32 "
Dudnai	...	...	...	3 "
North Salmara	...	...	...	12 "
Lakhipur	...	...	...	35 "
Goalpara	...	...	...	11 "
Total				232 deaths.



(c)—1st date of outbreak reported—

Golakganj thana...	...	...	10th July 1948.
Gosaigaon thana...	...	...	6th July 1948.
Mankachar	...	...	1st August 1948.
Bilashipara	...	...	7th August 1948.
South Salmara	...	...	19th July 1948.
Dhubri ...	...	...	26th July 1948.
Dudnai	...	...	7th July 1948.
North Salmara	...	...	8th July 1948.
Lakhipur	...	...	13th July 1948.
Goalpara	...	...	13th July 1948.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** Are these figures correct?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** These are based on record.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied:

144. (a)—It is not a fact.

(b)—In Mankachar Thana, staff engaged was as follows:—

Mankachar Police Station—3 Sub-Assistant Surgeons (including the Medical Officer in-charge, Mankachar Dispensary). One Rural Health Inspector. One Rural Health Assistant.

(c)—All demand of cholera vaccine was met promptly. Extra staff as considered necessary by District Medical Officer of Health, Goalpara, were also detailed to the affected areas. Doctors were sent by closing down less important Public Health Dispensaries of other localities.

(d)—As these are low lying areas they are subjected to floods whenever the river rises. They have been so affected by the current year's flood.

(e)—Yes.

(f) & (g)—The amounts given to the Local Boards during the last financial year as well as this year for improvement of rural water supply are as below. The Boards could not spend any amount last year due to difficulty in procuring cement and for heavy rains.

			Allotment from P. W. funds	Allotment from Provincial budget
			Rs.	Rs.
Dhubri Subdivision	...	1947-48	55,742	32,132
	...	1948-49	...	32,132
Goalpara Subdivision	...	1947-48	24,823	13,576
	...	1948-49	...	13,576

(h)—It is the aim of Government to provide a R. C. Well or a tank in every village of the Province and also to give priority to cholera endemic areas under their rural water supply scheme.

(i)—The present arrangement of executing the work through the Local Boards in the rural areas seems suitable. Government have already directed the Local Boards to encourage the villagers to take up the work of constructing wells or digging tanks in the selected villages if the villagers can organise themselves for the purpose.

(j)—The suggestion of the hon. Member will be kept in view.



### Abolition of "Khutgari" at Dhubrighat

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

145. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have lately received representations from Associations and individuals for abolition of "Khutgari" at Dhubrighat?

(b) Are Government aware or have received complaint to the effect that the men of the lessee engaged for realisation of this toll, behave very badly with the people and charge any amount according to their sweet will?

(c) Is it a fact that the men of the said lessee realise toll even from Government land just bordering Municipal Road near Sub-Registration Office?

(d) If so, do Government propose to take necessary action against the said lessee?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken to stop this system of "Khutgari" realisation?

(f) Is the Zemindary system any barrier against the abolition of this "Khutgari"?

(g) If so, do Government propose to abolish the same as soon as Zemindary is acquired by the State?

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI** replied :

145. (a)—No.

(b) & (c)—Government have no information.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—None.

(f)—This is a question on which Government are not prepared to offer any opinion at this juncture.

(g)—The matter will certainly be considered by Government at the proper time.

### Colliery in Dimapur Area

**Srijut BEJOY CHANDRA SAIKIA** asked :

146. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a colliery has been explored a few years back in Dimapur area of Assam?

(b) If so, with whom this colliery has been settled?

(c) Whether this colliery has been settled under the provisions of the Assam Land Revenue Manual under Mines Act?

(d) When and for what period this colliery has been settled and whether the lessee has floated a company?

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI** replied :

146. (a)—No, but in respect of an area in the Mikir Hills in the District of Sibsagar, which is known as Koilajan, a mining lease was issued. It is assumed that the hon. Member refers to this colliery although it does not fall within Dimapur which is in the District of Naga Hills.



(b)—If the above assumption is correct, the lease was first granted to one Rai Sahib P. C. Roy of Habiganj, Sylhet, and subsequently transferred to Messrs. Koilajan Colliery Limited.

(c)—The lease was granted under the Mining Concessions (Assam) Rules, 1941.

(d)—The lease was granted in 1944 for a period of 30 years from 1st February 1944. The present holder of the lease was already a limited company registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1913.

### **Flood affected Villages of Rampur and Dakhin Sarubongsor Mouzas**

**Srijut BELIRAM DAS** asked :

147. (a) Are Government aware that the following villages in the Rampur and Dakhin Sarubongsor Mouzas respectively are the worst affected villages from annual floods in the South Bank of the Kamrup District ?

Rampur Mouza : Nahira-Satrapara, Dakhala, Bholopara, Naradpara, Boripara, Solmari, Hetenga, Joypur, Barbahari, Balartari, Karipara, Gunimara, Singimari, Hirapara, Simira, Korabari, Chapathuri, Kendurtol, Mokajuj.

Dakhin Sarubongsor : Kalardia, Kajihitari, Hohnapathar, Jarabari, Panikhaiti, Kandulimari, Kandalpara, Dhekirtari, Satghoripara, Bhirbheri.

(b) What quantity of rice has been distributed amongst these villages during the recent floods (figures to be shown separately village by village) ?

(c) What quantity of rice has been distributed during the recent floods amongst the road-side (trunk road) villages from Jhalukbari to Rampur showing the figures separately for each village ?

(d) Who are the members of the Gauhati Central Flood Relief Committee ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state the names of the villages that have been given seed paddy and paddy for consumption at concessional rate during the recent floods showing the figures separately from Jhalukbari to Rampur near the Trunk Road ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

147. (a) to (e)—A report has been called for from the local officers and the informations sought for will be forwarded to the hon. Questioner as soon as they are received.

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)**: The reply has since been received and if the hon. Member wants I may give him the reply.

### **Appeal petitions by three Mandals against the Supervisor Kanungo of Jagi Road Sub-circle**

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

148. (a) Are Government aware that the appeal petitions submitted on 10th November 1946, through proper channel by the three Mandals, viz, (1) Srijut Bakul Chandra Bora, (2) Srijut Madan Chandra Deka and (3) Srijut Dembeswar Bora, against the order of appointment, dated 21st October 1946, of



Srijut Ghanakanta Hazarika, Mandal, as Supervisor Kaaungo in the Jagiroad Sub-Circle of the Raha Circle in the District of Nowgong, were suppressed by the Registrar Kanungo's office of Nowgong ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that Government having been moved by the resolution from the Assam Mandal Kanungo's Sanmilani enquired into the matter but the papers connecting that enquiry were also suppressed in the above mentioned office ?

(c) If so, whether Government propose to take necessary steps to recover those papers and do the needful now ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI** replied :

148. (a)—(c)—A report has been called for from the District Officer. The hon. Member will be supplied with the information when the report is received.

### **Road Communication in Lakhimpur District**

**Srijut BEJOY CHANDRA SAIKIA** asked :

149. Will Government be pleased to state when the work of the North Trunk Road from Sonarighat to Chaowldhoaghat will be completed as a motorable road ?

150. Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to open a road from Sissi-Borgaon in Sissi Mauza to Dijnur village on the Burisuti Nodi as there are many villages between these two places ?

151. Do Government propose to open a road from Jiadholmukh to Dhemaji road as there are many villages having no suitable communication to Dhemaji ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

149.—It is likely to be completed by 1949-50.

150.—There is no such proposal at present under consideration.

151.—There is no such scheme in the lists so far approved by the Assam Road Communications Board.

### **Selection of Rural Development Officer**

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE** asked :

152. (a) Will Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that certain outsiders were allowed to sit with the Members of the Assam Public Service Commission in interviewing candidates for selection of a Rural Development Officer ?

(b) If so, who are these gentlemen and what were the reasons for allowing them this particular privilege.

(c) Whether they belong to any Political Party ?

(d) If so, what is that Party ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI** replied :

152. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Government thought it advisable that in making selections for appointments of Development Officers the Commission should be helped by a Board of members who had experience of village work and agreeing with this



view the Commission invited the following persons to advise the Commission.

(1) Parliamentary Secretary to the Government of Assam, in charge of Rural Development Department.

(2) The Secretary and Director of Rural Development Department.

(3) Srijut Siddhi Nath Sarma.

(4) Srijut Mahendra Nath Hazarika.

(5) Srijut Rabindra Nath Kakaty.

(6) Srijut B. K. Bhandary

(7) Srijukta Amalprova Das, Adviser to the Government of Assam in Basic Education.

The last two persons however could not sit with the Commission at the time of selecting candidates for Development Officership.

(c) & (d)—So far the Government is aware all the persons mentioned in the list above other than Secretary and Director of Rural Development Department belong to the Congress Party.

### Mechanised farming undertaken by Government

**Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA** asked :

153. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the results of mechanised farming so far undertaken by Government in Missamari or elsewhere ?

(b) Do Government propose to help individual peasants by lending their tractors to them collectively or individually ?

(c) If so, on what terms ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the opinion of the Agrarian Committee which recently visited Assam about mechanised cultivation and State-farms ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

153. (a)—Government have undertaken mechanised farming at Mowamari, Missamari, Dalgoan and Orang Reserves and also in certain parts of Kamrup and Cachar Districts. A total of about three thousand acres of land have been brought under tractor cultivation in all these places.

The results of mechanised cultivation at Missamari cannot yet be estimated as the tractors started work last May and the rains have retarded the progress of work.

(b)—It is the intention of Government to help the cultivators by lending the tractors to them collectively. But it will not be possible at present to lend tractors to private individuals because the number of tractors is very small.

(c)—At Missamari, Government lend tractors on hire at about Rs.5 per bigha, but the actual rate has not yet been fixed. In all other places, for tractor operation in the fields, the peasants are to pay the following charges:—

Rupees twelve per acre for ploughing once and Rs.4 per acre for harrowing once. Cultivators have to bear the charges of transporting to and from the place of operation.

(d)—No official intimation of the opinion of the Congress Agrarian Reforms Committee has been received.



**Distribution of seeds and manures in Goalpara District**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

154. Will Government be pleased to state in tabular form—

- (a) The quantity of seeds and manures distributed in Goalpara District, Thana by Thana, for the years 1945-1946, 1947-1948 (seed of each kind and manure should be shown year by year, separately) ?
- (b) The rate at which each kind of seed and manure was supplied ?
- (c) The market rate of each such seed and manure at the time of distribution ?
- (d) The names and designations of officers who actually distributed those to the cultivators in each unit of area ?
- (e) The names of cultivators who have been supplied with seeds and manures in each area in Goalpara District ?
- (f) The quantity of each supplied to each cultivator ?
- (g) The date of their distribution to each cultivator ?
- (h) The total amount realised from each cultivator ?

155. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the distribution of seeds in the past was made when proper time for sowing was over ?

(b) If so, why ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

154. & 155.—Information has been called for.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** : Will the hon. Members of the House be informed of the information when it is received by the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** : Yes, it will be done.

**Functions of Jute Overseer and Demonstrators**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

156. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The functions of the Jute Overseer and Demonstrators ?
- (b) What are the qualifications of these officers ?
- (c) Whether they in any way helped the cultivators for gradation of jute ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

156. (a) to (c)—Government have no such employees. So the Questions do not arise.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** : Sir, in reply to my Question regarding the functions of Jute Overseer and Demonstrators Government said that they have no such employees. May we know, Sir, from the Hon'ble Minister when these officers have been discharged ?



**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** The old staff was appointed by the Central Government and the Department was abolished last year, and we have not been employing any such officer since that time.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** Has any Agriculture Officer of Assam Government been trained for this work?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** None, Sir.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** How the work of the officer will be managed by the Agriculture Department of this Government?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** It is not the concern of this Government. If the Central Government want that it should be managed by this Government, then arrangement will be made to look after the work.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** Is it not a fact that if some officer is trained in the work of grading jute he will be useful to the agriculturists.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** I agree that he may be useful to the Agriculture Department.

### **Epidemic among plough bullocks and buffaloes**

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** asked:

157. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many plough bullocks and buffaloes died of epidemic in Kawoimari Nigam Chinie and Borkheremia in Jaipur Mouza in Dibrugarh Subdivision since January 1948, till the end of July 1948?
- (b) Whether Government received any representation from the public of this locality in this respect?
- (c) If so, what steps Government propose to take on them?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that most of the paddy fields of these villages are lying uncultivated for want of plough cattle?
- (e) If so, whether Government propose to make necessary arrangement to give relief to these poor villages?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied:

157. (a)—The information has been called for.

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Government have no information.

(e)—The matter of assisting cultivators to obtain bullocks is under consideration.

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** Question 157(d) ৰ উত্তৰত গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে কৈছে যে “Government have no information”. মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে মোৰ পৰা এইটো জানি লবনে যে জয়পুৰ মৌজাৰ সেইবিলাক গাঁৱত গৰু মহ'ৰ অভাৱত প্ৰায়বিলাক মাটিয়েই পৰি আছে?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** It may be quite possible, Sir, but Government have no information as yet.



**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে এই বিষয়ে enquiry কৰিবনে ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** I will do.

**Government Agents for distribution of C. I. Sheets and Cement in Dhubri Subdivision**

**Srijut SANTOSH KUMAR BARUA** asked :

158. Will Government be pleased to state in so far as Dhubri Subdivision is concerned—

- (a) The names of Government Agents for distribution of (i) Corrugated Iron Sheets and (ii) Cement ?
- (b) The monthly quota allotted to them of (i) C. I. Sheets and (ii) Cement ?
- (c) The quantity of supply of the above commodities received since 1st January 1948 till the end of August 1948 ?

159. (a) Is it a fact that recently the Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara District, seized some unclaimed bags of cement at the Dhubri Railway Station ?

(b) If so will Government be pleased to state—

- (i) The quantity so seized, and
- (ii) How it was disposed of ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

158. (a) (i)—Messrs. Chaturbhuj Ghisalall, Dhubri, Messrs. Town Stores, Dhubri, Messrs. Haji Abdul Jabbar and Sons, Dhubri.

(ii) Messrs. Ghisalall Purusottamlall, Dhubri, Messrs. Chaturbhuj Ghisalall, Dhubri, Messrs. Hoosen Kesen Dada, Choukh Bazar, Dhubri, Messrs. Net Ram Kanailall, Dhubri, Messrs. The Town Stores, Dhubri.

(b) (i)—Allotment is made to them periodically and the allotments are given below—

—	Pd. I—48	Pd. II—48	Pd. III—48	Pd. IV—48
Messrs. Chaturbhuj Ghisalall.	4 tons	2 tons	15 tons	10 tons
Messrs. Town Stores ...	4 tons	5 tons	9 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons	10 tons
Messrs. Haji Abdul Jabbar and Sons.	3 tons	4 tons	...	...

(ii)—Seventy tons per month for the Subdivision.

(c)—No quantity of these commodities has been received within this period due to transport difficulties and booking restrictions.

159. (a)—Yes.

(b) (i)—Four hundred and thirty-eight bags.

(ii) Thirty bags were lost and wasted. Two hundred bags have been given to Messrs. Iron Industries of Assam, Dhubri, for erecting foundation of machineries. The balance has been placed at the disposal of local authority.



**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** Who issued these 200 bags of cement to the Iron Industries of Assam ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** Permit might have been issued from the office of the Director of Consumer Goods.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** Did the Director of Consumer Goods make any enquiry about the Iron Industries of Assam before issuing cement ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** Yes, he must have made enquiries.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** Did he receive any report from the Deputy Commissioner about this Iron Industries ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** He must have made enquiries from the Deputy Commissioner.

### Scarcity of paddy and rice in Garo Hills

**Mr. MANIRAM MARAK** asked :

160. (a) Are Government aware—

(i) that the Garo Hills district is a deficit area in so far as paddy is concerned ; and

(ii) that the people are starving for want of paddy and rice ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representation from any body in this respect ?

(c) If so, what steps have been taken on it ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :—

160. (a) (i)—The Southern part is deficit while the Northern part is surplus.

(ii)—Government have no such information.

(b)—Yes, from the hon. Member himself.

(c)—The matters raised in the representation are under the active consideration of the Government.

**Re : Circular not to employ persons in aided schools who are not natives of or domiciled in Indian Dominion**

**Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV** asked :

161. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a circular has been issued by Assistant Director of Public Instruction, Assam, to all aided schools in Assam asking them not to employ any one on the staff who is not a native of or is not domiciled in the Indian Dominion ?

(b) Whether this circular applies to the released Sylhet personnel also who could not be permanently absorbed by Government ?

(c) If so, why ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

161. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The question of released personnel is governed by the policy, Government have adopted in this behalf.

(c)—Does not arise.



### Functions of the Trade Adviser

**Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

162. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The name of their Trade Adviser in Calcutta ?
- (b) What are his functions ?
- (c) When was he appointed ?
- (d) What is his salary ?
- (e) What was the amount of his telephone bill for the last twelve months (figures to be shown month by month) ?
- (f) Whether it is fact that the motor car placed at his disposal belongs to Government ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

162. (a)—Mr. S. K. Mojumdar.

(b)—His functions are somewhat similar to that of a representative who helps Government in collecting, procuring, arranging and despatching important articles for import to Assam.

(c)—On 8th November 1945.

(d)—A fixed salary of Rs.700 per mensem *plus* allowances at Calcutta rate.

(e)—Report from the Trade Adviser is being awaited.

(f)—Yes.

### Distribution of C. I. Sheets at Jorhat

**Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

163. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The names of persons to whom C. I. Sheets at Jorhat were distributed this year ?
- (b) How many people got C. I. Sheets at least twice and for what purpose ?
- (c) What are their names ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

163. (a)—Permits for the following persons have been issued this year by Director of Consumer Goods, Assam.

(1) Srijut Mukta Nath Barua, Secretary, Chandra Kanta Indra Kanta Trust Board.

(2) Makul Chandra Sabha Pandit, Tarajan, Jorhat.

(3) Maulavi Habibur Rahman, Stenographer, Jorhat.

(4) Headmaster, Sankardar Seminary.

(5) F. G. Sarmah, Branch Post-master, Sarupathar.

(6) Jengrai Miri Middle English School, Jengraimiri.

(7) M/S. Barkataki, Jorhat.

(8) Na Kamalabari Satra, Majuli.

Reports as to the permits issued by the Deputy Commissioner have been called for.

(b)—None got twice from Director of Consumer Goods.

Deputy Commissioner's report has been called for.

(c)—Does not arise in view of reply to Question 163 (b).



### Change of the date of commencement of the School Session

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

164. (a) Is it a fact that Government have decided to change the date of commencement of School Session from March to February instead of from March to January in view of the difficulties of X'mas Holidays in December ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to change the date of commencement of School session from February to January for uniformity with other Universities of the Dominion ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

164. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** : Is it a fact that Government issued a letter to the Questioner saying that because of intervention of X'mas Holidays they cannot change the Session from March to January and that is why they could not complete the Session ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) : The question is whether Government have decided to change the date of commencement of School Session from March to February and the reply is "No".

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** : In regard to the second part of my Question to the effect that in view of the difficulties of X'mas Holidays in December, the Government could not change the Session from March to January ; but here in the reply it is said "No", covering this latter part as well.

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) : That it is due to the intervention of X'mas Holidays they could not change the Session is only one of the reasons.

### Import of White Oil into Assam

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE** asked :

165. (a) Are Government aware that a liquid called "White Oil" is annually imported to Assam in large quantity ?

(b) If so, what is the actual quantity imported ?

(c) How this oil is extracted and manufactured and for what use ?

(d) Are Government aware that this oil is extensively used in adulterating foodstuffs ?

(e) If so, what steps Government have taken to prevent it being used for adulteration of foodstuffs ?

