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1951

1952

1953

1954

1955

1956

1957

1958

1959

1960

1961

1962

1963

1964

1965

1966

1967

1968

1969

1970

1971

1972

**Proceedings of the Third Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled after the Second General Election under the Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitution of India**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A. M. on Saturday, the 15th March, 1958.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B. A., LL. B. Speaker in the Chair, the Eight Ministers, the two Deputy Ministers and Sixty-seven Members.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**STARRED QUESTIONS**

(To which oral answers were given)

**Licences for starting new rice mills**

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) asked :**

\*48. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to

state—

- (a) Whether granting of licence to start new rice mills has totally been stopped by Government ?
- (b) If so, since when ?
- (c) What is the reason for not issuing such licences ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that in spite of Government orders prohibiting the issue of such licences many new licences have been issued ?
- (e) If so, what are the names and addresses of such persons and mills to whom licences have been issued ?

†**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education, for Minister, Supply) replied :**

48. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Since 1955.



(c)—The State of Assam has already too many Rice Mills and any increase in the number will adversely affect the hand-pounding industry. The Rice Milling Committee set up by the Government of India also recommended that no installation of any new Rice Mills should generally be allowed.

(d)—No. The Milling Licence was issued to only one party who was previously permitted to set up the Mill and also deposited the security money during the period of Control.

(e)—Shri Keshardeo Agarwalla, managing partner of Moran Rice and Flour Mills of Sibsagar Subdivision.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar):** Sir, will Government state why the matter for stopping issue of licence for haulers is not considered along with the matter for stopping issue of licence for new mills ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education):** It is a technical matter which was discussed in a meeting in Delhi and on the basis of the conclusion it has been so done.

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi):** Is it a fact that as there were many applicants for new licences Government is contemplating to issuing new licences ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** No new licences have been issued by the Government.

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi):** 'লাইচেন্স' পাবলৈ কি কি কাৰণ দেখুৱাব লাগে ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** চৰকাৰে 'লাইচেন্স' নিদিয়ৈ বুলি কৈছেই নহয়।

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA:** চৰকাৰে এইটো জানেনে যে বছৰটাইত খেতিয়ক মানুহৰ দৈনন্দিন ব্যৱহাৰৰ কাৰণে আৱশ্যকীয় পানী বান্ধি জাৰি ঢালি উলিয়াই দিবলৈ সৰু সৰু মেচিন বহুৱাই গাওঁত ঢেকিব ব্যৱহাৰ নোহোৱা কৰা হৈছে বা কমাই দিয়া হৈছে ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** I have already replied to that question, Sir.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI:** Sir, will Government stop issuing licence for haulers also ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** Government cannot promise now,



**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj) :** Are Government aware that in the Goalpara District a large number of widows have been affected due to the activities of the haulers ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) :** We have no information.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) :** Will Government examine whether it would be possible to stop issuing licence for haulers also ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** The policy is determined by the Government of India. Government of India recently introduced a Bill in this connection.

#### Arrest during Oil Refinery Movement

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :**

\*49. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether one Naren Kakat of Rangiya was arrested in connection with Oil Refinery movement ?
- (b) Whether he was also fined besides imprisonment ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that he was searched and his cattle seized ?
- (d) Whether the money realised and cattle seized have been returned after the general amnesty ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** replied :

49. (a)—Yes. He was arrested under sections 143/448, I. P. C.

(b)—He was convicted under these sections and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for 6 months and to pay a fine of Rs.250, in default rigorous imprisonment for 6 months.

(c) & (d)—Distress Warrant was issued by Magistrate for realisation of the fine. Two head of cattle were accordingly seized by the Police on 12th September 1957, but these were returned to him after general amnesty.



**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West):** Was he a Satyagrahi ?

**Mr. SPEAKER :** I do not allow this question.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Sir, when was the distress warrant issued ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** The date of issuing the distress warrant is not here, but the date on which the cattle were seized was 12th September, 1957, and the cattle were returned to him on the 15th January last.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Sir, when was the order for general amnesty passed ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** It was on the 4th November.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Why was there so much delay in returning the cattle to the owner ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** There was some time lag of course, and I think it is due to procedural difficulties.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Sir, is it usual for the Government to issue distress warrant before the substantive term of imprisonment is served out ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** In this case it was in addition to imprisonment. He was convicted under a certain section of I. P. C. and the sentence was rigorous imprisonment for 6 months and a fine of Rs.250.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Sir, is it usual for the Government to issue distress warrant before the term of imprisonment is served out ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** I may submit, Sir, that it is not a matter for Government, but the Judiciary.

### Tamulichiga Bridge over the Janjhi

**Shri HARINARAYAN BARUA (Teok)** asked :

\*50. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state when construction of the Tamulichiga



Bridge over Janjhi River in Simaluguri Mauza, Jorhat, will be commenced ?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department)** replied :

50.—The work involves collection of hydraulic data and preparation of detailed plan and estimate which take a considerable time. The work will be commenced after finalisation of plans and estimate and also necessary funds being provided by the Planning Commission.

†**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar)** : Sir, what amount is involved for this bridge ?

†**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH** : About 2½ lakhs.

†**Shri HARINARAYAN BARUA (Teok)** : এইটো কথা সচাঁনে যে ভাৰত চৰকাৰে দ্বিতীয় পঞ্চ বার্ষিক পৰিকল্পনাত এই দলং বিলাকৰ কাৰণে কোনো টকা দিয়া নাই ?

†**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH** : হয়, সচাঁ।

†**Shri HARINARAYAN BARUA** : চৰকাৰে এই কথা জনাবনে যে টকাৰ অভাৱত এই দলং বিলাকৰ কাম আৰু লোৱা নহব ?

†**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH** : কব নোৱাৰি, সময় আছে।

**Re : Medical employees of Udalguri and Lakhipur Post-intensive Blocks and Orang Primary Health Centre**

**Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh)** asked :

\*51. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the medical employees of Panery N. E. S. Block in Mangaldai Subdivision have received their pay from 1st April 1957 ?
- (b) If not, why not ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the medical employees of Orang M. P. Development Block in Mangaldai Subdivision and of Lakhipur N. E. S. Block in Cachar District too have not received their pay regularly ?



**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** replied :

51. (a)—Yes, the medical employees of Udalguri post-intensive block (referred to here by the questioner as Panery N. E. S. Block) in Mangaldai Subdivision have received their salary from 1st April 1957.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—The medical employees of Orang Primary Health Centre within Mazbat post-intensive block of Darrang District and those of Lakhipur post-intensive block, Cachar have been paid their salary regularly, only since December 1957.

They could not regularly be paid month by month for the period from April, 1957 till November, 1957, as there was some delay in finalising steps for delegation of powers to the Assistant Project Officers of the blocks and placing of funds for the purpose at their disposal by the Medical Department.

They were subsequently paid all arrears when necessary financial powers was delegated to the Officers-in-charge.

**Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh)** : What is the procedure of payment of salaries to the doctors and other employees in other N. E. S. Blocks ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : I require notice of this question.

**Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR** : Is it a fact that the medical officers of the Orang M. P. Development Block and the Lakipur N. E. S. Block had to borrow money to maintain themselves from April to October, 1957 ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : This is really very bad. I admit that this delay in payment must have caused hardship to those officers.

*Re: Majuli Community Development Block*

**Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO (Jorhat—Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)** asked :

\*52. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Projects be pleased to state—

(a) What is the total strength of the present staff of the Majuli Community Development Block in Jorhat Subdivision ?



- (b) Who are the members of the Project Advisory Board of Majuli Community Development Block ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to include the local Tribal M. L. A. as one of the members of the said Advisory Board ?

**Shri A. THANGLURA (Chief Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

52. (a)—66.

(b)—The following are the members of the Project Advisory Board of Majuli Community Development Block—

- (1) D. C., Sibsagar.
- (2) P. E. O., Majuli C. D. Block.
- (3) Civil Surgeon, Jorhat.
- (4) Development Officer, Jorhat.
- (5) District Agricultural Officer, Sibsagar.
- (6) Superintendent of Fisheries, Jorhat.
- (7) Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Jorhat.
- (8) Superintendent of Police, Sibsagar.
- (9) Deputy Inspector of Schools, Jorhat.
- (10) Chairman, Jorhat Local Board.
- (11) Executive Engineer (E./D.), Jorhat Division.
- (12) Executive Engineer, Jorhat Division.
- (13) District Medical Officer of Health, Jorhat.
- (14) District Animal Husbandry Officer, Jorhat.
- (15) Superintendent of Sericulture, P. T. A., Tezpur.
- (16) Subdivisional Officer, P. W. D., Majuli.
- (17) Sub-Inspector of Schools, Majuli.
- (18) Chairman, School Board, Jorhat.
- (19) Divisional Forest Officer, Jorhat.
- (20) Weaving Superintendent, Jorhat.
- (21) Assistant National Savings Officer, Dibrugarh.
- (22) Marketing Inspector, Jorhat.
- (23) Jute Development Officer, Jorhat.
- (24) Assistant Malaria Officer, Jorhat.
- (25) Deputy Co-operative Officer, Kamalabari
- (26) Assistant Settlement Officer, Majuli.



- (27) Sub-Deputy Collector, Majuli.
- (28) Shri Mohidhar Pegoo, M.L.A.
- (29) Shri Harinarayan Barua, M.L.A.
- (30) Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi, M.L.A.
- (31) Srimati Kamalkumari Barooah, M.L.A.
- (32) Srimati Mafida Begum, M.P.
- (33) Srimati Vedabati Buragohain, M.P.
- (34) Shri Surendra Nath Dutta, President, Karatipar Rural Panchayat.
- (35) Shri Krishna Ch. Deka Goswami, President, Garamur Rural Panchayat.
- (36) Shri Debaram Pegoo, President, Gazera Rural Panchayat.
- (37) Shri Monai Ch. Pegoo, President, Ratanpur Rural Panchayat.
- (38) Shri Krishna Kanta Goswami, President, Kamalabari Rural Panchayat.
- (39) Shri Thagiram Bhuyan, President, Bongaon Rural Panchayat.
- (40) Shri Harendra Nath Bharati, Member, Local Board.
- (41) Shri Rajani Kanta Bora, Gualgaon, Member, Local Board.
- (42) Shri Nagendra Nath Hazarika, Member, Local Board.
- (43) Shri Chandra Bharali, Chamaguri, Member Local Board.
- (44) Shri Rupram Bhuyan, Mahkina Village, Representative of Teachers.
- (45) Shri Poal Ch. Hazarika, Kankurika, Representative of Teachers.

(c)—His name is already included in the above list of members.

**Shri MAHIDHAR PEGOO (Jorhat-Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)** asked :

\*53. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Projects be pleased to state—

- (a) How many compost manure-pits and village roads have been constructed within the Project area of the Majuli Community Development Block during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?



- (b) What are the functions of a Gram Sevak within the Project area ?
- (c) Whether any deserving village within the Majuli Project Area had been left out without any tubewell or R. C. well being installed ?
- (d) If so, why ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** (Chief Minister)  
replied:

	1956-57	1957-58
53. (a)—Compost pit dug ...	75	110
Village road constructed.	14 miles and 4 furlongs.	14 miles and 3½ fur- longs.

(b)—The main functions and duties of Gram Sevak may be described as follows:—

1. To arrange programmes for disseminating information about the Five-Year Plan and the Community Development Programme with a view to make people understand the need, aims and objects of community work.
2. To initiate a process of formulating specific objectives for the circle with the help of the people.
3. To assess the needs and resources of the circle, village by village.
4. To get a village programme formulated by the village people themselves or in active consultation with the people.
5. To build up a village programme and to link it to the Block Programme/State Development Programme and the Five-Year Plans, in terms of development under various subjects, *e.g.*—

(a) Agricultural programme and production.

(b) Animal Husbandry.



- (c) Co-operation.
  - (d) Irrigation and Reclamation.
  - (e) Cottage and Small-Scale Industries.
  - (f) Communications.
  - (g) Education—Primary, Basic and Higher and Social Education.
  - (h) Rural Housing, Health and Sanitation.
  - (i) Other programmes to meet local felt needs.
6. To put across the village programme to people concerned in terms of priorities and periodic targets.
7. To work out the break-up of the sanctioned budget provisions in terms of the working plans village-wise for each development activity.
8. To build up stocks of equipment necessary for the various development activities, to arrange for its proper storage, and to establish and maintain supply lines with a view to achieve timely and efficient execution of working plans.
9. To hold periodic meetings of village for straightening out difficulties arising out of execution of working plans, for creating mutual understanding and an atmosphere of reciprocity.
10. To help the subject-matter specialists and technical experts to carry out their working plans.
11. To tour in the circle and to make night halts with a view to—
- (i) Gain first-hand knowledge ;
  - (ii) Develop contacts with village people ;
  - (iii) Help subject-matter specialists and technical experts.
12. To receive money from Block Development Officer and disburse money and to be responsible for cash balances.



