

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 Thursday, the 24th April, 1958.

Presents—

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker in the Chair, the Eight Ministers, the Two Deputy Ministers and sixty-five Members.

Oath of Allegiance

The following Member was sworn in :—

1. Shri Nallindra Sangma.
-

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

(Starred Questions Numbers 166 and 167 standing in the names of Shri Prokritis Chandra Barua and Shri Hareswar Goswami respectively were not put and answered as the Questioners were absent.)

Progress of work for asphaltting the North Trunk Road

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALLA (Tezpur)
asked :

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

- (a) The progress made for asphaltting the North Trunk Road ?
- (b) The comparative progress made in Tezpur, Mangaldai, Gauhati, Barpeta, North Lakhimpur Subdivision milewise ?

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

168. (a)—Overall progress is 39·5 per cent, out of the total length of 131·75 miles, taken up.

(b)—*Tezpur Subdivision—*

Total Mileage—63·25 miles.

Overall Progress—40 per cent.

Mangaldai Subdivision—

Total Mileage—4·75 miles.

Overall Progress—53·5 per cent.

Gauhati Subdivision—

Total Mileage—28 miles.

Overall Progress—46 per cent.

Barpeta Subdivision—

Total Mileage—5·5 miles.

Overall Progress—51 per cent.

North Lakhimpur Subdivision—

Total Mileage—30·25 miles.

Overall Progress—7 per cent.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur) : May I know, Sir, the portion of road in which this 39·5 per cent in the Tezpur subdivision was asphalted ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Seventh mile full length, 21st mile full length and 22nd mile five furlongs.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : May I know from the Government, Sir, what are the reasons for such slow progress of work in North Lakhimpur subdivision ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : One of the reasons is difficulty in getting materials. The work was started from one end nearest to the quarry.

Shri CHATRA SING TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Why the progress was so slow in North Lakhimpur subdivision in comparison with other areas ?

Mr. SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister has already replied to that.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): With reference to reply to Question (b), may I know, Sir, whether the overall progress includes also the old asphaltting or is it the new asphaltting alone ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.): It is an overall progress because only 131 miles will be taken up and the progress that has been indicated here is out of this 131 miles.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS : Does it include the old asphalted portion ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I am not sure, Sir.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): What is the period covered in making this progress ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : This falls under the Five Year Plan period and the work will have to be completed within these five years, out of which 2 years have elapsed.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Two years ?

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur) : Was it not stipulated by the Government of India that portion of the North Trunk Road from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur, where there was no railway connection should get top priority ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Yes Sir, the Assam Road Communications Board also were of the opinion that priority should be given to that portion of the road which is not served by railways.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS : Is it not a fact that the progress of work in the North Trunk Road has been very slow ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Yes, Sir, I have already said that the work is evidently slow since it was started from one end. But it is expected that the tempo of progress would rise within the next three years. Physical difficulty is another cause for the slow progress of work.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur): Whether Government would give top priority to this portion of the road ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.): Yes, Sir, that is the endeavour of Government.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Will the Government be pleased to state why the original allotment of a portion of the North Trunk Road within Sissi Mouza was ultimately altered ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I require notice of that question, Sir.

Opium in Dibrugarh Treasury

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that about 1 maund of opium has been detected and seized by the Excise staff at Dibrugarh in the middle of last February (14th or 13th February) ?
- (b) If so, what is the exact amount of opium and the date of detection ?
- (c) Whether anybody has since been arrested in this connection ?
- (d) Whether the seized opium has been properly deposited in the Treasury ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that 1 (one) maund and 2 (two) seers and 8 (eight) chattaks of opium detected on or about 14th August, 1953 and deposited in the Dibrugarh Treasury disappeared and in lieu a lump of earth was found there ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to take sufficient care so that this maund of opium neither disappears nor replaced by some other material ?

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

169. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The quantity is one maund two seers and the date is 14th February, 1958.

(c)—Yes. Eight persons have been arrested.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes. The amount was 1 maund, 2 seers and 8 chattaks.

(f)—Yes. Sufficient precaution has been taken and the Deputy Commissioner has been asked to take special care for safe custody of the seized opium.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether it is a fact that this opium was detected in a motor car which was running from Sibsagar to Dibrugarh in the middle of February last ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Yes, Sir, that is so.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Whether it is a fact that this motor vehicle was fitted with a special secret box in which opium was found ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Yes, Sir.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Whether Government know that there is strong suspicion that this opium was imported by air to Rowroiya Air Field or by river to Desangmukh Ghat and similar import is usual into Assam.

Shri HARESWAR DAS : That is a mere conjecture—the opium might have been smuggled in that very car.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Whether Government propose to check all motor vehicles of Upper Assam to find out if they are fitted with secret boxes for opium smuggling ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise): Whenever there is any suspicion that is generally done.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): My question is whether Government propose to check all motor vehicles of Upper Assam periodically ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : No, Sir. Government do not propose to do so.

Financial aid to rear cattle, sheep and goats

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

*170. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of applicants who submitted their applications to the Deputy Commissioner, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills for financial aid to rear cattle, sheep, and goats during the year 1957-58 ?
- (b) The amount of money available for such grants ?
- (c) The amount still to be disbursed before the end of financial year ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister for Minister, Tribal Areas) replied :

170. (a)—The scheme for giving grants-in-aid to persons in the Autonomous districts for rearing cattle, fowls, pigs and other livestock during 1957-58 was executed by the Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department. He issued the advertisement in the *Assam Gazette*, the *Assam Tribune*, the *Natun Assamiya* and the *Janam Bhumi* calling for applications to reach him by 30th October, 1957.

The total number of applications received from the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District was 137.

(b)—The total amount for distribution in all the Autonomous districts was Rs.15,000. Out of this, a sum of Rs.5,100 was distributed to 13 deserving applicants from the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills district.

(c)—The entire amount for 1957-58 has been distributed.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): Whether such financial help will be extended to the general public who are willing to rear cattle, sheep, goats, etc., in other districts ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) : There is no such scheme.

Rev. J.J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Whether there were more applicants who have not been given any grant ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : No, Sir. The total amount under the scheme for all the autonomous districts was Rs.15,000, out of which Rs.5,100 was distributed to 13 deserving applicants from the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills district. The total number of applications received from the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills was 137.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Whether this financial aid is in form of grant or loan ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : This was a subsidy scheme.

Export of potatoes and vegetables from Shillong

Rev. J.J.M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

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

- (a) The amount of potatoes sent down to the plains from Shillong in the last three years 1954-55, 1955-56 and 1956-57 ?
- (b) The amount exported to Calcutta by Railway and by Steamer during the said three years ?
- (c) The average rate of freight per maund from Shillong to Gauhati during the said three years ?
- (d) The rate of Railway freight per maund from Gauhati to Calcutta during the said three years ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied :

171. (a)—

1954

1955

1956

1957

4,18,561 mds. 4,42,990 mds. 3,20,862 mds. 3,39,631 mds.

(b)—By Railway—

1954-55

1955-56

1956-57

6,647 mds. 20 srs.

20,190 mds. 20 srs

37,210 mds. 17 srs.

No potatoes were exported by Steamer during the said three years.

(c)—Rs. 1.87 nP.

(d)—Rs. 3.12 nP.

†**Rev. J.J.M. NICHOLS-ROY: [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]**: Whether Government have ascertained the reason why there has been low production of potatoes in the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills ?

***M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture)**: One of the reasons is the drought in the last year.

***Shri CHATRA SING TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]**: Whether Government have any organization for the marketing of potato production of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills?

***M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY**: We have got no separate organization for the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills, but there is a marketing organization of the Department for the whole State.

***Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY**: Whether Government have realized that this low production of potatoes in the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills is due to the distress of the people of the border areas ? In pre-partition days the border areas used to employ a lot of people from the upper ridges and they used to have a good production and exported their commodities to Pakistan, but due to the stoppage of export facilities there has been no work in the border areas and as a result lot of these people have been thrown out of employment.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid the hon. Member is making almost a speech.

*Speech not corrected

†**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** [**Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)**]: Whether these low rates of production are due to distress in the border areas ?

†**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** (**Chief Minister**): It is a fact that the people of the lower border areas used to employ a large number of people from other areas for fruit export, but since that trade has declined number of employment of these people is much less now and naturally the income of these people who used to earn a lot has gone down. But it is difficult to connect this with potato cultivation.

†**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** : Whether Government know that on account of the high freight of potatoes from Shillong to Gauhati the export of potatoes to Calcutta has been considerably reduced ?

†**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (**Minister, Agriculture**) : That is not correct. Export to Calcutta has actually increased in spite of the comparatively low production inside the State.

Shri CHATRA SING TERON [**Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)**]: Whether Government realize that the potato business in the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills is a monopoly of a few persons?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Government have no such information.

Shri CHATRA SING TERON: Whether Government have made any attempt to organize this potato trade into a co-operative society both for production as well as for marketing the production of this area?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: This is under contemplation.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY asked—

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

- (a) The amount of vegetables sent down from Shillong to Gauhati during 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 carried by the State Transport ?
- (b) The rate of freight from Shillong to Gauhati for vegetables ?
- (c) The rate of Railway freight for vegetables from Gauhati to Calcutta ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied—

172. (a)—

1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
17,652 mds. 10 srs.	18,535 mds. 15 srs.	20,418 mds.

(b)—

1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
Rs.1.25 nP.	Rs.1.00 nP.	Rs.1.00 nP.

(c)—

1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
Rs.4.69 nP.	Rs.5.00 nP.	Rs.5.31 nP.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): Sir, may I know from the Honourable Minister in-charge why Government does not reduce the rate of freight, on potato as the rate for vegetables from Shillong to Gauhati ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : This will be examined, Sir.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY asked—

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the export of the amount of Shillong potatoes to Calcutta has been reduced from year to year ?
- (b) If so, whether it is due to the high price of the Shillong potatoes in Calcutta that the demand has been decreased ?
- (c) Whether Government proposed to reduce the rate of freight from Shillong to Gauhati under the circumstances ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY replied—

173. (a)—No. It is on the increase as can be seen from the reply to Starred Question 171 (b) above.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—There is no such contemplation.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : Do the Government realise that the rate of freight on potatoes from Shillong to Gauhati is very high in comparison with the rate of freight from Gauhati to Calcutta ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture): Sir, if we compare the rate with the freight on other articles it is high. But this question can be examined.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Is it not a fact that the rate of freight on potatoes is Rs.2 per maund from Shillong to Gauhati?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, after all an operation must be economic. Freights are being calculated accordingly.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Sir, the fact is this that the rate of freight on potatoes is now Rs.2 per maund from Shillong to Gauhati while the rate of freight on vegetables is Re.1. So it is very high. Therefore, Government should realise that the rate of freight is very high in comparison with other articles.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the hon. Member may put a question about equating the rate of freight on potatoes.

Shri BISHWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi): Whether Government propose to have a cold storage for the purpose of stocking potatoes?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: A scheme for the purpose is under contemplation of the Government.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): When it is going to be started?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: It depends on various factors. It depends on availability of the foreign exchange and shipping space, etc.

Chairman of the Karimganj Municipality

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

*174. Will the Minister, Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Chief Minister received a representation, dated the 8th April 1958, from the M. L. As of Cachar regarding certain irregularities and illegalities committed by the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipality?

- (b) Whether the allegations have been enquired into and what steps have been taken against the Chairman ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

174. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, the allegations were enquired into and the Government have since directed the Deputy Examiner, Local Accounts, to conduct a special audit of the Board. The result of the special audit is awaited.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): 174(a). It is stated that a representation was made by the local Members of the Legislative Assembly of Cachar regarding certain irregularities and illegalities committed by the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipality. Sir, May I know what are those irregularities and illegalities?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: If the hon. Member wants I can place a copy of the representation which was received by the Government. The general complaint was made with regard to the inefficiency of the administration. There were complaints also with regard to injustice and abuse of power.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): May I know who was the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipality at that time?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Shri Ranendra Mohan Das.

Allegations against the former Director of Supply (Accounts) Shillong for his irregular payments of bills

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

*175. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that there are allegations against the former Director of Supply (Accounts), Shillong, for his irregular payments of bills of the defunct agencies in 1955-56 and 1956-57 ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the said officer will retire in the month of August 1958 ?
- (c) Whether it is also a fact that the said officer has been appointed by Government as a Special Officer in some Department ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

175. (a)—Audit objections have been received from Accountant General in respect of certain payments already made. All matters relating to defunct agencies are now being scrutinised by an officer of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service specially appointed by Government. His report is expected shortly.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon): Sir, may I know from the Government when some audit objections were raised against the officer, why, the officer has been appointed as special officer in some Department of the Government?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, receipt of audit objections by itself is nothing very unusual, till we can fix that the audit objections are backed by some sort of gross irregularities malpractices. Apart from this the officer was lent by some other Department of the Government. He was released to his Department and he had been given a posting.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Sir, with regard to this defunct agencies Government had promised on a previous occasion on the floor of this House that the part played by the officer with regard to this matter will be enquired into. I refer to the statement given by the present Finance Minister with regard to the activities of this officer just before the general elections. It was reported that the officer was running to Morigaon during the election times. It was promised by Government that some enquiry will be made.

M. MOINUL HOQUE CHOUDHURY: Because of the assurance the special audit was arranged and action will be taken on receipt of the report. Sir, actually in acting upon that assurance Govt. appointed an officer from the Indian Audit and Accounts Service and the officer is still working. When the report from the officer will be received necessary action will be taken.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla): When the report will be received?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : (Minister, Supply) I think, Sir, within a short time.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) : It is stated that the officer will retire from service in the month of August 1958. If the report is received in the meantime and if it is found that the officer is responsible for irregular payments of bills of the defunct agencies, then how Government will take steps to retire him?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Sir, it is a hypothetical question. How Government can announce its decision before receipt of the report?

Distressing condition of the people of the border areas of Khasi-Jaintia Hills and East Pakistan

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

*176. (a) Will the Minister of Tribal Areas be pleased to state whether he is aware of the distressing condition of the people of the border areas of Khasi-Jaintia Hills and East Pakistan?

(b) Whether he is aware that on account of the lack of proper food some villagers residing in border areas of the district are attacked by some kind of epidemic?

(c) Whether the Minister will be pleased to call for a report of the Civil Surgeon of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills, Shillong in connection with the epidemic in the village of Nongkwai, Khyrim Syiemship and lay a copy of the same on the table?