(f) Have Government ascertained the effect of the use of this oil on the health of the consumer ?

(g) If so, what is its effect on human system ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

165. (a) & (b)—It is reported that "White Oil" is imported but quantity is not known.



(c) & (d)—The product is not obtained by extraction but manufactured under a patent right. It is reported that the oil is being used as an adulterant with mustard oil though as a commercial product, it is known to be used as a dilution for linseed oil.

(e)—The Deputy Commissioners, Subdivisional Officers and Chairmen of Municipal and Local Boards and Town Committees have been directed to take adequate steps to instruct the Health Officers and other persons invested with powers under the Assam Pure Food Act, to inspect all oil mills and grocery shops as frequently as possible and send samples of suspected oil to the Public Health Laboratory for analysis.

(f) & (g)—Thorough and scientific investigation into the matter has not been taken up by this Government. This will be referred to the proper authority, e.g., Indian Research Fund Association for proper investigation into the effect of white oil on human system. It has, however, been reported that white oil is an irritant to the human intestine and also causes purging.

### Baghmara Dispensary

**Mr. MANIRAM MARAK** asked :

166. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) When Government propose to shift the Baghmara Dispensary from Baghmara to Baghmara bazar which was sanctioned long ago?
- (b) Whether the construction of the Parakasua and Ghugam Dispensaries in the Garo Hills district are completed?
- (c) If not, why not?

**The Hon'ble Srijit RAMNATH DAS** replied :

166 (a)—As soon as the buildings are completed.

(b)—No.

(c)—Regarding the construction of the Parakasua (Parakhasia) Dispensary the contractor could not take up the work earlier due to non-receipt of the necessary permit for collection of timber in time and partly due to early monsoon. The completion of the work is expected by November/December, 1948. So far as Ghugam (Ghosegaon) Dispensary is concerned the Executive Engineer has been instructed to take up the work immediately.

### Free medical treatment to M.L.As.

**Maulavi MD. MAKSED ALI** asked :

167. Will Government be pleased to state whether the Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly are entitled to get medical treatment free when they are in and out of their headquarters?

168. (a) Is it a fact that Government have decided to promote the Sub-Assistant Surgeons to the rank of Assistant Surgeons?

(b) Are Government aware that the Sub-Assistant Surgeons have knowledge in medicine but are not trained in surgery?

(c) Do Government propose to depute the Sub-Assistant Surgeons for surgical training at least for six months and then promote them to the rank of Assistant Surgeons?



**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

167 —No. They are only entitled to get medical attendance and treatment as are laid down for Government Servants, while they are on duty in Shillong for the purposes of attending a meeting of the Legislature or a Committee meeting or Conference appointed by Government.

168. (a)—Selected Sub-Assistant Surgeons are promoted to the rank of Assistant Surgeons, and this practice has been in existence for a long time.

(b)—Sub-Assistant Surgeons are given training in all branches of medicine and surgery.

(c)—Selection for promotion to Assistant Surgeons is made on merit and proficiency. There is no proposal at present to give any special training to the Sub-Assistant Surgeons before they are promoted.

### **Projects under Post-War Development Scheme in the Mikir Hills**

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA** asked :

169. (a) Will Government be pleased to state what development projects have been undertaken by Government under the Post-War Development Schemes in the Mikir Hills ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the details of such projects ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI** replied :

169. (a) and (b)—The following development projects have been laid down for the Mikir Hills as part of the Development programme for 1948-49.

*Agriculture.*—For the year 1948-49, provision of Rs.4,000 and Rs.2,000 has been made for terrace cultivation and anti-erosion work and for Demonstration of fruits, cash crops and live-stock respectively under the scheme for development of Agriculture in the Hills (Partially Excluded Areas).

*Industries.*—When the Rural Development Plan operates, cottage industries will be developed.

*Sericulture and Weaving.*—At present there is a proposal to start one Eri Seed Grainage at Salona at an estimated cost of Rs.34,000 and for the purpose of extension of weaving activities, two Mikir stipendiaries at Rs.25 per mensem have been entertained since last July. It is the intention of Government to post these two stipendiaries in the Mikir Hills for the improvement of the Handloom Industry after they finish their training.

*Communications (P.W.D.)*—Under the head communication the following roads are proposed :—

	Rs.
I. Mohendijwa-Diphu 16 miles at an estimated cost of	4,00,000
II. Dimapur-Mohendijwa 30 miles at an estimated cost of ... ..	7,50,000
III. Kampur-Singirimari-Baithalanse 20 miles at an estimated cost of ... ..	4,00,000

Moreover there is a proposal approved by the Assam Road Communication Board in their third meeting that Lumding may be connected with Lanka by a road and extended upto Diphu at an approximate cost of Rs.20,00,000.

*Rural Development.*—The Mikir Hills will share equally in the Rural Development Plans of Government and a Development Officer will be appointed exclusively for this area.



*Education.*—There is no Post-War Scheme for development of general education in the Mikir Hills under the consideration of Government at present, but it is proposed to introduce basic education in the Mikir Hills as soon as trained teachers are available.

*Medical.*—Under "Medical" no development project has yet been undertaken in the Mikir Hills proper. But it has been decided to establish a big Leper Colony at Kuthari and a Small Colony at Singimari. The establishment of two travelling dispensaries is also under consideration of Government.

*Forest.*—It is proposed to gradually construct 30 miles of road from Garampani to Kaliani in the Nowgong subdivision of the Mikir Hills, out of which 3 miles have already been completed in 1947-48. It is also proposed to construct permanent culverts and bridges on the above road. The following projects have already been taken up in the Mikir Hills area of Nowgong Subdivision:—

1. *Regeneration.*—350 acres of successful plantation have been created.
2. *Buildings.*—Work on two inspection bungalows, one at Diphu and the other at Lumding is proceeding in addition to one Assistant Forester's quarters at Dhansiri, which has already been completed. One Rest House at Dengaon has also been built.
3. *Communications.*—The following roads have already been completed:—
  - (i)—Dhansiri-Diphu road—5 miles. This has been gravelled.
  - (ii)—Bhalukmari-Kaki road—2 miles.
 The following roads have been proposed:—
  - (i)—Extension of road from Dhansiri to Diphu—10 miles.
  - (ii)—Extension of road from Bhalukmari-Kaki road upto Kaki—6 miles.
  - (iii)—Amsoi-Bargaon Hills Road—2 miles.
  - (iv)—Lanka-Lumding Road (Linking of Lumding with Lanka.)
4. *Extension of Reserved Forests*—(i) Extension of Daldali Forest Reserve 7276·8 acres.
  - (ii)—Extension of Lumding Reserve 3404·8 acres.
  - (iii)—Extension of Kaki Reserve 10,000 acres (approximately).
5. *Sanitation.*—The following re-inforced concrete wells have been provided for officers and labour force.

(i)—Bakulia Beat Office	...	...	...	1 (one)
(ii)—Amsoi	...	...	...	1 (one)
(iii)—Dhansiri	...	...	...	1 (one)
(iv)—Lumding Range Office	...	...	...	1 (one)
(v)—Tube-well at Dengaon	...	...	...	1 (one)

6. *Development of Forest Villages.*—The following labour camps and re-inforced concrete wells have been provided:—

(i)—Labour camp at Dhansiri	...	...	...	1 (one)
(ii)—Amsoi Forest Village	...	...	...	1 Well.

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA:** May I know from Government whether there is any scheme for rural water supply in the interior villages of the Mikir Hills?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** I presume, Sir, that the grant that has been proposed to be given for rural water supply, includes Mikir Hills also.

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA:** I want to know whether any amount was allotted for rural water supply in interior villages of the Mikir Hills out of the last year's grant?



**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** It was impressed on the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong, that necessary action should be taken for rural water supply in the Mikir Hills out of the money allotted.

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA:** Have Government got any information as to how many tanks and tube-wells have been provided in the Mikir Hills?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** I cannot give the details since the Deputy Commissioner is concerned with them.

### Outbreak of Kala-azar in Lahing Mauza

**Srijut HARINARAYON BARUAH** asked :

170. (a) Are Government aware that Kala-azar has broken out in Lahing Mouza in Jorhat Subdivision?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken for treatment of such cases in that area?

(c) Are Government aware that there is no facility for medical treatment in that place?

(d) Do Government propose to establish a Public Health Department Dispensary there?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS** replied :

170. (a)—Yes.

(b)—After the affected areas had been surveyed, a treatment centre was opened at Hatimara, the most infected village, in September last.

(c)—Yes. But the Jhanji Local Board Dispensary and the Teok Subsidised Dispensary are only at a distance of six to seven miles from the distant villages.

(d)—The matter is under consideration.

**Srijut HARINARAYON BARUAH:** 170(d) Sir. মোৰ প্রশ্নটো আছিল "Do Government propose to establish a Public Health Department dispensary there?" উত্তৰ হৈছে "the matter is under consideration". গতকাল যেনেকৈ জনাব পাৰোনে যে লাহিং মৌজাৰ পৰ্বতৰ দাঁতিৰ ফালে আৰু জঁজিৰ নদীৰ পাৰৰ গাওঁ বিলাকত কলাজ্বৰৰ প্ৰকোপ বৰ বেচি হৈছে? জঁজি dispensary আৰু টিয়ক dispensary প্ৰায় ৭/৮ মাইল দূৰৈ সেই কাৰণে বেনাৰী বিলাকৰ বৰ অসুবিধা হৈছে।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** আপোনাৰ প্রশ্নটো কি?

**Srijut HARINARAYON BARUAH:** মই গতকাল যেনেকৈ পৰা আশ্বাস পাব পাৰোনে যে তাত এখন Public Health Dispensary খুলিব?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** এইটো বিবেচনাধীন হৈ আছে বুলি কৈছে।

**Srijut HARINARAYON BARUAH:** মই আশ্বাস বিচাৰিছো যাতে তাত এখন Public Health Dispensary খোলা হয়

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** Public Health Dispensary খুলিবলৈ হলে কলা-জ্বৰ ৰোগীৰ সংখ্যাৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰে। Public Health Department এ survey কৰি যদি বিবেচনা কৰে যে তাত এখন dispensary লাগে তেনেহলে তেওঁলোকে এই সম্বন্ধে proposal দিব।



**Sufferings caused by de-control of cloth, food-stuffs, etc.**

**Mr. P. M. SARWAN** asked :

171. (a) Are Government aware of the untold sufferings of the people of Assam caused by de-control of cloth, food-stuffs and other commodities ?

(b) Do Government propose to re-introduce control and rationing on these articles ?

(c) Do Government propose to take necessary steps to prevent corruption in the distribution of food-stuffs and cloth ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

171. (a)—Withdrawal of control was desired by people. And after de-control of some foodstuffs such as sugar and pulse and salt, situation with regard to availability of these commodities, improved and people welcomed the measure. But with regard to decontrol, this hope could not be realised.

(b)—Re-introduction of control and rationing is being examined.

(c)—Government are always on the watch to prevent corruption and they will take action when such concrete instances come to their notice.

**De-linking Dhubri from Bengal Zone for the supply of Coal and Kerosene**

**Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS** asked :

172. (a) Is it a fact that Dhubri Public has approached Government for delinking Dhubri from Bengal Zone so far as Coal Supply and Kerosene are concerned ?

(b) Why Dhubri is still linked with Bengal for essential supply of commodities like coal and kerosene ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

172. (a)—Yes, so far as coal is concerned but as regards supply of Kerosene, Government are not aware of any move by the public of Dhubri for delinking Dhubri from Bengal Zone.

(b)—Dhubri had been delinked from Bengal Zone since February, 1948 for supply of Kerosene. Messrs. Burma Oil Company Limited, Digboi, are now supplying Kerosene oil for Dhubri Subdivision.

Assam is not self-sufficient with regard to coal, internal production within the Province being inadequate. Though the Regional Coal Controller, Margherita, is arranging supplies in emergent cases from within the Province, some quantity of coal has to be brought from Bengal and Dhubri being nearer, this is diverted to Dhubri. As such Dhubri is linked to West Bengal with regard to coal supply.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** : In reply to the question it is stated in the last line—"As such Dhubri is linked to West Bengal with regard to coal supply." Are Government aware of the fact that for this arrangement, sometimes the people of Dhubri are going without coal ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** : It may be so, but we are not aware of this fact.



## Atta Mills and import of salt

**Mr. KEDARMAL BRAHMIN** asked:

173. (a) Are Government aware that the Atta Mills of the Province are lying idle for want of wheat ?

(b) If so, what steps Government have taken to supply wheat for the purpose ?

(c) Are Government aware that the Atta imported from outside the Province is highly adulterated ?

(d) If so, what steps Government have taken for importing wheat into the Province ?

174. Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any cess is charged on salt imported by the trade ?

(b) If so, what is the total collection of such cess upto date from the time it was levied ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

173. (a)—Government have no information.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Government have no information.

(d)—Does not arise.

**Mr. KEDARMAL BRAHMIN:** The answer given to Question (a) is Government have no information. May I know whether the Government had their wheat milled in the mills of Gauhati, Shillong, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia in the year 1946-47 ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** Yes, Government had a quantity of imported wheat in the year 1943 or 1944. I do not remember the exact year, but I can say that Government had to incur financial loss because of milling defects.

**Mr. KEDARMAL BRAHMIN:** The answer to my Question was that the Government have no information, but now the Hon'ble Minister admits that the Government milled their wheat.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Your Question is: "Are Government aware that the Atta Mills of the Province are lying idle for want of wheat", but your Supplementary Question is quite different.

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** We have no information whether the mills are lying idle.

**Mr. KEDARMAL BRAHMIN:** Nobody can import wheat from outside, it is Government who import from outside, Sir.

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** But they can mill wheat which is produced locally. I want to make a statement, Sir.

The question of having wheat imported from outside for milling within the Province, is being examined and I cannot say anything further at present.



**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

174. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Rs.3,64,522-12-9.

**Officers in charge of Agricultural Irrigation projects in South Salmara and Mankachar Thanas**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM** asked :

175. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The designation of the Officer who is in charge of Agricultural Irrigation projects in South Salmara and Mankachar Thanas ?

(b) How many projects have been taken up since the start of the Department ?

(c) The names of the projects taken up and costs borne by the Department ?

(d) The names of the projects which have not been taken up with reasons for rejection ?

(e) Whether the Officers ever came to direct contact with the cultivators in this area and advised them for improvement and extension of cultivation ?

(f) If so, whether Government propose to lay on the table copies of remarks made in the tour diaries by various Officers showing tour and duties in this area since the beginning of these projects ?

176. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there is any Kamdar (Irrigation) or any other Officer at Mankachar, Sukehar, South Salmara, Hamidabad and Medortari ?

(b) If not, do Government propose to post such Officer in each of the above centres with a view to remedying the continuous sufferings of the cultivators of these areas ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to take up some new projects in these areas as a relief measure ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

175. (a) to (f)—Information has been called for.

176. (a) to (c)—Information has been called for.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM**: The answer to both 175 and 176 is—"Information has been called for"—Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to send us a copy of the information when received and actions taken on them ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR**: It will be sent, Sir, if the hon. Member so desires.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM**: It is always desired and it goes without saying that we want to have full information.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER**: Perhaps, the Hon'ble Minister has not been able to furnish him with the full reply as the hon. Member gave the notice of the Question late.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM**: The time for submission of Questions is 15 days before the commencement of the Assembly, and the Questions were admitted. It shows that the Questions reached in time.



**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. Member should see that the Question is given within the time so that he can expect proper answers.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** I submitted my Questions in time, Sir, but still they have not been able to collect informations.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The Government takes time to collect facts and figures to reply to Questions very often from districts and subdivisions.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** I think, Sir, the time limit should be extended so that we can get detailed replies to our Questions.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. Member should submit the Questions as soon as the Assembly is summoned if the replies are to be collected from district and subdivisions.

### Opening of Agriculture, Sericulture and Veterinary Demonstrating Centres

**Srijut BEJOY CHANDRA SAIKIA** asked :

177. Do Government propose to open an Agriculture, Sericulture and Veterinary demonstrating centre at Dhemaji ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

177.—There is no proposal pending with Government.  
Information has been called for if there is any move on the part of Heads of Departments.

### Plains Tribal Sub-Inspectors of Schools

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI** asked :

178. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Sub-Inspectors of Schools are there in the Assam Valley ?
- (b) Of them, how many belong to Plains Tribal Communities ?
- (c) In view of the assurance given by Government that they would see to the interest of the Plains Tribal people in matters of Education specially, whether Government propose to appoint more Sub-Inspectors of Schools belonging to the Plains Tribal Communities ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI** replied.

178. (a)—Forty-two.  
(b)—Five.  
(c)—Yes, as and when vacancies occur in class III, Assam School Service, and suitable candidates are available.

**Srijut DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** মোৰ প্ৰশ্নটোৰ উত্তৰ vague আৰু ইয়াত ধাপ্পা দিয়া হৈছে।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** আপুনি 'ধাপ্পা দিয়া' কথাটো withdraw কৰক।



**Srijut DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** বাক, মই withdraw কৰিছোঁ। মোৰ question (c), আছিল—“In view of the assurance given by Government that they would see to the interest of the Plains Tribal people in matters of Education specially, whether Government propose to appoint more Sub-Inspectors of Schools belonging the the Plains Tribal Communities? মোৰ প্ৰশ্নৰ উদ্দেশ্য এয়ে আছিল যে যদিহে plains ৰ ট্ৰাইবেল সকলে শিক্ষাৰ মোল বুজিব লাগে তেনেহলে শিক্ষা বিভাগত আমাৰ মানুহ লাগে। যদিহে ইন্স্পেক্টৰ, চব্ ইন্স্পেক্টৰ আদি ট্ৰাইবেলৰ পৰা বোচকৈ দিয়া হয় তেতিয়া হলে আমাৰ মানুহে শিক্ষাৰ মোল ভালকৈ বুজিব। কিন্তু reply দিছে Yes, as and when vacancies occur in class III, Assam School Service and suitable candidates are available. যেতিয়া vacancy হব তেতিয়া হে আমাৰ মানুহে পাব পাৰিব। suitable বুলি যে কৈছে, suitability ৰ standard কি?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** তাৰ মানে শিক্ষা আদিত suitable.

**Srijut DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** মোৰ প্ৰশ্নটো হৈছে what is the standard of suitability of appointing Sub-Inspectors?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** মই কব নোৱাৰোঁ ইয়াতকৈ আৰু কি ভাল আশ্বাস আমি দিব পাৰো। ইয়াত কোৱা হৈছে যে, যেতিয়া খালি হয় Sub-Inspector লোৱা হব, যদিহে উপযুক্ত candidate পোৱা যায়। ইয়াৰ পৰা ইয়াকে বুজি লব লাগিব যে উপযুক্ত candidate থাকিলে আৰু খালি হলে তেওলোকে কাম পাব। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰে কেনেকুৱা বেচি সম্ভাৱজনক উত্তৰ তেখেতক দিম সেইটো মই বুজি পোৱা নাই।

**Srijut DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** মই standard of suitability ৰ কথা শুনিছোঁ।

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** Standard of suitability হৈছে কাম কৰিব পৰা আৰু ভাগাত ফুৰিব পৰা শক্তি। B. T. হলে ভাল। কিন্তু B. T. নহলেও উপযুক্ত মানুহ পালে কাম দিয়া হয় আৰু তাৰ পিচত B. T. শিক্ষা দি অনোৱা হয়। এইটো বোধকৰোঁ তেখেতে ভালকৈ জানে।

**Srijut DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** ট্ৰাইবেল বিলাকৰ মাজত B.T. পাচ কৰা মানুহ পোৱা টান হব।

### Jorhat Normal School

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI** asked:

179. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many students are there in the Jorhat Normal School? (to be shown class by class).
- (b) How many Plains Tribal students are there in the Jorhat Normal School?
- (c) How many Plains Tribal students of the Jorhat Normal School are enjoying Government stipends?
- (d) How many Plains Tribal students are deputed by the Local Boards annually to the Jorhat Normal School for three years course?
- (e) The basis on which the stipends of the Jorhat Normal School are awarded?