13. To be responsible for maintenance of accounts in the prescribed manner.

14. To ensure that proper accounts are maintained with respect to any funds collected by the village people under people's participation programmes.

15. To be responsible for maintenance of office registers, records and information in proper manner.

16. To get correct information for preparation of periodical reports and returns collected in proper time and to submit periodical reports and return on due date.

17. To make advice, guidance and help available to the people concerned in deciding the ways and means for executing the working plans.

18. To tap resources of existing normal agencies in the area with a view to augment allotments and to integrate them for execution of working plans for the circle as a whole and for each village.

(c)—No, to the best of our information.

(d)—Does not arise in view of reply at (c) above.

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):**  
(b) Whether these Gram Sevaks are Government employees and whether they are entitled to get all benefits as such ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):**  
They are entitled to get benefits as sanctioned under the Community Project scheme.

**Shri CHATRASING TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes )]:** Whether it is a fact that these Gram Sevaks are not acquainted with the basic features of the Second Five Year Plan ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):**  
I don't think so, because they have to undergo a course of training. Of course, there may be some exceptions here and there but I am not prepared to accept that it is generally so.



**Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO** [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Tube well আৰু R. C. well নিদিয়া বহুত গাঁওৰ এতিয়াও বাকী আছে। কিন্তু এইকথা চৰকাৰে নেজানো বুলি কৈছে। প্রশ্নকৰ্তাই নিজে বহুত গাঁওৰ কথা জানে যত এনেকুৱা কুঁৱা নাই, চৰকাৰে এইকথাৰ অনুসন্ধান কৰি উপযুক্ত ঠাইত এনে কুঁৱা দিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিবনে ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰৰ মতামত লোৱাতকৈ স্থানীয় Project Advisory Committeeৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰি কেনেকৈ Projectৰ সমলবোৰ প্ৰয়োজনীয় ঠাইত ব্যৱহাৰ কৰিব পাৰি তাৰ বাবে যত্ন কৰাৰে বাঞ্ছনীয়। এনেবোৰ বিষয়ত ছিলঙত সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱাতকৈ স্থানীয় ভাবে Project Advisory Committeeৰ লগত নীমাংসা কৰি কৰাহে সুবিধা জনক হব। মই আশা কৰো এই Project অঞ্চল সম্পৰ্কে প্রশ্ন কৰ্তাৰ ভাল জ্ঞান আছে আৰু তেখেতে নিজে যিবিলাক ঠাই বিশেষ আৱশ্যকীয় অথচ বাদপৰি গৈছে বুলি ভাবে, সেই বিলাক ঠাইত Project Advisory Committeeৰ জৰিয়তে এনেকুৱা কুঁৱা বহুৱাবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিব।

**Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh)** : মই জানিব পাৰোনে যে বহুত ক্ষেত্ৰত Project Advisory Committeeএ নজনাকৈ Project Officer সকলে নিজ ইচ্ছা মতে Plan and estimate কৰে। এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে অনুসন্ধান কৰিবনে ?

**Mr. SPEAKER** : I think, this question was discussed in detail a few days ago.

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi)** : গ্ৰাম সেৱক সকলে নিজৰ খৰচত প্ৰশিক্ষণ লয়নে চৰকাৰৰ খৰচত লয় ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : চৰকাৰৰ খৰচত লয়।

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEV SARMA** : তেওঁ বহুত লোকক প্ৰশিক্ষণ পোৱাৰ পিচতো কামত লগোৱা নাই কিয় ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : তেওঁলোকৰ ভিতৰত যিবিলাকক উপযুক্ত বিবেচনা কৰা হয় তেওঁলোকক কামত লগোৱা হয়। কোনো কোনো জন হয়তো কিছু দিন বৰঙ লব লগা হয়—Project ত তেওঁলোকৰ কাৰণে কামৰ ব্যৱস্থা হয় মানে।

**Shri CHATRASING TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]** : Is it a fact that Government is contemplating to revise the policy in respect of areas allotted to each Gram Sevak, in consideration of the fact that such areas are very big, particularly in the hill Districts ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : There is a recommendation of the Balvantrao Mehta Committee in this respect in which it is suggested that the number should be considerably increased. That matter is under consideration.



**Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Is it a fact that the training of the Gram-Sevaks in the social and technical aspects is defective and deficient?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** So far as we are concerned, we feel that we have to make improvements.

### **Relief to retired Aided High School Teachers**

**Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira)** asked :

\*54. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education Department be pleased to state whether Government are considering the question of giving relief to retired Aided High School teacher by way of part pension or gratuity ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education)** replied :

54.—There is no such proposal before Government at present.

**Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA:** Do Government propose to consider this matter in the near future?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** I don't think there is any proposal at all.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):** Is it not a fact that there are certain teachers in aided high schools who joined there after resigning Government service under the then British regime and they are entitled to help and other facilities as political sufferers?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** There may be such cases, I have no information.

**Dr. RAMPRASAD CHAUBEY (Lakhipur):** Is it a fact that Government have taken a decision that in any case retired teachers will not be re-employed?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** I do not think such a water-tight decision can be taken by Government.

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi):** Is there any age-limit for aided school teachers for retirement ?



**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) :** We do not insist on any age-limit in institutions which are not our own.

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) :** গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টা ided স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ retirement ৰ পিচত যদি চৰকাৰে কিনা সুবিধা দিয়াৰ কথা বিবেচনা কৰে তেনেহলে সেই সুবিধা স্কুলবোর্ড ৰ শিক্ষক সকলেকো দিবনেকি ?

**Mr. SPEAKER :** You will have to put another question.

**Shrimati KAMAL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) :** Will Government be pleased to consider sympathetically if such a proposal comes to them ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** All proposals coming to us will be most sympathetically considered.

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) :** Aided স্কুলৰ শিক্ষকে এখন স্কুলত ১৫/২০ বছৰ কাম কৰাব পিচত আকৌ আন এখন aided স্কুলত চাকৰি ললে initial Pay অথবা increased Pay Scale স্থিৰ কৰাৰ নীতি কি ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** এখন স্কুলৰ পৰা গৈ আন এখন স্কুলত কাম ললে .....

**Mr. SPEAKER :** I think for that the hon. Member will have to put another question because this question relates to relief to retired aided high school teachers.

**Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) :** When the burden-load of work of Government High School teachers and those of the Aided High School is the same, will Government consider the matter not only with sympathy but also with all seriousness ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** Government is a corporate body and when it considers anything sympathetically it does so in all seriousness. I think that should be the interpretation.



### Schools managed by Indian Tea Association

**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari West)** asked:

\*55. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware or received informations to the effect that in schools managed by Indian Tea Association, discriminations are made between the children of labourers and non-labourers so far as teaching and treatment are concerned?
- (b) If so, why?
- (c) Whether Government propose to see that such discriminations are removed?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education)** replied:

55. (a)—No.

(b)—This is being enquired into.

(c)—Necessary action will be taken.

**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA:** Will Government bring all the Lower Primary Schools of tea gardens under the direct supervision and control of the School Board?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** This is a separate question, but I may inform the hon. Member that we are seriously considering this matter.

**Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar):** Is there any school managed by the Indian Tea Association?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** No schools are managed by the Indian Tea Association at all.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I think they are managed by gardens which are members of the Indian Tea Association.

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** Yes, Sir.



**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):** Do Government know that the schools managed by the Indian Tea Planters are worse than those managed by the Europeans tea estates ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education):** I think that is too sweeping a generalisation to make.

**Non-official Members of the Dibrugarh Board of Regional Transport Authority**

**Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh)** asked:

\*56. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state why all the non-official members of the Dibrugarh Board of Regional Transport Authority have been chosen from the Congress Camp ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** replied :

56.—Government is not aware if all the non-official members of the Upper Assam Regional Transport Authority are regular members of the Congress. In selecting the non-official members due consideration was given to requirements of Section 44(2) of the I. M. V. Act, 1939.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Who are the members of the Dibrugarh Regional Transport Authority.

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :**

**Officials:—**Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur (Chairman).

Superintendent of Police, Lakhimpur.

Superintendent of Police, Sibsagar.

Superintending Engineer, Roads and Buildings, Jorhat.

District Transport Officer, Sibsagar.

District Transport Officer, Lakhimpur (Secretary).



Non-officials:—Shri Puspadhar Barkakati, B.L., Dibrugarh.

„ Ghana Kanta Moran, Dibrugarh.

„ Jadav Ch. Khaklari, Dibrugarh.

„ Jaharmal Kanoi, Dibrugarh.

„ Thanuram Gogoi, Sibsagar.

„ Abdul Razzaque, Sibsagar.

„ Nilmoney Phukan, Jorhat.

„ Prasanna Kumar Barua, Jorhat.

„ Debeswar Rajkhowa, Golaghat.

„ Purna Chandra Goswami, Golaghat.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Are the requirements of section 44 so stringent that they cannot be fulfilled by any other man than a Congress Member ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** How does it arise ?

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Because the Hon'ble Chief Minister said that nominations were made according to the requirements of section 44 and since all of them are Congress members.....

**Mr. SPEAKER:** He said that he was not aware whether all are members of the Congress.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** But then he said that the requirements of section 44 have to be fulfilled.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I am afraid this is going out of the way. The reply is that Government is not aware "if all the non-official members of the Upper Assam Regional Transport Authority are regular members of the Congress". But whether they are members or not, they must conform to the requirements of the Act. That is the reply.

**Shrimati LILY SENGUPTA (Lahowal):** ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ এই মেম্বাৰ কেইজন কোনে suggest কৰিছিল জানিব পাৰেনে ?



**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order, order.

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Dergaon : Reserved for Scheduled Castes):** May I know from the Hon'ble Chief Minister to which communities all these non-official members belong ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I do not think you can go into the names of communities.

**Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** At any rate, is there any member belonging to the scheduled castes ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** I do not think there is any member belonging to the scheduled castes in the present Regional Transport Authority of Dibrugarh.

**Shri RAMNATH DAS:** Will Government be pleased to appoint one member from the scheduled castes in the Regional Transport Authority ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** This will certainly be done.

**Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** May I know whether any non-official member of the Regional Transport Authority, Dibrugarh, is connected directly or indirectly with maintaining any bus service ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Government have no information. Actually, the particular section of the Indian Motor Vehicles Act states that "A State Transport Authority or a Regional Transport Authority shall consist of a Chairman who has had judicial experience and such other officials and non-officials not being less than two, as the State Government may think fit to appoint but no person who has any financial interest whether as proprietor, employee or otherwise in any transport undertaking shall be appointed as or continue as a member of a State or a Regional Transport Authority, and if any person being a member of any such authority acquires a financial interest in any transport undertaking he shall, within four weeks of so doing, give notice in writing to the State Government of the acquisition of such interest and shall vacate office".



So, Sir, in selecting the members we kept this in view and we have no information of any member having any such interest in transport business.

**Shri CHATRASING TERON (Mikir Hills-West : Reserved for Scheduled Tribes):** Will Government enquire into whether any non-official member is connected with business ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** We will have no objection to enquire but in order to have the enquiry against some particular member or members it would be helpful if the hon. Member supply us with any particular name or names and in that case we will certainly enquire and find out.

**Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** Is it a fact that one Jaharmall Kanoi, who is a member in the Upper Assam Regional Transport Authority, has got some interest in the transport business ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Government have no information about it, but since the name has been given, it will be enquired into.

**Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla):** In view of the fact that this is an important Board will the case of backward classes be taken up for membership in this Board ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Yes, that will be taken into consideration.

(The Starred Question No. 57 standing in the name of Shri Jahanuddin Ahmed was not put and answered as the Questioner was absent.)

#### **Vernacular Teacher in Latu Middle English School**

**Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA (Patharkandi: Reserved for Scheduled Castes)** asked :

\*58. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that one Shri Birendra Kumar Sarma, a Matriculate, was appointed temporarily as a Vernacular teacher in Latu Middle English School by the Managing Committee of the said Institution in the vacancy



caused by the death of Rabindra Kumar Sarma who was Matriculate as well as Normal Passed ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Managing Committee dispensed with the services of the above-named Sarma on the strength of a resolution at a month's notice and sought approval of their action from the Assistant Inspector of Schools, Cachar who has withheld the approval for reasons untold ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that appointment of a Vernacular teacher in a High English School is essentially necessary ?
- (d) Whether a Matriculate teacher is under-qualified for appointment as a Vernacular teacher in a High English School, *vis-a-vis*, a Matriculate and Normal passed teacher ?
- (e) Whether the Managing Committee is competent to discharge a temporary teacher at a month's notice ?
- (f) Whether the Minister concerned will record necessary approval to the action of the Managing Committee in the light of the above facts ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education)** replied :

58. (a) & (b)—Government have no information.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The qualification required is Matric Normal.