(d) Whether he is aware that in better days such food as the people eat now composed mainly of wild vegetables boiled together with a handful of rice, used to be given to pigs and cows and that the people due to low vitality cannot resist diseases?

(e) Whether the Minister is aware that such a deplorable conditions exists in many villages in the border area now?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister, for Tribal Areas) replied :

176. (a)—Yes. Government is aware of the economic hardships of the people of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District living in the areas adjoining East Pakistan.

(b)—Government has received reports that some persons have been suffering from fever, cough, coryza and influenza which are simple diseases aggravated by unbalanced diet and low power of resistance. Multi-vitamin tablets have been distributed free of cost in the affected areas.

(c)—Copy of the report is placed on the Library Table.

[Statement laid on the Library Table in reply to Starred Question No.176 (c)]

Copy of report dated Nil from Assistant Surgeon II in-charge Epidemic Duty, Khasi Hills Travelling Dispensary to the Civil Surgeon, Khasi and Jaintia Hills

With reference to your order dated Shillong, the 8th February, 1958, I have the honour to report that I have been to Nongkwai Village, to attend the Epidemic there on 9th February, 1958.

As told by the local people, the disease has started there from about the middle of December, 1957 ; which came with fever, cough, headache and pain in the joints. So far eight deaths was reported between December, 1957 to January, 1958.

I have examined and treated 169 cases, and of which 74 are in bed, whom I had to visit at their houses, all of them has got temperature, ranging between 100° and 101° with cough, intense headache and pain in the whole body. No lungs symptoms could be detected.

They got some relief in the next morning, after taking medicine. No deaths would have occurred had they given us timely information.

The people are extremely poor, the majority of them cannot afford to get rice ; their food is mainly wild vegetables, boiled together with a handful of rice. In better days such food was given to pigs and cows. Their vitality is low, and thereby cannot resist the disease.

Sd/- A. MUKHERJEE,

Civil Surgeon,

20th March, 1958

Khasi and Jaintia Hills.

(d)—The supply of foodstuffs from Pakistan like rice, fish, fowls, etc., to the adjoining areas of United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District has been greatly reduced since the dislocation of trade with Pakistan. Our local people have, therefore, to depend on Government supplies from Shillong supplemented by rice and other cereals like millet, maize, etc., grown by themselves locally with Government's active encouragement in the form of cash assistance and also with the advice of the Government agricultural staff. To this extent the people might not, therefore, have the same facilities to obtain the foodstuffs they used to get before the Partition nor do they have the same resources, but the Government is not aware that, even in the best of times, the people in these areas fed their pigs and cattle with rice boiled with vegetables.

It is the usually accepted medical theory that persons with low vitality have less power of resistance to diseases.

(e)—The Government is aware that due to dislocation of trade after Partition and the constant trade deadlock in spite of the Trade Agreement with Pakistan, the people in the areas bordering Pakistan have been passing through hard times.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: May I know whether Government knew that people of these areas were very prosperous people in the whole of the district of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and that they had a lot of produce which were used to be exported to Pakistan and used to get rice from Pakistan ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Yes, Sir, the people residing in the border areas are not only the most industrious people of the district of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills, but they are very industrious, it may be, of the whole State.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, my question is whether Government knew that these people were really the most prosperous people in the whole of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills district and that they had money from their cash crops as they could produce enough and export them to Pakistan?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: It is so, Sir.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Have the Government examined the fact whether the lack of proper food is the cause for the various diseases such as influenza, cough, etc., mentioned by the Parliamentary Secretary?

Pu LALMAWIA (Parliamentary Secretary): That has been replied already, Sir.

Recurring and non-recurring grant to Sangit Vidyalayas

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked:

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

- (a) How many Sangit Vidyalayas of the State received non-recurring and recurring grants from Government during the years 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58?
- (b) Whether Golaghat Sangit Vidyalaya received any non-recurring and recurring grants from Government?
- (c) If not, whether Government propose to consider the representations submitted to Education Minister by Sangit Vidyalaya and Ajanta Kolamondol of Golaghat?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied:

177. (a)—A statement showing the grants received by Music Schools during the last three years is placed on the table.

**Statement referred to in reply to Starred Question
No.177(a) asked by Shri Narendra Nath Sarma
M.L.A., at the Budget Session, 1958**

A list of Aided and Venture Middle Schools in the State

	Recurring	Non-recurring	Recurring	Non-recurring	Recurring	Non-recurring
1. Pathsala Sangit Vidyalaya..	..	500	..	..	..	..
2. Dibrugarh Sangit Vidyalaya	..	1,000	..	1,000	..	..
3. Seujia Samaj Sangit, Sibsagar	50	1,000	50	2,000	50	..
4. Nowgong Sangit Vidyalaya	100	1,000	100	500	100	..
5. Silchar Sangit Vidyalaya	75	1,000	75	1,000	75	2,000
6. Shillong Kala Parisad ..	..	1,000	..	..	..	2,000
7. Joy Krishna Sangit Vidyalaya	50	600	50	1,000	50	..
8. Jyoti Kala Kendra Music School, Tezpur.	100	1,000	100	1,000	100	2,500
9. Golaghat Sangit Vidyalaya	..	1,000	..	500	..	2,000
10. Jorhat Sangit Vidyalaya	100	..	100	1,000	100	1,000
11. Gauhati Music College	100	..	100	1,000	100	..
12. Balagaon Sangit Vidyalaya	..	..	..	250	..	..
13. Barigaon Music School	..	..	..	500	..	..
14. Ajanta Kala Mandal ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500
15. Kenduguri Sangit Vidyalaya	..	..	..	..	..	1,000

(b)—Only a Non-recurring grant of Rs.2,000 was sanctioned by Government *vide* statement at (a) above.

(c)—There is no provision for sanctioning recurring grants to new Music Schools. Non-recurring grants have been sanctioned to both as shown in the Statement *vide* (a) above.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon): What are the basis for giving recurring grants to the Sangit Vidyalayas ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education): Well, suitability.

Shri BHUBAN CHANRA PRADHANI (Golokganj): Is Government aware that there is a Music school at Gauripur which is the only Music school in the district of Goalpara and which has not received any grants though prayers were made to that effect for more than 5 years ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I take the information from hon. Member, Sir.

Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA (Golaghat-East): May I know whether the Nowgong and Tezpur Sangit Vidyalayas were started later than the Golaghat Sangit Vidyalayas ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I don't think these Music schools were started later.

Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA: What was the criterion fixed for receiving the grants ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: As I have said already—'suitability'. Suitability is regarded as the criterion, and duration of time may not be the criterion.

Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA: Will Government take into consideration the case of Golaghat Sangit Vidyalaya which was started in 1950, so that it may get the recurring grant ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I have already said, Sir, that so far as the question of recurring grant is concerned, as a policy it has not been accepted. As soon as it is accepted the consideration will be extended.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari): Whether these Music Schools and Colleges are inspected by any officers of the Department ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I don't think they are inspected.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Whether grant is given on the ground of priority or merit, Sir ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) : I have already said—‘suitability’.

Taking over by Government of certain roads in the Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira) asked :

*178. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state when the following roads in the Sibsagar Subdivision are going to be taken over by Government in view of their extreme necessity—

- (i) The Rajgarh of Silakuti Mouza ;
- (ii) The Rahdoi Ali of Dhupabor Mouza ;
- (iii) The Naga Ali of Nazira Mouza ;
- (iv) The Kharikatia Ali of Atkhel Mouza ;
- (v) The Namti Ali of Dopdar Mouza ?

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

178.—Out of the five roads, mentioned by the hon. Member, the following two roads have already been taken over by the Government and are under improvement by the Public Works Department—

(a) The Naga Ali, starting from the 216th mile (near the Namdang Bridge) of the Assam Trunk Road and ending at the 62nd mile of the Dhodar Ali (Total length 9·38 miles).

(b) The Kharikatia Ali, starting from the 221st mile (Joysagar) of the Assam Trunk Road and ending at the Namti Ali Railway Station (Total length 8·40 miles).

The other three roads, *viz.*, (i) The Rajgarh Ali, (ii) the Rahdoi Ali and (iii) the Namti Ali are not included under any Development or other approved schemes of the Government at present and hence, there is no scope or possibility of

taking them over by the Government in the near future. The proposals will, however, be placed before the Assam Road Communication Board, when it meets next to select any new Road Schemes.

Item (iii) of the question--NAGA-ALI of NAZIRA Mouza

It appears the hon. Member refers to another road of the same name instead of the one, mentioned at (a) of the reply: this is a new proposal, received by the Government for the first time and is not included under any of the Department or other approved Schemes of the Government at present. Hence, this will have to be placed before the Assam road Communication Board for their consideration and recommendation, when it meets next to select any new Road projects. The Board will be asked to meet only when availability of funds for new schemes will be indicated either from the State resources or by the Government of India.

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira): I wanted to know the position of the portion of the road Naga-ali which passes through Nazira, Sir.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.): Sir, in our record Naga-ali starts from 216th mile near Namdang of the A. T. Road.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is interested for the portion of the road Naga-ali which passes through Nazira.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra): মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে নামডাং দলঙৰ পৰা ধোদৰ আলিটলৈ থকা নগা আলিটোৰ কথাহে কৈছে নেকি ?

Mr. SPEAKER: It has been most confounded as 3 Naga-alis have been referred to now. (*Laughter*).

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Sir, I request the answer of the question may stand for a day or two so that I may try to give the correct answer.

(Starred Question No.179 standing in the name of Shri Hareswar Goswami was not put and answered as the Questioner was absent.)

Scale of pay of Professors and Assistant Professors of Medical College and Engineering College

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

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

- (a) The scale of pay of Professors and Assistant Professors of Medical College ?
- (b) The scale of pay of the Professors and Assistant Professors of Engineering College ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that proposal has been received by Government for the improvement of pay scales of Engineering Institutes and Colleges of Assam ?
- (d) Whether any decision was taken by Government ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

180. (a)—Professor—Rs.700—50/2—900—
E.B.—75/2—1,500 each.

Assistant Professor—Rs.350—
30—550—E.B.—50/2—1,000 p. m.

} For Clinical
Department.

Professor—Rs.800—50/2—900—
E.B.—75/2—1,500 p. m.

Assistant Professor—Rs.400—
30—550—E.B.—50/2—1,000 p. m.

} For non-
Clinical
Department.

(b)—Professor—Rs.600—40—800—E.B.—40—1,000
p. m.

Assistant Professor—Rs.350—25—450—30—480
—E.B.—30—660—E.B.—35—800 p. m.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The matter is under consideration.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: In view of the disparity in pay scales between these two categories of public servants, i.e., Professors of Engineering College and

those of the Medical College, may I know, Sir, whether Government consider the Engineering profession less important than that of the Medical ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) : Each thing in its place is the best field of duty.

Mr. SPEAKER : Her question is about the disparity in pay scale.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : I understand from the Finance Minister that lately we have accepted the Government of India Pay scale in regard to this, but I require notice to enable me to give a definite reply to the question.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA : May I know from the Government whether the Departments of Medical and Engineering are permanent Departments of the Government ? My question also includes the employees of the Departments.

Mr. SPEAKER : I thought Medical Department was permanent Department of the Government ; (*Laughter*).

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA : The question arises because of the fact that I come to understand that the Agricultural College is still temporary.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : I have no doubt, that would be considered.

Re-employment of retired Government Servants

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) asked :

*181. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of retired Government servants re-employed or whose services have been extended during the year 1957-58 in the various Departments under the Government except doctors and engineers ?
- (b) The names of such officers under each Department ?
- (c) The date of re-employment or extension ?
- (d) The period of such re-employment or extension ?

- (e) Whether it is a fact that the Cabinet has decided not to re-employ or extend the services of any retired Government servant ?
- (f) If so, whether any retired Government servant has since been re-employed or his service has been extended after the said decision ?
- (g) If so, why ?
- (h) Whether Government propose to discontinue such practice in future ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

181. (a)—Excluding Doctors and Engineers, 62 retired Government servants were re-employed during the year, but none of them has been allowed extension of service.

(b), (c) & (d)—A statement is laid on the Library table. (Please see library register No.S.17).

(e)—No such decision has been taken.

(f) & (g)—Do not arise.

(h)—Re-employment is allowed under exceptional circumstances on the overriding grounds of public interest only and in cases of genuine necessity and so it would not be possible to altogether do away with the practice.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): Are Government aware that due to re-employment of retired personnel, there have been great grumbling and heart-burning amongst the junior officers ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: There may be grumbling and heart-burning, but administration has to be carried on. When we need persons with some amount of experience and when we do not get fresh men with the requisite qualifications and experience, Government have to re-employ retired personnel.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: Is it a fact that due to extension of services to retired personnels efficiency in administration has greatly suffered ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: As I have already stated, there has been no extension of service. In some cases, when suitable persons are not available, retired persons have got to be re-employed, and as a matter of fact, new recruits without experience are not suitable for certain categories of posts.

I do not think that there has been any loss of efficiency in administration for re-employment of retired persons for some jobs.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): Will Government be pleased to consider the question of re-employment of retired persons only under unavoidable circumstances and that too for a period not exceeding one year?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): That is generally done. I do not remember of any case of re-employment for more than one year. Sometimes, however, the time has to be extended.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari): May I know the categories of posts in regard to which these re-employments are made—either technical or general?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Revenue Department also has to re-employ retired personnel when experienced men is required. So is the case with the Survey Department. So far doctors and engineers are concerned, in view of the fact that there is already a great shortage of qualified candidates to man these posts, we have been giving re-employment to some of the retired doctors and engineers.

Mrs. JOYTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): Do Government consider the question of extension of service up to the age of 58 in regard to trained personnel belonging to Engineering, Medical and other departments?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Just at the moment we are not considering in that line.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj): May I know, Sir, whether for re-employment of such retired officers fitness certificates from Medical authority are required or not?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Yes, Sir, medical certificate is necessary.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur): May I know, Sir, what particular departments are in difficulty in regard to employment of qualified personnel.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Medical and Engineering departments.

(Starred Question No.182 standing in the name of Shri Hareswar Goswami, was not put and answered as the Questioner was absent).