- (f) Whether there is any fixed quota of stipends and seats for the Plains Tribal students in the Jorhat Normal School ?  
 (g) If not, why not ?  
 (h) Whether Government propose to increase the number of seats and stipends for the Plains Tribal students in the Jorhat Normal School in view of the great dearth of Normal passed Plains Tribal candidates from this year ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

179. (a)—3rd Year	...	...	...	...	32
2nd Year	...	...	...	...	36
1st Year	...	...	...	...	62
Total ...					130

(b)—Thirteen.

(c)—Five.

(d)—Seven

(e)—On competitive basis. Due consideration is however given so that different communities, centres and sub-divisions get reasonable representation.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—The question is receiving the consideration of the Government.

\***Srijut DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI** : নোৰ প্ৰশ্নটো আছিল—question  
 (f) Whether there is any fixed quota of stipends and seats for the Plains Tribal Students in the Jorhat Normal School ? The reply is —Yes. May I know what is the number of Plains Tribal Students who have been given seats and stipends ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) : 7 seats and 3 stipends have been reserved to the Plains Tribal Students in the 1st year class of the Jorhat Normal School.

### Tura Boys' and Girls' Schools

**Mr. MANIRAM MARAK** asked :

180. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) When the construction works of Boys' and Girls' Hostel at Tura will be started ?  
 (b) When Government propose to start the extension work of the Tura High English School building ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

180. (a) & (b)—The works are being taken up this year.

### High Schools taken over by Government under the Sargent Scheme

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

181. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of High Schools taken over by Government this year under the Sargent Scheme ?



- (b) The names of High Schools so taken over ?  
 (c) Why no High School was taken over from the Nowgong District ?  
 (d) Why the Raha High School was not taken over by Government under the Sargent Scheme ?

The Hon'ble Srijut **GOPINATH BARDOLOI** replied :

181. (a)—None so far. Government however have decided taking over eighteen High Schools in all by 1952. Of which, ten High Schools are proposed to be taken over this year.

(b)—The following High Schools are proposed to be taken over this year:—

1. Khowang, 2. Charali, 3. Chaygaon, 4. Howli, 5. Sapatgram, 6. Sib-sagar Polytechnic. The remaining four will shortly be selected.

(c) & (d)—These will certainly receive consideration while the rest of the schools are selected.

### **Kistarmal Bengali Middle English School**

Srijut **BHADRA KANTA GOGOI** asked :

182. (a) Are Government aware—

(i) That one Kistarmal Agarwalla of Bordubi in Dibrugarh Sub-division has donated a Middle English School for the benefit of the Public ?

(ii) That some interested Bengalees are now forcibly occupying that School ?

(iii) That the said Bengalee party named the School as "Kistarmal-Bengalee Middle English School" ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representation from the public in general in this respect ?

(c) If so, what steps are being taken in the matter ?

Srijut **MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

182. (a)—

(i)—Yes.

(ii)—Yes.

(iii)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—The public is said to have represented the matter to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, and an enquiry is being made in the matter.

### **Nowgong Government High School and Nowgong Middle Vernacular School**

Srijut **DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

183. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The expenditure incurred per annum in maintaining the Nowgong Government High School and Nowgong Middle Vernacular School ?

(b) The number of pupils at present enrolled in each of these Schools ?

(c) The number of aided Schools in Nowgong district (High Schools and Middle English Schools to be shown separately) and the amount of grant given to each of them in a year ?



- (d) The number of pupils in each of these aided High Schools at present ?  
 (e) The number of Scheduled Castes and Plains Tribal pupils reading now in these Schools and the percentage of pupils (Tribal and Scheduled castes) enjoying free and half free studentships at present ?  
 (f) The number of Plains Tribal pupils reading at present in Raha High School and the amount of Tribal grant to that School ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

183. (a) to (f)—The figures are being collected from the local officers, and so desired they may be forwarded to the hon. Member when received.

### Teacher of Physics in Cotton College

**Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV** asked :

184. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) For how long the post of a teacher of Physics in the Cotton College lay vacant during the Session 1947-48 ?  
 (b) When was Professor U. K. Dutta, released Professor of Physics from the Murarichand College, Sylhet appointed to that post ?  
 (c) Whether he has been posted permanently ?  
 (d) If not, why not ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

184. (a)—The post fell vacant temporarily from 6th July 1947.

(b)—On 12th March 1948.

(c)—No.

(d)—There is no permanent vacancy in the Physics Department.

### Mr. Hem Chandra Dutta, Ex-Assistant Controller of Rationing

**Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

185. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Mr. Hem Chandra Dutta, Ex-Assistant Controller of Rationing, Dhubri, under orders of reversion to the Education Department, tendered his resignation in September 1947 ?  
 (b) The reasons for which Mr. Dutta submitted the resignation ?  
 (c) Whether Government have accepted the resignation submitted by Mr. H. C. Dutta ?  
 (d) Whether Government propose to lay on the table a copy of the resignation letter submitted by the said Mr. H. C. Dutta ?  
 (e) Whether it is a fact that on receipt of the orders of reversion to the Education Department the said Mr. H. C. Dutta applied for ten months' study leave to pursue a course of higher studies in M. Ed. (Master of Education) of the Patna University ?  
 (f) Whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction, Assam, informed Mr. Dutta that "no study leave is ordinarily admissible to Srijut Hem Chandra Dutta" ?  
 (g) Whether it is a fact that leave was subsequently granted, but no information to this effect was given to Mr. Dutta ?



- (h) Whether Government propose to lay on the table a copy of letter dated March, 23, 1948, from Mr. H. C. Dutta of No-ali, Jorhat, addressed to the Secretary to the Government of Assam in the Department of Education and Local Self-Government?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that money due to the said Mr. H. C. Dutta on account of his leave salary, Provident Fund, etc., has been held up?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that for the realisation of the same Mr. Dutta has served Government with Pleader's notice?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied:

185. (a)—Yes.  
 (b)—Reversion from gazetted rank to the non-gazetted rank and refusal of study leave by the Director of Public Instruction that he applied for.  
 (c)—The question did not arise as he left the Education Department long before the receipt of his resignation letter, dated the 1st September 1947 and as such he left no option to the Government.  
 (d)—A copy is laid on the Library Table.  
 (e)—Yes.  
 (f)—Yes.  
 (g)—Yes, and the orders were duly communicated.  
 (h)—A copy is laid on the Library Table.  
 (i)—No.  
 (j)—Yes.

#### Primary Schools for Tea Garden Tribes and Castes

**Mr. P. M. SARWAN** asked:

186. Will Government be pleased to state —

- (a) How many Primary Schools for the tea garden tribes and castes are receiving aids from the Assam Government?
- (b) How many children belonging to the tea garden tribes and castes are receiving from the Assam Government —
  - (i) Primary Scholarships?
  - (ii) Middle School Scholarships?
  - (iii) High School Scholarships?
  - (iv) College Scholarships, and
  - (v) Scholarships for Technical Training?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied:

186. (a)—There are 55 B Class tea garden Schools in the tea-garden areas of the Province which receive grants from Government. Besides these, there are 45 Primary Schools among the ex-tea garden labourers which receive Government grants through the Secretary, Assam Tribal and Labour Welfare Works.

- (b) (i)—Six Primary Scholarships are annually awarded.
- (ii)—Two Middle Vernacular Scholarships are annually awarded.
- (iii)—Two Middle English Scholarships are annually awarded.
- (iv) and (v)—There is no reservation for the children of tea-garden tribes.



\***Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN**: As regards question Nos. 186 (b) (ii) and (v), Sir, the reply is "There is no reservation for the children of tea-garden tribes". May I ask the Parliamentary Secretary that if there are deserving students, are they deprived of receiving any scholarship from Government to carry on college scholarships and scholarships for technical training?

\***Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary): Some reservation is made for all backward communities. There is no separate reservation communities by communities.

### **Boloma High English School**

**Srijut HARINARAYON BARUAH** asked :

187. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have lately received any representation from the public requesting a recurring and non-recurring grant for the maintenance of the Boloma High English School?

(b) Are Government aware that this School has been established by the political sufferers of that place?

(c) Are Government aware that the School is located in a very backward area?

(d) Do Government propose to grant a substantial recurring and non-recurring grant to this School?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

187. (a)—No.

(b)—Government have no information.

(c)—May be as there are many Schools in backward areas in the Province.

(d)—A recurring grant of Rs. 60 per mensem has been sanctioned for science during the current year. There is no proposal to make any non-recurring grant.

### **Depriving of Stipends to certain Sylhet Students**

**Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV** asked :

188. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of students who, while in continuous receipt of stipends upto the 14th August, 1947 granted by the Assam Government and prosecuting their studies in Schools and Colleges in Assam or elsewhere within the Indian Dominion, in Medical, Engineering, Veterinary, Agriculture, Industries and general lines, have been deprived of their stipends before completion of their courses on the ground of their being natives of Sylhet?

(b) The number of students belonging to the district of Sylhet who have similarly been deprived of free and half-free studentship in the Berry-White Medical School/College, Dibrugarh?

189. (a) Is it a fact that the Government of India laid down the principle and informed the Province of Assam that no stipends of students from the district of Sylhet already prosecuting their studies in Schools and Colleges in India should be discontinued on the ground of their being natives of Pakistan?



(b) Are Government aware of the hardship caused to the students in having stopped their stipends in the midst of their career before making any arrangement with the Pakistan authorities ?

(c) Do Government propose to restore the stipends, free and half-free studentships with retrospective effect without further delay ?

(d) Is it a fact that the Government of Assam asked for option of these stipendiaries as to whether, on completion of their course, they intended to serve the Rest of India or Pakistan ?

(e) Is it a fact that the Government of Assam have not renewed the stipends even in those cases where the stipendiaries exercised their option to serve the Rest of India ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

188 & 189.—The full particulars are not yet available. Should the hon. Member desire those may be forwarded to him in near future.

### Regarding Sylhet released personnel

**Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV** asked :

190. Has the attention of the Government of Assam been drawn to the answers given by the Hon'ble Sardar Patel, Home Minister to the Government of India in reply to Starred Questions Nos.905, 906 and 907 by Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru, M. L. A. (Central) in the Indian Legislative Assembly on the 19th March, 1948 ?

191. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the “normal rules appertaining to retrenched personnel” as stated by the Hon'ble Premier, Bardoloi in his answer to Unstarred Question No.221 (*vide* Assam Assembly Proceedings dated the 3rd April, 1948) have been applied to the released Sylhet personnel in issuing notices of discharge ?

(b) Whether the provisions of Article 72 of the Assam Pension Manual have been applied to the cases of the retrenched Sylhet personnel ?

192. Will Government be pleased to state—

(i) the date from which the retrenched Sylhet personnel are deemed to have been discharged on pension or gratuity ;

(ii) the date of notice, issued from the various Departments ;

(iii) the date from which gratuity pay in lieu of notice is to be paid according to Article 80 of the Assam Pension Manual ?

193. Will Government be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing Department by Department, (i) the names of persons released from Sylhet, who have been given notice of discharge, with (ii) post held by each ; (iii) scale of pay ; (iv) last pay drawn on the date of discharge ; (v) date of discharge ; (vi) date of notice ; (vii) whether appointed at all for any period since the date of discharge ; (viii) if so, to what post, on what pay and for what period ; (ix) whether holding any appointment on the 1st of April, 1948 ; (x) if so, whether the vacancy against which the officer is working is temporary or permanent ; (xi) the age of the employee ; (xii) the length of his service ?

194. Will Government be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.261(b) and (c) asked by Babu Kamini Kumar Sen, M.L.A., in the Assembly on the 3rd April, 1948 and furnish the information asked for therein ?



195. (a) Will Government be pleased to state if (1) Maulavi Mahasin Ali, Assistant Teacher, Government High School, Silchar, (2) Maulavi Azimuddin, Assistant Controller of Rationing, Jorhat and many others were re-instated after they had been discharged for having opted for Pakistan, in compliance with the letter of the Government of Assam No.SS.11/94, dated the 6th December, 1947?

(b) If so, on what grounds?

196. Will Government be pleased to state how many officers, who originally chose Pakistan finally, were never discharged and retained in the service of the Government of Assam and are still continuing in their service?

197. Will Government be pleased to state whether the original option of the following officers who continue to be in the service of the Government of Assam, without being relieved at all, was "Pakistan Final or Provisional":—

- (i) Mr. Haki, Sub-Inspector of Police;
- (ii) Mr. Tafazzal Ali, Extra Assistant Commissioner;
- (iii) Mr. Sultan, Deputy Commissioner;
- (iv) Mr. Raihan Shah, Lecturer in English, Cotton College?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied:

190.—Yes.

191. (a)—Yes.

(b)—As the release of men in Sylhet and their absorption in Assam was an exceptional case, Government made the best attempt to absorb them as far as practicable. It was considered that Article 72 of the Pension Manual was not strictly applicable.

192. (i)—1st April 1948.

(ii)—After 1st April 1948. Exact dates are not known to Government.

(iii)—From 1st January 1948.

193.—The information has been called for.

194.—A statement is laid on the Library Table. It may be added that "since the reply given to the Unstarred Question No.261(b) and (c) asked by Babu Kamini Kumar Sen, M.L.A., in the Assembly on the 3rd April, 1948 the position as regards absorption of released personnel has undergone many changes. These figures called for in framing reply to Question No.261(b) and (c) may not tally with those supplied to the Government of India recently".

195. (a) & (b)—Yes, Maulavi Mahasin Ali was re-instated on public representation. Maulavi Azimuddin did not opt at all for Pakistan. A very few officers have also been re-instated on administrative and other reasons.

196.—The information has been called for.

197.—No. Sub-Inspector of Police Mr. Hakim opted for Pakistan and has been released to Pakistan long ago. Mr. Sultan originally opted for "Rest of India" Final. This Government never had nor have at present under them any Extra Assistant Commissioner by the name of Mr. Tafazzal Ali and a Lecturer named Raihan Shah.



### Type of Bogeys for the Katakhal-Lalaghat Railway Line

**Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA** asked :

198. (a) Are Government aware that the very bad type of bogeys are provided for the 'Katakhal-Lalaghat' Railway line ?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken by Government to improve the lot of passengers on this line ?

(c) Are Government aware that there is no waiting room in the Hailakandi Railway Station and that the passengers are to suffer thereby ?

(d) Are Government aware that the "Mail" always arrives at Hailakandi after 24 hours of the scheduled time ?

(e) Do Government propose to take necessary steps to remove the aforesaid grievances of the public ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

198. (a) & (b)—The coaching stock in use on the Katakhal-Lalaghat section is of the same type as on the other sections of the Assam Railway. Due to the lack of work-shop facilities on this Railway, the condition of the coaching stock leaves much to be desired. The Central Government have under investigation a scheme for the establishment of a work-shop.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—No. As a matter of fact there is no mail train scheduled to arrive at Hailakandi.

(e)—In the new Minor Works Programme of the Assam Railway for 1948-49, provision for a waiting room at Hailakandi has been made.

### Erosion of Steamer ghat in Silchar Town

**Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA** asked :

199. Are Government aware—

(a) That the existence of Steamer ghat in Silchar Town is causing erosion in the town area ?

(b) That the usual rule is that the steamers are to approach the Steamer station at snail's pace and that the steamers at Silchar are always making a breach of this rule ?

(c)—That the anchorage of the steamers at the said steamer-ghat is also a great factor in causing erosion ?

200. Do Government propose to take necessary steps to remove the steamer-ghat at some place outside the town area and meanwhile to direct the Steamer Company to order the steamers to approach the steamer-ghat at a snail's pace and to stop the anchorage of the steamer at the steamer-ghat and in the Town area ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

199. (a) & (c)—The matter has to be investigated into by experts and their views received before Government can reply to these Questions.

(b)—There is no such rule.

200.—Government are in correspondence with the Steamer Company on this subject.



**Traffic on the Gauhati-Nowgong route**

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI** asked :

201. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The date from which the traffic on the Gauhati-Nowgong route is being operated by the Assam Transport ?
- (b) The total income and expenditure of the Assam Transport on this account month by month up to the end of July, 1948 ?
- (c) How many drivers, conductors and inspecting officers have been appointed for the purpose ?
- (d) What is their monthly salary ?
- (e) How many vehicles are plying at present on the said route ?
- (f) Whether these vehicles can meet the demands of the public ?
- (g) What are the rates of fare per mile for upper and lower classes on the said route ?
- (h) Whether the present rate is higher than the rate of fare charged by the Railways ?

202. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The date from which a private motor bus is plying between Nowgong and Jagi road ?
- (b) The total income earned and expenditure incurred month by month by the Company on this account up to the 31st July, 1948 ?
- (c) Whether the said motor bus is plying in conformity with the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules ?
- (d) If not, when the said motor bus is going to be replaced ?
- (e) Whether any ticket is issued to any passenger travelling by that bus ?
- (f) What was the total collection on the 17th July, 1948 ?

203. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Assam Transport trucks are at present plying in the district of Nowgong ?
- (b) How many gallons of petrol were issued to those trucks from the 1st January 1948 to the 30th June 1948 ?
- (c) The income earned and expenditure incurred during that period ?
- (d) (i) In how many accidents the Assam Transport trucks were involved during that period ?  
(ii) Whether any compensation was given to any victim or victims of these accidents ?
- (e) Whether these trucks are insured under the third party policy ?
- (f) What mileage fare per ton and per maund is charged on goods by the Assam Transport ?



The Hon'ble Srijat RAMNATH DAS replied :

201.(a)—16th January 1948.

(b)—

		Total income			Total expenditure		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
January 1948	...	8,755	14	9	3,727	6	6
February 1948	...	17,015	5	3	7,257	0	0
March 1948	...	22,965	3	6	15,233	2	0
April 1948	...	25,151	10	3	11,740	8	0
May 1948	...	24,828	13	0	11,464	14	3
June 1948	...	24,558	8	6	14,373	3	9

Figures for July are not available.

(c)—Eight drivers ; 7 conductors, 1 Line Inspector.

(d)—Line Inspector—Rs.100+Rs.15 (Ration allowance).

Drivers in the scale of Rs.55—5—75+Rs.15 (Ration allowance)+allowance of annas 8 per trip.

Conductors—Rs.45+Rs.15 (Ration allowance)+allowance of annas 4 per trip.

(e)—Four Buses ; 2 Vanattes ; 2 Goods carriers.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Nine pies per mile for the lower class and one anna per mile for the upper class.

(h)—Rate of the upper class bus fare is lower than that of the upper class Railway fare and the rate of the lower class bus fare is higher than the Railway third class fare.

202. (a)—No private bus plies between Nowgong and Jagi road.

(b), (c), (d), (e) & (f)—Do not arise.

203. (a)—Between 20 and 30.

(b)—Seventeen thousand eight hundred and forty-seven gallons.

(c)—Income earned Rs.1,37,080. Expenditure incurred Rs.1,01,289-2-6.

(d) (i)—Four.

(ii)—No. No claims have yet been made.

(e)—No ; Government vehicles are exempt under section 94 of the Motor Vehicles Act.