(e)— Yes.

(f)—The Inspector of Schools concerned is the proper authority for according approval in such cases.

**Re: Opium in an air parcel detected by Excise Staff on 14th August, 1953**

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)** asked :

\*59. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that 1 maund, 2 seers and 8 chattaks of opium was detected by Excise Staff on or about 14th August, 1953 in an air parcel ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that this opium was deposited in Dibrugarh Treasury ?



- (c) Whether it is a fact that this opium was released to the smugglers while it was under the custody of Government officials and a lump of earth was kept there in sealed boxes ?
- (d) Whether the Officer-in-charge who sealed the boxes is still in service of the Government ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that a judicial enquiry was ordered ?
- (f) If so, whether the enquiry has been completed ?
- (g) If not, how long it will take to complete the enquiry ?
- (h) Whether there are some more instances where opium turned to asphalt or some other materials in the custody of Government officials during last 12 years, in Dibrugarh Sub-division ?
- (i) Whether Government is aware that a section of public suspect that some of the Excise Officers in Dibrugarh Subdivision are in league with the smugglers ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that smuggling of opium is on the increase in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise)**  
replied :

59. (a) —1 maund 2 seers and 8 chattaks of opium was detected in two air parcels.

(b) —Yes.

(c) —The opium was found missing and in its place a lump of earth was found. The matter is under Police investigation.

(d) —Yes.

(e) —No.

(f) —Does not arise.

(g) —Does not arise.

(h) —Government have no such information.

(i) —Government have no information.

(j) —It is not a fact.



**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):** Whether it is a fact that the Excise staff has released the opium to the smugglers after detection and a lump of earth was deposited in the Treasury ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise):** That matter is under Police investigation.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA:** Whether it is a fact that opium consumption is increasing in Dibrugarh ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** It is not a fact—the answer is there. If there would have increase there would have been detection.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA:** Whether Government is aware that in those areas where educational facilities are wanting or inadequate the number of opium addicts are more ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** That is a matter of opinion.

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** The Minister said that if there would have been more cases of smuggling the department would have detected. My question is: Is it not a fact that actually large scale smuggling is going on in Dibrugarh and the Excise Department has not been able to detect ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** There was smuggling of this one maund, so there is smuggling and there may be cases which could not be detected.

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA:** Is it not a fact that smuggling is going on at Dibrugarh on a large scale but the Excise Department has not been able to detect sufficient number of cases ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** If my Friend knows any instance he should inform the Government.

**Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY (Moran: Reserved for Scheduled Tribes):** Will the hon. Minister please inform the House the names of the smugglers if the Government has maintained a list of smugglers ?



**Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise):** That is a secret matter, I am sorry, I cannot divulge.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):** Whether the Government propose to take strong measures against certain Government officers who sabotaged the Government policy ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** Certainly if it is proved.

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEVA SARMA (Digboi):**  
নক্ষীমপুৰ জিলাত কিছমান মানুহক কানিৰ পটা দিয়া হয় নেকি ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** On medical ground some permits are issued.

**Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North):** Who was the officer-in-charge of the Dibrugarh Treasury who was responsible for sealing the boxes ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** I require notice of this question.

**Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS:** Sir, I asked a simple question but it has not been properly replied. I want to know the name of the officer-in-charge of the Dibrugarh Treasury who sealed the boxes ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** It is a matter of several years back, I want notice.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Whether the particular officer is in the service ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS:** All the officers connected with this case are in service. No action has been taken against any one upto date.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** In future when there is a categorical question like this more detailed answer should be given.



## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Re: Political Sufferers

**Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South)**  
asked :

201. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state

- (a) What categories of persons fall under 'Political Sufferers'?
- (b) Whether getting release from detention for political activities on signing bonds to give up political activities against the British Rule entitles a person so released to be afterwards treated as a political sufferer and admitted to benefits allowed to a *bonafide* political sufferer?
- (c) Whether there is any instance in this State where a person so released on furnishing such a bond receiving Government aid or pension allowed to a political sufferer?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)**  
replied :

201 (a)—A Political Sufferer means—

(1) A person who was a detenué or was arrested and kept in jail or who was fined or whose property was confiscated or who lost his life or was permanently disabled or who suffered bodily injury for participation in any of the national struggles launched under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi since 1921.

(2) A person who was dismissed or removed from service or a civil pensioner whose pension was forfeited because of his or the pensioner's association with the national movements or an *ex-Government* servant who resigned his appointment—whether such resignation was voluntary or forced—the resignation being attributed to such association and not dictated by an other consideration.

(3) A person who gave up his studies due to his participation in the national movement of 1942 and resumed the same afterwards.



(b)—No, unless events subsequent to such release bring the person within the definition of political sufferers.

(c)—No person not coming within the definition of political sufferers has received any aid or pension.

**Shri TAJAMMUL ALI BARLASKAR (Udarband):** Are the Government aware of the fact that there are some political sufferers who are deprived of these benefits?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** It will not be correct to say that but they may not have received any benefit. Sir, there is a large number of such cases and because the number is large these are given in instalments.

**Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon):** May I know Sir, from the Government whether it is a fact that some persons who were regular Military contractors during the time of the last War are enjoying these benefits as political sufferers?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** We have no information of such cases. If the hon. Member gives us definite information, we shall enquire.

**Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla):** Will the Government be pleased to consider the cases of political sufferers if they submit applications?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, this subject has been kept open for a pretty long time and it is still open now, but I do not think it will be possible for Government to keep it open indefinitely. We are anxious to do something for the political sufferers as best we can.

**Shri BISHNU LAL UPADHAYYA (Gohpur):** Will the Government be pleased to state whether this pension of a political sufferer can be transferred to his wife or children who are most deserving for the same even after his death?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** I think in some cases that has been done, Sir.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar):** If a political sufferer is unable to work to earn his living, will not the Government consider the question of giving him pension?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, it is true that there are a few political sufferers who are fortunate enough to



earn their livelihood, but from the Government side we are not looking at this question in terms of paying compensation to a person for what he has done for the country, but we are only trying to give some sort of relief when we find that a particular person is in distress. But if the condition of a political sufferer deteriorates I see no reason why Government should not consider such cases.

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra):** এই বছর ভালেনান Political Sufferer এ আবেদন কৰিছিল। তেওঁলোকক District কমপ্ৰেছে recommend ও কৰিছিল তেওঁলোকে কিবা সাহায্য পাটুচেনে ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: (Chief Minister):** Sir, as I have said, this relief has been sanctioned in instalments, because the number of applicants is large, it takes time to verify the applications.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Sir, in reply to Question No. 201(a)—What categories of persons fall under 'Political Sufferers' the Government said at (3) A political sufferer means, "A person who gave up his studies due to his participation in the national movement of 1942 and resumed the same afterwards"—now, what happens to those who did not give up their studies but still participate in the national movement?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** They are also treated as political sufferers. Sir, this movement was started long ago and those who joined the movement suffered in different ways—for example, a youngman who gave up studies, joined the movement but was neither arrested nor convicted. He can rightly claim to be a political sufferer. We are trying to examine such cases by ascertaining the bonafide of the cases.

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi):** May I know, Sir, whether there is any record of political sufferers with the Government?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, Government do not have such records but now records are being collected from the various districts and also from Pradesh Congress Committee and it seems that the Pradesh Congress Committee has some sort of records in respect of political sufferers.

**Shri MAHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla):** Sir, do Government propose to increase the rate of pension of the political sufferers from Rs.40 per month in consideration of the high cost of living?



**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) :**  
Sir, this is an important matter and it has other implications also, so the whole question is under consideration. It is not possible for me to say at the moment as to what decision will be arrived at in this regard.

### **Local Board Constituencies in Dibrugarh Subdivision**

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)**  
asked :

202. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware that there is gross inequality in number of population in different Local Board Constituencies in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

203. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Bogdung, Gharbandi Local Board Constituency there are 70,000 or more population and the number of Local Board member elected from there is only one and in Tinkhong Local Board constituency there are 50,000 or less population and Local Board members elected from there are three ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)**  
replied :

202. Yes.

203. The population, according to 1951 Census, of Gharbandi Bogdung Constituency is 67,717 and that of Tinkhong Constituency is 48,288. The number of members allotted is one and three respectively.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA:** Why was there this inequality ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, as a matter of fact I was wondering why there was this discrepancy and I have been trying to find it out but I am sorry, I have failed so far to get the answer.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA:** Whether Government propose to remove this inequality ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, the question of abolition of Local Boards and their substitution by Rural Panchayats is under consideration. Therefore, this question of regularisation or removal of this defect need not be considered.

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):**  
What is the basis of allotment of member in proportion to population ?



**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : (Chief Minister):** Allotment of number of members to a particular Local Board was decided in terms of a Notification, dated 6th September 1954 under section 5(1) of the Assam Local Self-Government Act and accordingly this number is distributed in the whole subdivision and the population per each member was not uniform.

### **Work by Local Board in Dibrugarh Subdivision**

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):** asked :

204. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that less importance of Local Board work is given in areas or Mauzas which are proportionately under represented in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** replied :

204.—No. Local Board works are given according to the necessity of the work in the area whether represented or under-represented.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA:** Whether it is a fact that due to inadequate representation in the Local Boards, those areas are made to suffer ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, if the hon. Member will please look into the statement that has been placed on the table of the House he will find that the amount spent in that area is not very small and it justifies that reasonable amount of work was done in that area.

### **Dibrugarh Local Board**

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)** asked :

205. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to furnish a list of expenditure incurred by the Dibrugarh Local Board on roads, water supply, sanitation, etc., in different Mauzas (Mauza by Mauza) of Dibrugarh Subdivision in the year 1956-57 ?

206. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Mishmi Hills Transferred Area (Sadiya Transferred Area) and Abor Hills Transferred Area (Murkongselek Transferred Area) are being represented in the Dibrugarh Local Board ?



**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)**  
replied :

205.—A list is laid on the Library Table.

[statement laid on the Library Table in reply to unstarred Question No. 205.]

EXPENDITURE DURING 1956-57

Name of Mouza				Communication	Water Supply
				Rs.	Rs.
1 Makum Mouza	..	..	..	7,978	4,092
2 Mancotta ..	..	..	..	8,179	1,829
3 Sadar ..	..	..	..	7,801	890
4 Doom-Dooma Mouza	..	..	..	11,429	3,003
5 Modarkhat ..	..	..	..	7,498	Nil (Due to Panchayat and N.E.S. Block area no payment was made.)
6 Jamiran Mouza	..	..	..	4,382	3,176
7 Ghorbandi ..	..	..	..	5,108	1,837
8 Sassoni ..	..	..	..	3,813	1,217
9 Larua ..	..	..	..	7,331	2,165
10 Joypur ..	..	..	..	6,499	2,816
11 Buridching Mouza	..	..	..	1,238	691
12 Dhemaji ..	..	..	..	6,093	4,051
13 Sepon ..	..	..	..	1,236	45
14 Lengri ..	..	..	..	4,223	2,251
15 Hapjan ..	..	..	..	3,725	3,850
16 Rongagora ..	..	..	..	808	Nil (Due to Panchayat area no payment was made.)
17 Tingrai Mouza	..	..	..	8,453	1,296
18 Bogdung ..	..	..	..	2,727	862
19 Tinsukia ..	..	..	..	380	1,497
20 Chabua Polonga Mouza	..	..	..	9,591	288
21 Rohmaria Mouza	..	..	..	479	1,149
22 Tengakhat ..	..	..	..	10,015	Nil (Due to Panchayat area and N. E. S. Block. No payment was made.)
23 Khowang ..	..	..	..	4,671	3,682
24 Saikhowa Mouza	..	..	..	12,561	3,499
25 Sissi ..	..	..	..	2,640	3,886
26 Lahoal ..	..	..	..	1,159	1,503
27 Tinkhong ..	..	..	..	1,527	3,626
28 Moran ..	..	..	..	3,017	240
29 Tipling ..	..	..	..	684	322
30 Phakial ..	..	..	..	840	Nil (Due to Panchayat area and N. E. S. Block. No payment was made.)
31 Kheremia Mouza	..	..	..	780	197
32 Paik Mohol ..	..	..	..	Nil	628

(flooded area)



206.—No.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):**  
Why the Transferred Areas were not included to be represented in the Dibrugarh Local Board although these areas were under this State in 1950 ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):**  
Sir, the hon. Member has already pointed out some anomalies in respect of allocation of seats and I think that was definitely a mistake. In this case also certain areas were left out by mistake.