Proceeding High Schools in the Shillong Subdivision and in the Jowai Subdivision

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Cherrapunji Reserved for Scheduled Tribes) asked :

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

- (a) The number and names of Proceeding High Schools in the Shillong Subdivision and also in the Jowai Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether Government propose to help these Proceeding High Schools to reach the High School standard ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied:

183. (a)—There are two such High Schools, both in Shillong Subdivision—

1. Cherra Presbytery Proceeding High School, Cherrapunjee.
2. United Christian Proceeding High School, Pariong.

(b)—A proposal for grant-in-aid to these Schools is under consideration.

(Starred Questions Nos. 184 and 185 standing in the name of Shri Nanda Kishore Sinha was not put and answered as the Questioner was absent).

Extension of Services to retired persons

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

*186. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) How many retired persons have been allowed extension of their services ?
- (b) How many of them are technical and how many non-technical person ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

186. (a)—No extension has been given to any retired person but some retired persons have been re-employed.

(b)—Out of a total of 145 re-employed persons, 83 are technical personnel and 62 are non-technical personnel.

Fishery Co-operative Societies in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government will be pleased to name the Fishery Co-operative Societies in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether there is any special provision to settle them with Fisheries ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that most of these Fisheries are formed with fishermen who are classed as Scheduled Caste by Government ?
- (d) Whether Government have made provisions to protect these Co-operative Societies from individual Mahaldars ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that there is attempt on the part of certain Fish Mahaldars or businessmen to have monopoly control over Fisheries in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
- (f) If so, what steps Government propose to take to stop the same ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Co-operative) replied :

187. (a)—Name of Societies—

1. Dibrugarh Fishery Co-operative, Ltd.
2. Madarkhat Fishery Co-operative Society, Ltd.
3. Khowang Soharikata Fishery Co-operative Society, Ltd.
4. Dihingthan Larua Fishery Co-operative, Ltd.
5. Margherita Co-operative Fishery Society, Ltd.
6. Rongagara Fishermen Co-operative Society, Ltd.

7. Sadiya Fishery Co-operative, Ltd.
8. North-Eastern Fishery Co-operative Society, Ltd.
9. Naharkatia Co-operative Fishery Society, Ltd.
10. Tingrai Co-operative Fishery Society, Ltd.
11. Madhupur Fishery Co-operative, Ltd.

(b)—Yes, there is special provision for settling fisheries with the Registered Co-operative Fishery Societies formed by actual fisherman of the Scheduled Caste. Under the Rule 13 of the Rules for the settlement of fisheries.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Registered Co-operative Fishery Societies formed by actual fishermen of the Scheduled Caste giving substantial bid in the sale are given the option of taking settlement of fisheries at the highest bid in order of preference under Rule 13(a)&(b) of the Rules for the settlement of fisheries.

(e)—Government have no information except that some of the Fishery Societies recently filed appeals to Government for not being able to secure mahals in spite of their best efforts

(f)—The appeals referred to at (e) above are under scrutiny.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): May I know whether Government is aware of the fact that there are some fishermen in our State who do not belong to the Scheduled Castes?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Co-operative): Yes, Sir, the Muslim fishermen in Cachar, who although do not belong to the Scheduled Caste, nevertheless they are bonafide fishermen.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: May I know whether Government propose to extend the facilities given to the fishermen of the Scheduled Castes also to these fishermen?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): We propose to examine the whole question. Because we have noticed that in spite of the facilities so far provided in our directives, the benefit which have been intended for fishermen in our State they have not been able to avail these benefits. Therefore, our intention is to reconsider the whole matter.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gaubati): Sir, at the time of examination will Government consider that the actual fishermen, irrespective of castes, will be given equal facilities ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): The hon. Member may be aware that a new Act of the Government of India is about to come into force. I refer to the Public Employment (Requirement as to Residence) Act, 1957. According to the legal advice we have received so far that the special consideration we are giving in the matter of employment, (not in the matter of service) means some amount of discrimination and attracts the Constitution. So, the whole thing is under examination and it will take some time to decide.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Sir, is it a fact that the fish market at Dibrugarh is practically controlled by one family and most of the other individual Mahaldars are either the employees or nominees of this family?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): We are not aware of that.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Is it a fact that most of the fishermen co-operative societies of this area had to appeal to the Government for protection of their interests ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : It is a new question.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS: Are Government aware that in many cases the directions issued by the Government regarding settlement of fisheries are not followed by the District Officers ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Yes, some cases have come to our knowledge.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS : Will the Government see that these directions are followed by the District Officers ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The Chief Minister already said that the whole matter is under examination.

(Starred Questions Nos.188 and 189 [standing [in the name of Shri Prokritish Chandra Barua and Shri Abdul Hamid Choudhury respectively were not put and answered as the Questioners were absent).

Simaluguri-Sibsagar Road at Kujibari

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government are aware that at Kujibari on the Simaluguri-Sibsagar Road, the road is being threatened by erosion of the Dikhow since last year ?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to divert the course of the river for the benefit of the people of the locality ?

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

190. (a)—Yes.

(b)—There is no proposal to divert the course of the river, but arrangement for taking up protection works to protect the road from erosion has been made.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : শিৱসাগৰ শিমলুগুৰীৰ হাৰ চৰাত দিখৌ নৈৰ গড়াখহনীয়াই P. W. D. আলিটো কেই বছৰৰ পৰা গড়াখহনীয়াৰ কবলত পৰিছে আৰু বিভাগে কেইবছৰৰ পৰা কাম হাতত লৈছে জনাবনে ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : ব্যৱস্থা এই বাৰহে হাতত লোৱা হৈছে ।

Mr.SPEAKER : What is the distance from the road to the river ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : সেই তথ্য বৰ্তমান মোৰ হাতত নাই ।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰীমহোদয় অলপতে নাজিৰালৈ যাৰ বুলি শুনিছো আৰু গলে তেখেতে সেই কাম কেনে বিপদজনক অৱস্থাত আছে চাই আহিবনে ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : গলে চোৱা হব ।

Water Scarcity in Golaghat Town

Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA (Golaghat-East) asked :

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

(a) Whether he has received a memorandum No.25, dated the 17th March 1958, from the Chairman, Municipal Board, Golaghat, regarding acute scarcity of water in the Municipal area and its suburbs ?

(b) Whether the request of the Chairman, Municipal Board, for four deep tube-wells in four outskirts of the town is going to be implemented ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

191. (a)—Government have received Memorandum No.2506, dated the 17th March 1958, from the Chairman, Golaghat Municipal Board and not Memorandum No.25, dated 17th March 1958, as stated.

(b)—It is under consideration of Government.

Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA (Golaghat-East): Sir, may I know when it will be possible to have the tube-wells as requested by the Chairman of the Municipality ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: The matter is being examined now. I cannot give the exact time when it will be possible.

Number of District Agricultural Officers who are properly qualified

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

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

(a) How many District Agricultural Officers are properly qualified ?

(b) How many are underqualified ?

(c) Who are the persons mentioned in (b) above ?

(d) How many technical staff are attached to the
(i) State Headquarters, (ii) District Headquarters and quarters, (iii) Subdivisional Headquarters for administration or/and clerical work ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied :

192. (a)—Nine District Agricultural Officers are properly qualified.

(b)—Two District Agricultural Officers are under-qualified.

(c)—Shri D. B. Das and Shri Salil Kumar Sen-Gupta.

(d)—(i) State Headquarters—Director of Agriculture, Additional Director of Agriculture, Joint Director of Agriculture, one Planning Officer and one Statistical Officer; (ii) District Headquarters—District Agricultural Officer and one Headquarters Agricultural Inspector; (iii) Subdivisional Headquarters—Subdivisional Agricultural Officers.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Do Government propose to relieve the technical personnel from the administrative and electrical works ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: It is the policy of the Government not to employ the technical personnel in other works, but in some cases that cannot be avoided. For example, the Director of Agriculture, though he is a technical man, has got to control the Department and so some amount of administrative work has to be done by him.

Number of Lower Primary Schools and Basic Schools in Shillong and Jowai Subdivisions

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Cherrapunji Reserved for Schedule Tribes) asked :

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

(a) The number of Lower Primary Schools and of the Basic Schools in the Shillong Subdivision and also in the Jowai Subdivision ?

(b) Whether Government propose to increase the number of Basic Schools in the United Khasi Jaintia Hills District ?

(c) If so, how many they are proposing to increase in this year 1958-59 ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

193. (a)—

	<i>Shillong</i>	<i>Jowai</i>
Number of Primary Schools,	389	169 excepting Schools under District Council whose number is 62.
Basic Schools	69	15.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—19.

Re : 'Ram', 'Robidas', 'Bansfar', etc.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

*194. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the 'Ram', 'Robidas', 'Basfar', etc., are listed as Scheduled Castes ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that in their respective States they are regarded as Scheduled Castes ?
- (c) Whether the students of these castes are entitled to free secondary education ?
- (d) If so, whether this privilege is enjoyed by them in Assam ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

194. (a)—It is presumed that by the word 'Basfar' the hon. Member means 'Bansphor'. If so, the reply is that the 'Bansphor' community is specified as a Scheduled Caste community in Assam.

'Robidas' community is not specified as a Scheduled Caste community in Assam. It appears that from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1955, this community is specified as a Scheduled Caste only in the State of West Bengal.

It also appears from the Order mentioned above that there is no community known as 'Ram' specified as Scheduled Caste anywhere in India. But there is a community known as 'Ramdasia' specified as Scheduled Caste in Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.

(b)—As the Scheduled Castes communities are so specified by the President in consultation with the Governor of a State as provided in clause (1) of Article 341 of the Constitution it is possible that 'Ramdasia' and 'Robidas' communities have been specified as Scheduled Castes in their respective States.

(c) & (d)—The students belonging to the communities specified as Scheduled Castes in Assam under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956, are entitled to free Secondary education.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Are Government aware that the 'Robidas' is synonymous with 'Muchi' and whether the Muchi is a scheduled caste in our State?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): In Assam Robidas Muchi, *i.e.*, is not specified in the list of scheduled castes.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: I want to know whether 'Muchi' is specified as a scheduled caste?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Yes, Sir, Muchi is specified as a scheduled caste.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Is Government aware that Ramdasias and Bansphors are working as sweepers and Robidasas as Muchis in Assam?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: I do not exactly know about this. I will have to enquire.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question hour is over.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Rising Tendency of the Prices of Sugar, Mustard Oil, etc.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) asked :

554. Will the Minister of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government propose to take any steps to check the rising tendency of the prices of sugar, mustard oil, etc. ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that artificial scarcities of such commodities are often the resultant effect of unfair business practices ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

554.(a)—Sugar and some other essential foodstuffs are wholly imported from outside. Hence the market prices of these commodities in Assam depend on market prices in production centres and transport costs involved. Government have been taking all possible steps to maintain a regular flow of essential foodstuffs in Assam by allotting wagons to *bonafide* importers. The local officers have also been directed to exercise vigilance so that imported foodstuffs are made available to consumers at reasonable prices.

(b)—In a competitive market this is generally not the case. But when there is depletion of stocks, certain dealers having stocks may have the tendency to charge high prices.

Budget Provision for Construction of Roads and Buildings both from State and Central

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

(a) What was the Budget provision for construction of roads and buildings both from State and Central in the year 1952-53, 1953-54, 1954-55, 1955-56 and 1956-57 (figures to be shown separately year by year) ?

(b) Of the above amount how much was allotted for—

(i) Hills Districts, and

(ii) Plains Districts during all these years ?

(iii) The amount actually spent against Budget provision from 1952 to 1957 year by year in Hills and in Plains Districts separately ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.) replied :

555.(a) & (b)—A statement giving the informations has been placed on the Library Table.

[STATEMENT LAID ON THE LIBRARY TABLE IN REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 555(a) and (b)]

Statement showing Budget provision and expenditure incurred on Roads and Buildings in Hills Districts and in Plains Districts from 1952-53 to 1956-57.

Year	District	Budget provision		Actual expenditure			
		State	Central	State	Central		
		(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)		
(1)	(2)	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
1952-53	Plains	..	..	2,89,92,000	40,82,000	2,69,53,000	40,00,000
	Hills	..	..	57,48,000	19,03,000	44,33,000	16,30,000
1953-54	Plains	..	..	3,36,92,000	45,46,000	2,91,08,000	43 05,900
	Hills	..	..	1,06,29,000	15,97,000	63,86,000	14,20,000
1954-55	Plains	..	..	4,17,75,000	62,81,000	2,09,92,000	40,23,000
	Hills	..	..	2,56,77,000	26,15,000	2,11,97,000	20,93,000
1955-56	Plains	..	..	5,38,55,000	62,00,000	4,65,44,000	59,66,000
	Hills	..	..	3,02,70,000	31,56,000	2,03,92,000	25,90,000
1956-57	Plains	..	..	6,61,52,000	57,00,000	4,50,01,000	52,30,000
	Hills	..	..	3,34,32,000	26,85,000	2,34,13,000	26,36,000

QUESTIONS

[24TH APRIL,

Compensation made for Aquisition of Land in Purbapar Mauza under Kamalpur Circle for Construction of the Embankment on the River Puthimari.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

556. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) The names of persons residing in villages Kendukona, Hahara, Maukuchi, Haberikura and Lechakona of the Purbapar Mauza under Kamalpur Circle, whose lands were acquired in connection with the construction of the embankment on the river Puthimari with the area of land acquired and the compensation assessed against each ?
- (b) The names of persons of the said locality whose properties such as dwelling houses, standing crops, gardens, etc., were affected by the construction of the said embankment and the amount of compensation assessed against each ?
- (c) The names of persons to whom compensations were paid in part and the amount paid against each ?
- (d) Why compensations have been refused to the rest of such affected persons ?
- (e) Whether any notice was served upon the persons affected that their lands were to be acquired before the embankment was constructed ?
- (f) Whether any notice has been served upon the persons affected intimating the amount assessed as compensation for their land acquired and for the damages sustained by them before the final award ?
- (g) Whether the persons to whom payment of interim compensation was made, executed any indemnity bond as required ?
- (h) When the land in question was acquired ?

557. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state what decision has been arrived at by the Government regarding the payment of compensation to those people whose homesteads have fallen in the unprotected areas between a river and an embankment and who have no means and suitable alternative lands where they can shift ?

558. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state what steps the Government has taken to rehabilitate the people whose entire cultivable land has been rendered unfit for any cultivation having fallen in the unprotected areas between the river and the embankment ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

556. (a)—A list showing names of persons with area of land against each is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S.18).