(f)—The charges are given below :—

Average Lead (Loaded Mile per trip)	Without Labour per ton/mile	With Labour per ton/mile
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Lead 1 mile and up to 5 miles ..	0 14 0	1 2 0
Lead over 5 miles and up to 10 miles	0 12 6	1 0 0
Lead over 10 miles and up to 40 miles.	0 11 6	0 15 0
Over 40 miles .. .. .	0 10 6	0 13 0



*Time Vehicle Mile Rates*

(1) Where the job will take one or more lorry days of 8 hours the charge will be Rs.18 per lorry day, *plus* annas 10 per vehicle mile loaded and empty.

*Note.*—Where overtime is worked (that is time in excess of 8 hours per day) the charge will be calculated as above with surcharge of Rs.2-4-0 per hour worked in excess of 8 hours.

(2) Where it is estimated that the job will take less than 8 hours to complete the charge will be:—

Rs.2-10-0 per vehicle hour *plus* annas 10 per vehicle mile run loaded and empty.

(3) When labour for loading and unloading is supplied an additional charge of Rs.12 per 8-hour day or Re.1-12-0 per hour will be made. Charges will be assessed up to the nearest  $1\frac{1}{4}$  hour.

**Srijut DHIRSING DEURI:** With regard to Question No. 203(d)(ii), Sir, কোনোবাই যদি ক্ষতিপূরণ দাবী করে ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** যদি কোনোবাই ক্ষতিপূরণ দাবী করে গভর্ণমেন্টে সেইটো বিবেচনা কৰি চাব।

**Population of the tea-garden tribes**

**Mr. P. M. SARWAN** asked :

204. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The population of the tea-garden tribes and castes in Assam on the tea estates and outside separately in 1931 and 1941, respectively ?

(b) What were the recruiting figures of the tea garden labourers recruited during the years 1941-47 (to be shown year by year) ?

(c) How many of the recruited tea garden labourers returned to their Province of origin during the years 1941-47 (to be shown year by year) ?

(d) How many of these labourers settled in tea estates in Assam ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

204. (a)—	1931	1941 (excluding Sylhet)
In the Tea estates ... ..	9,79,714	6,43,592
Outside Tea estates ... ..	3,06,919	2,62,466

The Census Report of 1931 gives figures of Tea Garden Cooly Castes which include not only persons who come originally for employment in the Tea Gardens and their descendants but also persons belonging to other castes who came as labourers to the tea gardens and after completion of their terms, settled outside. This included both aboriginal tribal people as also others. The Census Report



of 1941 gives figures of tea garden tribes, *i. e.*, people who came to Assam for employment in the tea gardens but are classed as Tribes in their native Provinces.

(b)—

Year	Assisted Emigrants	Non-assisted Emigrants	Total
1941	17,509	3,679	21,188
1942	13,537	2,599	16,136
1943	60,561	5,880	66,441
1944	42,719	6,500	49,219
1945	46,846	8,211	55,057
1946	42,939	9,154	52,093
1947	40,049	9,932	49,981

(c)—

Year	Emigrants	Members of their families	Total
1941	12,909	8,146	21,056
1942	10,299	7,299	17,598
1943	9,794	6,759	16,553
1944	10,056	7,295	17,351
1945	7,549	5,436	12,985
1946	13,863	12,951	26,814
1947	10,449	10,598	21,047

(d)— Figures are not available.

#### **Outbreak of Cholera in flood-affected areas of Goalpara Subdivision**

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE** asked :

205. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The localities in the flood-affected areas where cholera has broken out in the District of Goalpara, subdivision, by subdivision, specifying the time of occurrence of this disease in each case?
- (b) The total number of attacks and deaths from cholera in the flood-affected areas of the Goalpara Subdivision during the period from May to 1st September, 1948?



(c) Whether Government are aware that due to mal-nutrition, want of food and taking of things other than rice, the people have become easy victims of cholera in the flood-affected areas of the District of Goalpara?

(d) If so, what immediate preventive steps have been taken by Government to save their lives?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

205. (a)—A list is placed on the Library Table.

(b)—Cholera has broken out from June and not from May. The total number of attacks from July to 1st September, 1948 is 222. Total number of deaths from June to 1st September, 1948—146.

(c)—Mal-nutrition and taking of unwholesome food may cause Gastro-intestinal diseases and sometimes Cholera.

(d)—This Department procured nutritive foods, e.g., tinned milk, barley and Sago as well as Multi-Vitamin tablets for distribution to the people in flood-affected areas throughout province including Goalpara district by opening centres at suitable places, besides vaccines, medicines and disinfectants. Staff were deputed to the affected areas as considered necessary by the District Medical Officer of Health, Goalpara to deal with Cholera epidemic, e.g., inoculation, disinfection of water, propaganda, distribution of drugs to the sick.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE**: Sir, as regards Question 205(b), is it a fact that due to dearth of Medical Officers no adequate preventive action could be taken immediately?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS**: That cannot be accepted, Sir.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE**: As regards Question (d), Sir, is it a fact that no nutritive foods were distributed in the flood affected areas of the Goalpara Subdivision?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS**: That is not a fact, Sir.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE**: Will Government take it from me, Sir, that no nutritive foods were distributed in that subdivision?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS**: My information is, Sir, that nutritive foods including multi-vitamin tablets were distributed in that area.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE**: That is not correct, Sir.



## SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 7

## ("63.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Scheme")

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.5,71,000 (Five lakhs and seventy-one thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head "63B—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes."

I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... Rs.7,71,67,700

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

47—Miscellaneous Departments ... Rs.5,71,000

The reasons for asking this Supplementary Demand are given in the\* Explanatory Notes. But I am sorry, Sir, that I have to amend the Explanatory Notes. In the Appendix K the figures in the total are wrongly given; as our whole scheme will run like the following. For the first 5 years the capital expenditure comes to Rs.47,45,000 and by the end of the 5th year we are to proceed to the hydro-electric power which is under investigation at Umtru. Therefore when we change from the thermal plant to hydro-electric power from the fifth year, our capital expenditure will be reduced and come to Rs.45,15,000 for whole period of 10 years. Therefore the figures under first 5 years and next 5 years should not be added.

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

"That a sum of Rs.5,71,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1949, for the administration of the Head '63B—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes'."

## \*EXPLANATORY NOTES

In pursuance of the Resolution published in Notification No.GEL.12/47/69, dated 4th September 1948 in the *Assam Gazette* in connection with the Rural Electrification Scheme in the Gauhati Subdivision, it is proposed to take up implementation of the Scheme for which there was an original provision of Rs.68,618 which represents only the pay of the Hydro-electric Development Staff. It is expected that a sum of Rs.5,71,000 will be required to be spent during the current financial year in connection with the implementation of the Schemes mentioned below. The details of the Scheme are given in Appendix K.

Description				CONSTRUCTION YEAR		Amount Rs.	Total Rs.
<b>Lands and Buildings</b>							
Land ..	..	..	..	L.S.	3,000	..	..
Buildings—Power House	Workshop	Officers,		L.S.	36,000	..	..
etc.				L.S.	38,000	77,000	77,000
Staff Quarters	..	..	..	L.S.	3,39,000	3,39,000	3,39,000
<b>Generation</b>				L.S.	3,39,000	3,39,000	3,39,000
Diesel Electric Sets, 300 K.W. each, with switch gear, crane, Oil storage, Cooling water tank, etc.							
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Office Furniture	..	..	..	L.S.	3,000	..	..
Motor lorries	..	..	..	8,000	24,000	27,000	27,000
							4,43,000
Departmental charges at 7½ per cent.				..	..	..	33,225
							4,76,225
Add 20 per cent. increase in price since estimates were prepared.				..	..	..	95,241
Total .. ..							5,71,466
or							5,71,000



**\*Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I merely wish on this occasion to ask Government whether in view of the very heavy demand involved in this scheme they will come forward at the earliest opportunity with their complete estimates and their plan. This is a very important scheme and I confess that I could not follow the correction which the Hon'ble Minister has just explained. Would he kindly explain it again.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** In Appendix K we have a total of two figures in the capital expenditure for the whole scheme for 10 years. But it is a wrong figure as the total expenditure has been put in a wrong way. According to our own scheme for the first 5 years our expenditure comes to 47,45,000 and upto the 10th year it comes to 45,15,000. For the whole scheme the ultimate expenditure accordingly comes to Rs.45,15,000. Just after the fifth year we propose to change from the thermal plant to hydro-electric power which we have been investigating at Umtru. As immediately we change from the thermal plant to hydro-electric power from the fifth year, we are reducing in the capital expenditure which will come to Rs.45,15,000 ultimately.

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** Mr. Speaker Sir, I do not know whether the hon. Member wants information about the details of this scheme also ; if so, I think I can give him the necessary information. I would also like to enlighten this House in this connection that, if we have to go on with the development of our industries, there must be some generating power which could be made available either by thermal plant or by hydro-electric power.

We had, I suppose, discussed in this House about a very big scheme which is not likely to come into effect very soon ; I am afraid it will take at least ten years or more. But in the meantime we had also investigated certain other hydro-electric schemes, one of which is Umtru at Burni. That was investigated in connection with the question of extension of rural electricity and certain large schemes for helping the industries. That investigation has been completed and as my hon. Friend has just now pointed out, the financial implication of the scheme has also been worked out, the one that was placed before the House just now. But in the meantime it has become necessary that we should have some thermal plant. It will be well known that the Government of India in the Railway Department are wanting to have some kind of plant for electrification of their requirements. Then there is the All India Radio which is also wanting electric power of a 100 K.W., I suppose, to run their own Radio Station. Then the question of having a Textile Mill in the immediate future is also under consideration of Government. All these will require some electric energy in the near future. We, therefore, made representation to the Government of India for allocation of four thermal plants in two different industrial areas which it is proposed to develop in the near future. Government of India were pleased to sanction two immediately and as a matter of fact, they are making arrangement for their procurement. In fact, while I was last in New Delhi the question of giving these two plants was discussed. There has been a slight difference of opinion between the persons who were in charge, in regard to priority of these two plants. I am, of course, pressing that first priority should be given to Assam, but Government of Orissa was also trying to get them. I hope however that we will be getting these two plants to be located somewhere in Pandu which will also give the necessary energy to the Railway Company and the Radio Station immediately and will also be linking up for development of different industries. It is expected that within five years the Umtru scheme will have achieved its fulfilment and when these areas could be supplied with energy by hydro-electric power, these two plants will be



removed to some other places where such facilities may be required. These are the two schemes which we have taken up. As regards the future schemes, this House will have an opportunity to discuss, but it will take sometime. As I have stated I want to inform the House that whatever steps that we are taking, it is actually the Government of India's experts who are doing all these things for us. We are trying to take full advantage of the help kindly given by the Government of India.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** I am very grateful to the Hon'ble Minister for kindly repeating the estimates which I could not follow on the first occasion and also to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for his elucidation of this scheme. One point that I was originally going to make was that generation of electricity in units of 300 K. W. is not the cheapest form of thermal generation, but the Hon'ble Prime Minister has given a complete answer on this point, that this is only a temporary arrangement for supply of power until the new Hydro-Electric Scheme is brought into operation. We would, however, request Government to keep the hon. Members of this House fully informed and I personally would like to see the Report of the Central Electric Authorities placed before the hon. Members of this House. We may not be experts in electricity, but many of the questions involved are comparatively simple and I feel hon. Members of this House would be able to make a more intelligent contribution to the discussion of these schemes if we had the fullest information placed before us. We, Sir, are very pleased to see that these schemes are being taken up as we have maintained for many years that a greater measure of electrification will contribute a greater measure of prosperity to the countryside and if Assam can develop electric facilities, industries may be attracted to the Province which otherwise may go elsewhere.

I have no substantial criticism to make on this scheme, for as I say, the estimates are at the moment immature. I would, however, request Government to consider the question of placing all available evidence and estimates connected with the scheme before the House.

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** So far as the Rural Electrification Scheme is concerned only a few copies have been sent to us in type and I shall ask the Electrical Adviser who is now looking after this affair to place a copy of the two at the disposal of the Hon'ble Speaker for the information of the House.

We are thankful, Sir, to Mr. Hardman for having given his suggestion. We all agree that the development of electrical power means more prosperity to this Province. With that object in view we are trying our best to persuade and have succeeded in making the Government of India agree to take up some of these big schemes which alone will make the availability of electricity in an extensive measure possible. But as an interim measure we have to adopt certain measures to satisfy our immediate requirements. The two plants are expected to give 3,200, K.W., 1,600 K.W. each and it is expected that besides supplying energy to one unit of textiles, they will be able to supply energy to the projects of Government of India.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question is:

"That a sum of Rs.5,71,000 (Five lakhs and seventy-one thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the 'Head 63B-Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes',".

The question was adopted.



### Resolution re State operation of Road Transport Services

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** Sir I beg to move that this Assembly approves the expenditure of funds from the revenues of the Province on State Operation of Road Transport Services on important routes by a gradual process beginning with the Gauhati-Nowgong-Jorhat and the Gauhati-Shillong roads.

The details have been given in the †Explanatory Note.

Sir, for some times past it has been the policy of the Government of India as well as the Provinces and acceding States to nationalise Motor Transport gradually. The main consideration on which this policy has been adopted are the following:—

(1) To avoid duplication of transport, (2) to give efficient service to the public (3) to distribute the benefit received from such transport to the citizens of the State in different ways which has been so far monopolised by private enterprises and in Assam taking into consideration these view points we have decided to fall in line with other provinces in India, and to nationalise certain routes which we think to be more important and we want to take these routes in

#### †EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Government of Assam have for some time past been considering the question of organisation and development of Road Transport to the greatest benefit of the public. They in common with the Government of India most of the other Provincial Governments are convinced that the development of motor transport must be kept within the fields of planned control. Accordingly this Government have, like other Provincial Governments, intimated their acceptance, in one form or another, of the Central Government's plans for the operation of road transport. The policy adumbrated therein is mainly one of full development of public passenger services and short haulage of goods by roads through the agency of Government so as to eliminate uneconomic competition or wastage of capacity and to promote adequate and efficient services, consistent with fair wages and equitable working conditions, which will yield profits that will be utilised for public benefit rather than for private gain. Reference must also be made to the necessity of regulating road transport in important routes in the interest of essential supplies and services which are liable to be effected by emergencies due to natural calamities or other reasons. The essence of the scheme, however, is to raise the productivity of transport both as an earning proposition and as one leading to the industrial and general development of the Province. This can only be done by a process of gradual nationalisation of transport on all important routes within the next few years as Government propose to do. The more important routes which should be taken over in the first instance may be divided into three categories as follows:—

(A) Roads which are to be entirely nationalised by Assam Government:

*Gauhati-Shillong Road.*—On the termination of the present agreement with the Commercial Carrying Company (Assam) Limited, Government propose to take over this road from the 1st January 1949.

(B) Roads on which Assam Government are prepared to participate with the Railway (on a 80:20 basis).

(i) *Gauhati-Nowgong Road*, which has been taken over by Government from the 15th January 1948, comes under this category. This Government have offered the Assam Railway participation in the operation of this road with a financial interest of 20 per cent.

(ii) *Nowgong-Jorhat Road*, which has been taken over from 1st August 1948. It is proposed to invite the Railway to join the operation with the same financial interest of 20 per cent.

(C) Roads on which Tripartite schemes would operate on the basis of Assam Government, the Railway Department and the Public contributing 51 per cent., 20 per cent., and 29 per cent., respectively:

- (i) GOALPARA-GAUHATI ROAD,
- (ii) JORHAT-DIBRUGARH ROAD, and
- (iii) DIBRUGARH-SAIKHOWA ROAD,

fall under this category. Schemes for their operation have not yet been taken in hand.

(D) All other routes, according to present plans, are to be left to private operators.



four different groups. First, we want to nationalise altogether without giving any share to any body, e.g., line from Shillong to Gauhati and secondly in the line from Gauhati-Nowgong to Jorhat we are going to give 20 per cent. share to the Railways as the railway is running parallel to the line. Thirdly we want to make a tripartite agreement giving share to the railway and public and fourthly, we are going to give share only to the public. In order to run this transport most efficiently and quickly we are going to have a Board of control. I wish to add one more name in the personnels of the Board as in the Resolution I have

In regard to management, Government propose, pending the formation of a statutory Authority by an Act of this Legislature, to operate the services on a commercial basis under a Board of Control which will exercise the necessary financial and administrative functions consisting of—

- (1) an expert in Engineering, preferably in Automobile Engineering,
- (2) an expert businessman,
- (3) an expert transport operator,
- (4) the Director of Assam Transport, who will be the Secretary of the Board,
- (5) the Hon'ble Minister of Transport, who will be the *ex-officio* Chairman of the Board, and
- (6) the Secretary to the Government in the Transport Department, who will be an *ex-officio* member of the Board.

It is proposed that the Board of Control shall exercise all powers in the matter of running the services as a commercial enterprise, save and except those which they are directed not to exercise without the previous approval of the Government and the Board shall, without in any way modifying or restricting such powers, have the power—

(a) To appoint all officers and employees on such remuneration, allowances and terms of employment as the Board shall consider proper and also to suspend or dismiss them provided however that all appointments and dismissals shall always be in accordance with such rules, regulations and restrictions, if any, as the Government may prescribe in this connection for the organisation.

(b) To buy vehicles, spares, stores, motor accessories, electrical goods, tyres and tubes, building materials and all articles required for the services in the ordinary course of business.

(c) To sell or otherwise dispose of such vehicles, stores and materials, as may be considered fit for disposal or as may be found unfit for use or obsolete, for the interest of the services.

(d) To construct buildings and workshops and to buy plants, machineries, furniture, equipments, tools and implements.

(e) To open accounts with and deposit funds in such banks from among Scheduled Banks and those in the approved list of the Reserve Bank for remittance facilities, as may be approved of by the Government, and to authorise any officials of the organisation to operate such account subject to such conditions and restrictions as the Board may think fit to impose.

(f) To cause proper accounts to be kept of the sales, purchases, receipts, expenditures and transactions of the organisation.

(g) To buy and self-Government Promissory notes, Treasury Bills of any securities issued by the Central and Provincial Governments.

(h) To draw, make, accept and endorse all cheques, drafts, Promissory notes and negotiable instruments for and on behalf of the organisation.

(i) To acquire any land and buildings for the business of the organisation at such price or rent and on such terms as may be considered proper.

(j) To receive money of any property of the organisation from any persons, firms and treasuries, Government offices and departments and grant receipts for the same.

(k) To delegate any or all of their powers to any committee formed of any one or more of the members of the Board of Control along with or without any officials or non-officials, and also to any officers of the organisation, subject to such conditions and restrictions as the Board of Control may consider fit and to withdraw or modify such powers.

The Board of Control shall cause to be prepared profit and loss accounts and balance sheet relating to each financial year within three months of the expiration of that year as nearly as possible in the form laid down for limited concerns under the Indian Companies Act, 1913-1936, and forward copies of the same to the Government of Assam and to the Comptroller along with a report with respect to the state of affairs of the organisation, and the



omitted at the time of placing it. He will be a representative of the Finance Department who will be also an *ex-officio* member of the Board. This Board is necessary in order to run it efficiently and quickly in order to avoid complications created by financial rules. We are going to take one of the business people because we are going to run the line in a business like way. In this proposal I have sought the approval of the House for the funds which will be necessary to run this line as well as the constitution of the Board with its power and functions defined in the Resolution.

With these few words, I again move that the Resolution be accepted by this House.

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

"That this Assembly approves the expenditure of funds from the revenues of the Province on State Operation of Road Transport Services on important routes by a gradual process beginning with the Gauhati-Nowgong-Jorhat and the Gauhati-Shillong roads."

**\*Maulavi ABDUL HAI :** Mr. Speaker Sir, just we have heard the Hon'ble Minister ; he has said that there are 4 categories but in the explanatory notes we find that there are 3 categories.