### Large sized Co-operative Credit Societies

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj)**  
asked :

207. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) How many large-sized Co-operative Credit Societies are there in the State ?
- (b) What is the maximum time that is required for such a Society to get loan from the Government after duly being registered ?
- (c) How many petitions are pending from the public for formation of such kind of Society ?
- (d) What is the number of population both agriculture and non-agriculture that have been benefited by such loan ?
- (e) Whether Government is aware of the fact that instruction on this behalf from each Co-operative Officer to the different Co-operative Societies differ and it causes difficulties to the public ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education for Minister, Co-operative)** replied :

207. (a)—There are 149 Large-sized Co-operative Credit Societies registered up to 31st December, 1957 in Assam.

(b)—These Societies get loans from Central Banks concerned to which they are affiliated and not from Government. If applications for loan are found in order the maximum time taken in sanctioning loans varies from 1½ to 3 months depending on the size of the Society and number of members.



(c)—Nine such petitions are pending for registration.

(d)—The number of agricultural population that have been benefited by such loans is 1,00,096. Non-agriculturists are not financed by large-sized Co-operative Credit Societies as the membership is open to agriculturists only.

(e)—Government have no information.

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):** How many of these registered societies are in the district of Goalpara?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Education):** I have no figures district-wise.

**Shri GAURI SANKAR ROY (Katlicherra):** क्या, यह बात सत्य है कि खेतों को शुरू करने के पहले हमारे खेतों पर मजदूरों के अधिकांश क्षेत्रों में कृषि ऋण नहीं मिलता है ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** मेरे खयालमें कभी कभी ऐसा होता होगा मगर हम ऐसी कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि ऐसा न होने पावे ।

**Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East):** Are Government aware that many Central Banks have not been able to secure loans from the Apex Bank for more than five or six months?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** I think it may be so?

**Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHOUDHURY:** The question is whether Government is aware of the fact that instructions on this behalf from each Co-operative officer to the different Co-operative Societies differ and, therefore, it causes delay and difficulties to the public—Will Government enquire into the matter?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** We may do it.

**Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHOUDHURY :** Are Government aware that Central Banks have not been able to secure medium term loans for want of capacity of Apex Bank.

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** I think we are aware of that.



**Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHOUDHURY** (Nalbari-East): Will Government enquire into it?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** (Minister, Education): If specific instance is cited, we may come to the assistance of the Central Banks.

**Pulp Mill at Lamsakhang and Spun Silk Mill at Jagiroad**

**Shri RAMNATH SARMA** (Lumding) asked:

208. Will the Minister-in-charge of Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is fact that Government have decided to instal a paper pulp mill and a silk spun mill at Lamsakhang and Jagiroad respectively in the district of Nowgong?
- (b) If so, when these decisions were finalised?
- (c) What sums of money are being spent for these two mills and what progress these mills have made so far?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that no progress whatsoever has been made till now so far these mills are concerned?
- (e) When these most wanted industries will function full-fledged?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** (Minister, Major Industries) replied:

208. (a)—Yes, it has been decided to set up a pulp mill at Lamsakhang in the private sector and a spun silk mill at Jagiroad in the public sector.

(b)—M/S. Balmer Lawrie and Co. of Calcutta was finally selected in the month of May 1956 to set up the pulp mill and final decision in regard to the spun silk mill was taken in January 1957.

(c)—The party envisages a total capital outlay of Rs.5.64 crores in the pulp mill project and the total capital outlay envisaged in the spunsilk mill is Rs.54.7 lakhs.

The party for the pulp mill has already applied to the Government of India for license and the same is under issue by the Government of India. Necessary survey, etc., has been completed and the draft forest lease is in the final stage of negotiation.



The site for the spun silk mill has been selected finally and the Public Works Department is expected to take up construction of buildings, etc., shortly. Machineries are being obtained on deferred payment basis on the terms of the agreement entered into between the State Trading Corporation of India and Japanese Textile Machinery Manufacturers Association. The machineries are expected to arrive by the end of 1958. Orders for indigenous machineries worth Rs.1 lakh are also being placed. 400 pounds of Ericocoons have also been sent to Japan for trial test, etc.

(d)—In view of reply to (c) above this does not arise.

(e)—Pulp mill is expected to function by 1961-62 and the spun silk mill by 1959-60.

**Shri CHATRA SING TERON** [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Whether it is a fact that so far nothing has been done to materialise the establishment of a paper pulp mill ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** (Minister, Major Industries): In any way, we have not been able to come to any decision in the matter of selecting the final site.

**Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY** (Katlicherra): Is there proposal to establish such any mills in any other part of the State ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI**: That depends mainly on the investigation and also on the availability of raw materials, particularly bamboos. In an area which has a great deal of raw materials, for example, in Lushai Hills where there is sufficient raw materials, the question of establishing a paper pulp mill is under consideration of Government.

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA** (Morongi): Sir, the other day in reply to a question asked by Shri Sai Sai Terang on the subject the Hon. Minister said that the site of the paper pulp mill has not been finalised. But here the reply to question 208 (a) is that—"It has been decided to set up a pulp mill at Lamsakhang", but the Hon. Minister now says that the site of the pulp mill has not been selected finally. Will the Hon'ble Minister clarify the position ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** : Here in the reply it is said that—"It has been decided to set up a pulp mill at Lamsakhang in the private sector"—Therefore, the site has actually been selected at Lamsakhang but it is up to the



private sector to finally decide and select the exact location of the mill in question at Lamsakhang. Just now I am not in a position to say much about the exact location of the pulp mill. It is for the private sector to do it.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** What is the reason for the delay in issuing the license ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries):** The original draft given by the company was rather very strict, therefore, we had to write to the company on certain points. It took sometime for the company to take into consideration the Government's view point, hence the delay.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** When did the Government write last ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** That is difficult to answer just now.

**Dr. RAM PRASAD CHAUBEY (Lakhipur):** Is there any possibility of establishing a paper pulp mill in the district of Cachar ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** The possibility is there, Sir.

#### State Veterinary Dispensary at Bhowanipur

**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West)** asked :

209. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the State Veterinary Dispensary at village Bhowanipur in the subdivision of Barpeta in the district of Kamrup is not getting proper and adequate help from the Government of Assam, and repeated representation has been made by the people of that locality for help ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that some portions of the wall of the dispensary building are damaged, a major portion of the residential quarter of the Doctor-in-charge is broken and remains unrepaired, the cookshed of the Doctor's residence is totally demolished and still then the authority concerned are not getting any help for repairs and reconstruction ?



(c) If so, why ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the stock of medicine given to the said State Dispensary is too meagre to meet the total requirement which has caused untold disadvantages to give proper and timely treatment to the diseased cattle ?

(e) If so, why sufficient stock of medicine is not supplied there ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education for Minister Veterinary) replied :**

209 (a)—No.

(b)—Yes. Necessary repair work has already been taken up.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

**Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta):** The answer to (b) is—“Necessary work has already been taken up”—When was the work started ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** The answer is already there. It is not possible now to give the exact time.

**Re : Pay of the teachers of non-Government Colleges**

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :**

210. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Why the fixation of initial pay according to the recommendations of the Pay Committee of the teachers of the non-Government Colleges has not yet been communicated to the Colleges ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that a certain sum of money has been sent to the different Colleges as arrear pay from October, 1956 which is remaining as tantalus-cup for the teachers ?



(c) When the teachers of the non-Government Colleges will be able to draw their pay according to the new scale ?

211. When Government propose to give effect to the new scale of pay as recommended by University Grants Commission to the teachers of the non-Government Colleges of the State ?

212. Whether Government propose to recommend a uniform scale of pay for the employees other than teachers of the non-Government Colleges of the State such as librarians, assistants, menials ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education)** replied :

210.(a)—In order to sanction the new scale of pay to the teachers of the non-Government Colleges and to sanction increased grant-in-aid *visa-vis* Pay Committee's Recommendations, 1956, it is found necessary to revise the existing principles and conditions of grant-in-aid to the aided Colleges in the State. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—As soon as the principles and conditions of grant-in-aid to the aided Colleges are revised.

211.—The matter is under consideration of the Government.

212.—The matter will be examined.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpuri) :** The answer to question 212 is—"The matter will be examined". Will Government consider to recommend a uniform pay scale for the librarians, assistants, etc. other than teachers of the non-Government Colleges of the State, otherwise these low paid employees are undergoing great hardships ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** The formula that has been laid down is to deduct 25 per cent as house rents from the different teachers. I quite agree that if the formula is rigidly adhered to there may be hardship on the part of schools. We have not been able to review the formula. The matter will be taken into consideration.



**Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) :** May I know from the Government why the matter has not been finalised from October, 1956 to February, 1958 ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) :** The principles of the condition of the grants are under consideration, hence payment is delayed. But the matter is receiving attention for early payment of the arrears.

**Conversion of one-teachered Lower Primary Schools into two-teachered Schools**

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** asked :

213. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) How many one-teachered Lower Primary Schools have been converted into two-teachered schools during the present financial year 1957-58 ?
- (b) What is the number of such schools converted into two-teachered ones in the Gauhati Subdivision?
- (c) How many Venture Lower Primary Schools have been taken over by the School Boards of the State during the present financial year of 1957-58 and what is their number in the Gauhati Subdivision ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Education)** replied :

213. (a)—500.

(b)—70.

(c)—Nil. No Venture School has so far been taken over in 1957-58. The question however is under examination.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI :** May I ask, Sir, why Government has not considered the case of taking over of the schools ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** We are constantly considering this aspect of the matter, that is why some schools have been taken over and some schools are under consideration. This has got to be done gradually and not all at a time



**Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta):** On what basis the one-teached Lower Primary Schools is converted into two-teached Schools ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education):** On the number of students.

### Ferry crossing of the National Highways

**Shri KHAGENDRA NATH NATH (Goalpara)** asked :

214. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the ferry crossing of the National Highways in India is free of tolls ?

(b) Whether the Jogighopa-Goalpara ferry crossing in the Subdivision of Goalpara is on the National Highway ?

(c) If so, whether Government propose to allow the Jogighopa-Goalpara ferry crossing free of tolls ?

(d) If not, why ?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department)** replied :

214. (a)—This State Government have got no such information. Government of India and other State Governments are being addressed to supply the details.

(b)—Yes.

(c) & (d)—In February, 1956, this Government moved the Central Government to make this Ferry toll free or if not possible to reduce the existing toll rates by 50 per cent. After several reminders the Government of India replied on 17th December, 1957 that the matter is still under consideration and will be intimated as soon as decision is reached in the matter. The matter is, therefore, still under correspondence with the Government of India.



**Shri KHAGENDRA NATH NATH (Goalpara):** মই জানিব পাৰোঁ। নে—পঞ্চবছৰ যোগীয়োপাত যি দুখন Steamer চলোৱাৰ কথা আছিল—সেই দুখন এতিয়া কি অৱস্থাত আছে? এখনো জাহাজ চলা নাই।

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.):** Steamer অৰ কাৰণে আমি ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ লগত লেখ লেখি চলাই আছোঁ। Steamer পাবলৈ নাই। বাহিৰৰ পৰা আমাৰ ইয়াটল জাহাজ আনিবলৈকো বৈদেশিক বিনিময়ৰ (foreign exchange) অভাৱ। ভাৰতৰ ভিতৰত কিনিবলৈ হলেও ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ disposal অৰ পৰা কিনিব লাগে আৰু তাতো চেষ্টা কৰা হৈছে। ভাৰতৰ ভিতৰত কতো পাবলৈ নাই

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** নতুন steamer মহলে Second hand steamer কিনিব নোৱাৰি নে নাই?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** পাৰি; কিন্তু পাবলৈ নাই।

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):** চৰকাৰে কৈছে যে আমাৰ Toll নোহোৱা 'ফেৰী' National High Way ৰ ওপৰত নাই। কিন্তু মই কওঁ—যে আমাৰ বহুতো toll নোহোৱা ফেৰী "নেশ্যণেল হাই ৱে"ৰ ওপৰত আছে আৰু সেই বিলাক ৰাজ্যৰ Public Works Department এ চলায়—তেনেদৰে চৰকাৰে কেনেকৈ কয় যে Toll নোহোৱা ফেৰী National High Way ৰ ওপৰত নাই?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** National High Way টো অকল অসমৰে নহয়; ই গোটেই ভাৰততে আছে। আমি অকল অসমৰ কথাহে জানোঁ—ভাৰতৰ বাকী অংশত নো কি হৈছে নহইছে—সেই বিষয়ে জানিবৰ কাৰণে লিখা লিখি কৰিছোঁ।

### **Adhiar Board in Teok Circle of Jorhat Subdivision**

**Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)** asked:

215. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state--

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Adhiar Board is not yet formed in Teok Circle of Jorhat Subdivision?
- (b) If so, why?
- (c) When Government propose to form such a Board?
- (d) Whether Government will withdraw the cases filed by the Land Mohajans against the Adhiars as Government have failed to form such a Board?



**Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Revenue)** replied :

215. (a)—It is not a fact.

(b), (c) & (d)—Do not arise.

#### **Veterinary Dispensary at Golakganj**

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRODHANI (Golakganj)** asked :

216. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government were receiving representations from the public for starting Veterinary dispensary at Golakganj since 1954 ?

(b) Whether Government propose to start a Veterinary dispensary at Golakganj within near future ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education, for Minister, Veterinary)** replied :

216. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Not for the present.

#### **Gandhi Mela and Exhibition**

**Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-west)** asked :

217. (a) Will the Minister of Information and Publicity be pleased to state whether his Department is aware that a Gandhi Mela and Exhibition, which is the biggest annual fair in Assam, is held at Silchar every year during the first part of February ?

(b) Will the Minister be pleased to state whether any Publicity Unit was deputed to Silchar during the Mela this year ?

(c) If not, why ?

**Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister of Information and Publicity)** replied :

217. (a) —Yes. Government have however no information that it is the biggest annual fair in Assam.

(b)—Yes. The Assistant Agricultural Propaganda Officer of the Directorate of Information and Publicity was deputed to the Gandhi Mela at Silchar. This Directorate



contributed Rs.500 towards the success of the Mela, besides distributing a large number of departmental publications among the visitors to the Mela. Publicity posters were also sent for display in the Mela.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

### **Sepon Suffry Road**

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra)** asked :

218. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) In how many places the Sepon Suffry Road was submerged by flood waters in May last year and in the floods of 1956 ?

(b) Whether Government propose to raise the road above flood level during the year to save the people and their crops in this flood-affected area of Sibsagar Subdivision.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department)** replied :

218. (a)—Sepon Suffry Road was submerged by flood-water of 1957 in 8 (eight) places, namely, in 8th mile, 6th, 7th and 8th furlongs of 10th mile and 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 6th furlongs of the 11th mile. In 1956, this road was submerged in 4 (four) places, namely, in 2nd furlong of 1st mile, 6th and 7th furlong of 3rd mile and 6th furlong of 6th mile.

(b)—Proposal to raise these low places of the road is under examination.

### **Enhancement of the Pay Scale of the Workers of Public Works Department Workshops**

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar)** asked :

219. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing) be pleased to state—

(a) Why the new pay scale of the workers of Public Works Department Workshops has not been enhanced ?

(b) Whether Government propose to revise it for the benefit of the workers ?



**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH** [Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied :

219. (a) & (b)—The pay scales in respect of some categories of the workers of Public Works Department Workshops have been revised and enhanced by the Government on the recommendation of the Pay Committee. A statement is given below :

STATEMENT SHOWING THE POSTS BORNE IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WORKSHOP IN RESPECT OF WHICH SCALES OF PAY HAVE BEEN REVISED AND ENHANCED BY GOVERNMENT

Name of post or service	Pre-1956 scale	Revised scale of pay, 1956
1	2	3
(1) Store-Keeper .. .. .	Rs.—45—2—55—3—80.	Rs.50—2—78—E.B.—3—90 per mensem.
(2) Divisional Mechanic, Mechanical Draftsman and Electrician.	Rs.75—75—80—Conf—4—100—5—125 per mensem.	Rs.75—4—115—E.B.—4—135—5—150 per mensem.
(3) Assistant Divisional Mechanic and Assistant Electrician.	Rs.45—2—65—E.B.—5/2—100 per mensem.	Rs.60—8—80—E.B.—2½—100/ per mensem.
(4) Electric Mistry.. .. .	Rs.45—2—65—E.B.—5/2—80 per mensem.	Rs.60—2—80—E.B.—2½—100 per mensem.
(5) Electrical Jugali and Fireman ..	Rs.33—1—45 per mensem.	Rs.35—1—45 per mensem.
(6) Foreman Mechanic .. .. .	Rs.120—120—130—Conf—5—145—E.B.—10—245—E.B.—10—275 per mensem.	Rs.125—7½—155—9—245—E.B.—10—275 per mensem plus a special pay of Rs.25 per mensem.
(7) First Class Blacksmith .. .. .	Rs.45—2—65—E.B.—5/2—100 per mensem.	Rs.60—2—80—E.B.—2½—100 per mensem.
(8) Carpenter .. .. .	Rs.45—2—65—E.B.—5/2—80 per mensem.	Rs.50—2—78—E.B.—3—90 per mensem.
(9) First Class Fitter .. .. .	Rs.75—75—80—Conf.—4—100—5—125 per mensem.	Rs.75—4—115—E.B.—4—135—5—150 per mensem.
(10) Second Class Fitter .. .. .	Rs.45—2—65—E.B.—5/2—80—per mensem.	Rs.50—2—78—E.B.—3—90 per mensem.



Name of post or service	Pre-1956 Scale	Revised scale of pay, 1956
1	2	3
(11) Plumber .. .. .	Rs.75-75-80-Conf. —4-100-5-125 per mensem.	Rs.75-4-115-E.B. —4-135-5-150 per mensem.
(12) Water works Fitter .. .. .	Rs.75-75-80-Conf. —4-100-5-125 per mensem.	Rs.75-4-115-E.B. —4-135-5-150 per mensem.
(13) Head Mechanic .. .. .	Rs.100-5-150-6- 180 per mensem.	Rs.100-6-160-E.B. —8-200 per men- sem.
(14) Motor Mechanic .. .. .	Rs.75-75-80-Conf. 4-100-E.B.-5- 125 per mensem.	Rs.75-4-115-E.B. —4-135-5-150 per mensem.
(15) Assistant Motor Mechanic .. .. .	Rs.45-3-75-E.B.— 52-100 per men- sem.	Rs.60-2-80-E.B.— 24-100 per men- sem.
(16) Workshop Mechanic .. .. .	Rs.84-2-100 per mensem.	Rs.75-3-105-E.B. —4-125 per men- sem.
(17) Pumping Engine Handyman .. .. .	Rs.33-1-45 per mensem.	Rs.35-1-45 per mensem.

In respect of other posts for Workshop, the matter is under consideration of Government.

### Electrification of Amguri

**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)** asked:

220. Will the Minister-in-charge of Electricity be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government has any plan for electrification of Amguri in Sibsagar Subdivision ?  
 (b) If so, when that can be expected ?  
 (c) If not, why not ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge of Electricity)** replied :

220. (a) —Government have no plan at present for electrification of Amguri.

(b) —In view of reply to (a) above this question does not arise.



(c)—Government have not taken up any plan for electrification of Amguri as adequate load prospects have not yet been established.

**Minimum qualification necessary for a Headmaster of Multipurpose High School**

**Shri GAURISANKAR ROY** (Katlicherra) asked :

221. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state---

- (a) The minimum qualification necessary for a Headmaster of Multipurpose High School ?
- (b) Whether the Managing Committee formed under the present rule will manage such schools or any change is going to be effected ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** (Minister, Education) replied :

221. (a)—The minimum academic qualification desired is Master's degree, but competent graduates who have got teaching experience are also eligible to the post.

(b)—No change in the constitution of Managing Committees is contemplated at present.

**Principles followed in selecting the area for National Extension Service Blocks or Community Projects**

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI** (Golakganj) asked :

222. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the principles followed in selecting the area for National Extension Service Blocks or Community Projects ?
- (b) Whether contiguity of area is taken into consideration while selecting areas for National Extension Service Blocks and Community Projects ?



- (c) Which is the most backward area in Dhubri Subdivision at present?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** replied :

222. *a* The following broad principles are followed generally in selecting an area for National Extension Service Blocks :

*i* The Block should be so sited as to be contiguous to one or more existing Blocks.

*ii* The People's participation is forthcoming in the area in a satisfactory measure.

*iii* This should serve the special needs of the area inhabited by backward classes and scheduled tribes.

*iv* There is a possibility of bringing about an early increase in agricultural production in the area, due to ready availability of irrigation, etc.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—On account of the general backwardness of our rural areas, it is difficult to single out a particular area or areas a "most backward". This is specially so, when no detailed socio-economic surveys are available.

**Kachakhana-Golakganj Public Works Department Road**

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj)** asked :

223. Will the Minister for Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Kachakhana-Golakganj Public Works Department Road was taken up in 1953 by the State Government?

(b) What is the mileage of the road?

(c) Whether Government is aware that the road has not yet been completed for public thoroughfare?



**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH** [Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied :

223.(a)—No. It was taken up in November 1954.

(b)—10 miles.

(c)—Yes, due to delay in land acquisition the road could not be completed. However, action is being taken to expedite acquisition and complete the work early.

**Assistant Political Officer of the Abor Hills Transferred Area**

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA** (Saikhowa) asked :

224. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Abor Hills transferred area has been placed under the administration of one Assistant Political Officer under the State since its transfer from N.-E. F. A.?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Assistant Political Officer could not reside within his territorial jurisdiction for want of accommodation and is residing at Dibrugarh at present?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that the people of this transferred area have been moving the authorities to have the Assistant Political Officer's office within that area?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that Jonai is suitable for the headquarters of the Assistant Political Officer which is free from flood trouble?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that some of the people of this transferred area are to enter the Abor Hills in N. E. F.A. to have jobs under forest and other departments there and for entry in that area passes or entry permissions are to be given to them by the Assistant Political Officer?



- (*f*) Whether Government are aware that no officer or staff under the Assistant Political Officer except the interpreter resides within that area to help and guide the people ?
- (*g*) Whether it is a fact that the people of that area are to come to Dibrugarh to have a pass from their Assistant Political Officer or for other purposes of day to day administration ?
- (*h*) Whether the Government are aware that communication to this area is very difficult and one is to cross the mighty Brahmaputra at the risk of his life ?
- (*i*) Whether Government propose to construct building, etc., this year for the purpose of offices and residence of the Assistant Political Officer of Abor Hills Transferred area at Jonai ?
- (*j*) If so, when the Assistant Political Officer will be in a position to shift his office from Dibrugarh to Jonai ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)**  
replied :

224.(a)—Yes.

(*b*)—Yes. During the high floods of 1951, the headquarters of the Assistant Political Officer were transferred to Dibrugarh temporarily and have been shifted to Jonai on 11th January 1958.

(*c*)—Yes.

(*d*)—The headquarters have been already shifted to Jonai as already stated because this place was considered suitable.

(*e*)—Officers of this State Government do not issue passes for entry into areas in N. E. F. A.—this is done by Political Officers of North-East Frontier Agency.

(*f*)—No. The whole office staff is at Jonai since after the transfer of headquarters.



(g) —No.

(h)—Yes. During monsoon it becomes difficult to cross the Brahmaputra when it rises.

(i) —Plans and Estimates have already been submitted by the Deputy Commissioner for construction of office and quarters and the work will be taken up as soon as possible.

(j)—Does not arise in view of the reply against (b) above.

### De-reservation of Kacharijan V. G. R.

**Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)** asked :

225. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government has lately received petitions from the landless tribal families numbering about 80 of Sarubari and Hagoltoli Villages in Ghagua Mouza, Nowgong District, now residing in Kacharijan V. G. R. of Ghagua Mouza, for de-reservation of Kacharijan V. G. R. and give them settlement ?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to consider their prayer for granting settlement in Kacharijan V. G. R. ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue)** replied :

225. (a)—Government received a petition dated, 13th November 1957 from Shri Bhubaneswar Kongar for de-reservation of land from the Kacharijan V. G. R. for settlement with landless tribal people.

(b)—A report has been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong on that petition.

### Registration Certificates to Homeopathic Practitioners

**Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi: (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]** asked :

226. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Assam Government decided to issue Registration certificate to the Homeopathic practitioners ?



- (b) If so, why the Homeopathic practitioners are not yet registered ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Central Government has directed to the State Government for popularising the Homeopathic system of medicine ?
- (d) If so, how far Assam Government has proceeded in this matter ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the Homeopathic Association demanded for establishing a Medical College at Gauhati ?
- (f) If so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter ?

**Shri RUP NATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister)**  
replied :

226. (a)—Yes.