(b)—A list showing persons whose lands with houses, crops, gardens, etc., have been acquired is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S.18)

(c)—A list of such persons showing compensation against each is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S.18).

(d)—Compensations have not been refused. The assessment of compensation is now under revision and it is expected that compensation will be paid soon if the people do not object to compensation under the 1955 Act.

(e)—No.

(f)—No.

(g)—No.

(h)—The land in question was acquired on 4th February 1956.

557. Homesteads and other lands falling between the embankment and the river which are not actually covered by the embankment have not been acquired and as such the question of payment of compensation for these do not arise. But Deputy Commissioner has been directed to provide alternative lands where these people can shift as far as possible. Loans have also been sanctioned for people without means to enable them to shift.

558. Instructions have been issued to District Officers to provide alternative lands wherever possible to people whose lands have been rendered unfit for cultivation due to flood or erosion.

Agriculture loan, Cattle loan and Agriculture seed loan sanctioned for Goalpara District from 1957 to 1958

Shri TAMIJUDDIN PRODHANI (Dhubri) asked :

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

(a) The amount of agriculture loan, cattle loan and agriculture seed loan sanctioned for the district of Goalpara during the period from 1957 to 1958 in each division?

(b) The names of those persons to whom the loans upto Rs.500 or more were granted ?

(c) The policy followed while sanctioning the said loans ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

559. (a)—During the financial year 1957-58 the following amounts were sanctioned for each subdivision of the district of Goalpara :

Dhubri Subdivision :—

	Rs.
Agricultural cattle loan	50,000
Agricultural distress loan	16,000
Agricultural seed loan	11,175
Agricultural loan under Grow More Food Scheme	70,000
Total	<u>1,47,175</u>

Goalpara Subdivision :—

Agricultural cattle loan	42,500
Agricultural seed loan	30,375
Agricultural loan under Grow More Food Scheme	65,000
Total	<u>1,37,875</u>

Kokrajhar Subdivision :—

Agricultural cattle loan	15,000
Agricultural distress loan	13,000
Agricultural seed loan	23,200
Agricultural loan under Grow More Food Scheme	65,000
Total	<u>1,16,200</u>

(b)—No loan upto Rs. 500 or more was granted to any individual person.

(c)—Loans were issued in individual cases on merit, i.e., in consideration of the volume of loss sustained due to any calamity, number of dependents, extent of holding and the purchasing capacity of the head of a family, etc.

**Number of Students admitted into the Assam
Agriculture College**

Shri TAMIJUDDIN PRODHANI (Dhubri) asked :

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

- (a) The total number of students admitted during the last few years into the Assam Agriculture College ?
- (b) The number of students admitted from Goalpara district in the above institution during the last five years ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied :

560. (a)—261 during the last five years.

(b)—4.

Veterinary Dispensary at Tirap

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked :

561. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the construction of the buildings of the proposed veterinary dispensary at Tirap have been completed long ago ?
- (b) If so, whether Government will make necessary arrangement to open this dispensary at early date ?
- (c) If so, when it is proposed to be opened ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas) replied :

561. (a)—The construction was completed by the end of 1957.

(b)—The dispensary had been opened.

(c)—Does not arise.

Export of Jute to West Bengal

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) asked :

562. Will the Minister, Finance be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware of the fact that jute is being freely exported to West Bengal depriving Assam Government from administrative charges which are charged on baled jute ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that Government received many complaints from the public as well as from merchant association of the State in the border area ?

(c) If so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister) replied :

562. (a)—Yes, a very negligible quantity of loose jute, i.e., 1·8 per cent of the total quantity of baled jute exported from Assam, is carried from the border areas of Dhubri Sub-division to West Bengal.

(b)—No. Only one complaint from a dealer in Golakganj has been received.

(c)—Government do not propose to tax loose jute under the Assam Taxation (On Goods carried by Roads or Inland Water Ways) Act because if that is done, the poor cultivators would be liable to taxation for taking loose jute to market for sale.

Veterinary Dispensary at Lahoal

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is no Veterinary dispensary within Lahoal Assembly Constituency in Dibrugarh Subdivision?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that there were different types of cattle epidemic in that area and people could not avail of the facilities of Veterinary Department adequately?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that there is a demand of a Veterinary dispensary at Lahoal?
- (d) If so, whether Government propose to establish a Veterinary dispensary at Lahoal?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied:

563. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No report of cattle epidemic was received by Veterinary Department. The Veterinary staff however, visited Lahoal for treating animals when called for.

(c)—The Veterinary Department have not received any such demand.

(d) There is no proposal for establishing a Veterinary dispensary at Lahoal, but under the Second Five Year Plan, it is proposed to open a Veterinary dispensary next year on the recommendation of the Development Board at Chabua, which is centrally located.

Permits for starting Saw Mills in Nowgong Municipality

Shri DHIRSINGH DEURI [Laharighat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

564. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to State—

- (a) How many permits were issued for starting the Saw Mills within the Nowgong Municipality areas during 1957?

- (b) What is the number of Saw Mills that are running in the said Municipality ?
- (c) Whether any public opinion of the locality where the Saw Mills are installed were taken prior to their installation ?
- (d) If not, why not ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that some of the Saw Mill owners submitted a representation for not extending further permit for establishing Saw Mills in the Nowgong District ?
- (f) If so, what actions have been taken on that representation ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that hand-driven Sawyers are now out of employment ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied:

564. (a)—Two licenses have been granted by the Forest Department subject to the site and location being approved of by the proper Authorities who are the Municipality, Deputy Commissioner, Chief Inspector of Factories and the Government in the Labour Department.

(b)—7 (Seven).

(c)—No. The Mills appear to have been set up by the licensees at their own risk without giving any opportunity to the authorities concerned to ascertain public opinion.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—It is under consideration of Government in the Forest Department.

(g)—Government have no information. Any how, the system is not totally abolished. Some timbers which are difficult to be sawn in Mills are generally sawn by hand-sawyers. Further, it is not likely that hand-driven sawyers are now out of employment, because such sawyers are generally recruited from outside the State during the proper season.

Assam State Co-operative Union

Shri DANDIRAM DUTTA (Mangaldai) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware of the fact that a non-official organisation in Assam is carrying on the work of educating the non-official personnel of the Co-operative movement as per the scheme sponsored by the Government of India ?
- (b) How many such non-official organisations are there at present in Assam and what are they ?
- (c) Whether State Government are rendering any help to the said organisations for the said educational work or for the organisation of the movement on the non-official basis ?
- (d) If so, how much and for what purpose ?
- (e) What is the number of persons educated by the State Organisation during the year 1957 under the said scheme and what are categories of the persons trained so far ?

M MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Co-operative) replied:

565. (a)—Yes.

(b)—There is one State Organisation, *viz.* ; Assam State Co-operative Union with Headquarter at Gauhati with twelve Subdivisional organisations affiliated to the State Union, *viz.* ; Subdivisional Co-operative Unions are at Gauhati, Barpeta, Mangaldai, Tezpur, Nowgong, Jorhat, Golaghat, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Karimganj, Silchar, Hailakandi.

(c)—Yes. State Government is rendering financial assistance to the Assam State Co-operative Union besides deputing two departmental Officers to help the Union in their work.

(d)—(i) Rs. 20,000 for purchase of jeep, Office building, publication of a magazine, etc.

(ii) Rs. 9,434 for awarding stipends to trainees undergoing training in Education Centres run by the Union.

(iii) Rs. 825 for celebration of Co-operative Week—1957.

(iv) Rs. 560 for attending conference on Co-operative Education—1956.

(v) Rs. 200 for celebration of International Co-operative Day—1956.

(vi) Rs. 800 to meet the expenditure in connection with holding conference of Presidents and Secretaries of Sub-divisional Co-operative Unions and T. A. of the Vice-President of All India Co-operative Union—Prof. Ranga.

(e)—Secretaries of Co-operative Societies ... 136 nos. trained in six weeks' course.

Executive Committee members trained in ... 105 nos. weekly course.

Members of Co-operative Societies trained ... 372 nos. in 3 days' course.

Total	...	613 nos.
-------	-----	----------

Creation of a post of a Special Officer for Tourism

Shri TAMIJUDDIN PRODHANI (Dhubri) asked :

566. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a post of a Special Officer for Tourism for Assam has recently been created ?

(b) If so, whether any officer has been appointed as such and whether the incumbent has any special qualification in respect of the post ?

(c) Whether the appointment was made through Assam Public Service Commission ?

Gapt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

566. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes. Sri Barin Kr. Choudhuri has been appointed temporarily against the post. His qualifications are as under :—

A. Educational Qualification.—

B. A. (Calcutta University)

B. Experience :—

(i) Worked as Development Officer for United Commercial Bank Limited.

(ii) While abroad, worked in the Indian High Commissioner's Office in London.

(iii) Travelled extensively throughout Europe and parts of Middle East.

(c)—No. The appointment was made under Regulation 3(e) of the Assam Public Service Commission Regulation.

State and Subsidised Dispensaries in the State

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

(a) How many State and Subsidised Dispensaries are there in the State—answers to be given district-wise ?

(b) Whether in all such dispensaries there are well qualified doctors ?

(c) Whether there are qualified doctors in Dikhowmukh and Patsaku dispensaries in Sibsagar ?

(d) If not, why not ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister)
replied :

567. (a)—

				State Dis- pensaries	Government Subsidised Dispensaries
United Khasi-Jaintia Hills	...	...	..	20	..
Mizo District	...	...	..	13	...
Garó Hills District	..	...	...	16	...
United Mikir and North Cachar Hills	...	...	...	16	...
Cachar District	...	..	...	11	17
Kamrup District	...	..	...	22	40
Nowgong District	...	...	...	25	9
Darrang District	...	..	...	15	4
Sibsagar District	...	..	...	26	23
Goalpara District	...	...	...	20	25
Lakhimpur District	..	...	...	21	3
				205	121

(b)—Yes, so far as the State Dispensaries are concerned. Some of the Government Subsidised Dispensaries are being temporarily managed by unregistered Doctors.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

Inthem Dispensary of Tirap Transferred Area

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked:

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

(a) Whether Government is aware that the Inthem Dispensary of Tirap Transferred Area is running without Doctor.

(b) Whether a compounder is competent enough to prescribe prescription to patients ?

(c) If not, why the compounder is allowed to work in place of the Doctor in Inthem Dispensary ?

(d) Why the Doctor of Inthem was transferred without a substitute being placed there ?

(e) Whether Government are aware of the public feeling that the backward areas are being neglected in this respect ?

(f) Whether Government propose to place a Doctor immediately for the Inthem Dispensary ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

568. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

(c)—The Compounder is allowed to dispense Stock Mixtures only and to deal with other routine works.

(d)—Because the services of this Doctor were urgently required elsewhere for more important work.

(e)—No. Government are fully alive to the needs and requirements of backward areas which always receive special consideration.

(f)—Yes, already one Doctor (Assistant Surgeon II) is under orders of posting there.

Tirap Dispensary

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked :

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

(a) Why the Doctor of Tirap Dispensary has been ordered to be transferred without a substitute being placed there ?

(b) Whether Government propose to run the Dispensary with a compounder ?

(c) If so, whether Government think a doctor to be unnecessary for this Dispensary or the compounder is going to be promoted to a doctor's place ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied:

569. (a)—Because the services of the then doctor were urgently required for more important duty elsewhere. An Assistant Surgeon I is, however, already under orders of posting to the dispensary.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Does not arise.

Tata Institute of Social Science, Bombay

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

570. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

(a) How many candidates were sent for training in the Tata Institute of Social Science, Bombay in the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?

(b) Whether any Plains Tribal candidates applied ?

(c) If so, how many of them were selected and sent ?

(b) If not, why ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

570. (a)—In 1956-57, one Assistant Jailor was deputed for specialised training in criminology in the Tata Institute of Social Science, Bombay.

In 1957-58, we sent six candidates to the Tata Institute of Social Sciences under the State Government scheme for training in social welfare and five candidates were offered scholarships under the Government of India scheme for training in social welfare.

(b)—Yes, one candidate belonging to the plains tribal community applied.

(c)—He was offered the scholarship, but he did not avail of it.

(d)—Does not arise.

Patients in the Reid Chest Hospital in Shillong

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

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

- (a) The number of Khasi T.B. patients in the Reid Chest Hospital in Shillong ?
- (b) The number of other hills tribal T.B. patients therein ?
- (c) The number of Khasi T.B. patients who have been given free bed and free medicine in the said hospital, or
- (d) Whether any Khasi T.B. patients have been given partial financial help ?
- (e) The number of other hills tribal T.B. patients (non-Khasis) who have been given free bed and free medicine in the said hospital, or partial financial help ?
- (f) The number of hills tribal T.B. patients in any other hospitals in the Sixth Scheduled Areas who have been given free beds and medicine ?
- (g) The number of all the T.B. patients in the said Reid Chest Hospital in Shillong ?

572. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state whether Government propose to increase the number of beds for hills tribal T.B. patients in the Reid Chest T.B. Hospital in Shillong ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

571.(a)—9.

(b)—14.

(c)—9.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—161.

(f)—Nil.

(g)—183.

572. Yes. Government have already increased the number of beds from 100 beds to 200 beds for general public including Tribal T.B. patients.

Silting up of Natural Fisheries of Assam

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

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

(a) Whether the natural fisheries of Assam have been silted up in many cases ?

(b) If so, what measures Government have taken to reclaim them ?

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

573.(a)—Yes.

(b)—The Director of Fisheries has already appointed a Fishery Engineer for the purpose of suggesting suitable measures with concrete plans and specifications to reclaim the fisheries where silting is going on. Settlement of land for cultivation on the slopes of the banks of the fisheries has been stopped and the annual pattas cancelled.

Grant Allotted for each Subdivision of the State as Flood Relief measure

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked :

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

(a) The amount of Government grant allotted for each Subdivision of the State as a relief measure for the flood-affected people of the Brahmaputra and other rivers ?

(b) The amount of Government grant sanctioned to different subdivisions as Cattle Loan, Seed-Loan, etc., for the last flood-affected people ?

(c) The amount of Government grant sanctioned to each Subdivision as gratuitous relief and loan for rehabilitation of eroded people of last flood ?

(d) Whether Government is aware of the voilent erosion caused by the Brahmaputra at Ahatguri and Bokakhat Mouzas of Golaghat Subdivision?

(e) Whether Government has lately received any report on this behalf from affected people of those areas ?