**\*The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS :** That has been a mistake. In the Gauhati-Goalpara Road we are going to have tripartite agreement. We are not going to give a share to the railway.

**\*Maulavi ABDUL HAI :** What percentage is going to be given ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS :** It will have to be taken into consideration.

**Srijut BELIRAM DAS :** Has the Government decided to take up the road ?

**\*The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS :** After completion of the Shillong-Gauhati Road ?

amounts which will be carried to several Reserve Funds after providing for interest due to the Government and the Debenture holders, if any. The Government of Assam, on receipt of the Accounts shall appoint a firm of qualified auditors to audit the same and report on the accounts examined by them to the Government through the Board of Control who shall make available to the firm of auditors so appointed, all books, accounts and information required by the latter in the discharge of its duties.

A provisional budget would be prepared by the Secretaries to Government in the Departments of Finance and Transport and the Director of Assam Transport and after the Government have approved this budget, the Board of Control would be authorised to incur expenditure within the frame-work of this budget.

While it is difficult to give at this stage an accurate estimate of the nett annual earnings that these operations would yield, there is every reason to expect that they would result in a substantial income to Government. The House would be glad to know that during the period of 2½ months that the State Service was in operation between Gauhati and Nowgong in the last financial year, the nett profit earned by Government amounted to more than twenty-two thousand rupees.

The approval of the Assembly is sought for the general policy of nationalisation of motor transport and the constitution of the Board of Control with the powers and responsibilities outlined above.

\* Speech not corrected.



**\*Maulavi ABDUL HAI:** Mr. Speaker Sir, of course we all agree that at the present time we require some sort of attempt on the part of Government that some project should be taken up by the Government as national concern. When the Government is proposing to take up the Shillong-Gauhati Road we cannot but congratulate them. As regard the other roads which they are to take up they are going to give share to the railway where it is necessary. It is also laudable.

It should also be considered that in some routes there are many private individuals who are engaged in transport business for a long time and this is their only means of livelihood. These persons should not be deprived of their only means of livelihood thereby creating unemployment which, I am sure, is not the desire of the Government. I am sure it is the bounden duty of Government to solve the problem of unemployment, and so Government should take particular care to see that these persons are not made unemployed and deprived of their due share in the business.

With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution.

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the Government have proposed this scheme of nationalisation on the belief that for the present these lines will be only arteries of communication, and what my Friend in the Opposition fears that possibly the owners of buses that are plying on these roads just now will suffer is unfounded. When the arteries are there the veins also will work. So, if the existing bus-owners only ply through these veins without any foreign matter the whole system will be toned up and it will serve as a sort of a tonic administered to the artery itself. So, it is only to be hoped that in adjusting these individual lines, the veins which I call them, Government will see that those who have been affected by this arterial scheme should have some preference at the time of settlement of those lines where plying of private buses will be allowed. Even now there is no bar to their having a share in the arterial scheme, as the Government have already declared. As such, there can be no two opinions that these arterial lines should be run by Government, and sooner this is done, the better.

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to reply to the points raised, though they are not many. There was one fact which the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge only touched and which, I think, requires just a little elucidation. Of course in the explanatory note you have got the idea of Government in a nutshell. The whole idea is to run this as a business concern. This is a fact which is of primary importance for us to bear in mind. We all know that if we are to take the sanction of the Finance Department for every little part of a vehicle when it breaks down on the road, there will be difficulty. We are proposing to apply the same principles in which the Railways are run to this Transport scheme. The Transport Department's proposal is that there should be a Board which shall have the authority to act on its own authority in reference to matters about which mention has been made here. It would just show that practically everything that is necessary for the management of this transport system will be in their hands. That is the first thing about which the sanction of the House is requested. It is a departure from the normal ways of Government expenditure, and that is the reason why sanction of the House has been sought for. The points that have been raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hai, have been fully borne in mind. I can tell him that we are proceeding very cautiously. We do not propose to take over immediately any road except the Shillong-Gauhati Road and the road up to Jorhat. Even with regard to the Dibrugarh Road I feel that we should not immediately touch that portion of the



road which runs from Jorhat to Dibrugarh immediately. The only idea behind this is caution, and at the same time adjustment of the difficulties which might arise to the bus owners and bus associations on account of nationalization. It will be seen that if we adopt the Tripartite Scheme, and even if we adopt a Bipartite Scheme, in which the Railways do not come in, we will be giving these private owners of buses and bus associations sufficient scope to become sharers. This is one thing. Secondly, you very well know, Sir, that the Province is having new roads. You might have heard that we are going to have an arterial road from here to, may be, the borders of Tripura. Already some distance has been completed,—up to 51 mile from here; and it is expected that by the time the year is out, we shall get as far as Haflong. That is the report of the Superintending Engineer in charge. But, Sir, this is not the only road. There are other roads which are being proposed for joining with the main National Highway of the Province, and it will be very easy for the private operators to divert their buses to these roads. It will not be at all difficult for them to find enough work on these roads. I therefore feel, Sir, that there is no question of any unemployment unless of course we create it ourselves by wanting to overcram some of the existing roads.

Sir, I thank the House for approving our scheme and giving the necessary sanction.

**\*Maulana MD MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN:** On a point of information, Sir. What will become of the present staff?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** That I do not know, Sir. The Board that has been proposed will be the authority to decide it. Our own idea is that we shall have a legislation framed by the Board and at present, I think, the Board will be able to do all that and try to adjust the staff of all grades.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question is:

"That this Assembly approves the expenditure of funds from the revenues of the Province on State Operation of Road Transport Services on important routes by a gradual process beginning with the Gauhati-Nowgong-Jorhat and the Gauhati-Shillong roads".

The question was adopted.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Then the next item No.4 is to be moved by the Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy.

**Resolution re: inclusion of the Additional Director of Agriculture, Assam to the Assam Embankment and Drainage Works Advisory Committee.**

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly recommends that the Additional Director of Agriculture, Assam, be included as an additional member in the Assam Embankment and Drainage Works Advisory Committee formed by a Motion moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly on the 21st March 1947 in the Budget Session.

Sir, I need not make a speech in regard to this. The Motion itself is a very plain. We want to add to the number of members of this Committee the Additional Director of Agriculture because the Agriculture Department is also doing quite a large number of small schemes on irrigation and drainage. I beg, therefore, Sir, to commend this Motion to the acceptance of the House.



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

"That this Assembly recommends that the Additional Director of Agriculture, Assam, be included as an additional member in the Assam Embankment and Drainage Works Advisory Committee formed by a Motion moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly on the 21st March 1947 in the Budget Session".

**\*Srijut BELI RAM DAS :** May I enquire of the Hon'ble Minister whether the Director of Agriculture is a member on the Assam Embankment and Drainage Advisory Committee ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY :** No, Sir, he is not.

**\*Srijut BELI RAM DAS :** May I know why instead of him the Additional Director of Agriculture is wanted to be included as a member on the Advisory Committee ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY :** Because the Additional Director of Agriculture is in charge of Grow More Food Campaign and deals with small irrigation projects.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** I put the question. The question is :  
"That this Assembly recommends that the Additional Director of Agriculture, Assam, be included as an additional member in the Assam Embankment and Drainage Works Advisory Committee formed by a Motion moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly on the 21st March 1947 in the Budget Session".

The question was adopted.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** The next item No.5. The Hon'ble Srijut Gopinath Bardoloi may move.

**Resolution re : formation of an Advisory Committee under the Department of Transport and Industries with a Directorate of Major Industries and Commerce.**

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly approves of the formation of an Advisory Committee under the Department of Transport and Industries with a Directorate of Major Industries and Commerce for the execution of Major Industries Schemes.

Sir, the Resolution with the explanatory note has been placed before the hon. Members of the House and I do not propose to take much time by trying to elucidate it. I desire to point out that the object of Government is to take

---

\*Speech not corrected.

#### †EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The schemes relating to some of the industries such as Cotton Textiles, Sugar, Paper and Cement, coming within the purview of the Government's industrial policy, have now come to a stage at which the creation of a suitable machinery for their execution is considered to be an imperative necessity. The Government are considering the question of establishing an Industrial Authority to deal with these schemes but pending the creation of such an Authority by an Act of the Legislature, it is proposed to constitute an Advisory Committee to deal with this matter. In view of the difficulties experienced in the implementation of the major industries schemes, it is urgently necessary to set up a Directorate of Industries and Commerce as the machinery for the execution of these schemes with the advice and guidance of the Advisory Committee. With the establishment of this Directorate, the necessity for a separate Industrial Adviser to Government will disappear and the Director will combine in him the functions of the Adviser as well. With a



recourse to statutory authority to carry out the industrial policy of Government. It will not be possible to have it immediately and, therefore, with a view to give immediate effect to the present industrial policy of Government this proposal has been placed before the House. It is known to the hon. Members of the House that it has taken us long two years, more or less, in preparation of the schemes of industries which the Government are taking up or are encouraging. So long we had been able to carry on this work with the aid and advice of merely an Adviser who had little executive authority. What is now proposed to be done is that the post of the Adviser is to be abolished and substituted by an officer to be called the Director of Major Industries and Commerce. His function will be not only to advise Government but something more. He will be something like an executive head of the department and with the advice of an Advisory Board carry out the policy of Government.

Then, as regards the Advisory Board or Committee that has been proposed, it will be organised in such a way that it gets the advice of outside experts and the people who are conversant with trade. For the purpose of formulating rules of finances, the Hon'ble Minister of Finance, who represents the Finance Department, has been made a member of the committee. Two members have been proposed to be taken from the Assembly. At present it is proposed to nominate them, but from the next session of the Assembly they should be elected by the House. The Director of Industries and Commerce and the Secretary of Transport and Industries Department will of course be members of that committee. If our experience shows that the committee is to be changed by addition or omission of members, we shall do that. At present, however, the sanction of the House is sought for the formation of the committee with necessary authority. It is proposed that the Director of Major Industries and Commerce will take action according to the advice of the Advisory Committee. With these words, Sir, I beg to move that the Motion before the House be accepted.

view to giving it proper facilities to work, this organisation will be allowed to function on a commercial basis with a regular programme of work in regard to each of the industries which will be owned by Government but managed either by the State or by private agencies, appointed for the purpose. The necessary details of staff and expenditure of this organisation are being worked out in consultation with the Finance Department.

2. It is proposed to constitute the Advisory Committee as below :—

Chairman	..	Hon'ble Minister for Major Industries.
		} Hon'ble Minister, Finance.
		} A Representative of the Finance Department.
Members	..	} Two Members of this Assembly.
		} Two Industrialists.
		} Director of Industries and Commerce.

Secretary .. Secretary. Transport and Industries Department.

As regard duties and responsibilities, the Advisory Committee will adopt a set of rules with the approval of the Government.

3. The appointment of the personnel of the Directorate, which will be on a contract basis will be made by Government with the help of the Advisory Committee.

4. A budget prepared by the Secretary, Transport and Industry, Secretary, Finance and the Director of Industries and Commerce on the basis of the estimated requirements for the remaining months of the current year, will be placed under the control of the Director. It will be the duty of the Advisory Committee to prepare such budgets for future years for the approval of Government and the Legislative Assembly.

5. The approval of this Assembly is sought for the procedure out-lined above regarding the establishment of the Advisory Committee and the Directorate and the functioning of the latter as a commercial organisation authorised to incur expenditure within the limits of the budget sanctioned.



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

"That this Assembly approves of the formation of an Advisory Committee under the Department of Transport and Industries with a Directorate of Major Industries and Commerce for the execution of Major Industries Schemes."

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to suggest that there should be three members from this Assembly on the Advisory Committee under the Department of Transport and Industries so that Opposition side may get one member and the Government side two. Will not the Hon'ble Minister consider it desirable that one member may be taken from the Opposition side ?

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the printed explanatory note which has been supplied in connection with this Resolution and also from the statement made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, it is evident that by the acceptance of this Resolution this House is committing itself to six propositions :

firstly, the creation of a Industries and Commercial Directorate ;  
secondly, to the functioning on commercial basis of that Directorate ;  
thirdly, to the establishment of an Advisory Committee whose composition is defined in the printed statement ;  
fourthly, to the functions which are to be exercised by this Advisory Committee,

fifthly, to the principle that appointments are to be made by the Advisory Committee with the approval of Government ; and,

lastly, that this Advisory Committee is to function as the agency for preparing a budget which will ultimately be presented to this House.

The establishment of an Industries and Commerce Directorate is probably overdue and manifestly desirable. I do not know whether any estimate has been given of the expenditure which is likely to be involved. This appears to consist for the most part of absorbing into the new organisation posts already in existence. We are therefore entitled to assume that the expenditure involved will not be considerable. Though this reorganisation appears to raise principles of less importance than is involved by the establishment of an Advisory Committee, it will be convenient to dispose first of all with those matters connected with the new Directorate. It has been noted that the Directorate is to function on a commercial basis. What precisely does this involve ? It can be assumed that this Directorate will be required to manage the industries on commercial principles, i.e., profit will be a primary motive and Government will adopt a recognised system of commercial accounting. It is suggested, I see, in Mr. Guha's Report that for some industries at least a system of cost accounts will be maintained so that efficiency in one department can be checked against others and against recognised standards of performance. It is more difficult for me to accept the proposition that Government should have powers to appoint on contract basis on the advice of the Advisory Committee. We have accepted the principle in the case of appointments to Government services that the agency for making these appointments, or rather for making preliminary selection, is the Public Service Commission and Government make appointments after taking the advice of that Commission. It has not been stated that Government do not propose to consult the Commission but there are obvious difficulties in having two advisers—to have a list prepared by the Public Service Commission and then to consult the Advisory Committee on those appointments. We will be glad if Government would clarify these points and in doing so we would appreciate it, if Government indicated that their intention is to accept the advice of the Public Service Commission on specialists appointments. The Public Service Commission have experience in making appointments and are entitled to co-opt



technical experts to advise them, when so required to advise on appointments to technical posts. We consider that this should in the first instance be given a fair trial in making selections for industrial appointments.

The question of the establishment of an Advisory Committee is a question of paramount importance and it is a question which has exercised constitutionalists throughout the world. What the relations are to be between the Commercial organisations, for example, in England between the Coal Board, the B. B. C. and Parliament have been the subject-matter of considerable controversy. It is true that in establishing an Advisory Committee, it is intended to make arrangements only for an interim period and that after this period Government will bring forward legislation for the establishment of permanent authorities. We consider that the Advisory Committee's functions should be so defined that the responsibilities of this House are not in any way weakened. Important decisions regarding location of the new industries, the lay-out of factories, the processes to be employed, the type of machinery to be installed, are not matters which should be decided by an Advisory Committee but should be placed before this House for a decision. The magnitude of these enterprises can be judged from the fact that in Mr. Guha's Report of the 5-Year Plan, for the Paper Industry alone a capital expenditure of 1½ crores is involved and a recurring expenditure of 36.5 lakhs. In any nationalised industry the public become the real shareholders but it is inevitable that owing to the large numbers involved it is difficult for the public to exercise functions which shareholders can exercise in the case of private companies. It follows, therefore, that their elected representatives should exercise on their behalf a general supervision over the broad lines of administration of such industries. It, therefore, follows that on this House involves the responsibility of seeing that these vast public organisations are worked in the interests of the public and that an Advisory Committee should not detract from the authority of this House. In these matters the authority to examine on broad lines the working of these schemes must be reserved to the Legislature. For these reasons, it is desirable that the Committee to advise Government should not be regarded as being appointed by a Resolution of this House. Government in fact are going to appoint them in its executive capacity. If Hon'ble Ministers were not so fully burdened with departmental duties, they would be the proper persons to become Directors of National undertakings, but, in any event, the Cabinet must assume responsibility for their industrial policy and in point of fact the new Committee proposed appears to be a Cabinet Sub-Committee; it consists of two Hon'ble Ministers, three officials, two members of the Legislature and two industrialists. Nothing has been stated as to how the two members of the Legislature are to be appointed, whether by nomination or by election. The Hon'ble Prime Minister has stated that it is the intention of the Government to nominate two hon. Members from this House. On the other hand the hon. Member from the Opposition Bench has stated that it will be desirable for the Opposition to be represented on this Committee. It is in our view, in accordance with the democratic practice for the Government to nominate members to this Committee, as it is in fact their own Governmental Committee. We are apprehensive that presence of Members from the Opposition Bench may convince the people at large that this Committee is in fact a miniature of the House and will be able to express the views of the House on all matters. Further more, the rights of the Opposition to criticise and to examine—those important constitutional rights—are likely to be impaired if they have representatives on such a Committee. While a good case might be made out for establishing a General Economic Council for the Province with all the best talent included irrespective of parties, we are satisfied that, subject to certain conditions, the Committee envisaged is suitable.



We are now, Sir, on rather controversial grounds and there is plenty of room for honest difference of opinions. We consider that it is undesirable to have a single Advisory Committee to deal with all major industries. We have cotton textiles, sugar, cement and paper. These have many dissimilar features and so few common factors. This could easily be overcome by having a separate Advisory Committee for each of the industries so that the best available talent for each industry was recruited to the Committee. If our view is correct that it is, in fact, a Government Committee, Government should have sufficient power to make any changes which are necessary. We are also a little apprehensive in regard to the appointment of two industrialists. If they are connected with the industry, it will probably be an embarrassment to Government, to the Committee and to the industrialists themselves, as suspicion will inevitably arise that they are not entirely disinterested in making the scheme a success. If, however, they are unconnected with the particular industry, their qualifications to act as expert advisers become extremely weak as an expert in the Cotton Industry may have little or no value in consideration of problems connected with sugar or cement. On the contrary, we consider that these Committees could be strengthened by getting more technical experts. On all Committees a commercial accountant would be of great value and probably also a mechanical engineer and an electrical engineer. On a Cement Committee there is an obvious place for a geologist and an industrial chemist.

Reference has been made to the function of the Advisory Committee in the preparation of an industries' budget, and we welcome the news that this House will be supplied with detailed estimates, as one of our complaints in the past has been that the Legislature has been required to vote very large sums without being given any detailed estimates. The information on schemes which we have to-day is contained in the booklet by Mr. Guha on Industrial Planning and Development of Assam. This constitutes a very interesting and informative outline of the problem. With the exception, however, of the Paper Industry, no attempt has been made to give a balance sheet or profit and loss account. It is necessary to point out that these figures are so rough that it is impossible to regard them as an adequate foundation for the start of a large major industry.

We trust, Sir, that the establishment of this Advisory Committee will not be regarded.....

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** How long the hon. Member will take to finish ?

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN :** Only a few minutes more, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** We would then be able to continue after the lunch hour.

#### *Adjournment*

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 1 p. m.



*After lunch*

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, before the interval I was explaining that detailed estimates and plans of the major industries will have to be prepared by Government and these will need to be scrutinised. It is evident that Government are proposing to give to this Advisory Committee the function of scrutinising these estimates. We are not, Sir, objecting to this, but we feel that the function of this Advisory Committee should be clearly recognised that it is an Executive Committee and not part of this Legislature. We realise that there is a very definite need for the closest scrutiny of the schemes prepared by Government and this Legislature is not very well fitted to go into very complicated schemes and examine them on the floor of this House. We, therefore, wish to commend to Government for consideration the adoption of a Standing Finance Committee as in the case of the Central Government where all large schemes are first of all submitted to the Standing Finance Committee before their inclusion in the Budget and before they are placed before the Legislature. This is not a substitute for the sanction of the Legislature but enables representatives of the people to exercise a more intelligent control over the actions of the Executive.