(b)—A Board of Homeopathic system of medicine has been constituted and the question of registration of Homeopathic practitioners will be taken up by the Board as soon as the Rules framed under the Homeopathic Medicine Act, 1955, are finally approved and published.

(c)—Government have not received any such direction so far.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Government have no information.

(f)—Does not arise.

**Regarding function of Grade I, Grade II and Grade III Overseers**

**Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East)** asked :

227. Will the Minister of Public Works Department be pleased to state —

- (a) The strength of Grade I, Grade II and Grade III overseers separately ?
- (b) Whether there is any difference of function of Grade III overseers from those of Grade I and Grade II overseers ?
- (c) What are the present scale of pay of different Grades of overseers ?



- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Grade III overseers have not been given the benefit of house-rent, etc., to which the Grade I and Grade II overseers are entitled ?
- (e) Whether Government have lately received representation to the above effect from Grade III overseers relating to their grievances ?
- (f) If so, whether Government propose to remove the grievances of Grade III overseers, with a view to ensure their future security of service ?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department)** replied :

227.—(a) The strength of Grade I, Grade II and Grade III overseers in Roads and Buildings Wing is 380, 59 and 150 respectively.

(b)—Yes. Appointment to overseers Grade I is made from persons who are fully qualified and trained in recognised Technical Institutions for a period of 3 (three) years or so.

As there is dearth of such technically qualified personnel in the country, as an interim arrangement, persons with lesser qualifications, *i. e.*, those who have passed the second years course or got plucked in the Final Examination of recognised institutions or have been gained experience in engineering practice for a number of years and are considered on test or interview as suitable for the work they are intended to, are appointed as Grade II. They are placed in charge of small sections or as draftsman for minor works, etc. Similarly, owing to dearth of technically qualified personnel some boys who have passed Matriculation and Intermediate Examinations with Mathematics were trained by the Department, for a period of one year in a short term course and appointed as overseer Grade III. They are placed under Grade I overseer or in-charge of very small sections or specific minor construction jobs or in drawing Branches.

(c)—The present scales of pay are as follows :—

(i) Overseers Grade I—Rs.125—7½—155—9—245—  
(E. B.)—10—275 (Regular).

Rs.200—10—260—15—350—(Contract).

(ii) Overseers Grade II—Rs.100—6—160—(E. B.)—8—200.

(iii) Overseers Grade III—Rs.75—4—115—(E. B.)—4—135—5—150.



(d) & (e)—At present, only Grade I overseers are entitled to rent free quarters or Rs.20 per month in lieu thereof and not Grade II or Grade III overseers.

Question of extending concession in respect of rent free quarter or in lieu a house rent allowance to them is under consideration of Government.

(f)—This is under consideration of the Government.

**Bifurcation of the D. K. Road from Tamarhat to Gossaigaon via Shrirampur**

**Shri MATHIAS TUDU (Gossaigaon)** asked:

228. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the bifurcation of the D. K. Road *via* Shrirampur up to Gossaigaon from Tamarhat has been completely taken up by the Public Works Department?

(b) If not, why not?

(c) When will it be taken up?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, P. W. D. (Roads and Buildings Wing)]** replied:

228. (a)—No. Only 6.5 miles of Tamarhat-Harafuta-Gossaigaon Road have been taken up by Public Works Department under the Second Five Year Plan.

(b)—} Owing to limitation of funds the remaining } length could not be included in the Second

(c)—} Five Year Plan or in any other approved } scheme, and as such could not be taken up. This will be considered when funds become available and the scheme meets with the recommendation of Sub-divisional Development Committee and Assam Road Communication Board.

**Buildings for Medical Health Units in the Gauhati Subdivision.**

**Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari)** asked:

229. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

(a) When Medical Health Units were sanctioned in the Gauhati Subdivision?



- (b) What progress has been made in the construction of the Buildings of the above Health Units ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that no action has been taken up-till now for construction of the buildings of the said Health Units ?
- (d) If so, why ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps for construction of the buildings of the Health Units ?

**Shri RUP NATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister)** replied :

229. (a)—In August/November, 1957.

(b)—Construction work of the buildings at Boko, Azara, Sualkuchi, Nalbari has been taken up this year.

(c)— }  
 (d)— } Do not arise.  
 (e)— }

**Co-operative Jute Baling Society in the District of Nowgong**

**Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding)** asked :

230. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a Co-operative Jute Baling Society has been formed in the District of Nowgong ?
- (b) If so, what number of shares have been sold so far and what is the paid up share capital of the said society till the end of 1957 and bank account, if any ?
- (c) What is the monthly establishment expenditure incurred by Government for the Society since inception ?
- (d) Who are the personnel employed in this Society with their respective designation and monthly pay ?
- (e) What is the total quantity of jute baled so far and marketed ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education for Minister, Co-operative)** replied :

230. (a)—Yes.

(b) (i)—Number of shares sold—305.

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(ii)—Paid up share capital—Rs.2,450.

(iii)—Bank Account—Rs.2,239 till the end of December, 1957.

(c)—Government has sanctioned a subsidy of an amount of Rs.2,500 in 1956-57 for maintenance of staff by the society. Besides that no other expenditure was incurred by Government for the establishment of the Society.

(d)—The following are the personnel employed by the Society.

Name	Designation	Monthly pay
1. Shri Ila Ram Das	Secretary	Pay at Rs. 150 per mensem.
2. Shri Phani Sarma	Office Assistant	Pay at Rs. 65 per mensem.

(e)—The Society has not yet started baling of Jute as it has not yet been able to purchase necessary machinery for the purpose for want of Funds.

### Cost of production per unit of electricity in Umtru

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur)** asked :

231. Will the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—
- What is the cost of production per unit of electricity in Umtru ?
  - What is the rate realised per unit of electricity at Gauhati from consumers ?
  - What was the rate charged by the Gauhati Electricity Company before the same was taken over by Government ?
  - Whether Government propose to reduce this rate and make electricity available at cheaper rates to the people within the jurisdiction of Umtru ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge of Electricity)** replied :

231. (a)—The cost of production per unit of electricity in Umtru is as follows :—

- Generation at Power House—0.656 annas.
- At Gauhati Sub-station—1.011 annas.
- At consumer's terminal—1.214 annas.



(b)—The rates charged from general consumers for various categories are :—

(i) Lights and fans—45 N.P., per KWH gross, rebate 5 N.P., net 40 N.P. per KWH.

(ii) Heating, cooking, etc.—25 N.P. per KWH gross, rebate 5 N.P., 20 N.P. net per KWH.

(c)—Rates charged by the Gauhati Electricity Company before the undertaking was taken over by Government were :—

(i) Lights—3 annas per KWH gross, 1 anna rebate, 7 annas per KWH net.

(ii) Fans 6 annas per KWH gross, rebate nil, 6 annas per KWH net.

(iii) Lights and fans combined—6 annas per KWH gross, rebate nil, 6 annas per KWH net.

(d)—The rates are uniform for all State undertakings over the State. No special preference is given to consumers in Umtru area. However, some representations for lowering the tariff rates have been received and these are now under examination.

### Assam Agricultural College

**Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon)** asked :

232. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) Why the Post-graduate classes in some of the subjects are not yet introduced in the Assam Agricultural College ?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for not being introduced ?

(c) Whether there is any scheme before the Government for starting Post-graduate classes in one of the agricultural subjects at present ?

(d) If so, what decision has been arrived at by the Government ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education for Minister, Agriculture)** replied :

232. (a) There is a proposal for opening a Post-graduate course (in tea) in the Assam Agricultural College and its syllabus is under preparation of the Gauhati University. It is not considered necessary at the moment to open post-graduate course in any other subject.



(b) As stated above the syllabus is still under preparation of the Gauhati University.

(c) None except the course in tea.

(d) Does not arise.

**Ambulance Vehicles used during the last Congress Session at Pragjyotishpur**

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur)** asked :

233. Will the Minister for Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Ambulance Vehicles attached to various Civil Hospitals in Assam were brought down to Pragjyotishpur during the last Congress Session ?

(b) If so, how many Vehicles and from which Hospitals these were brought ?

(c) What arrangement was made for carriage of patients in emergency cases in those Hospitals from where the Ambulance Vehicles was requisitioned for use at Pragjyotishpur ?

**Shri RUP NATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical)** replied :

233. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Six Vehicles under the Civil Surgeons, Goalpara, Kamrup, Nowgong, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills, Sibsagar, Darrang were brought.

(c)—Instructions were given to utilise hired Vehicles, if necessary.

**Number of Hospitals and Dispensaries in the District of Kamrup receiving Government aid**

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur)** asked :

234. Will the Minister for Medical be pleased to state—

(a) The number of Hospitals and Dispensaries that are given Government aid in the District of Kamrup ?

(b) On what basis this grant-in-aid is given ?



**Shri RUP NATH BRAHMA ( Minister, Medical )**  
replied :

234 (a)—Fifty-six Local Board Dispensaries are given Government aid in the District of Kamrup.

(b)—Grants are given for purchase of medicine and equipments, high prices of medicine and improvement of Dispensary buildings on the basis of recommendations of the Civil Surgeons concerned.

**Announcement of result of election to the Cottage  
Industries Board and Small Scale Industries and  
Handicraft Board**

**Mr. SPEAKER :** Now the Question hour is over. I hereby inform that the following Members are duly elected for Cottage Industries Board and the Small Scale Industries Board :

*1. For Cottage Industries Board—*

- (1) Shri Mohi Kanta Das,
- (2) Shrimati Usha Borthakur,
- (3) Shri Joga Kanta Baruah,
- (4) Shri Ram Prasad Choubey,
- (5) Shri Tamijuddin Pradhani,
- (6) Shri Gopesh Namasudra.

*2. For Small Scale Industries and Handicraft Board—*

- (1) Shri Abdul Hamid Choudhury,
- (2) Shri Harinarayan Barooah,
- (3) Shri Mohidhar Pegoo,
- (4) Shri Dhir Singh Deuri,
- (5) Shri Ram Nath Das,
- (6) Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar.



We shall now take up discussion on vote on account for expenditure in 1958-59.

### Discussion on Vote on Account Budget for 1958-59

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the vote on account for the month of April is concerned, we feel it necessary to refer to relevant provisions of the Constitution. Article 206 of the Constitution lays down—“Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this Chapter, the Legislative Assembly of a State shall have power—

(1) (a) to make any grant in advance in respect of the estimated expenditure for a part of any financial year pending the completion of the procedure prescribed in article 203 for the voting of such grant and the passing of the law in accordance with the provisions of article 204 in relation to that expenditure ;

(b) to make a grant for meeting an unexpected demand upon the resources of the State when on account of the magnitude or the indefinite character of the service the demand cannot be stated with the details ordinarily given in an annual financial statement ;

(c) to make an exceptional grant which forms no part of the current service of any financial year ;

and the Legislature of the State shall have power to authorise by law the withdrawal of moneys from the Consolidated Fund of the State for the purpose for which the said grants are made.”