(f) If so, what steps have been taken by Government to protect or rehabilitate the affected people of Ahatguri and Moriaholla ?

(g) Whether it is a fact that Government did not take any steps on the report of the officers deputed for enquiry of flood-affected and eroded people of Ahatguri ?

(h) Whether there is available Government reserved land at Barjuri Reserve ?

(i) If so, whether Government propose to rehabilitate the eroded families of Moriaholla in said available land ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

574. (a) to (c)—A statement showing the amount sanctioned Subdivision-wise for various purposes is placed on the Library Table.

[STATEMENT LAID ON THE LIBRARY TABLE IN REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 574(a)—(c)]
 Statement showing the amounts sanctioned in 1957-58 for various subdivisions of the Plains
 District in connection with floods and erosion.

(1)	Gra. Relief (2)	Test Relief (3)	Rehabilita- tion loan (4)	Cattle loan (5)	Seed loan (6)	Distress loan (7)
Eibragarh
North-Lakhimpur
Jorhat
Sibsagar
Golaghat
Tezpur
Mangaldai
Nowgong
Gauhati
Barpeta
Dhubri
Goalpara
Kokrajhar
Silchar
Karimganj
Hailakandi
Public Works Department (for relief boats in Cachar District.)
Total

1,17,491-25N.P.
 55,562-50N.P.
 13,660
 14,050
 14,500
 8,800
 2,000
 10,600
 36,700
 3,000
 31,162-14N.P.
 26,700
 4,900
 700
 122-81N.P.
 27,500
 3,67,448-70N.P.
 1,89,698-94N.P.
 4,73,864
 5,67,900
 1,88,770
 60,350

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—The requisitioned lands at Murphulani T. E. were allotted to 60 erosion affected families of Ahatguri. But, they have neither settled in the lands allotted, nor paid the advance compensation even on receipt of notices. Another 10 families of Ahatguri were allotted lands at Fallangani Reclamation Project. But none of the affected families have turned up to settle there under various pleas.

The affected families of Moriaholla were allotted lands at Thuramukh where 235 bighas of lands were available and also at Fallangani Development (Reclamation) Project area. But nobody was willing to settle on these lands.

(g)—No.

(h)—There is no such Government reserve in the name of Borjuri. But, there is one 30 years Grant No.362/369 of Borjuri Bagisha of the Methoni Tea Company.

(i)—There is no such proposal at present.

Grants-in-aid under Article 275 of the Constitution to High Schools and Colleges of the State of Assam

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

575. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas be pleased to state—

(a) How many High schools and Colleges were given grants-in-aid in the year 1956-57, 1957-58 under Article 275 of the Constitution in the State of Assam excluding Hills Tribal Areas ?

(b) What is the amount given to each of the Institutions (to be shown year by year) ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas) replied :

575. (a)—The number of High Schools and Colleges which were given grants-in-aid in the year 1956-57 and 1957-58 under Art. 275 (1) of the Constitution in the State of Assam of the Plains Tribal Areas are given below—

		1956-57	1957-58
High Schools	... ..	57	68
Colleges	... ..	3	4

(b)—The statements showing the amount given to each of the Institutions in each year are placed on the Library Table (Please see Library Register No.S.19)

Representation from the villagers of Darrang, Jowai Sub-division intimating the disease which attacked on their betel leaves grooves

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

576. Will the Minister of Tribal Areas be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Subdivisional Officer, Jowai, lately received a representation from U Wet Pohlong, U Kuilar Rynksai, U Be Kongwang and others of village Darrang, Jowai Subdivision intimating him of the disease which attacked their betel leaves grooves ?

(b) Whether he is aware that as a result of this fell disease, the betel leaves grooves died out ?

(c) What actions have been taken on the said representation ?

(d) Whether any help is proposed to be given to those who thus suffered ?

(e) If so, what is that ?

(f) If not, why not ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas) replied:

576. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, the affected plants died out.

(c)—The Subdivisional Officer, Jowai and the Subdivisional Agricultural Officer, Jowai, had enquired into the incidence of the disease.

(d) & (e)—Yes, necessary help is being given. In order to protect the plants against further attacks spraying of the plants by pesticides to be undertaken by the officers of the Agriculture Department would be conducted with the beginning of the rains, the proper time for such spraying. Agricultural loans are also being given to the people.

(f)—Does not arise.

Disease of plough bullocks of the Tongseng people of Nongkhlieh Doloiship in the Jowai Subdivision

Shri LARSING KHYRIEM [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

577. Will the Minister of Tribal Areas be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether he is aware that the plough bullocks of the Tongseng people of Nongkhlieh Doloiship in the Jowai Subdivision were attacked with a disease in the months of May and June, 1957 which rendered them unfit for ploughing ?
- (b) Whether the Government is aware that as a result of the said disease, the people with great difficulty resorted partly to hoeing the halis and partly by jhumming ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that when the paddy begins flowering, it was attacked with a peculiar type of pests resulting in total failure of crops ?
- (d) What action has been taken on their representation dated 19th December 1957, addressed to the Agriculture Inspector, Jowai, a copy of which was sent to the Subdivisional Officer, Jowai, the Project Executive Officer, Saipung-Darrang, M.P.C.D. Block, in this respect to help these people ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to direct the Officers to make an enquiry and report ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to help the people from their present plight ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas) replied :

577. (a)—Yes.

(b), (c), (d) & (e)—Detailed report of the Subdivisional Agricultural Officer on the outbreak of the disease is awaited. The Project Executive Officer of the Saipung-Darrang Multi-purpose Community Development Block had made a preliminary enquiry on the report of the people of Tongseng received more than six months after the occurrence.

(f)—Arrangements have been made to help the affected people with agricultural loans and further steps will be taken on receipt of detailed reports from the Agricultural officer.

Occupation of a plot of land belonging to the Attabarie Tea Estate in Sibsagar Subdivision by the Raiyats of Machai Village in Thowra Mauza

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government is aware that a plot of land measuring 78B—4K—10L belonging to the Attabarie Tea Estate in Sibsagar Subdivision was occupied by the raiyats of Machai Village in Thowra Mauza since last 30/40 years ?
- (b) Whether the raiyats applied in 1951 and also afterwards to the local authorities to acquire the land and to settle the same with them ?
- (c) If so, what action was taken by Government ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that the very plot of land was sold to Krishnabehari Tea Company ?
- (e) If so, when was the deed executed ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the raiyats complained in 1955 against the mutation in the name of Krishnabehari Tea Estate ?
- (g) If so, what action was taken ?
- (h) Whether Government is aware that the management of Krishnabehari Tea Estate, all of a sudden, forcibly took possession of the land with the help of Nagas, Noonias and Deswallies on the 27th December, 1957, and planted Tea bushes, constructed temporary houses, fenced the boundary by damaging properties of the villagers and even broke down the ring well provided by the Community Development Block ?
- (i) Whether the local authorities received any complaint of these happenings on the date of occurrence, *i. e.*, on 27th December 1957 ?

- (j) If so, what action was taken and on which date ?
- (k) Whether Government is aware that the local authorities directed these raiyats for depositing a sum of Rs.1,361·06 N.p. as cost of the very plot of land and that the amount was deposited on 19th May 1957, within the specified time ?
- (l) Whether any Gazette Notification was issued calling objections, etc., against requisition of the land ?
- (m) Whether it is a fact that the local authorities issued stay order after a long time ?
- (n) If so, why early actions were not taken in such emergency case and before the planting of tea bushes ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

578. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The raiyats applied to the local authorities on 27th February 1956.

(c)—Acquisition proceedings have already been started to acquire the land.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—The deed was executed on 8th February 1956.

(f)—No such complaint was received by the local officers.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—These allegations were made in a complaint filed by the raiyats of Masai Village against the management of Krishnabehari Tea Estate and a case under section 145, Criminal Procedure Code, has been started.

(i)—The complaint was received on 28th December 1957.

(j)—Proceedings under section 145, Criminal Procedure Code have been drawn up on 7th January, 1958 on police report.

(k)—Yes.

(l)—Yes.

(m)—Meaning is not clear. If issued of an attachment order under section 145, Criminal Procedure Code is meant, it was issued on 10th January, 1958.

(n)—There was no delay in taking action.

Monthly Progress Report of Works in the Public Works Department Divisions

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

(a) Whether there is any monthly progress report of works in the Public Works Department Divisions ?

(b) Whether there is any monthly account of Bill payment as against progress of work in every month ?

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

579. (a)—Yes, and copies of these are regularly submitted to the Chief Engineer by the Divisional Officers.

(b)—Yes. Such records are maintained by the Sectional Officers and the Subdivisional Officers and they are examined by the Divisional Officers and the Superintending Engineers from time to time.

Expenditure incurred for Construction of Veterinary Dispensary at Katlicherra

Dr. RAM PRASAD CHAUBEY (Lakhipur) asked :

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

(a) The total expenditure incurred upto date for the construction of Veterinary Dispensary at Katlicherra ?

- (b) What is the condition of the said dispensary at present ?
- (c) Who is responsible for its damage within a month of its completion ?
- (d) How much medicine were supplied to the Veterinary dispensaries at Jatingamukh, Salchapra and Silchar ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that many cattle died within the jurisdiction of the above dispensaries for want of medicine ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

580. (a)—The Katlicherra Veterinary Dispensary was constructed at a total cost of Rs.21,036.

(b)—The Dispensary building is partly damaged by Cyclone.

(c)—Cyclone.

(d)—Medicines worth Rs. 630, Rs. 1,172 and Rs. 1,926 were supplied to the Veterinary Dispensaries at Jatingamukh, Salchapra and Silchar respectively.

(e)—No.

Creation of two new Sub-Deputy Collector Circles at Rowta and Patharighat in Mangaldai Subdivision

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Mangaldai) asked :

581. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to create two new Sub-Deputy Collector Circles at Rowta and Patharighat in Mangaldai Subdivision ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

581. Yes, and the matter is under consideration of Government.

**Strength of Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers,
S. D. Os. and Overseers under Public Works
Department**

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

582. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the present strength of Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers, Subdivisional Officers, and Overseers under the Department ?
- (b) What is the number of each of the above cadres brought on contract basis from outside the State and what is the length of period contracted for ?
- (c) What is the difference of pay of officers brought on contract and the officers who are natives of Assam ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that though the Public Service Commission have nominated certain Subdivisional Officers, of the State for promotion, Government has not yet promoted them.
- (e) Whether Government propose to give effect to the nomination made by the Assam Public Service Commission on their behalf ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister in-charge of P. W. D. (R. & B. Wing)] replied :

582. (a)—The information given below is for Public Works Department (R. & B. Wing).

(i)—At present there are 27 (twenty-seven) Executive Engineers including one Additional Executive Engineer for Diphu Division. Besides, there are 3 (three) Under-Secretaries of the rank of Executive Engineers and 3 (three) Executive Engineers for Planning and Design works in the office of Chief Engineer (R. & B. Wing).

As for Assistant Engineers, there are 15 (fifteen) officers who belong to the A. E. S. Class II, 42 (forty-two) Temporary Engineers and 13 (thirteen) Junior Engineers.

There are 87 (eighty-seven) Subdivisions of which 68 (sixty-eight) Subdivisions are held by S. E. S., Subdivisional Officers and the rest by Temporary Engineers. In addition there are 24 (twenty-four) Subdivisional Officers, Temporary Contractors.

The present strength of existing S. E. S., Overseers is 33 (thirty-three) Temporary Overseers is 259 (two hundred and fifty-nine) re-employed overseers is 9 (nine) and Overseers Grade III is 150 (one hundred and fifty).

(b)—The number of officers brought on contract basis from outside the State with their term of contract is given below :—

(1) Executive Engineers—2 (two)

Names	Date of appointment	Date of expiry of term
(1)	(2)	(3)
(i) Sri P. L. Chadha, E. E., Nowgong (East)	23rd Mar. 1948.	28th Mar. 1959.
		(since decided to renew the contract for one year more).
(ii) Sri H. P. Singh (at present at Kohima)	6th Oct. 1948.	6th Oct. 1958.

(2) Temporary Engineers—1 (one)

(i) Sri Sisir Choudhury (attached to C. Es. Office)	14th June 1954.	14th June 1959.
-----------------------------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------

(3) Junior Engineers—13 (thirteen).

All the Juniors Engineers were taken into this Department on contract and their term of contract is 3 (three) years.

(4) Overseers—104 (one hundred and four).

Their term of contract is one year and three years.

(5) Overseers Grade III—Nil.

(None was appointed on contract).

(c)—Scales of pay of Temporary Engineers, Junior Engineers and Overseers (both regular and contract) are given below.

(1) Temporary Engineers—

Regular—Rs.225—20—425 (E. B.)—25—600.

Contract—

- (i) Rupees 375—25—800 (Rs. 600—50—1,000 when in-charge of a Division).
- (ii) Rupees 400—25—700 (Rs.600—50—1,000 when in-charge of a Division).
- (iii) Rupees 300—25—600.
- (iv) Rupees 200—25—600.

(2) Junior Engineers—All Junior Engineers were taken in contract scale which is—

Rupees 200—10—260—15—350.

(3) Overseers—(I & II).

Regular—Rs.125—7½—155—9—245 (E. B.)—10—275.

Contract—

- (i) Rupees 120—10—250.
- (ii) Rupees 200—10—250—15—400.
- (iii) Rupees 200—10—260—15—350.

Lower scale—(both contract and regular).

Rupees 100—6—160 (E. B.)—8—200.

Overseers Grade III—All are regular and their scale is Rs.75—4—115 (E. B.)—4—135—5—150.

(d)—Yes, it has not been possible to do so for want of vacancy.

(e)—Yes, gradually as vacancy occurs.

Population of the Plains Tribal Communities in the State

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

583. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Affairs be pleased to State—

(a) Population of the Plains Tribal communities in the State (to be shown district-wise) ?