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** I find, Sir, that there is no other hon. Member willing to participate in this debate and therefore I shall proceed to reply to the very important discussion which has been raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hardman. We are thankful to him for the advice he has given; we have also noted the suggestions he has made. The first point that he has raised was in reference to appointments in the new Directorate. He suggested that the Public Service Commission should be allowed to function. I quite agree with him. We have agreed with him in reference to the appointment of the Director of big Industries. The Public Service Commission have advertised for the post of the Director who will act in the capacity of an Adviser to Government. This post, as far as I know, is going to be filled up in the course of this month. But the Public Service Commission themselves were not free from difficulties in this connection. In their reference they have told me that there are 16 or 17 applicants for this post but they themselves found it very difficult to make any selection on account of the fact that they themselves lacked the technical experience which is necessary for the selection. The matter was discussed with us and we thought that the best way would be to seek the advice of the Technical Advisory Board of the Government of India in this behalf. What they are proposing to do I hear is that they are going to make some preliminary selection here and one of the Members of the Commission, perhaps the Chairman, will go to Delhi to consult the technical expert there and then fix up the final selection from the preliminary list of persons selected. Hon. Members must understand that it is not the idea of Government to put somebody as the head of the Department for that matter of any staff without the advice of the Public Service Commission. But the hon. Member can very well see the difficulties through which the Public Service Commission has to go. When the appointment was temporary and for a limited period, the Government pending selection by Public Service Commission, had to carry on with the selection which the Government themselves made.

As regards other technical officer also connected with this Department, but in charge of industries some selection has already been made through the Public Service Commission. We have a Paper Expert and we have also in the Rural Development an expert in clay and a handloom designer, etc., in the appointment of each of which we have taken the advice of the Public Service Commission and have acted according to their advice. So whenever it is possible



to make appointments efficiently through the Public Service Commission, Government have done and will be doing so.

I am taking the question of appointment also in reference to industries to which the hon. Members made some reference. I do not think that the Public Service Commission could effectively function. We had to set up Managing Agency in collaboration with which the Government is proposing to carry on some of these industries. These Managing Agencies will have a great say in the selection of technical experts and other workers in the respective industries of which they will act as Managing agents. I think, Sir, some of the Managing agencies while offering their services were particular in retaining with them the power of appointment of technicians, etc. They say that if an industry is to run efficiently and managed properly they must have as much control in the appointment as possible. I feel that Managing agency or anybody for the matter of that must have a certain set of rules regarding appointment and management which possibly may require approval of Government. But I personally feel that it would be wrong to thrust the decision of the Public Service Commission for appointment of staff, when the responsibility of good management will be really the responsibility of the Managing agents.

Then the second point that was raised was the relationship between the Government and the Board that we have proposed. There also he gave certain valuable advice. But as I have already explained in my preliminary speech what we were thinking about the future. The future Board, which may be at present be an Advisory Board, or may develop into a Directory Board, subsequently must be the out-come of legislation in which autonomy must be given to this Board to supervise all industries generally and lay down certain principles according to which the industries will be managed and run and lay down possibly also the rules about which I mentioned. They will prepare a sort of Budget, which may be discussed by the Assembly. In other words, we shall have to agree to some kind of autonomy, the like of which prevail in Railway. In that connection Mr. Hardman has also raised a very pertinent question, *viz.*, the relationship of this Board and various Industries. He is quite right in saying that if the Board which is proposed to be advisory at present for a particular kind of industry cannot be an advisory body for another. But as I explained just now that the present idea of the Government is to have Managing agency for certain industries and it is expected that in the very nature of things, there must be some Board, say a sort of Director's Board for each of these Industries in which there must be nominees from the Government and the Industries will collaborate, the former to see that the money put in these concerns by Government are properly safeguarded and that whenever there is any chance of misuse or wastage, Government are informed either directly or through the Board mentioned in the beginning to prevent it. The Board proposed in the Resolution, therefore, is a sort of Directory body which will develop and direct all industries and not necessarily for any industry in particular for which there will be other Boards which will, as I said just now, be looking after the interest of Government investment in collaboration with the Managing agency. At present, Sir, this Board will have a function to advise generally on all industries. We shall have to set up Managing agencies to determine our relationship with them and do so many things for their development. It is only because Government feel that it would not be proper for the Government to impart its own knowledge both technical and business in these transactions that the Government are coming before the House for sanction of this kind of scheme.

Regarding the nature of the members of the Board the hon. Member has also been pleased to make some mention. We shall bear them in mind. I have already stated that this is only a preliminary step that we have taken. But we expect



that as we gather experience, we will be able to constitute a better set up of things than now and will be able to come forward with some legislation before the House for the final sanction of the Assembly. In that connection, I would like to inform the hon. Members of this House that we are going to contact some other provinces and States in this behalf.

The hon. Members may know that the Mysore Government have adopted a similar set up like the one that we are proposing. It is our desire that we know more about it before we actually adopt a legislation. We think, Sir, we should send some of our officers, or might be the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge himself, to examine the set up and see how the proposed Board should be formed with a view to yield maximum efficiency.

Then, Sir, the last thing he has said was about the Budget ; and his proposal was that the Budget might be framed by Government and placed before the Assembly, possibly with the advice of the Advisory Board. My point of view was that when the set up attained its fulfilment it would be running just as the Railway Boards run to-day. It is they who will really prepare the Budget, it is they who will actually look to the appointment of officers and do all other necessary things to be done and then the whole thing would be placed before the Legislative Assembly for sanction and approval. My outlook about the thing is somewhat the reverse of what hon. Member said. But pending the formation of such a Statutory Board, what we are proposing to do (as will be seen from the Explanatory Notes) is that this Advisory Board will be actually carrying out the function and we will be coming to the Legislature for sanction and approval of their action.

These are broadly the points which were raised and I have placed the Government's idea in reference to them. I quite realise, Sir, that this is a new thing we are stepping into and would require a lot of hard-work, clear thinking and co-operation for all concerned before we are fully able to nationalise the industries. I hope the hon. Members will give that co-operation and will see that just as any other national concern it earns money for the people for their upliftment.

There was one little point raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Kashem, about the number of members in regard to which also Mr. Hardman possibly did not understand me quite clearly. Our point of view is that till the next Budget Session of the Assembly, we shall nominate somebody and when the Budget Session comes we shall ask this Hon'ble House to elect two members. My hon. Friend over there, asked whether this number should not be three. Personally I would like the number to be as small as possible and I feel two is quite an adequate number. In my opinion, these two members should not only be representatives of the people, but should also have some knowledge of industries, if possible. But I cannot have very serious objection if the number is put at three. Nevertheless I feel, and I hope the hon. Members will agree, that at present the number that has been put would be just the number necessary for the present set up. I ask my hon. Friend to give Government a chance and restrict the number to two. But if it is the intention that the number should be three, we shall consider this during the Budget Session.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question is:

"That this Assembly approves of the formation of an Advisory Committee under the Department of Transport and Industries with a Directorate of Major Industries and Commerce for the execution of Major Industries Schemes."

The question was adopted.



**Resolution 12 new Scheme of Procurement and Distribution of Textiles through a system of Trading and Consumers Co-operative Societies**

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly approves the new Scheme adopted by the Government of Assam of Procurement and Distribution of Textiles through a system of Trading and Consumers Co-operative Societies formed by the Consumers and not by the Trade and the financing of this Scheme, by means of a Co-operative Bank having full Government backing and a Government Loan of a sum upto 2½ crores of rupees.

The \*Explanatory Note explains the Resolution.

Sir, at the outset I have to remind the hon. Members of this House about the state of things that prevailed while the control was established in our Province. Since the establishment of control the administration was beset with many difficulties, especially of distribution. We had the experience of this for nearly five years and the common man, the consumer, had to suffer a great deal for getting his due share of the supply. This was the back-ground, Sir, when public opinion throughout India swung towards the withdrawal of these controls and Gandhiji in November last was expressing very bitterly against control which might have been a necessity during the years of the Second World War. And the pressure he put upon the Central Government led them to withdraw this policy of control. It was expected that with this withdrawal conditions which prevailed before the War would return. But it was our bitter experience how the common man suffered to get his share of the supplies during the last few months and this has again led the Central Government to re-impose control. Sir, the question which faces us today is how to bring about a systematic distribution. We had the experience of the difficulties of the machinery for distribution. We tried distribution by Government, we did not succeed; we tried the normal trade channel, we failed, and that is why we are conceiving of a third system, i.e., a voluntary organisation of the consumers in a hierarchy of co-operative organisation as an essential part of the constitution which will be entrusted with the whole work of distribution and procurement.

**\*EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Experience of a 5-year period of Control on Textiles has convinced Government that the methods and machinery adopted in the past were seriously defective and unsatisfactory.

With the re-imposition of control on Textiles Government have carefully considered how control can best be operated for the maximum benefit of the Cloth and Yarn consuming public of the Province. The Co-operative plan for Procurement and distribution of textiles as adumbrated by the Co-operative Department commends itself as the only practicable Scheme which, whilst ensuring equitable distribution eliminates all or most of the undesirable concomitants of control. This scheme briefly is that Government in association with a Provincial Co-operative Society will procure the Provincial quota of Cloth and Yarn from the Procurement centres and will distribute it to the different subdivisions on a population basis.

In each Subdivision a Subdivisional Co-operative Society will be formed which will take over the subdivisional quota. This will be distributed by it to its affiliated Trading and Consumers Co-operatives which will be so constituted as to include all consumers, Urban and Rural, as members. This will ensure that every consumer gets his fair share and, the Scheme becomes self-rationing. As the responsibility is on the consuming public the need for a large enforcement staff of Government Officers disappears. Instead of Co-operative Societies of dealers as in the past Co-operative Societies of consumers are being substituted.

It is proposed to finance the entire Scheme through a new Apex Co-operative Bank which will have branches in every subdivision. Government have agreed to grant a loan of 2½ crores of rupees to the Apex Bank and have also agreed to guarantee the full interest of debenture holders in it.



Sir, it is needless for me to remind the House to day that it has already agreed to the passing of the Rural Panchayat Act in rural areas. This Act, Sir, envisages a future when the villager will be entrusted with certain duties and responsibilities pertaining to the administration of the village. This plan for rural development included a plan to set up trading co-operatives with multipurpose functions in each Rural Panchayat area. Such societies would import into the rural area all those commodities which the villagers require and also take upon themselves the entire distribution in these areas. This policy on procurement and distribution of textile, Sir, has been framed to fit into the rural development plan which was previously adopted. The scheme, Sir, is one of the momentous decisions the House has been called upon to consider and its success rests entirely on the willing co-operation of the people.

While moving this Motion, I feel there is an apprehension, Sir, that the trading class which have earned their living in the past dealing on this textile will be eliminated. I think, I must remove this apprehension. Sir, the traders may be eliminated from the actual handling of cloth, but they will have opportunities to invest their capital in the proposed co-operative bank. Even with regard to the actual handling of cloth, if the consumers of a particular area elect any trader to be the Secretary of their organisation, there is no bar to his election. It depends entirely on him to earn the good will of the consumers. Procurement of one month's quota of textile goods needs a capital amounting to more than 60 lakhs of rupees. Experience has shown that it takes nearly 3 months for the goods procured in Bombay or Ahmedabad to reach our Province. So any trading co-operative will need a working capital of more than 2 crores of rupees. And this is here where the traders will find opportunity to invest their capital. It may be that the trader who used to earn by thousands while carrying on this trade, will be prevented from earning by thousands now. But the profit he used to earn will now be shared between the general consumers. It would mean equitable distribution of wealth.

Then let me come to the organisational side. There will be this bank to finance and there will be Provincial Society to carry on the actual procurement. Finance of this bank will consist of share subscription of the individual members and the co-operative societies, debenture to be issued and also deposit, besides assurance of a Government loan amounting to 2½ crores of rupees.

Value of each share is fixed at Rs. 50 and any individual member can take any number of shares but this will not mean that any individual member having a number of shares will have a number of votes excepting one.

The co-operative societies which will be formed throughout the Province will have to take 5 shares, i.e., Rs. 250 in the minimum. Though there is no restriction to their taking shares numbering more than 5, they will not be entitled to have more than one representative for each society.

Debenture-holders of which I had already mentioned will have no vote excepting that their interest will be guaranteed.

There may be depositors in this bank. This is how money will be raised to finance the bank.

Then let me come to the management of this bank. There will be an administrative Council which will consist of 24 members. Government side will be represented by the Hon'ble Minister and Parliamentary Secretary in-charge of Co-operative Societies, the Hon'ble Minister and Secretary, Finance, Registrar, Deputy Registrar and Chief Auditor of the Co-operative Societies. The Managing Director will be a salaried officer appointed by Government and he will be also a member of this Council. Other remaining seats will be filled up by the elected representatives.

The General Assembly of the members will elect the members of this Council and the administrative Council form a Board of Directors.



This is, the general picture of the plan for this bank which will finance the procurement of the textile goods.

On the other side, that is, actual procurement and distribution, will be organised by a Provincial Trading Co-operative with branches throughout each subdivision which will be constituted of trading co-operatives in urban and rural areas and also individual members. The bank in association with the Government will finance the procurement of the allotted quota of cloth and yarn from the procurement centres.

Then let me come to the Subdivisional Society. In each subdivision a central society will be formed of the representatives from the retailing co-operatives and also individual members. And this central subdivisional co-operative society on behalf of the subdivision shall receive the allotted quota and arrange distribution through the consumers co-operatives.

Side by side with society, there will be a branch of the Provincial Co-operative Bank in each subdivision to help in retiring the bills for the goods.

Subdivisional central co-operative societies will be constituted of the representatives from each of the federating units and also individual members and one-third of the membership will be open to the individual members.

There is another apprehension, which I think, I must remove. The hill areas which are sparsely populated and where there may be difficulties in administration of these trading co-operatives, are at present left out of this scheme. This means that distribution will be conducted through the normal trade channel.

There is another point which I think I must clear here. I mean distribution in the tea garden areas. We are conceiving of including representatives from the Tea Industry in each subdivision to the subdivisional societies who on behalf of the tea gardens will submit to the society their requirements and will make arrangements for distribution in the tea gardens areas.

Another argument I think will be adduced that co-operative movement had not been successful in the past. Our experience in the past, Sir, may not be happy. But this does not mean that we will abandon this movement. It is time that we should review the past and enquire what was the difficulty which prevented us in establishing successful co-operative organisations and after making such enquiry we should try to eliminate the defects and build up our future organisation.

Sir, if we are really desirous of establishing a planned economy, then I must say we have no other alternative but to accept this scheme. It is needless for me to state here to-day that co-operative organisations will form the best basis of the planned economy.

I must say, Sir, with all the emphasis that I can command that for a small Province as ours, our future lies in establishing co-operation in the field of production, marketing and consumption. A large number of people in our country have been convinced of its importance and I think they want its realisation into practice. It may be, Sir, that we may suffer from the defect of forced growth, because of lack of proper education and training in co-operative principles and technique. But I have to say that we are now establishing Co-operative Training Institution and persons trained in co-operative principles and technique will be available in the near future, and so, I urge that it is worth trying. There may be another argument, that it is doubtful whether right type of men will be forthcoming to run these co-operatives. Dishonest men having taken up the helm of affairs had abused the trust in the past. It may be true, Sir, but it does not mean that we should run away from it. I must say, Sir, that this is a trial of our leadership, it is a test of our moral strength.

We had tried two methods *i.e.*, distribution by Government and distribution by traders and we had failed. Now, we must try the third method, *i.e.*, placing entire responsibility on the consumers.



Before I conclude, Sir, I again appeal to the hon. Members to offer their whole-hearted support not only in this House but also outside, because success will greatly depend on the willing co-operation of the people. With these words, I commend my Motion for the acceptance of the House.

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

"That this Assembly approves the new Scheme adopted by the Government of Assam of Procurement and Distribution of Textiles through a system of Trading and Consumers Co-operative Societies formed by the Consumers and not by the Trade and the financing of this Scheme, by means of a Co-operative Bank having full Government backing and a Government Loan of a sum of up to 2½ crores of rupees."

✓ **Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want clarification on certain points before I can enter into the debate. I want to know whether the Hon'ble Minister wants that each and every consumer should be enlisted as a member of the Rural Co-operative Society. This is one point. The second point is whether the Subdivisional Co-operative Society will be formed only with members of the Rural Co-operative Societies or outsiders also will be included in it. As for the Provincial Co-operative Society, whether it will be formed of the Subdivisional Societies or there will be other persons in it and also whether it is desired that the traders should also be included there. Further, whether the Hon'ble Minister wants that the Provincial Co-operative Society will import textile for the plains areas only or also for the hill areas and then, the present dealers in the rural areas will be allowed to take quota from the Provincial Society and whether the dealers in the hill areas will be allowed to import the quota direct from Bombay or other places? If information on these important points is given, then we can enter into the debate.

**\*The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS :** For the clarification of the points raised by the hon. Member, I may say that in rural areas everyone can be a member but those persons who have no means, they can be applicant members by depositing Re.1. In Subdivisional Societies outsiders can be included. As regards hill areas, I have already stated that they have been excluded from the scheme, but the requirement of the hill areas will be supplied by the Provincial Co-operative Society and there will be no person or agent nominated by us to procure the quota for the hill areas.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I quite appreciate the idea expressed by the Hon'ble Minister in charge and also the move taken by him. Sir, it has been felt in our Province that the system that was introduced previously proved to be an unsuccessful one and for that reason the Hon'ble Minister is evolving a new scheme. But, Sir, I must bring to the notice of the hon. Members of the House and also the Hon'ble Minister the result that was obtained in this matter in our neighbouring district on an identical scheme, I mean Rangpur. There was a system introduced by the then Deputy Commissioner of the district—Mr. Ayanger—and the scheme was known as Ayanger scheme. Under this scheme each and every householder was enlisted as a member of the Consumers Co-operative Society. They had to pay a fixed sum of money to that Co-operative Society and the money thus realised was deposited by the Secretary of the Society in the Subdivisional Co-operative Society. Such societies were formed at Kurigram, Gaibanda and Rangpur, and with



the deposited money the required quota of cloth was purchased and distributed to the people according to the money they deposited. But this system had to be abandoned and a new system had to be introduced. The difficulty experienced in this system was that the rural population, most of whom were poor, could not pay their share money and, as such, when the Secretary of a particular society brought the quota of cloth from the Subdivisional Society, it was distributed among those who paid their share money and not on the basis of the needs of the people. This created great difficulty among the poorer section of the population. Then another order was issued to the effect that those who did not purchase their shares in the Rural Co-operative Society should also get the cloth on payment of the price. But even then the people of the rural areas could not be served properly and their troubles continued without mitigation. This time standard of living was taken into consideration without giving consideration to needs or to population. The difficulties that were experienced there should not recur here also. I may mention that the Secretaries of the Rural Co-operative Societies were not under the direct control of Government officers and they distributed the cloth only in consultation with the Executive Committee and whenever they got opportunities they sold certain portion of quota to the people in blackmarket in which they could get support from one or two members. Due to the support of members, officers failed to take action against them. In this way, due to the dual control of the Committee and the officers there was practically no control. If it is left to the people, as the Hon'ble Minister of Supply says, there will be also much difficulty, although he says that he wants to give the scheme a trial. The people who will be elected for these Co-operative Societies or the kind of people who will be in the management of these societies, will be more intelligent and will be able to cheat the public in a better way, for lack of control over them. These people will be equally unscrupulous as at present the dealers are. It is sure that due to the lack of control of Government it will fail.

There was another reason why it failed. Of course, it was due to the transfer of Mr. Ayanger, Mr. Ishaque took up the charge but he also failed there. The reason is that there was no Government control over the money which evaporated there; but even from Rangpur the money evaporated amounts to some lakhs. Only in Kurigram subdivision Rs.35 thousand or so was missing. But the Auditors could not give a decision as to what amount has been misappropriated. So the control of Government cannot be relaxed in any way because it is found by experience that they could not succeed. Now we must see whether it will be right to guard against such mishap.