Now so far as Article 206 (b) is concerned, this item does not come under (b)” because it is not an unexpected demand that comes all on a sudden to meet, nor does it come under (c). It is not an exceptional grant. So only it can come under (a). We have to scrutinise (a) and see whether it comes under Art. 206. So far as Art. 203(2) is concerned, it says:—

“So much of the said estimates as relates to other expenditure shall be submitted in the form of demands for grants to the Legislative Assembly, and the Legislative Assembly shall have power to assent, or to refuse to assent, to any demand, or to assent to any demand subject to a reduction of the amount specified therein.” So it is necessary to have the sanction of the Legislature. Unless that is done, no money can be spent. Now my submission is whether this demand can be brought under Art. 206(a). It cannot be. This visualises a situation where suppose the demand for grant is being discussed in this House and within 31st of March it cannot be finished then it is an exceptional thing when this cannot be completed



within 31st March and then the Vote on Account can be brought in this manner. Only in that eventuality and in no other eventuality it can be done. It visualises only 3 eventualities (1) when the matter is pending before the House, (2) procedural things are going on, and (3) in such contingency alone that vote on account can be brought under Art. 206(a). Now my submission is that if we are to respect the Constitution, if the correct interpretation of Art. 206(a) is made, this vote on account cannot be brought before the House. My second point is that even regarding this matter the explanation given is not really convincing. What is the explanation, let us see? It says—"The advance is necessary to meet the essential expenditure for about a month from the 1st April, 1958 as it will not be possible for the Assembly to finish its discussions on the Budget estimates in details before the end of the current financial year". As a matter of fact this matter has been brought before the House, before we have started discussion on the budget; we do not know whether we shall be able to finish the budget discussion within 31st March or not. Before the budget discussion has been started and even before that this matter has been brought before the House. Then in the explanation it is said—"The delay in presentation of the Budget estimates is due to the fact that the Planning Commission's approval to our annual Plan proposals for the next year were received late". We also do not understand why there should be delay. Last year when even there was the general election no delay was caused. Now there is no general election; it is a normal year. So so far as the Planning Commission is concerned what is the reason for this delay and therefore we are not convinced about the justification for bringing this vote on account. So far as the money is concerned we are not so much concerned—it will be about 1/12th of the total amount. It may be required or it may not be required. But it is a question of principle. It is very important. Once we concede to this, it may be perennial feature in this House. Whenever there will be delay Government will come up with the demand under Art. 206(1)(a). So it is not regular from that point of view. I spoke a few days ago about the Financial year. It is all the more essential that we should try to change our financial year. Because of this, when I spoke on the Supplementary Demand last time, the Finance Minister was pleased to say that he also agreed with it. This shows that it is all the more necessary to change our financial year and stick to the dates of the financial year, otherwise we shall be in a big mess afterwards. Now therefore my submission for this is that a question of principle is involved here which is



very important and I do not think it can be brought under Art. 206(1)(a). Secondly this case should further strengthen our case regarding change of financial year and this should serve as enough justification for the matter being pursued. We can put our case strongly before the Central Government for changing the financial year in our country which should be changed from 1st of April to 31st March to 1st of October to 30th September. I believe if we put up our case in a correct manner, in a proper manner, our proposal may be accepted.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Leader of the Opposition has raised this point whether this vote on account can come under Article 206(1)(a). My submission is that Art. 206(1)(a) was contemplated exactly for such an eventuality. Now what is the eventuality? Are the Government of Assam to be blamed for this? Let us look at the facts and examine the matters.

Sir, at the outset I have to submit that I thought it would be proper for the Government to come forward with a Vote on Account before the elected representatives of the people in this House as they should have a good opportunity to scrutinise and criticise it as the amount is going to be spent from the Consolidated Fund of the State Government. I am not sure if we were to rush through with the Budget within the 31st March. In any event, I think there is no justification on the part of the Leader of the Opposition to request the Chair in this matter to allow discussion for a bare minimum of one or two days and then try to pass the Budget within 31st March.

Now during these years within the plan period, the Provincial Budget has been inter-woven with the decision of the Planning Commission to grant more money. If we could have framed the Budget without the decision of the Planning Commission we would not have certainly come before the House twice in this matter. So with a view to give facility to the honourable Members of this House to scrutinise it and have a thorough discussion about it that Government have thought it fit to come before the House with a Vote on Account. I submit, it is only the proper course in a democratic country like ours.

The point raised by the Honourable Leader of Opposition is relevant as well as justified with regard to the change of the financial year. In my personal consideration—(I do not think of view) the financial year should be definitely changed. In this



respect we are in correspondence with other States whether they are of the same view. As we all know that the climatic conditions and circumstances of different States vary, perhaps, all the States have not been able to come to an agreement as to the month when the financial year should begin. I think it will take a little time before the Central Government could make up their mind whether it would be feasible to change the financial year. But at any rate, the subject has been agitating the mind of the State Government as well as the Central Government.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** The Leader of the Opposition has raised an important point and the Honourable Finance Minister has replied to that. I would like to call the attention of the House to the relevant portion, *i. e.*, Article 206 (1) (a) of the Constitution of India which runs as follows :—

“(a) to make any grant in advance in respect of the estimated expenditure for a part of any financial year pending the completion of the procedure prescribed in Article 203 for the voting of such grant and the passing of the law in accordance with the provisions of article 204 in relation to that expenditure ;”

So far as the particular Vote on Account is concerned I may take the House into confidence and give the background. When the Government was not in a position to place the Budget for unforeseen reasons I suggested to the Chief Minister, who is the Leader of the House that the Vote on Account should be for a short period. He readily agreed and therefore, the Vote on Account is only for a month and not for longer period.

Now as this involves procedural delay, making it difficult for the Assembly to pass the Budget within the specified date, *i. e.*, on 31st March, a Vote on Account was prepared for the House after the Budget was placed before the House on 14th March 1958 ; therefore, it conforms to the requirements of Article 206 (1) (a).

In reply to the point raised by the Leader of the Opposition, I could only say that it is known to him as well as the entire House that the business of the House has already been fixed and Schedules prepared. Therefore, it is obvious it could not be passed before 31st March. The Vote on Account Budget therefore conforms to the requirements of Article 206 (1) of the Constitution. I have nothing more to observe except that perhaps the change of the financial year, which I notice is agreed to both by the Government and the Opposi-



tion, would make it convenient for the House to discuss the Budget without bringing a Vote on Account.

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):**  
 Sir, with regard to the question of Vote on Account I would like to place some suggestions. It is quite clear that as the area of Governmental activities is increasing and will be further increasing, this sort of difficulty will crop up as both the Finance Minister and the Leader of the Opposition have stated. Everything seems to be vague which will in future bring us face to face with this difficulty. So, in the matter of change of the financial year, I think, the Government (not only the Finance Minister in his individual capacity) as a whole should move the Central Government so that better adjustment with regard to financial year could be made.

In so far as Article 206 is concerned, there is a corresponding Article 116. In the case of Article 206 as the Budget is pending and as the Members would get a chance for making a detailed observation, the provisions of the Articles 202 to 204 are not possible to be complied with within the short space of time. Provisions must be made to keep the business of the Government running because so far as our existing budget is concerned the time limit is 31st March. If the Appropriation Act is not passed and signed by the Governor before that date, not a single pie can be drawn from the consolidated fund. In this connection I may, without divulging any secret, submit that on a previous occasion the Accountant General found fault with Appropriation Act itself, because the signature of the Governor was not obtained before the 1st April, that is to say, so far as that matter was concerned, when the signature of the Governor was not obtained at a particular hour of the 1st of April from the technical point of view it was not strictly legal to draw any money from the consolidated fund. Now, this time we find that so far as the Assam Appropriation Bill No. 3 is concerned it is scheduled to be passed on the 30th day on April. So, if we pass the Bill on that very day and if the Governor may not sign on that day it will happen that no amount on that account can be drawn on the 1st of May. We are to consider whether in the absence of the Governor that thing can be brought earlier or not. Why should we wait for the last moment to get his signature? Because after all there may be "many a slip between the cup and the lip". So, Sir, I draw the attention of the House to see whether it will be advisable to keep it pending to the last moment or whether some adjustment can be made for passing it earlier.



There is another thing which has been said in the Governor's speech ; but this I am not going to discuss. But so far as voting on accounts is concerned, as I have said at the very outset, it is more or less a formal matter and we shall get ample opportunity to discuss the principle of the budget and also the demands and their minor and detailed heads when we shall have the detailed discussion on the Voting on Demands. So, I am not going to discuss about it now. In the Governor's remark put under this account there were some observations and these observations were about the difficulties in preparing the budget and one of the difficulties is due to the non-receipt of the sanctions of certain things from the Government of India.

Under our planned economy in the First Five-Year Plan and more so under the Second Five Year Plan, we have to depend to a great extent on the sanction of the Central Government, and if the Central Government send their sanction at the last moment then whatever accusation we may make about our Government officers and whatever fault may be found about delay in the matter of accounting and so forth those officers or this Government cannot be blamed. But we always find that at the last moment there is always a hurry. A discussion was raised the other day and we participated in it and it was then pointed out that if we do not get sanction of a certain grant within a certain time then that grant will lapse and so we had to do things in a hurry, and that if things are done in a hurry it is only natural that there will be some amount of wastage. If there is some wastage of money from any private pocket then there is not much to be considered, but when the public fund is handled we have got no right to waste any money or to make any infructuous expenditure on any work even upto a pie or a single Naya Paise. Therefore, when we come to this sort of voting on account we should not take it purely as a matter of formality, as laid down under the Constitution, but we should take it as an important matter, because if we are to effect some amount of economy in a Department under the financial stringency some amount of economy shall have to be made. Every one should understand that we should not make reckless disbursement simply because there is a grant under a certain head. If we in Assam cannot really make useful expenditure and cannot utilise a particular amount I think it is better for us to surrender that amount to the Central Government. If we cannot spend that money let some other part of India spend that money, because after all we are a part and parcel of India. I find sometimes that there is a feeling in our State as in some



other States that "let us have as much money from the Government of India as we possibly can whether we can utilise it or not". I think this is not a good idea to re-appropriate that money on other accounts when we cannot utilise it for the purpose earmarked. If we cannot utilise it we should make voluntary surrender, because India is one and we have no right to make any wastage. In this connection my suggestion is that we should not allow to lapse or surrender lakhs and crores of rupees. There should rather be more earnestness to make good expenditure in Assam so that there may not be any anxiety for surrender. In this connection one difficulty that we feel is about procedural difficulty. The financial rules, the treasury rules, the rules in the Budget Manual, etc., were made at the time when the budget was of a limited nature, when the State was more or less a police State. Now, there has been a great change. There is not only a quantitative change, but we have reached a stage where there is also a qualitative change and under the circumstances the limited procedural rules, instead of any help often times become a hindrance. There must be some revision of our financial rules and some other rules in view of the fact that there has been a great deal of change in the sphere of activities of the State and also there has been a great expansion in our constructive and welfare works. We have a tendency to put all blame on the officers whenever there is some amount of wastage and in the case of the officers we generally catch hold of the small fries and big officers like controlling officers escape and even in case of a gross irregularity they escape with admonition. But the point is that they are also responsible in such circumstances. Any mistake or irregularity is not always intentional or due to any negligence but to a very great extent due to pressure of work and due to the financial rules being out of context of the present position in the State. In this connection I make a submission to the Government that Government should consider whether and how far these financial rules, treasury rules, rules in the Budget Manual can apply so far as different controlling and disbursing officers are concerned, how far they need revision so that there is more initiative in the hands of the lower rung of the ladder. If we give more initiative to these local officers and at the same time if they are put under the supervision (I don't mean control, but only supervision) of elective popular bodies, then there will be greater popular control and greater popular participation in the Governmental activities. And then the new society which we are going to build—a society of popular democracy (not exactly the society of British Parliamentary Democracy), the society of popular democracy in the Indian context, will be brought about. Up till now, we have followed in the main



the British procedure, but in Great Britain there is no planned economy; there is no First Five Year Plan or Second Five Year Plan. But here not only did we undertake the First Five Year Plan, we are in the midst of the Second Five Year Plan and we visualise that there will be many more plans. We are, in fact, in the midst of a planned economy. So, every British procedure and British rule of finance will not serve our purpose for all time to come. Therefore, Sir, in this connection I beg to impress it upon the Government to make a thorough scrutiny of the financial rules that are existing in our State and to see if they can be made up-to-date and in conformity with the growing demands of the people for the reconstruction and development activities of the State.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I want to bring to the notice of the House the purport and significance of the practice of Vote on Accounts. I can do no better than quote a Ruling from Speaker Mavalankar in this connection:

"The procedure for voting on account is designed to give the members a longer time for discussion on the Budget by putting the same off to convenient dates after the 31st March. The principle of the practice is that the House ought to grant sufficient funds to Government to enable it to carry on till the demands are scrutinised and voted upon. In this procedure, as full discussion follows, the grant of supply for the interim period on the motion for voting on account is always treated as a formal one just like a motion for leave to introduce a Bill or the introduction of a Bill. I trust the hon. members will appreciate this position and treat voting on account as a formal affair as they would have a full opportunity to discuss the demands for grants in a detailed manner later.....On this understanding of the matter and on the assumption that it will be agreeable to the members to treat the motion for voting on account as a formal affair, etc."

So, it is merely a formal affair and the hon. Members will have a fuller opportunity to discuss the Budget as well as the individual demands for grants. Therefore this is a formal affair.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):**  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Bhattacharyya said something about wasteful expenditure. We all deplore it, but if his insinuation is that we indulge in it deliberately, I do not accept the suggestion.....

**Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):**  
There was no such insinuation. I regret if I have given that impression.



**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister) :**  
Thank you.

Again, Sir, Shri Bhattacharyya said that we should not stretch our hands and grab all the money we can get from the Centre if we cannot spend it, let it be spent by other parts of India. I agree with him. I hold the principle that India is one and indivisible. I remember having heard it from my school days "If India lives, who dies?" But, Sir, when I sit in the drawing-room or Durbar Hall of the Rashtrapati Bhavan at Delhi, I cannot also forget my cottage in Assam. I cannot but remember that I am a Minister of Assam and I have to do my humble best to get as much money as I can from the Centre. This is my only feeling and I am thankful to Mr. Bhattacharyya for giving me this opportunity to express it.