(b) Whether grants under Act. 275 of the Constitution are being made on population basis or otherwise ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas) replied :—

583. (a)—The population of the Plains Tribal Communities in the State district-wise according to 1951 census is as follows—

(1) Cachar District	...	...	...	...	6,665
(2) Goalpara „	...	...	...	...	169,647
(3) Kamrup „	...	...	...	...	171,486
(4) Nowgong „	...	...	...	...	68,419
(5) Darrang „	...	...	...	...	89,368
(6) Sibsagar „	...	...	...	...	68,409
(7) Lakhimpur „	...	...	...	...	119,588

(b)—Certain grants are distributed on the basis of population like the grants-in-aid for self-help schemes and the grants-in-aid for improvement of rural water supply. Some other grants like those given to non-official organisations for doing welfare work among the Tribals and to individual tribals to encourage them in Cottage Industries, Sericulture and Weaving, etc., are given as far as funds permit, according to the need, taking into consideration the recommendations of the respective Heads of Departments, representatives of the Scheduled Tribes and other Local authorities like the Deputy Commissioner, Subdivisional Officer and so on.

Publicity work to popularise the important aspects of nation-building tasks among the common people

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

584. Will the Minister-in-charge of Information and Publicity be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that no publicity work was executed to popularise the important aspects of nation-building tasks among the common people ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that no Publicity Officer made any speech or personally conducted any publicity work in recent years in any rural area on utility of Community Development Projects and Extension Services urging the masses of the people to co-operate with them ?

(c) If so, why ?

d) If not, in what places the works described above were performed ?

(e) Whether Government propose to lay on the table a statement showing the activities of the Department since 1952 till date ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Publicity)
replied:

584. (a)—It is not a fact.

(b)—Officers of the Publicity Department are not required to deliver speeches in public meetings. They mainly utilise the media of written and audio-visual publicity in conducting publicity work. They give Press coverage of important tours of State and Union Ministers and other dignitaries. The Department has been doing publicity work in the rural areas including Community Development and N.E.S. Block areas of the State through film shows, distribution of posters, pamphlets and installing community listening sets.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—A statement is given below.

The Present Activities of the Information and Publicity Department, Assam

The present Directorate of Information and Publicity in the State of Assam is a permanent department under a Head of Department who is designated as the Director of Information and Publicity. The publicity and propaganda activities of the State Government of Assam is centralised in this Department. The various methods employed in the publicity and propaganda work of the Government consist of printed publicity, audio-visual publicity, rural broadcasting system, press publicity, etc. This Directorate has been designed to carry Government news and views direct to the masses in towns and villages of the State for the uplift of the mass people.

For efficient publicity and propaganda work the activities of the Directorate fall broadly into the following categories :—

(a) *Administrative Section*.—This Section deals with organisation supervision, establishment, budget, accounts (including stock and stores), record, etc., branches.

(b) *Liaison Section*.—As Publicity Department is the advance guard of the relation between the Press, public and Government, it has been the first duty of the Publicity Department to safeguard the interest of the Government and the extent to which it can do this depends very largely on the effectiveness of liaison with other departments. Besides, Press coverages of tours of Ministers of the Union Government, the Governor, Chief Minister and Ministers, and liaison with Secretaries and Heads of the Departments and also with the Press, are arranged through this Section. Such activity of the Department has been mainly responsible for placing Assam in the news map of India. Liaison is also maintained through this Section with All-India Radio, Gauhati. This Department regularly feeds the Gauhati Station of the All-India Radio with news items for their local news bulletins. Press telegrams of important events in the State are sent to the P. T. I. Calcutta and Gauhati and U. P. I. Calcutta, and through them distributed to various newspapers.

(c) *Press Section*.—This Section receives newspapers, journals, etc., of Assam as well as of the other States and of East Pakistan, analyse them and sends clippings to the Departments concerned for action. Liaison with the Editors of the State Newspapers and representatives of news agencies and other important dailies of Calcutta, is effected through Press contacts, Press Advisory Board meetings, etc., under this Section. Press Advisory Board meetings are held annually for thrashing out matters of mutual interest to the Government and the Press and also in maintaining cordial relations between the Press and the Government. There is a Press Room with a library attached to it for use by the News Agency representatives and newspaper correspondents. From this Section reports on the following subjects are regularly submitted to the Government :—

(a) Roundup of the Assam Press (Fortnightly Report).

(b) Monthly Review of the East Pakistan Press.

- (c) Implementation of the Indo-Pak Agreement as noticed in the Assam Press (Fortnightly Report).
- (a) Information regarding the discontinuance of existing Newspapers and starting of new ones in the State (Monthly Report submitted to Government of India).
- (e) Analysis of Public Opinion (Monthly Report).
- (f) Observance by the Press of the Voluntary Press Coad (Monthly Report).

(d) *Production Section*.—This Section is responsible for originating, producing and distributing the Departments' printed publicity materials, *e. g.*, Departmental newspapers, leaflets, pamphlets, press notes, communiques, brochures, handouts, etc. Blocks, posters, maps, diagrams, etc., are also produced under this Section. It also supplies blocks and photographs to various newspapers of the State. Several pamphlets, leaflets, brochures, etc., on various nation-building subjects are published and copies distributed both outside and inside the State for wide publicity.

(c) *Departmental Newspaper Section*.—The Department publishes two monthly journals, *e. g.*, "Asoma" in Assamese language and "Assam Information" in English. The journals publicise plans and schemes of the Government and developmental activities of the various nation-building departments.

(f) *Technical Section*.—Through this Section all technical equipments, *e. g.*, public address system, cinema equipment, photographic accessories, motor vehicles, battery charges, generators and such other technical equipment, are procured, utilised, serviced and maintained. This Section is also responsible for hiring out the Departmental loudspeaker equipment. Town announcements and cinema shows are also organised through this Section. There are two Wireless Laboratories (One at Shillong and the other at Gauhati) where the repairing works of the Radios, amplifier sets, batteries, chargers, generators and cinema equipment of the Department are carried out by the skilled technicians of the Department.

(g) *Visual Publicity Section*.—In this Section all materials for visual publicity, *e. g.*, films, photographs, posters, etc., are

either produced and/or exhibited. This Section is also responsible for active participation and liaison work in exhibitions, shows and conferences. This Department has participated in quite a number of exhibitions held in the various areas of the State and also outside the State.

(h) *Photographic Section.*—This Department has a photographic laboratory with a fully equipped dark room in which the developing, printing and enlarging works are done. Large number of still photographs including various aspects of Assamese and tribal life were taken, most of which found publicity through various newspapers and departmental publications. The Directorate regularly supplies photographs to the Government of India Departments like C. P. W. D., Ministry of Community Development, Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity, Press Information Bureau and Publications Divisions, as well as to the journals and Newspapers published outside the State. Sixteen milimetre films covering important functions and events of the State are taken and exhibited.

(i) *Field Publicity Section.*—This Section consists of Mobile Units, each unit comprising a vehicle, a public address system, cinema equipment, an operator, a driver and a handyman. Mobile Units are commissioned whenever a campaign or a drive is to be carried on. The units are also utilised in covering important tours of the Union Ministers, Governor, Chief Minister and other Ministers of the State. Besides, the mobile units are utilised by Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers concerned for town announcements on different important subjects. This activity is now decentralised after the establishment of the District Publicity Officers in Headquarter towns of the State. Each District Publicity Office has or will have a fully equipped mobile unit for this purpose. Sixteen m. m. Documentary Films and News Reviews received from the Films Division, Government of India, and produced by this Department are shown mostly in the rural areas, public institutions and community project areas through the District Publicity Office Units.

(j) *Rural Broadcasting Section.*—This Section deals with the distribution, installation, servicing and maintenance of community listening sets in rural and urban areas and responsible for all personnel and equipment relating to

implementation of this Scheme. The Scheme has been functioning from September 1948 and about 168 battery (both dry and wet) operated radio sets have been installed at various location points in the State. During the Second Five Year Plan period altogether about 200 sets are proposed to be installed.

(k) *Advertisements, Notification, etc.*—All Government Advertisements and Notifications are issued to the Press through the Publicity Department. The Department issues all such advertisement on behalf of other departments of the Government. Advertisement Bills are scrutinised in this Department before they are sent to the Departments for payment. The activities of the Department remained more or less the same till 1954. In 1955 additional publicity and propaganda work in connection with the anti-untouchability scheme. B. C. G. Campaign have been entrusted to this Department. In 1956 establishment of District Publicity Offices under the Second Five Year Plan have been sanctioned by Government and the offices have now begun to function. In 1957, Agricultural Publicity Wing has also been added to this Department.

Two statements showing the personnel and number of posters, pamphlets, press notes, etc., published and issued from this Department year by year are appended herewith.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE
STRENGTH OF PERSONNEL YEAR BY YEAR

Name of the posts (1)	1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957						Remarks (8)
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
1. Director of Information and Publicity	...	1	1	1	1	1	
2. Deputy Director of Information and Publicity	..	1	1	1	*2	*2	Sanction for two Deputy Directors of Information and Publicity exists, but appointment of the Second Deputy Directors of Information and Publicity has not yet been made.
3. Film Officer	1	
4. Special Officer (Audio-visual)	1	
5. Departmental Publicity Officers	..	3	3	3	4	4	
6. Districts Publicity Officers	*12	*12	With the cessation of Naga Hills District to Centre there are now 11 Districts and so 11 district Publicity Officers will be necessary of these 11, 7 District Publicity Officers have so far been appointed at Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Goalpara, Tezpur, Gauhati, Tura, Nowgong and Diphu.
7. Technical Supervisor	..	1	1	1	1	1	
8. Assistant Editor of Publications	..	1	1	1	1	1	
9. Superintendent	1	1	
10. Translator	..	4	4	4	4	5	
11. Artist	1	1	
12. Regional Publicity Organiser	..	1	1	1	1	1+	+ Still remains vacant.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE
STRENGTH OF PERSONNEL YEAR BY YEAR

Name of the posts		1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	
13. Provincial Wireless Electrician	2	2	2	2	2	
14. Regional Wireless Electrician	5	5	5	5	5	
15. Photographer	1	1	1	1	1	
16. Head Assistant	1	1	1	1	1	
17. Upper Division Assistants	3	3	3	3	3	
18. Lower Division Assistants	18	18	18	18	18	
19. Typist	4	4	4	4	4	
20. Accountant	
21. Operator	10	10	10	10	10	
22. Driver	10	10	10	10	10	
23. Grade IV	27	27	27	27	27	
Total	93	93	93	94	163	168

QUESTIONS

[24TH APRIL

Serial No.	Year	Number of press notes and un-official notes issued	Number of copies distributed	Number of pamphlets, leaflets issued	Number of copies printed	Number of copies distributed	Number of posters issued	Number of copies printed	Number of copies distributed
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1	1952	615	76,875	19	41,200	36,209	..	..	..
2	1953	684	84,132	25	44,380	35,588	3	3,600	3,500
3	1954	738	92,150	25	46,802	41,925	2	15,000	11,500
4	1955	810	1,04,490	28	45,300	41,846	1	5,000	4,500
5	1956	835	1,12,725	26	84,811	83,558	3	45,000	42,000
6	1957	705	1,12,695	25	53,000	75,632	3	38,000	19,100
7	1958	95	15,585	6	34,500	..	2	20,000	..

Co-operative Offices in Barpeta Subdivision

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

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

(a) How many Co-operative offices are there in Barpeta Subdivision and how many new ones will be established ?

(b) What are their names ?

(c) What is the principle followed while establishing these offices ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that it was published in the *Assam Gazette* that a Co-operative office will be established at Sorbhog ?

(e) If so, why the Co-operative office has been shifted to other place ?

(f) What is the reason for shifting ?

(g) Who altered the decision ?

(h) Whether the said Co-operative office will be established at Sorbhog ?

(i) If not, why not ?

(j) Whether Government is aware that it will be doing injustice to the people of Sorbhog if the office is not established there after announcement in the *Assam Gazette* ?

(k) Why there is sudden change of policy on the part of Government ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Co-operative) replied :

585. (a)—There are four Co-operative offices in Barpeta Subdivision established on N. E. S. /C. D. Blocks basis and no new ones will be established there.

(b)—The location of the offices are as follows:—

1. Barpeta, 2. Barpeta Road, 3. Pathsala and 4. Sarthebari.

(c)—Co-operative circles have been established on the basis of N. E. S. Blocks comprising 2 or 3 such Blocks in a circle. Circle offices are generally established at the established or proposed headquarters of N. E. S./C. D. Blocks as the case may be for availability of office and residential accommodations.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Originally, Gobardhana N. E. S. Block and Jalah (Barpeta) C. D. Block (both existing) were combined together to comprise one circle with headquarter at Jalah; and Raha Block and Mandia Block (both proposed) were combined together and formed into one circle with headquarter at Sorbhog.

But subsequently, for making the circles more compact, the Blocks were regrouped making Gobardhana and Raha Blocks into one circle and tagging Mandia Block to Barpeta Block and Jalah Block to Jalikhata Block.

As the Gobardhana Block had its headquarter at Barpeta Road and as Raha Block was not yet established, the Headquarter of the Co-operative Circle was shifted to Barpeta Road.

(f)—*Vide* reply to question (e) above.

(g)—Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Assam.

(h)—The matter is under examination.

(i)—Does not arise in view of (h) above.

(j)—Government do not consider that injustice has been done to the people of Sorbhog by not locating the Co-operative office there.

(k)—The shifting was not done as a matter of policy but for administrative convenience.

Regarding State Transport Workers

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

586. Will the Minister in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that leave facilities were assured to the State Transport workers and their Association was informed accordingly ?
- (b) If so, why weekly holidays are not granted to the State Transport Workers ?
- (c) From what date these weekly holidays will be granted ?
- (d) Whether Government will grant them holidays with retrospective effect ?

587. Will the Minister in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Why Government do not grant at least alternative holidays to the State Transport workers on 26th January and 15th August ?
- (b) Whether Government will grant an extra day's wage to the workers who worked on last 26th January and 15th August to whom no alternative holidays were also given ?
- (c) If not, why not ?

588. Will the Minister in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the State Transport Department is engaging workers of lower cadre to higher responsibilities for long periods without additional wage or promotion ?
- (b) Whether Government will grant additional wage or promotion to such workers with effect from the date of their working in higher cadre ?
- (c) If not, why ?

589. Will the Minister in-charge of Transport be pleased state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Departmental promotions of State Transport employees are held up since 1955 ?

(b) If so, why ?

(c) Whether department proposes to promote the deserving workers ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport)
replied :

586. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Weekly holidays are usually given to the employees of the State Transport excepting the running and booking staff whose services are absolutely essential in keeping the operation of State Transport services as per schedule. The running and booking staff are also allowed sufficient rest or compensatory holidays in lieu of weekly holidays by roster.

(c) & (d)—Do not arise.