As regards other factors, here, before giving the start, we must see that we can overcome all the difficulties which mars a scheme. We must first of all fix a quota for each subdivision and also for rural area, on the basis of population and we must say that consideration of population will only be made in distribution and no other consideration will be given because if we want to give consideration for the share money that is given by one, it will go only to the richer section of the population. If we allow the Executive Committee to distribute according to standard, we will find that all the shares will automatically or identically go to the richer section and not to the mass people. So, it must be on population basis. But I will point out some difficulties in it. The people will certainly not be willing to invest money in the Co-operative Society when they will be sure of getting quota on population basis as they will be able to get it by paying application money or something like that, as the Hon'ble Minister said just now.

Second difficulty is that if the traders are allowed there and traders pay more money in the Co-operative Stores, the people will be inclined to make them Secretaries or Managers. It will be detrimental to public interest when



such persons will be made Secretaries or Managers. So the idea of inclusion of traders to be given up and arrangement of supply on credit be made. The Hon'ble Minister in his previous statement said that the traders must be eliminated but in his statement today he said that they would be there. If they stay, this will fail at the very start. People will clamour saying that these consumer stores are of no use.

The membership to Subdivisional Societies must be confined to Rural Co-operative Societies and no individual should be allowed to be a shareholder. In case individuals are allowed, business-men will capture societies purchasing shares in the name of different persons of their own choice. If with good intention the Hon'ble Minister is coming with this Resolution he should never allow the traders to come in. This is my suggestion, and I sincerely believe that the scheme shall meet with failure if individuals are allowed to be members of the Subdivisional or Provincial Societies.

As for Provincial Textile, I must say that there is no need for Provincial Textile Co-operative Society because according to Hon'ble Minister's statement we require 60 lakhs of rupees monthly which will come to 180 lakhs for 3 months quota, but here Government is giving its help to a Bank with 2½ crores of rupees. Instead of having a Bank and Provincial Society, Government can easily procure directly by the Government officers. If this is done, we can easily do away with the necessity of one Provincial Textile Society and of helping a Bank. When we can spend 2½ crores of rupees, we can easily spend this in purchasing the provincial quota directly. We may give this quota on credit to the Subdivisional Societies for one month, because if their membership is limited to the consumers only then they will not be in a position to pay the whole amount in cash at a time. So if they get this quota on credit from Government and sell it during that month to the representatives of the rural Co-operative Societies in cash, they shall be able to pay back this amount to the Government. If this is done, then we shall be able to do away with the element of traders. When we are mercilessly eliminating them, I feel for them, no doubt. Every trader is not dishonest. There are honest traders also. For the dishonest traders honest traders are going to suffer. But there is no help when we are going to take measures for the protection or interest of the poor masses. We must take into consideration the case of the majority of the traders. Our honest traders who are small in number cannot command the majority of them. So the whole element needs to be eliminated. It will then be felt that for the majority the smaller number of honest traders are to suffer in these days of democracy. Businessmen will be able to take to some other business for their livelihood—though my other Friends may not agree, I can say that in most cases, our rural population fails to elect best men due to their simplicity—generally the cheats capture votes in these matters (Interruptions).

Sir, the managers or the secretaries of those societies should be Government officers to keep proper control or check. In that case there will remain always a sort of fear in their minds and they will see that the interests of the societies do not suffer and that they are properly managed. This arrangement will be analogous to the Panchayat Act in which it has been provided that the Secretary of a Panchayat should be a Government officer. Therefore, Sir, Government should appoint managers or secretaries of the Rural Societies so that proper control is kept, so far as distribution is concerned. We should continue this system until the people know how to select their best men.

With these words, Sir, I support the Motion. But I differ in the line of action the Hon'ble Minister is going to take. I hope the Hon'ble Minister and also other hon. Members will try to see their way to change the scheme so that the best possible benefit is derived out of it. I now resume my seat.



**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Supply Minister has today been given a very difficult assignment. He has been asked by Government to explain to this House why a scheme of cloth distribution through Government or Supply Department should have failed and why a scheme of distribution through Government in the Co-operative Department should succeed. We recognise, Sir, that co-operation is a very worthy object but we must regard this as a bold experiment, if not a gamble.

As far as organised industry is concerned, we would like to be excused and be permitted to have our own scheme. Though the cloth distribution scheme outlined by the Hon'ble Minister may have all the advantages, which he claims, there is a very large section of the population of this Province, who can be given the benefits of a far simpler scheme of distribution. Industry has in fact during the period of decontrol succeeded in giving their employees a far more adequate supply of cloth than was possible under the controlled scheme of distribution, which Government now admit was seriously defective and unsatisfactory. Industry is likely to suffer from an in-effective system of supplying cloth to the industrial labour, which, when discontented becomes vocal, and at times violent disturbances result. There have been occasions when even lives have been endangered on account of shortage of cloth and members of the Indian staff employed by tea gardens have been exposed to risks which no Government ought to ask them to take. It has been recognised that the supply of cloth is necessary in the interest of industrial peace and tranquility. There are further and weighty reasons. The workers can receive their cloth cheaper if Industry secures it direct from the mills and no profit of any kind has been made by the industry for its distribution. On the contrary in many gardens cloth is being distributed to the employees far below its landed cost. No benefits, therefore, will accrue from membership of a Co-operative Society since supply will be made at the retail marked prices fixed by the Cloth Department of the Government of India, whereas under the scheme of industrial distribution they can receive their cloth at nearer the ex-mill price. This, however, is a minor objection compared with the risk of inadequate or delayed supplies through agencies of Co-operative Departments. As far as the Plantation labour is concerned this question was raised at a Provincial Tri-partite Conference presided over by the Hon'ble Minister for Labour. It was attended by representatives of the employees and representatives of the employers and there was a complete unanimity of opinion on the point that Plantation labour requires regular and adequate supplies of cloth.

We take this opportunity of acknowledging the substantial measure of assistance which the Government has given us during the period of decontrol. It has enabled large quantities of cloth to be moved from the mills to the gardens so that today we are in a better position than we have ever been for many years. The same system can well exist in the period of decontrol as it is not in any way inconsistent with decontrol. We realise that control is necessary in the wider interest of India, as the rising cost of cloth had inflationary effects, and that under control it will be possible to bring supplies to the public at lower prices. But a system which gives inadequate supplies at lower prices will not do for tea gardens. Government can demand any guarantee, that it thinks necessary, that cloth received by the Tea Industry and other major Industries of the Province will be distributed on an equitable basis, that none of the cloth will be diverted to the black market, that supplies will be made available to the employees on a no-profit basis. We are prepared, Sir, to accept any reasonable conditions Government may chose to impose but we would earnestly request in the interest



of the labourers and in the interests of industrial peace that separate quota should be assigned to the Tea Industry and other principal industries. I am certain that in this we will have the full support of the hon. Member, Mr. Bhagavati and other hon. Members who have taken such interest in the welfare of labour. Industries' acceptance of this quota would relieve Government of considerable financial burdens. The money required for financing the scheme will be supplied. An exact system of rationing in Tea Gardens will be introduced, and cloth will be supplied at lower prices. Government, relieved of the responsibility of looking after supply of cloth for a million people, can devote their energies to their co-operative schemes for the rest of the public and we wish Government success in carrying out this very complicated and ambitious scheme.

I do not wish the Hon'ble Minister to give me his reply today on the floor of this House. I would prefer him, Sir, to consider carefully the contentions which I have made and give me a reply at a later date after consultation with his colleagues in the Cabinet.

**Mr. KEDARMAL BRAHMIN:** Mr Speaker, Sir, this is a laudable scheme to oust the trade from textile business and I rise to place my views on the scheme proposed by the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Supply. I consider that the scheme is premature and would result in failure. The former scheme he has said has been a failure, but he has not explained to the House why that scheme was a failure. You very well know, Sir, that during control time the Government Agents used to procure their cloth from the mill centres and brought it to Assam to be distributed through Subdivisional Societies that were appointed by Government. So far there was no black-market or anything else. The trouble started as soon as the cloth went to the retailers and dealers for sale to the consumers. At that time, Sir, both the Consumers' Co-operatives as well as the retailers' and dealers' appointed by Government were used to be given cloth by Government for distribution to the consumers and it was distributed under the supervision of the Textile Inspectors. If we had any black-market, it was only in these Consumers' Co-operative Societies which in all cases were not free from this vice. Moreover, Sir, I must tell this House today that there was not a single black-marketing case that was brought to book though there might have been a few black-marketing cases and, this was so because, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Kateshram has stated, there was no responsible officer to check these black-marketers. I just want to point out, Sir, there may be some dishonest dealers, but for that we cannot blame all. But as the Hon'ble Minister has not given a single example of black-market we must take that there was none. So far as trade with the mills is concerned, there will be many difficulties that will confront us if we are to procure our cloth from mills in Bombay, Madras, Agra or other places according to the present scheme. You know, Sir, the difficulties experienced by procuring agencies. In former times the mills used to select their cloth; and used to say, "take it to your Province and sell it there. We are not concerned with what sort of quality you get". Thousands of bales were brought in this way. I think some might have been disposed of by this time. Some Sarees were 10 cubits in length and 2 feet wide. They were forced on the dealers. Retailers had to take them and sell them. If this cloth is brought here in the same way, who will suffer the loss? Trade always carry risk with it. Our cloth is to be brought through Pakistan and there is always shortage and pilferage in transit. All these difficulties are to be borne in mind while formulating such a scheme. You may blame one community because they are in minority here, I mean the trading community, but you must realise their difficulties and judge them accordingly. We must do justice to all. After the imposition of control many Assamese young men also started cloth



shops. I think the number was not meagre. So by ousting the trade they will be made unemployed and displaced in society along with others. It is therefore the duty of the Congress Party to which I have the honour to belong to see that they are kept employed. Sir, I want to suggest as the Central Provinces Government has worked out a scheme—they have allotted 25 per cent. to the Consumers Co-operative Society and 75 per cent. to trade, that this Government might also make such a scheme. That is the best scheme. Similar case was adopted just like what we are going to adopt there in Bengal and it was not so successful. But before taking such a risk I would suggest to the Hon'ble Minister to think in cool mood and not to go by the party feeling. Assam Chamber of Commerce is also not in favour of this scheme. Government should give 50 per cent. to the Consumers Society and 50 per cent. to the dealers. If there be any black market, their officers are there and it will be fair to all concerned. It is the duty of the officers to know it. There were three classes of dealers—A class, B class and C class. The A class dealer used to get cloth worth Rs.1,500; his commission was near about Rs.100 per month. Is it possible for him to maintain his family with this income and he might have distributed some of the cloth at higher price. But that was with the connivance of the officers. It has been said that the Government is going to start on an experimental basis this scheme, but this experiment ought to be limited to some subdivisions or to some districts. It must not be extended to the whole of the Province in the remote corners of which it is difficult to check all these things. It generally happens that when cloth will be given to a Society there will be some finer cloth and some coarse. The members will try to take the finer ones while they will throw the rubbish to the other consumers. There will be thus discontent among the public. Moreover, Sir, you know that we pay income-tax to the Central Government, whereas these Co-operative Societies are exempted from paying the income-tax. This will be a loss to the Province.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The hon. Member will kindly finish his speech.

**Mr KEDARMAL BRAHMIN:** I had many things to say, but as you want me to finish my speech I must say that this control is not going to be a permanent measure and temporary measures should be dealt accordingly. My information is this, Sir, that there is sufficient cloth in Bombay and some merchants here has received telegrams that permits for cloths are open for Assam from 24th instant which shows, Sir, that there will be no want of cloth here. Transport was responsible for temporary cloth shortage here and not the merchants and I think that the proposed scheme cannot be a success.

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** I am glad that the Resolution has been supported by my friend if I am allowed to say so—Hon'ble Mr. Amendment, or still better, amended Kashem and I am glad to see that he has this time supported this. Mr. Hardman has thrown out a suggestion for the consideration of Hon'ble Minister and I will say nothing in this regard. But I am sorry to find that Hon'ble Mr. Kedarmal Brahmin is dubious about anything. At any rate co-operative movements and traders have not yet come together, therefore it will be very difficult for him to change the habit in a day. I am going to deal with the subject from a different angle of vision. In cases where these Co-operative Societies are going to be established by Government, there will not be difficulty. At the present moment we are thinking of Co-operative Commonwealth of the World. Should we doubt that this little bit of Co-operative movements to remove the nudity is not going to be established? Some decades before, as we all know, two insignificant rustics under the burden of their penury conceived the idea of Co-operative movements. So the seed was sown and the tree is now spreading



its branches, rather over-reaching the four corners of the world. At this time if we think whether the Co-operative movement will be successful or not, it will be our nervousness and not the fault of the Co-operative principle. Of course, it might be said why this Co-operative organisation is at all necessary to-day. The Hon'ble Minister of Supply has clearly enunciated his proposition and the facts which led to the framing of this scheme. I believe proper distribution is the only thing for which this Co-operative Society is necessary. If we could have distributed everything necessary for the rural people's life and if the spirit of profiteering and black-marketing was not rampant among our people, whether traders or not, this movement possibly need not have been taken in hand. But now, if distribution is the main thing for which we are to think, if we really represent the mass people in this Assembly hall then certainly we should think more of distribution than dividends. The traders as a class have had their normal channel, if not of exploitation, of good dividend so long, and naturally now they will fight shy of this movement because it will not give them the same dividend as they used to. But for the benefit of 5 per cent. traders should 95 per cent. of the people suffer? Certainly, democracy will not tolerate any sort of exploitation by few, or many.

Now, Sir, as regards the Bank, I have no misgiving about its success. Because some of the mushroom banks growing everywhere in the country have failed, that is no reason why the Bank inspired by Government initiative should fail. There will be deposit by Government to the tune of 2½ crores of rupees, there will be debentures and share money of the small share-holders. If all the consumers take small shares they need not buy cloth in the black-market but in the proper and cheaper market. I therefore think they will buy the shares. So, the Government deposit and the deposit of the consumers and also the deposit coming from the trading community will be there. So, Sir, I do not think we can have any objection to try this experiment which is already overdue. Because there has been failure of Co-operative movement in some spheres we should not stop there. All these failures can be the pillar of success now. On this account, and keeping a broader view before our eyes, we should support this movement. If we cannot raise the standard of living of the mass people, if we cannot teach them co-operation in every matter, certainly Swaraj will be meaningless and another form of an exploiting Raj will be there and the common man will not be able to feel that he was living in Ram Rajya which Mahatma Gandhi strove to bring about for him.

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** I feel, Sir, that I should reply to the debate in order to shorten matters. I heard with rapt attention the many points that have been raised in the debate and I would like to speak to one and all present in the House that the sole intention of Government in adopting this scheme is to have more effective procurement and better distribution than what we had. The Hon'ble Minister who moved this Motion already told you that we failed both when we left it to the officers and also when we left it exclusively to the traders. I do not think I should take the time of the House by dilating on our failures in either case. But I feel definitely that if this scheme is accepted, the percentage of costs upto distribution will be lesser than what it is now. That is one thing which we have to bear in mind in considering this scheme. The hon. Members might know that till now, even under the control system, we were paying 22 to 25 per cent. on *ex-mill* prices even for those cloths which were available. Under the decontrol system, you all know what were and what are the prices. Circumstances might have been many which led to the rise in prices, but we all know that the prices shot up by 200, 300, and sometimes 400 per cent. over the normal control prices. What I heard in New Delhi was that in course of a week all the price-marks in the cloth in mills were washed out and the traders charged any price they liked



wherever they could utilise their opportunities. So, we had the experience of both. So far as this system is concerned, it will be seen that the cost of distribution to the meanest consumer will not exceed 17 to 18 per cent., i. e., 5 to 6 per cent. less than the percentage which prevailed even under the controlled system. It would mean about two to three pice less in every rupee and would be lesser than what it was during the old control system.

Secondly, Sir, and there I agree with hon. Mr. Hardman, that the principal object of distribution should be to distribute in such a way that every person gets his quota of cloth. Any person who would like to obtain his usual quota would only have to purchase a share of the Consumers' Co-operative Society. Nevertheless the main question is that every person should get his quota of cloth. Mr. Hardman has assured the Hon'ble Minister that if the cloth is made available to the Industry he would see that it is distributed to the labourers at prices which would be reasonable and fair. Well, Sir, if this is possible, Government will be only too glad to see that that arrangement prevails. But the main question is that Government should be satisfied that arrangements made for labourers are proper and adequate so that each labourer may get his quota of cloth. If that is made possible, it is not our intention that we should force immediately co-operative societies on the labourers. Probably it will take some time to organise such societies among them. We surely wish that they should come forward to organise such co-operative societies just as we want them to do. We all have accepted the principle of co-operation practically for the whole sphere of activities of the villagers and I don't see any reason why it should not be applicable among the labourers in course of time.

Therefore, my submission before the House is that from the point of view of availability of cloth at a cheaper rate and from the point of view of organising activities in which the people will be able to help themselves, I feel the scheme that has been proposed, is one which is expected to do better than what was being done up till now.

There have been certain misgivings in the minds of certain Friends of ours. One of those misgivings has been expressed by Maulavi Abul Kashem about the working of the Rural Co-operative Societies. He said that the poor people would not be able to participate in the co-operative societies because of their inability to pay the share money that will be allotted to them. To meet such difficulties, the present proposal of Government is to reduce the value of a share to as small an amount as may be possible in respect of subdivisinal societies; and in the case of Rural Co-operative Societies, I don't think it will be more than Rs. 5.

Then, the second misgiving voiced by my hon. Friend, Mr. Kedarmal Brahmin, is, I feel, not justified. It is true that for the traders we are making no provision whatsoever either in the matter of procurement or distribution; but it is quite clear that for the Apex Bank they will be able to purchase shares and debentures. We have not yet fixed the quota of individual subscription, but I don't think it will be less than 33 per cent. Similarly, in respect of Subdivisinal Co-operative Societies also we propose to leave open certain percentage of shares for individual subscription and though we have not yet defined the percentage, I feel that we shall be justified to throw open 33 per cent. These quantities of shares are being thrown open with the idea that co-operation will be coming from all parties—traders and other individuals. Thirty-three per cent. of shares in all Subdivisinal Co-operative Societies will not be a small amount to subscribe. Therefore, the traders will find full opportunities to come into the Co-operative Societies.

**Mr. KEDARMAL BRAHMIN:** Will one-third of the shares be reserved or individual traders?



**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** I have already said that 33 per cent. will be thrown open to individuals and they may be traders. This cannot be said to be an unfair distribution, nor would it allow the criticism to stand that the traders as individuals have been left out of consideration. The hon. Member has been saying that in some other province 25 per cent. are being left for the traders and 75 per cent. are being given to Co-operative Societies. The difference in the two arrangements will be that while in the present scheme we could regulate the profit and expenditure of individuals, in the other they will be free to do what they like, and the work of co-operation will be hampered. Therefore, while our scheme concedes fully to the requirement of normal investors, it prevents traders from doing as they like with the staff they will have. It may not give the traders those facilities which Mr. Kedar-mal Brahmin might have sought, but ensures full chance of just and proper investment with reasonable profits.

Then, there is another very important point for consideration. Under the Co-operation scheme we are thinking of adopting deflationary measures. How are we to do it if undue profits are to be earned by individuals in a State? We propose to regulate the profits, dividends and all other things in our transactions. We have seen what effect there has been to decontrol, under which the traders and individuals had their own way. If actually deflation is to take place, the investments and profits shall have, as has been pointed out by experts, to be regulated. This scheme will have that advantage, viz., even if it is to be a temporary measure, it will give us the benefit of being an anti-inflationary measure.