As regards scrutiny and examination of the financial rules and forms, I think we all agree that there should be revision of these rules and they should be brought in tune with the change of emphasis in the administration, with a view to speedy disposal of our work. On this subject, I have said all that I had to say in my Budget Speech. But I simply cannot understand what is the distinction that Shri Bhattacharyya sought to make between parliamentary democracy and popular democracy. To us it is one and the same thing. If there is any other form of democracy, I confess I am not used to it.

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):**  
In Great Britain there is no planned economy by the State. There are no Five Year Plans. But we in India are making a planned economy with greater and direct popular participation in it.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** I would not quarrel with him on this matter because it all depends on what colour of spectacles one wears. In this State we had our First Five Year Plan and we are in the midst of the Second Five Year Plan. We view the plan from one angle and may be Mr. Bhattacharyya, views it from another.....

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA:** I was making a comparison with Great Britain. In Great Britain there is no planned economy.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH :** Well I do not know. But I think our control of public finance and the rules thereunder are on the lines of parliamentary democracy. While I admit that they need change—and radical change in many points—I submit that even the latest treaties on control and regulation of public finance enjoins that there should be stricter regulation and stricter control of public finance. I have only to conform to it and I can assure the House that we shall try to



live up to the tradition of parliamentary democracy as we have adopted. I think I have done, Sir.

**Half-an-hour discussion on Unstarred Question No.148 asked by Shri Pakhirai Deka on 11th March, 1958 under Mangaldai Arts College under Assembly Rule 49.**

**Mr. SPEAKER :** There is a notice for half-an-hour discussion given by Shri Lalit Kumar Doley and supported by Shri S. S. Terang, Shri Baikuntha Nath Das, Shri Dwijesh Chandra Deb Sarmah, Shri G. Talukdar, Shri Hakim Chandra Rabha, Shri Chatrasing Teron and Shri Mohidhar Pegoo. This discussion is in respect of the Unstarred Question No.148 of 11th March.

The hon. Member will make the statement which will take about ten minutes, another ten minutes will be taken by the Minister replying and another 5 minutes may be utilised by those who supported.

**Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful that I have been permitted to raise a discussion on the subject arising out of the Unstarred Question No.148 asked by Shri Pakhirai Deka with regard to an award of grant of Rs.20,000 to the Mangaldoi College, where there was not a single Plains Tribal student. I would have been more glad if my words on behalf of the Tribal people were raised by my fellow Members belonging to non-Tribal areas. I feel, a certain amount of shyness as I stand to speak of the Tribal people as I directly belong to a Reserved Seat, and that in this matter, I shall be speaking specially about Plains Tribal people. I feel that there would be no good atmosphere in this because other non-Tribal Members feel for the Tribal people also. Here, I will simply speak about the grants of money under Article 275(1). There is an implication that these grants should be made as far as practicable to the predominantly Plains Tribal areas and these grants should be made also on the percentage basis of population or students in a particular institution. But in this connection, it is strange to see that where there was not a single Plains Tribal student in this Mangaldoi College a large sum of money of Rs.20,000 has been granted and in answer to the question it was stated by the Chief Minister that even though the institution had no Plains Tribal students but it was likely that there would be possibilities of Plains Tribal students coming to the College and that was the reason why this grant



was made. I quite agree with that. This is a good gesture of the Government that the grant was given with the hope of having Plains Tribal students in the College. But, Sir, at the same time, I want to know why this grant should be made when there was no Plains Tribal students in this College at the cost of other more deserving institutions which are in urgent need of such grants? I shall show examples of other institutions where such a grant would have been better utilised and would have given immediate benefit to the Plains Tribal students. That is why I feel that Government should have certain procedure through which these grants should be distributed.

Another thing is that other Members will give co-operation in this respect although it relates to the Plains Tribal people who are not as advanced as other advanced communities and that is why there is some special provisions made in the Constitution of India for these Plains Tribal people. "Co-operation is the greatest word of the age," wrote an Englishman "With co-operation we can command peace, harmony and concord without chaos, confusion and ruins. There can really be no co-operation between the inferiors and superiors. Try as they may, there must come a time when the element of superiority will seek to dictate and the inferior ones will resent such dictation. It logically follows, therefore, that unless an honest effort is made to raise the inferiors up to the prestige of the superiors and the latter can suffer it, all our talks of co-operation is so much an empty gas". Without co-operation we cannot avoid difficulties, there will be chaos and confusion. There can be no co-operation when there is an element of superiority which seeks to dictate to the inferiors and for the suffering of the inferiors false prestige of the superiors cannot be allowed to go on. Co-operation is an essential factor. That is how an Englishman wrote. So the relation between the Tribal and non-tribal people is one of co-operation and helping the down trodden towards advancement and progress. Of course, this very reservation for the Plains Tribal means parochialism but even then there are certain problems for which this reservation had to be made and the Constitution has made it so. I feel that this reservation will be abolished sooner or later and the grants meant for Plains Tribal people and Scheduled Castes will disappear. So far as regards Plains Tribal, I feel that there is hardly such distinct areas in our State where Plains Tribal people live together in a broad sense. They are living in mixed areas with



others, *i. e.*, non-Tribal people. In a meeting of the Advisory Board I made some comments that why the grant meant for Plains Tribal was not entirely given for Plains Tribal students. At that time, there was no question that Plains Tribal people do not live in a distinct area. There were grants consisting of 50 per cent from the Centre and 50 per cent from the State Government. My object of saying was that the grant was not entirely to the benefit of the Plains Tribal people but of other people as well. I feel sometime that non-Tribal people think that the Plains Tribal people are getting exclusive grants but it is not a fact. There is no institution where only the Plains Tribal students are studying. There are institutions where large amounts are granted but there are not a large number of Plains Tribal students. The grants meant for Plains Tribal students also go to the benefit of the non-Tribal students. Therefore, I feel that other students who do not belong to this category are also enjoying the benefits of these grants. I want to make it clear in this House that by these grants the Plains Tribal people are not getting exclusive benefit. That is why I want to raise this question that these reservations more or less go to the benefit of non-Tribal students also.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The hon. Member has exceeded his time.

**Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** I am finishing in a few minutes, Sir.

Now, Sir, I want that this grant of Rs.20,000 giving to the Mangaldai College where, as I have said, there is not a single tribal student, should be withdrawn. If it cannot be withdrawn, the Government will have to adjust it to other institutions which are most deserving for Government aid. As you know, Sir, there are many such institutions—schools and Colleges in areas predominantly inhabited by Tribals and where tribal students are in a majority, this grant can well be adjusted by giving to those institutions. Now my question is, are the Government ready to withdraw this grant from this Mangaldai College and adjust it to other more deserving institutions? My other request to Government is that they will please constitute a Committee in order to make planned and reasonable distribution of this tribal grant consisting of leading tribal people to advise Government in the matter.



**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education, etc.):** Mr. Speaker Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Member for giving us a chance to clarify a wrong impression which was created in this House as a result of a reply during the Question Hour. The question was, whether an amount of Rs. 20,000 was ever given from Article 275 (1) grant to Mangaldai Arts College in the two years, 1955-56 and 1957-58 and whether there are any tribal students in that College. The reply to these questions has created an impression that tribal money is being diverted to non-tribal purposes and it is for that reason very necessary that this matter should be clarified. Now, my Friend while moving his motion today very rightly said that two considerations should be attached while distribution of such grant is made (1) that this grant should be given to institutions where tribal students predominate, and (2) the number of tribal students should be considered. Now we have tried to verify the tribal population in Mangaldai. Our information is that out of the total population of 1 lakhs and odd, the tribal population is about 60,604. This shows that there is much concentration of tribal population in this area. It is for this reason that this local College which was started lately was deemed to be deserving of tribal grant. With regard to the actual position whether there are any tribal students there, well if there are no tribal students today, naturally there will be tomorrow in a place where, as I have said, there is huge concentration of tribal population as it should be in a planned economy.

Sir, while I was in Europe I was told a very interesting story. I was told that in western countries a family before it produces a child, make all necessary arrangements for it beforehand unlike the eastern countries. Here we produce children without making pre-arrangements for them but leave them to chance and fate. Being in a planned economy it is our task and duty to plan things ahead. Now, if you say that you do not need a college, that is a different matter, but if you do need a college in a particular area then you should plan to build hostels, laboratories, etc. So far Mangaldai is concerned, I myself know that there were many tribal students in that place between 1945 and 1951. So to say that there are no tribal students in Mangaldai is not correct. It may be that that the Mangaldai College was not up to the mark, or there was no hostel where these tribal students can put up or for some difficulties tribal students are not there in the



Mangaldai College. But from the planners' point of view the most important thing would be to see that in those areas where tribal population is concentrated, the tribal students are benefited. From that point of view the people who decided to make this grant must have done so.

As regards the suggestion to constitute a Committee for determination of this grant, I have no doubt that for distribution of grants under Article 275 of the Constitution all tribal Members of this House also have a hand. If that is not enough and if the hon. Members so desire that such a Committee should be set up, I have no doubt that Government will agree to set up such a Committee. There was no intention at all behind us to deprive the tribal people of any advantage. It was as a matter of fact for them this decision was made at the time, and as I have said, the planners who made this decision at the time must have taken all these things into consideration. Therefore, to suggest that this amount should be withdrawn seems to me to be rather going beyond the purpose for which the hon. Member intended to introduce this discussion. Not to speak only of grants under Article 275, from the general grants also it is not meant for the general population alone, but also for the upliftment and amelioration of the tribal people as well. Therefore to accept the suggestion of my Friend it will only create a difficult situation for the Government and it will create a difficult situation for all planners in future too.

I agree with him fully when he says that in the matter where tribals are concerned it should be the duty of every one of us to raise this question because if it is raised by tribal Members alone it would give a different colour. I have no doubt that all Members of this House have the best of intentions so far as tribal people are concerned. If all Members have not taken part in this discussion it is not because they do not desire to do so, but because of limitations put on us by rules and procedures; but I have no doubt that this matter has the sympathy of the entire House. In view of the clarification that I have indicated I hope my Friend will agree with me that there is no reason for him to advocate withdrawal of the grant in question but that there is all the more reason to make this College function successfully by building hostels and other buildings so that the tribal students who at present



have no place to stay and do not know where to go, can stay at the hostels; therefore the hostels are constructed for the benefit of the tribal students.

**\*Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS (Rangiya: Reserved for Scheduled Tribes):** Sir, on a point of clarification the Hon. Minister had said that the hostels are constructed for the benefit of the tribal students. May I request the Government that in the matter of constructing Colleges, Government will be pleased to do so in predominantly tribal areas so that the students may derive the full benefit in future?

**\*Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: (Minister, Education)** : As far as Government Colleges are concerned, for example in the Cotton College we are giving all the necessary facilities to the tribal students. The Government of India also I think have given adequate grants, stipends and free student-ship to the tribal students. Therefore, Government at present have no intention of building more colleges in Assam and as a matter of fact Assam has got a large number of colleges than is necessary. I think taking this view point into consideration, instead of multiply colleges in the State, the time has come to consolidate the colleges so that the standard of teaching as well as libraries, equipments, hostels, etc., may be improved and that the students may get better benefits.

**\*Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY (Moran: Reserved):** Sir, I am thankful to the Education Minister for the statement he made, but one point has not been clear to me. Has the grant been made for the construction of hostels and not for the college? If that is the case, that should have been the matter for consideration, but here the main issue is that grants should be made for construction of college buildings.

**\*Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** It is quite true, if the college itself is not there, then there is no question of constructing hostels. But here is a college started against the advice of the Government. We advised not to start it but it was started and therefore, accommodations, library, equipments, etc., are of most meagre character. Therefore to accommodate the students' hostels have to be constructed. I think it would have been a good thing if the college had not been started at Mangaldoi but it was started against the advice of the Government. Actually the tribal students of Mangaldoi could easily come and study in the Gauhati Colleges where all facilities have been

\*Speech not corrected.



provided for the tribal students. But this is an unfortunate case, Government tried their best to provide funds to the existing colleges where facilities have been given to the tribal students for which the purpose may be better fulfilled.

**Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS (Patachavkuchi: Reserved)**: Sir, may I ask one question.

**Mr. SPEAKER**: So far the discussion is over. With regard to this matter, I am sure you must have consulted the Assembly rules. Here the rule is very clear. You must have consulted the rules before you wanted to participate in this debate.

(Adjournment)

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A. M. on Monday, the 17th March, 1958.

Shillong  
The 7th February, }  
1959.

R. N. BARUA,  
Secretary,  
Legislative Assembly, Assam.