587. (a)—The State Transport workers working on 26th January or 15th August are allowed compensatory leave or rest in lieu thereof.

(b) & (c)—Do not arise.

588. (a)—No. But sometimes some Junior Conductors are employed in booking counter office and small Stations. The nature of the work whether working in the booking counter office or in the line is the same without involving any higher responsibilities. They are so employed in the booking counter office on written request from them either due to ill health or some reasons. Hence the question of additional wage does not arise.

(b)—Although the nature of work of the Junior Conductors whether they work in the booking office or the line is the same, the question of granting an additional allowance (Rs.15—20) to the Conductors working in the office equivalent to the monthly trip money earned by a Conductor while he goes on line is under the consideration of the Board.

(c)—Does not arise.

589. (a)—No.

(b) & (c)—Do not arise.

Shillong-Jowai-Khliehriat Road of State Transport

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

590. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) What are the grounds based on which the Government declared Shillong-Jowai-Khliehriat Road of State Transport as plains route ?

(b) Whether route is less risky than Gauhati-Shillong route ?

(c) Whether the background of declaring this route as plains route is for economising expenditure by paying less to the drivers and conductors ?

(d) Whether Government will declare this route as Hill route so that the workers may get Hill route benefits ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

590. (a)—Shillong-Jowai-Khliehriat Route has not been declared as plains route.

(b)—It does not appear to be less risky than Gauhati-Shillong route.

(c)—*Vide* reply against (a) above.

(d)—Government do not consider necessary to declare this road a route but workers employed on this route are allowed all benefits allowed to the worker employed on Gauhati-Shillong route in respect of Dearness Allowance and Winter Allowance, trip allowance allowed to the workers employed on this route is 50 per cent more than that of in the plain routes but almost equal to the trip allowance allowed to the workers on the Gauhati-Shillong route.

Investment of State Transport Department

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

591. Will the Minister in charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) The capital investment of the State Transport Department year by year since the very beginning showing the total amount up till now ?

(b) The total profit earned year by year ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

591 (a)—

<u>1947-48</u>	<u>1948-49</u>	<u>1949-50</u>	<u>1950-51</u>	<u>1951-52</u>
Rs.60,961	3,30,027	2,88,389	3,97,851	8,92,892

<u>1952-53</u>	<u>1953-54</u>	<u>1954-55</u>	<u>1955-56</u>	<u>1956-57</u>
Rs.8,47,929	7,03,271	8,52,779	31,32,311	44,45,902

Total—Rs.1,49,51,332

(b)—

<u>1947-48</u>	<u>1948-49</u>	<u>1949-50</u>	<u>1950-51</u>	<u>1951-52</u>
Rs.23,182	3,37,361	12,79,459	15,59,754	15,35,692

<u>1952-53</u>	<u>1953-54</u>	<u>1954-55</u>	<u>1955-56</u>	<u>1956-57</u>
Rs.15,72,879	18,21,509	20,05,364	23,83,247	30,18,403

Total—Rs.1,55,16,850

Number of buses running throughout the State by the State Transport Organisation

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

592. Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) What is the number of buses running throughout the State by the State Transport Organisation ?

(b) What has been the percentage of depreciation of the buses year by year ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

592. (a)—370

(b)—Petrol buses at 25 per cent and Diesel buses at 16·2/3 per cent.

Number of State Transport employees working both in line and office

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

593. Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) The number of State Transport employees working both in line and in office (information is to be given year by year since the last three years) ?

(b) The number of casual employees in the Department with their rank and date of employments during the aforesaid period ?

(c) Whether these workers will be absorbed before appointing new hands ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

593 (a)—

1954-55

Rs.1,532

1955-56

1,594

1956-57

2,226

(b)—Shown in annexure 'B' given below—

ANNEXURE—B

List showing the number of Casual appointments made
by State Transport, Out-station Officers
during the years 1955, 1956 and
1957

Serial No.	Designation	During the year			Remarks
		1955	1956	1957	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Driver		29	48	
2	Conductors		36	69	
3	Handyman		13	..	
4	Mechanic	17	74	111	
5	Chowkidar	2	7	17	
6	Grade IV Staff	26	50	100	
7	Traffic Labour	26	48	55	
8	Marking man	1	1	1	
9	Sweeper	1	..	4	
10	Car washer	2	2	3	
11	Tyremen .. .. .	..	..	3	
12	Porter			5	
13	Cobler			1	
Total		105	417		

(c)—Yes, subject to their suitability for absorption in regular cadre.

Overseas Training of State Transport Workers

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

594. Will the Minister for Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any State Transport workers were ever sent for overseas training in the history of State Transport ?

(b) Whether Government will send workers abroad for training ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

594.(a)—No, except the Director, State Transport who was sent to United Kingdom for training in operational management and administration of Road Transport for a period of 6 months during 1952-53.

(b)—Yes. The question of training abroad is arranged by the Government of India. Department actually sent the names of two Foremen and two Station Superintendents for selection by Government of India for training abroad. Out of them only one Station Superintendent has since been selected for training in United Kingdom.

Re: State Transport technical Staff working in the Central Workshop at Gauhati

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

595. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the State Transport technical staff working in the Central Workshop at Gauhati are guided by the Assam Government Fundamental Rules ?

(b) If so, whether the workers of the establishment are given equal leave facilities like other employees ?

(c) If not, why ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

595. (a), (b) & (c)—As the Central Workshop falls under the definition of a factory as per Factory Act, the employees of this workshop are granted leave as admissible under Factory Act. The Board will however examine this point.

Superannuation of State Transport employees on wrong calculation of age

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

596. (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a good number of State Transport employees were superannuated from their service in the course of the last five years on wrong calculation of age?

(b) Whether the Government is aware that such employees through their Association have expressed their dissatisfaction over such superannuation?

(c) If so, what step Government has taken to retain them in their respective services?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

596. (a)—No. The age of superannuation has been calculated on the basis of declaration of age recorded in the Service Books and duly attested by the employees.

(b)—Government have received some representation from such superannuated people for the correction of their age as per Horoscope.

(c)—The matter is under consideration of Government.

Greasing of State Transport Automobiles

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

597. Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the State Transport Automobiles are never properly greased and no Greasemen are appointed to look after the vehicles?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

597—No.

Reduction of pay of Normal passed teachers working in High Schools

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked :

598. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that pay of Normal passed teachers working in the High Schools has been reduced by the last Pay Committee ?

(b) If so, why?

(c) Whether Government will reconsider the matter immediately ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) replied:

598. (a)—No.

(b) & (c)—Do not arise.

Commission for purchase of State Transport Vehicles from different Companies

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) asked:

599. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether State Government get any commission in respect of purchase of State Transport Vehicles from different Companies ?

(b) If so, what is the amount ?

(c) Who is the purchasing agent ?

(d) Whether any individual officer is sent for the purpose or it is done by a Board ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

599. (a)—No. Vehicles are purchased by State Transport at Rate Contract price fixed by the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals Government of India, New Delhi.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—There is no purchasing agent. Vehicles are purchased through registered local dealers.

(d)—No individual officer is sent to purchase vehicles for the State Transport Organisation. The State Road Transport Board decides on the number and make of vehicles to be purchased.

Cases of overloading committed by public carriers and state carriages in Cachar District

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked :

600. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is any check on overloading committed by public carriers and state carriages ?

(b) How many cases of overloading were detected in Cachar District during the years 1956 and 1957 ?

(c) What were the results of the detected cases ?

(d) How many accidents were caused by these public conveyances in 1956 and 1957 in Cachar District ?

(e) Whether overloading is the main cause of the accidents ?

(f) Whether Government received reports during the above period about public carriers carrying people when opportunities arise ?

(g) Whether Government propose to take exemplary measures against offenders ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

600. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Number of overloading cases is 102 in 1956 and 80 in 1957.

(c)—111 cases ended in conviction, 39 acquitted and 32 pending.

(d)—20 in 1956 and 17 in 1957.

(e)—No.

(f)—Government have no information.

(g)—Punitive action according to law is always taken against offenders.

Maximum limit in granting permits to public carrier and stage carriage to one family

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked:

601. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is any maximum limit in granting public carrier and stage carriage permits to one family ?

(b) If so, what is that limit ?

(c) What are the names and addresses of the holders of such permits with their father's name who are inhabitants of Karimganj Subdivision ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

601. (a) & (b)—The Appellate Board in its meeting in June, 1952 directed that the number of permits to members of same family should be reduced and permits should be fairly and properly distributed.

(c)—(1) Khan Bahadur Abdul Majid Choudhury—One stage carriage permit, son of Late Haji Md. Isaque Choudhury, Karimganj.

(2) Shri Abdul Maktadir Choudhury—One stage carriage permit, son of Khan Bahadur Shri Abdul Majid Choudhury, Karimganj.

(3) Shri Sudhir Kr. Dey—One stage carriage permit, son of Shri Ram Kumar Dey, Karimganj.

(4) Shri Krishna Kr. Dey—One public carrier permit, son of Shri Ram Kr. Dey, Karimganj.

(5) Shri Hiralall Paul—One stage carriage permit and one public carrier permit, son of Late Chunilall Paul, Karimganj.

Arrangement for parking of public vehicles in Karimganj Town

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked:

602. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) What is the present arrangement for parking of public vehicle in Karimganj Town ?

(b) Whether Government propose to provide suitable stands for public vehicles in Karimganj Town ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

602. (a)—Stage carriages are parked around the bus stand on a private rented plot of land and the public carriers are parked along the Municipal Road in proximity with the Karimganj Public Carriers Owners' Association Office.

(b)—There is no such proposal at present.

Community Projects Advisory Committees

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

603. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Projects be pleased to state—

(a) Whether necessary instructions regarding the powers and functions of the members of the Community Projects Advisory Committees will be sent to the members including Projects Officers Subdivisional Officers and Deputy Commissioners ?

(b) If so, when these will be sent ?

Mr. A. THANGLURA (Parliamentary Secretary)
replied :

603. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Very shortly, after the matter has been discussed in the Informal Consultative Committee of the members of the State Assembly and their opinions and views have been available.

Bhalukadoba Ghat

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDER (Sorbhog) asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Bhalukadoba Ghat remains closed for six months during the rainy season ?

(b) If so, why Government have not taken any step to make it a regular Ghat ?

(c) How many mar-boats are there in the Ghat ?

(d) How Government propose to make it workable when cold weather bridge will be washed away ?

(e) Whether the Ghat lies on the National Highway ?

(f) If so, whether Government will improve the condition of the Ghat ?

(g) Whether a R. C. C. bridge will be constructed as a permanent solution ?

(h) If so, when ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.)
replied :

604. (a)—No. The ferry is operated regularly from 1st May to 30th November every year with a mar-boat and a single boat.

(b)—Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c)—One mar-boat is there in the Ghat.

(d)—When the cold weather bridge is washed away then the ferry is operated with a mar-boat and a single boat.

(e)—No. The Ghat is situated on the North Trunk Road (West), a State Road.

(f)—Does not arise in view of reply to (e) above and traffic through this Ghat.

(g) & (h)—The proposal for construction of a bridge over the Bhalukadoba river is not included in any schemes. This will be put up before the next meeting of the Assam Road Communication Board and if selected, the work will be taken up as and when funds are available for the purpose.

Delay in granting registration certificates to Trade Unions by Registrar of Trade Unions

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) asked :

605. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that the Trade Unions are experiencing much difficulties in getting registration certificates from the Registrar of Trade Unions as applications for registrations are ordinarily not disposed of in 10 or 12 months?

(b)—If so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure quicker disposal of applications for registrations?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :

605. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Ayurvedic and Homeopathic Dispensaries in the State

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar—West) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government propose to undertake any scheme for starting Ayurvedic and Homeopathic dispensaries in each Subdivision of the State ?

(b) Whether any appointment has been given to a Surgeon and a Pathologist for Silchar District Hospital ?

(c) If not, what steps have been taken ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

606. (a)—Government have already undertaken a Scheme for the establishment of 30 Government Subsidised Ayurvedic Dispensaries in the State in the Second Five Year Plan at six Dispensaries a year and these have been proposed Subdivision-wise.

There is no proposal for undertaking any Scheme for establishing Homeopathic Dispensaries in the State.

(b)—No.

(c)—As regards Pathologist, one Assistant Surgeon I will be posted as Pathologist in Silchar Civil Hospital after completion of three months training course in Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh.

The post of Surgeon at the Silchar Civil Hospital was advertised by the Assam Public Service Commission but it could not be filled up due to dearth of qualified candidate. The post is being re-advertised.

Accommodation of patients in verandah of Dibrugarh Medical Hospital

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that three seriously injured constables who met with accident in Chabua sometimes in the middle of the month of February, 1958 had to lie down in verandah of Dibrugarh Medical Hospital (Barabari) ?

(b) If so, why ?

(c) How many beds are there in surgical and emergency wards of the Assam Medical College (to be shown separately) ?

(d) Whether patients are required to lie on the verandah also of the Hospital for want of seats ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

607. (a)—No. they were accommodated in the improvised ward at the rear verandah of the Surgical Ward II after being duly attended by the Professor and Additional Professor of Surgery.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Total Surgical beds are 130 including Orthopaedic and Padiatric cases. Casualty Department has provision of 6 beds from where the patients are cleared within 24 hours, either by discharge or by admission into the Hospital, as considered necessary.

(d)—Yes, sometimes patients are accommodated in the Verandahs.

Taking over of L. P. Schools and Venture Schools by the Mangaldai School Board

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked :

608. Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state—

(a) How many Lower Primary Schools are there in the Mangaldai Subdivision which have already been taken over by the School Board, Mangaldai ?

(b) How many Venture Schools have so far applied to be taken over by the said School Board and of those how many schools of Mangaldai Subdivision will be taken over this year ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

608. (a)—597.

(b)—The School Board have recommended 56 schools to be taken over. It has provisionally been decided to take over 55 schools.

Deputy Inspector of Schools, Mangaldai Subdivision

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked :

609. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware of the public feeling that one Deputy Inspector of Schools is not competent enough to discharge his duties in the Mangaldai Subdivision when the number of schools, and the sphere of duties are increasing ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

609.—Government are not aware of any such public feeling.

Salaries of Low-paid L. P. Pandits in the Mangaldai Subdivision

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked :

610. (a) Will the Education Minister be pleased to state why low-paid L. P. Pandits are not getting their salaries regularly in the Mangaldai Subdivision ?