Then, it has been said that Government are entering into a business which is a gamble. I would most earnestly like to point out that it is not so. What has been proposed is to lend temporarily  $2\frac{1}{2}$  crores of rupees to the Apex Bank on the security of cloth. In that Government is expected to make a profit of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on this loan, from the Bank itself. I think, this will not be a waste for Government but will besides be a definite help to the people in the matter of co-operation which fact we have got to take into serious consideration for the future development of the people. Then, it will be seen also that as soon as the Bank authorities raise the money, they will pay the Government back the money taken on loan. Again in order that the Bank may obtain requisite subscription, Government will give certain guarantee of interest in the debentures that the Bank will float.

So taking all these facts into consideration, I feel that there will be no difficulty in running the scheme. I am not one of those, who would like to go in new ventures. But the situation which we experienced during the last five months has compelled us to take this step.

I am sure, that wherever it is possible to open Co-operative Societies, for example, in the industrial and tribal areas they will have to be opened. I would like them to be extended to all hill areas. But the fact that they are unable to adopt themselves to co-operation so soon, will not prevent them from getting share of cloth in any other way. I want to say that the principal object of the scheme is to see that the poor man in the village or the industries or the remoter hills gets the quota which he is entitled to, and if the scheme is proposed to be worked, it is only to ensure that.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Does the Hon'ble Minister of Supply want to reply?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** No, I am not replying.



**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question is:

"That this Assembly approves the new Scheme adopted by the Government of Assam of Procurement and Distribution of Textiles through a system of Trading and Consumers Co-operative Societies formed by the Consumers and not by the Trade and the financing of this Scheme, by means of a Co-operative Bank having full Government backing and a Government Loan of a sum upto 2½ crores of rupees."

The question was adopted.

**Resolution re: acceptance of a National Cadet Corps Scheme**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Item No. 7.

**Srijut MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY: (Parliamentary Secretary):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam I beg to move that this Assembly do approve of the acceptance of the National Cadet Corps Scheme which has been initiated by the Government of India and to have our Teachers and Professors trained with the Army Sub-Area Headquarter, Shillong, to implement the scheme for the Senior Division in the Colleges and Junior Division in the Schools and that the details of the scheme be worked out with full financial implications showing the expenditure incurred and to be incurred during 1948-49 and placed before the next Budget Session of the Assembly for a Supplementary Demand for approval.

The Resolution has been brought in conformity to Rule 99 of the Budget Manual. It has been already explained in the \*Explanatory note appended to the Resolution that has been placed before the hon. Members today. The main necessity is for imparting military training to our coming generations.

The object of the National Cadet Corps organisation is to establish on a nation-wide basis a National Cadet Corps organisation for the educational institutions both in Schools and Colleges with the object of—

(i) developing character, comradeship, idea of service and power of leadership in our youth,

(ii) giving the youth of the country basic military training in the weapons and equipments of the three services, Army, Navy and Air Force and thus attract suitable youngmen to join the country's armed forces,

(iii) to stimulate interest in the defence of the country to the widest possible extent, and

---

**\*EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Government of Assam have been keenly alive to the need for imparting military training in educational institutions. With the introduction of the scheme as initiated by the Government of India, this Government have readily accepted it subject to the approval of the Assembly. The number of cadets in Colleges will ultimately be 469 and in Schools 800. The enrolment in the National Cadet Corps is entirely voluntary and without any liability for service in the Armed Forces. The cadets are not required to be granted any pay.

The Central Directorate of the N. C. C., have allotted to Assam one two-company Infantry Battalion and one Indp. Infantry Company for the Senior Division and 9 troops for the Junior Division. Regular army personnel will look after the training of cadets in the Colleges and Captain Bhairaj Singh, Officer Commanding the Infantry Battalion, N. C. C., Assam is already at Gauhati for the purpose.

The approximate expenditure for the scheme during 1948-49 is estimated to be near about four lakhs of rupees, but full details will be placed before the Assembly in the Budget Session, 1949.



(iv) to build up a reserve of leaders to enable the armed forces to be expanded rapidly in a national emergency.

This organisation was thought necessary by the Government of India after envisaging the difficulty in finding a sufficient number of suitably qualified officers for the armed forces for the defence of the country in times of emergency. The experience gained from the last War for such a dearth of officers has been availed of. The Government of India with this purpose in view constituted a Committee on the 15th July, 1946 to consider and make recommendations for the establishment on a nation-wide basis of a Cadet Corps organisation comprising both schools and universities. This Committee was reorganised on the 29th September 1946, under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Pandit Hridayanath Kunzru. The Committee submitted their report in the year 1947 and in pursuance of their recommendations the National Cadet Corps has come to be organised with the above object.

It is a new thing in the history of India. Thanks to our Director of Public Instruction, Dr. S. K. Bhuyan, through whose efforts Assam has taken the lead in this matter. The nucleus of the organisation has been set up already which no province of India has so far been able to do. We have already got trained 16 officer-trainees for Senior Division and 35 officer-trainees for Junior Division, and they will be distributed in different institutions to organise the Corps.

It is very difficult to work out the details of the expenditure that will be necessary for this purpose as it is quite a new thing. It is roughly estimated at 4 lakhs. Even Captain Bhairaj Singh has not been able to help us to give all the details of expenditure that may be necessary for this purpose. Colonel G. G. Bewoor, Director of National Cadet Corps, Defence Ministry who visited lately has expressed great satisfaction of the progress we have achieved in the meanwhile. He has brought out concrete proposals after consultation with the Provincial Government and it is expected to put them in effect as soon as we receive the concurrence of this House to incur the necessary expenditure.

With these words, Sir, I press my Resolution for the acceptance of the House, which will mean explicit concurrence of the Legislature to the expenditures to be incurred in this behalf. Supplementary demand with proper schedule with full financial implications will be moved in the Budget Session of the Assembly.

I hope, there will be no opposition and every body will render his wholehearted support to this Resolution.

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

"That this Assembly do approve of the acceptance of the National Cadet Corps Scheme which has been initiated by the Government of India and to have our Teachers and Professors trained with the Army Sub-Area Headquarters, Shillong to implement the scheme for the Senior Division in the Colleges and Junior Division in the Schools and that the details of the scheme be worked out with full financial implications showing the expenditure incurred and to be incurred during 1948-49 and placed before the next Budget Session of the Assembly for a Supplementary Demand for approval".

**Maulavi ABDUL HAI :** On a point of information, Sir. May I know if any fund will be available for this purpose from the Central Government ?

**Srijut MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY : (Parliamentary Secretary) :** No financial help will be coming from the Central Government.



1948] PRESENTATION OF THE APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS 1407  
AND FINANCE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1946-47

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** I may say here that the Government of India is giving us the following help:—

- (1) They are giving us training free. We have been getting free-trainers.
- (2) They have sent an Organising Officer who is helping at present in organising two centres, i. e., one in the Gauhati University and the other in Shillong.
- (3) They are supplying us with arms and implements.

**Maulavi ABDUL HAI:** At their cost?

**The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** At our cost.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** Sir, I do not think it is a correct procedure to say that the expenditure incurred and to be incurred during 1948-49 will be placed before the next Budget Session of the Assembly for a Supplementary Demand for approval.

**Srijut MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY: (Parliamentary Secretary):** This Supplementary Demand will be placed in the next Budget Session.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** Will that be regular, Sir?

**Srijut MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY: (Parliamentary Secretary):** Sir, the expenditure will be incurred this year and as we could not give details, no Supplementary Demand could be moved. So we want the concurrence of the House. If concurrence of the House is given to meet the expenditure that will be necessary, a regular Supplementary Budget will be placed before the House in the coming Session.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question is:  
“That this Assembly do approve of the acceptance of the National Cadet Corps Scheme which has been initiated by the Government of India and to have our Teachers and Professors trained with the Army Sub-Area Headquarter, Shillong, to implement the scheme for the Senior Division in the Colleges and Junior Division in the Schools and that the details of the scheme be worked out with full financial implications showing the expenditure incurred and to be incurred during 1948-49, and placed before the next Budget Session of the Assembly for a Supplementary Demand for approval.”  
The question was adopted.

**Presentation of the Authenticated Schedule of Authorised Expenditure in relation to Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1948-49**

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** Sir, in the absence of the Hon'ble Finance Minister I beg to present the \*authenticated schedule of authorised expenditure in relation to Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1948-49.

**Presentation of the Appropriation Accounts and Finance Accounts for the year 1946-47**

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS:** Sir, here also in the absence of the Hon'ble Finance Minister I beg to present the Appropriation Accounts and Finance Accounts for the year 1946-47.



## Rules under the Assam Primary Education, Act, 1947

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY** (Parliamentary Secretary): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before taking up this item for consideration I want to raise one point.

On the controversy that was raised here day before yesterday regarding the admissibility of Rule 64, sub-rules (a) to (e) at page 7 of the Rules under the Assam Primary Education Act, 1947, I want to place before you with your permission, Sir, a few fresh facts which I could not do so the other day.

Sub-section (I) of Section 49 of the Assam Primary Education Act authorises the Provincial Government to make Rules for carrying out the provisions of the Act. Sub-section (I), however, emphasises that the framing of the Rules is subject to the condition of previous publication in the *Official Gazette*. Section 25 of the Assam General Clauses Act, 1915 (Assam Act No. II of 1915) lays down the procedure to be followed in making such rules and clause (5) of Section 25 states that "the publication in the *official Gazette* of a rule or bye-law purporting to have been made in exercise of a power to make rules or bye-laws after previous publication shall be conclusive proof that the rule or bye-law has been duly made."

The rules in question were made under section 49(I) of the Assam Primary Education Act, and the provisions of section 25 of the General Clauses Act were apparently followed. The result is that the rules are duly made.

Under section 49(I) the rules are to be laid before the Legislature. The Legislature may only modify them. They have also authority at this stage to reject the rules. If they modify them the rules as modified stand.

Further, Sir, if we read Sections 24 and 25 together we find the rules in questions are perfectly in order. The Secretary or the Chairman of the Board will be responsible to the Board and the Board has a right to question his or their authority for any action he or they do as such if the rules now framed empower the Secretary or the Chairman with certain powers to be exercised on behalf of the Board it certainly does not violate the provisions of Section 24 of the Act.

The rules therefore as framed are in conformity of the provisions of the Act. In view of all these facts which I regret I could not place before you on the other day I respectfully submit, Sir, that you will be kind enough to reconsider your decision and allow the Legislature an opportunity to discuss them and pass them with such modifications as may be agreed upon.

I also believe that the hon. Advocate General will bear me out in my observations.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I find bye-laws made by the Provincial Government under Section 49 are supposed to be placed before this House.



So the Assembly has a right to modify such bye-laws. What the Advocate General has got to say in this regard?

**Jonab FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Advocate General):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point of order which has been raised before the House is whether Rule 64 contravenes the provision of the Act. This first of all raises the question whether such a point of order can be raised before this Assembly. Any point of order, which is raised before the House, must have a reference to the procedure or to the infringement of any rules of this Assembly or must attract a provision of the Government of India Act, regarding the conduct of the business in the Assembly. As the point of order raises the question of repugnancy of a certain rule to the provision of the Act which was passed by this House, my submission is that the Assembly is not the proper forum where the repugnancy of a rule to the provision of the Act can be raised and discussed. Sir, in section 49 of the Act in question, it is laid down that "the Provincial Government may, after previous publication in the official *Gazette*, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act. All rules so made shall be laid before the Provincial Legislature and shall be subject to such modifications as may be agreed to by both Chambers thereof. Under the said section the Provincial Government have been delegated the power of framing Rules subject to the conditions that Rules so framed must be published in the *Gazette* and must be placed before the Assembly for such modification as may be agreed to. Section 25 of the Assam General Clauses Act lays down that—"Where, by any Act, a power to make rules or bye-laws is expressed to be given, subject to the condition of the rules or bye-laws being made after previous publication, then the following provisions shall apply.....". The relevant sub clause for our purpose under the said section is the sub-clause (5). It reads—"the publication in the *Official Gazette* of a rule or bye-law purporting to have been made in exercise of a power to make rules or bye-laws after previous publication shall be conclusive proof that the rule or bye-law has been duly made".

Now, these Rules have been framed by the Government and as required under one of the conditions they are placed before the House for such modification as is agreed to. If on a question raised by some Member that a particular Rule contravenes the provision of the Act the discussion of the rule framed by the Government is shut out, then that very purpose for which the point of order has been raised will be defeated; because if no modification is agreed to in the House, after the Rules have been placed before it by the Government, the Rules, as are framed and published by the Government in the *Gazette*, will be deemed as Rules duly made. The purpose of the point of order, which the hon. Member has raised, obviously seems that he seeks to modify rule 64 because in his opinion it is repugnant to the provision of the main Act. I am afraid this very purpose will be defeated if no amendment is moved for the alteration of the Rules as framed by the Government. If on a point of order the discussion is shut out the Rule will become final.

My submission is that in view of section 49 of the Act read with clause (5) of section 25 of the Assam General Clauses Act, the Rules published by the Provincial Government are deemed to be duly made as long as they are not agreed to be modified by the Assembly. The proper manner for hon. Members to seek agreed modification in the rules is to come forward with such amendments as are considered necessary after the Rules which have been framed by Government are laid on the table.



Then the next question is whether Rule 64 as framed by the Government contravenes any provision of the Act. That, Sir, I submit is a question which is not free from difficulty and for that the proper forum for decision, as I have said, is not the Assembly.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question is whether this is a legal question or not.

**Jonab FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Advocate General):** It is a legal question. My submission is that a question of a point of order in the Assembly must have reference to the infringement of any rule or procedure of the Assembly or must attract a provision of the Government of India Act relating to the conduct of the business of the Assembly. To decide the question of repugnancy of rule 64 to section 24 of the Assam Primary Education Act, in my view, Assembly is not the proper forum where this matter can be agitated. If hon. Members think that Government should modify the Rules framed by them they should come forward with their amendments.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** May I take it then that the point raised is not constitutional but it is a legal question, and that this House is not a proper forum to decide it. Is that your view?

**Jonab FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Advocate General):** Yes, Sir, that is my view.

**\*Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** May we know Sir, whether the word "modification" will cover that because as the hon. Advocate General has stated that the Assembly is authorised to modify it if it is found that it contravenes a particular provision of the Act itself. This is the difficulty, Sir. I also feel that the provision of the Act in Section 24 and also Section 49 (1) are contradictory. It seems that the Act itself is defective and that it should be amended. However, for the time being the Rules that are framed by Government may be taken as final and afterwards we may bring in an amendment. We shall have either to amend the main Act itself or modification of the Rules may be considered afterwards.

**\*Srijut SIDDHI NATH SARMA:** But the Act is not before the House, the Rules are before the House. The Act has already been passed by the House.

**Jonab FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Advocate General):** May I enlighten my hon. Friend, Mr. Kashem, Sir? The very purpose for which the point of order has been raised will be defeated if the point of order is accepted or it is decided that the Act requires amendment. There can be no amendment or modification in the Rules framed by Government unless it is done in a proper manner. Shutting out discussion on a point of order will mean that no modification has been agreed to. In absence of such agreement the rules framed by Government will be deemed to be duly made. If in the opinion of this House any rule is repugnant to any provision of the Act, the best course to remedy the defect is not by raising a point of order but by bringing forward a suitable amendment. If no amendment is moved and agreed to the Rules will be deemed to have been duly made.



**\*The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** May I make a suggestion to get rid of this impasse? In reference to the Amendment it will be better to fix the next Budget Session for motion for modification of the rules. In the meantime the rules as framed by Government might be allowed to stand; that will solve the difficulties without in any way infringing the rights of the Members of the Legislature.

**Jonab FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Advocate-General):** I think under an accepted procedure the rules framed by the Government must be modified within a certain period after they are placed before the Assembly. If no modification is made within this period the rules so framed become final.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** These rules were placed very late.

**Jonab FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Advocate-General):** The Hon'ble the Premier has suggested that the Government should place these rules afresh in the next Session before the House. The suggestion seems best only if the Government are prepared to give fresh consideration and publication in the Gazette.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** There is a well established Parliamentary convention that Statutory rules should not be repugnant to the provisions of the enabling Statute. There is a tendency on the part of the Treasury Benches to transgress the powers given to them to frame rules and in order to check such tendency provisions are found in parliamentary practice enabling hon. Members to move motions for amendment of the rules. Under the circumstances I am bound to accept the suggestion of the Hon'ble Premier and request the Parliamentary Secretary to bring these rules afresh in the next Session of the Assembly.

**\*Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** What will happen to the rules which have been amended unanimously by the House?

**\*Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary):** The rules as framed by the Government stand without any amendment.

**\*The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** If any hon. Member wants to move any modification of the rules he can do so in the next Session.

**\*Maulavi ABDUL HAI:** Then Government is to withdraw the Motion for consideration of the rules. It is entirely unnecessary.

**\*The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI:** Referring to the fact that the rules should be discussed in the House I replied that the normal procedure of rules being placed before the House will be what the Government will accept. And it may be known to hon. Members that any matter which is placed for the consideration of the Members of the House may be changed by a Motion, but the Motion is to come from the party which has moved it.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had not intended to intervene in this debate but I feel that the suggestion of the Hon'ble Prime Minister might



serve to be an unfortunate Parliamentary precedent. We have considered the items and amendments have been made. I doubt whether there should be any suggestion for adopting the procedure for obliterating this. It will be a dangerous precedent considering that these decisions have already been taken. Is this decision going to be nullified by general agreement of the House? I would suggest, Sir, that however imperfect the decisions of the House may be, Government should accept them, within the limitation imposed by the rules. We can complete the passing of the further rules and Government can give effect to them in the next Budget Session. I do not think this will defeat the working of the Act.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Excluding rule 64 I think.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** The decision of the House was to truncate the provision of rule 64. The power of supervision, control and so on was allowed. I believe (b)-(d) were out of order and (e) permitted the Secretary to perform any function that is authorised under the law. My own personal view is that this will enable the Secretary to exercise certain powers but will at least prevent the Secretary from functioning in certain matters. It may be a matter of appointment and transfer. Before we meet again Government may come forward with an amendment of rule 64 or any other rule which they may propose in order to make the powers of the Secretary sufficiently wide to enable him to discharge all his duties.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Do we proceed with the consideration of the other Rules leaving aside Rule 64?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary):** If the powers of the Secretary are curtailed then I think the Board cannot properly function because there are some duties, such as appointment of teachers, passing of bills, etc., which cannot be done by the Board. These must be done by the Secretary or some Executive Officer. Also, Sir, there is no provision in the Act to authorise the Secretary by the Board to function as such. On these grounds, Sir, I have already stated that if we read sections 24 and 25 of the Act and as the Secretary will be responsible to the Board for his actions there can be no difficulty in delegating similar powers to the Secretary.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** In that case provision shall have to be made in the main Act delegating the authority to the Secretary. I think the Rules upto 63 may be acted upon till the next Session when Government will know what to do. They may come forward with identical rules with some modifications or they may even modify the Act itself.

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary):** But till then the Board should be allowed to function.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** If it is possible under the circumstances.

**\*The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** The main Act would be sufficient to run the Board for some months.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Yes, I think.



**Prorogation.**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Order, order. I am reading the order of prorogation.

**ORDER**

"In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 62 of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Muhammad Saleh Akbar Hydari, hereby prorogue the Assam Legislative Assembly, at the conclusion of its sitting of the 27th September 1948.

SHILLONG:

*The 25th September 1948,*

A. HYDARI,

*Governor of Assam."*

The Assembly was then prorogued.

*Shillong*

*The 4th December 1948.*

A. K. BARUA,

*Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Assam.*