(b) How many L. P. Schools have been provided with trained Pandits in the Mangaldai Subdivision and what measures have been taken to provide the remaining such schools with trained Pandits ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

610. (a)—The matter is being enquired into.

(b)—Out of 899 teachers 305 are trained. Seats are being increased in the Training Centres to get more teachers trained.

Employment of Labour Boys and Girls in the Clerical Staff in the Tea Estates of Assam

Shrimati KOMAL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

611. Will the Minister-in-charge of the Labour be pleased to state whether Government propose to enquire and to take measures within the powers of the Government for the employment in the clerical staff in the Tea Estate of Assam of tea labour boys and girls who have read beyond Standard VI of High Schools ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :

611.—Government have no powers to give any directions to management to employ labour boys and girls from Assam only.

Deputy Co-operative Officers appointed in 1956-57 and 1957-58

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

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

(a) How many Deputy Co-operative Officers were appointed in 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?

(b) How many of them were appointed under Regulation 3(e) of the Assam Public Service Commission (Limitations of functions) Regulations, 1951 ?

(c) Whether any candidates from Plains Tribal were appointed under the above Regulations ?

(d) If so, what are their names ?

(e) How many candidates from Plains Tribal applied and how many of them were appointed in 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Co-operative) replied :

612. (a)—29 in 1956-57
10 in 1957-58.

(b)—10 in 1957-58.

(c)—None.

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

(e)—Two applied in 1956-57 and both of them were appointed under normal procedure and not under Regulation 3(e). One applied for Deputy Co-operative Officer's post in 1957-58. He was appointed as Assistant Co-operative Officer under Regulation 3(e) who was a graduate.

Closing down of Borsaikata Tea Estate of Jorhat

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

613. Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Government is aware that the Borsaikata Tea Estate of Jorhat is now closed ?

(b) Whether Government is aware of the reason of this closure ?

(c) If so, what is that reason ?

(d) Whether Government is aware that this is an economic garden and produces 13 mds. of tea per acre ?

(e) Whether Government is aware that the shareholders of this garden are disputing among themselves ?

(f) Whether Government is aware that this garden authority have withdrawn the medical facilities from the garden ?

(g) What step the Government is taking to give medical facilities to the labourers under the Plantation Labour Act ?

(h) Whether Government is aware that the doctor appointed by the Jorhat Jilla Chah Mazdoor Sangha was not allowed by the management to enter the garden compound ?

(i) Whether Government is aware that the management have not paid the earned wages to the workers and thereby violating the Payment of Wages Act, and no cereal ration is also issued ?

(j) Whether Government is aware that the Panbari Tea Estate is also one of the principal share-holders of this garden ?

(k) Whether Government is aware that the Panbari Tea Estate was splitted up into two gardens namely, Narayanpur and Bhabanipur and the workers have suffered a lot in the garden ?

(l) What measure the Government is taking or propose to take to protect the industry and labour from distress ?

(m) Whether Government propose to bring an Act for the protection of the labour and industry from the hands of such employees ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :
613. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—Yes, due to difference of opinion and consequent quarrel among the partners regarding the management of the garden. The Bank has also refused to finance the garden for this year.

(d)—Yes, the average yield per acre of the garden is 13 mds.

(e)—Yes, please see replies to (b) and (c) above.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Labour Officer was asked to visit the estate which he did and issue necessary instructions to the management. This was followed up by directions issued to the employers concerned and the Chief Inspector of Plantations also sought the good offices of the A. T. P. A. Nothing however proved to be of any avail and before prosecution could be launched the estate was closed.

(h)—No, a part-time doctor was engaged by the Jorhat Chah Mazdoor Sangha and worked in the garden from 8th November 1957 to 18th December 1957.

(i)—Yes. The Labour Officer has been instructed to file a case against the management under the Payment of Wages Act for non-payment of wages and other dues.

(j)—Shri Kiron Bezbarua who holds half-share in the Barsaikata Tea Estate is the Joint Proprietor of Panbari Tea Estate.

(k)—Yes.

(l) & (m)—Government are considering the possibility of taking over of uneconomic or mismanaged gardens.

Transfer of Shri Sudhir Ranjan Roy, Lower Division Assistant of Dhubri State Transport to Gauhati.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

614. Will the Minister in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the officers of the Transport Department are arbitrarily transferred from one place to another?
- (b) If not, under what circumstances Shri Sudhir Ranjan Roy, Lower Division Assistant of Dhubri State Transport, is transferred to Gauhati?
- (c) Whether he is transferred on disciplinary ground for sending a copy of his application for medical leave to the Association?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that he was warned by the Accounts Officer, State Transport?
- (e) If so, for what offence?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

614. (a)—No.

(b)—While Shri Sudhir Ranjan Roy, Store Assistant of Dhubri State Transport Store was on leave, one substitute from the Chief Store Office, Gauhati, was transferred to Dhubri. On expiry of leave, Sudhir Ranjan Roy was transferred to join in Chief Store Office, State Transport, Gauhati in public interest.

(c)—No.

(d)—Shri Sudhir Ranjan Roy was cautioned by the Accounts Officer, State Transport to submit his application through proper channel.

(e)—Does not arise.

Administrative functions of the different officers of State Transport

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

615. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport Department be pleased to state—

(a) What are the administrative functions of the following Officers of the Department—

(i) The Director, State Transport;

(ii) Assistant Secretary, State Road Transport Board;

(iii) Accounts Officer, State Transport;

(iv) Chief Automobile Engineer, State Transport ;

(v) Divisional Superintendent?

(b) Whether there is any office Superintendent in the office of the Director, State Transport ?

(c) If not, will Government appoint one office Superintendent?

(d) What is the number of Assistants in the office of the Director, State Transport?

(e) Whether Government are aware that the present staff is inadequate and that they are working even late hours ?

(f) If so, will Government employ sufficient number of employees in the office to minimise the volume of works ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

615. (a)—(i) Administrative and Executive Head of the Organisation Co-ordinating action of all branches of the Departments.

(ii) Administration of all functions relating to Traffic operation throughout the Organisation under general supervision of Director, State Transport.

(iii) Administration of accounts, audit or financial matters relating to the entire organisation with responsibility of deciding rules and procedure of the Organisation under general supervision of Director, State Transport.

(iv) Administration of all Workshops and Engineering functions of the entire organisation under general supervision of Director, State Transport.

(v) He is a Superintending and Executive Head of a Division placed under his jurisdiction on all matters connected with operation of Services, Accounts or Engineering.

(b)—A post of office Superintendent is there in the office of the Director, State Transport but it is not filled up till now.

(c)—The post is being filled up on promotion with the approval of State Road Transport Board.

(d)—82.

(e)—No. But it may so happen that staff entrusted with responsible work are required to attend office late hours in connection with submission of Budgets, finalisation of Balance Sheets and also taking over new routes, specially when the Assembly is in session. Irrespective of adequacy of staff working in late hours at such time as mentioned above is unavoidable.

(f)—Staff are gradually increased as per requirements from time to time and the proposal for additional staff is under consideration.

Amount allotted for National Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)
asked :

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

- (a) What was the amount allotted in the First Five Year Plan by the State Government for National Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme?
- (b) What amount was utilised during the First Plan under the said Scheme ?
- (c) What is the total amount allotted in the Second Five Year Plan for the Scheme ?
- (d) What amount has been allotted for urban and rural areas under that Scheme in the Second Plan period ?
- (e) How the total amount allotted for the National Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme is being spent in the Second Plan period (to be shown year by year) ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister)
replied :

616. (a)—Rupees 4 lakhs.
- (b)—Rupees 4 lakhs.
- (c)—Rupees 1.45 crores.
- (d) Rupees 45 lakhs for Urban areas to be given as loan by the Government of India and Rs. 1 crore for Rural areas.

(e)—The total amount proposed to be spent is as follows :—

						Rural Scheme (Rs. in lakhs)	Urban Scheme (Rs. in lakhs)
1956-57	...	...	...	...	...	6.50	Nil
1957-58	...	...	...	...	...	25.00	5.00
1958-59	...	...	...	...	...	24.00	10.00
1959-60	...	...	...	...	...	24.00	20.00
1960-61	...	...	...	...	...	20.50	10.00

Number of towns brought under the Standardised Water Supply and Sewage Scheme of the State

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpuri)
asked :

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

(a) How many towns have been brought under the Standardised Water Supply and Sewage Scheme of the State ?

(b) Whether there is any such scheme for Gauhati ?

(c) What effective measures have been taken to implement the scheme ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister)
replied :

617. (a)—It is proposed to take Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme in 3 Towns, viz., 1. Shillong, 2. Gauhati, 3. Karimganj under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Schemes (Urban) during the current plan period. No Sewage Scheme is however proposed to be implemented during the Second Five Year Plan.

(b) & (c)—Yes, survey work has since been completed and plan and estimates are at present under preparation.

Technical staff for implementation of the Urban and Rural Water Supply Schemes

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)
asked :

618. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Health be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the technical staff of the Government of Assam for implementation of the Urban and Rural Water Supply Schemes as provided under the Second Five Year Plan ?
- (b) Whether any step has been taken to build up a second organisation for implementation of the Urban and Rural Water Supply and Sewage Scheme ?
- (c) Whether there is any programme for training of the technical personnel ?
- (d) Whether Government have utilised the facilities offered by the Central Government's training programme of Rs. 50 lakhs to build up a fully qualified Public Health Engineering Organisation for the State ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Public Health)
replied :

618. (a)—The Public Health Engineering Organisation, Assam under the Directorate of Health Services, Assam has been set up for implementation of Urban and Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Schemes.

(b) —No.

(c) —Yes.

(d)—Yes.

**Permanent and temporary Public Works Department
Division in the State**

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

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

- (a) How many Public Works Department Divisions both permanent and temporary are there in the State, stating the places where they are located ?
- (b) How many Public Works Department Divisions were there in 1946 in the State ?
- (c) What was the mileage of Public Works Department roads under each Division approximate in 1946 and what is the mileage now under each Division ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, Public Works Department (R. & B. Wing)] replied :

619. (a)—There are 26 Divisions in (R. & B. Wing) (excluding Naga Hills) and out of these 13 (thirteen) Divisions are permanent and 13 (thirteen) are temporary. The details of the Divisions is given below.—

Name of Divisions	Head Quarters
1. Dibrugarh Division (permanent) ...	Dibrugarh.
2. North Lakhimpur Division (permanent).	North Lakhimpur.
3. Sibsagar Division (permanent) ...	Sibsagar.
4. Jorhat Division (permanent) ...	Jorhat.
5. Golaghat Division (temporary) ...	Golaghat.
6. Charali Division (temporary) ...	Charali.
7. Bharelli Bridge Division (temporary)...	Tezpur.
8. Tezpur Division (permanent) ...	Tezpur.
9. Mangaldoi Division (temporary) ...	Mangaldoi.

Name of Divisions	Head Quarters
10. Nowgong East Division (temporary) ...	Nowgong.
11. Nowgong West Division (permanent)	Nowgong.
12. Gauhati Division (permanent) ...	Gauhati.
13. Engineering College Construction Division (temporary).	Gauhati.
14. North Kamrup Division (temporary)	Nalbari.
15. Barpeta Division (temporary) ...	Barpeta.
16. Goalpara Division (temporary) ...	Goalpara.
17. Dhubri Division (permanent) ...	Dhubri.
18. Tura Division (permanent) ...	Tura.
19. Khasi and Jaintia Hills Division (permanent),	Shillong.
20. Mawphlang-Balat Road Division (temporary).	Shillong.
21. Jowai-Badarpur Road Construction Division (permanent)	Jowai.
22. Cachar Division (permanent) ...	Silchar.
23. Karimganj Division (permanent) ...	Karimganj.
24. Aijal Division (temporary) ...	Aijal.
25. Kokrajhar Division (temporary) ...	Kokrajhar
26. Mikir and North Cachar Hills Division (temporary).	Diphu.

(b)—10 Divisions, *viz.* (excluding two E. and D. Divisions and two Divisions in Sylhet District).

1. Khasi-Jaintia Hills Division.

2. Lower Assam Division.

3. North Kamrup Division.

4. Cachar Division.
5. Lakhimpur Division.
6. Jorhat Division.
7. Nowgong Division.
8. Central Assam Division.
9. Western Assam Division.
10. Kohima Division.

(c)—The total mileage is given in the statements placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S.20).

Khadi and Village Industries Board

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) asked :

620. Will the Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving be pleased to state—

- (a) How many schemes have been sanctioned by the Khadi and Village Industries Board in the Second Five Year Plan ?
- (b) What are the amounts sanctioned by the Central and State Government for each of the schemes ?
- (c) What progress has been made in the scheme and what amount has been spent up till now in each of these schemes ?
- (d) What steps have been taken to supervise utilisation of the grant sanctioned to various institutes ?
- (e) How many Khadi Production Centres have been established till now and what amount has been spent in establishment up till now and what quantity of Khadi has been produced by these centres ?

621. Will the Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving be pleased to state—

- (a) What amount was sanctioned by Central Government in the First Five Year Plan for Khadi and Village Industries Board ?
- (b) Out of these sanction what amount could be spent during the First Five Year Plan ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that a huge amount of money could not be spent during the First Five Year Plan ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that as the Secretary of the Khadi and Village Industries Board has other multifarious Departments under his control, he cannot give proper attention to the Board ?
- (e) If so, what steps State Government has taken in this regard ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving) replied :

620. (a)—The Khadi and Village Industries Commission has sanctioned 17 (seventeen) schemes for the Second Five Year Plan.

(b)—No amount is sanctioned by the Central Government but the erstwhile. All-India Khadi Board, now the Khadi Commission and the State Government have sanctioned the amounts as per statement placed on the table. (Please see Library Register No.S.21)

(c)—A Statement is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S.21)

(d)—The internal auditor inspects and looks into the proper utilisation of funds by auditing the accounts of the institutions. The Assistant Secretary also inspects them and supervises utilisation. It has also been proposed to appoint two more Internal auditors and also three Development Officers to supervise the work and watch proper utilisation.

(e) Up till now 13 (thirteen) Khadi Production Centres and 5 (five) sub-Centres have been established and an amount of Rs.72,000 is spent for this purpose, and 34,000

square yards cotton and 10,000 square yards Endi and Muga so far have been produced.

621. (a)—The State Khadi and Village Industries Board was first constituted in July, 1953. The All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board (not Central Government) sanctioned Rs.2,09,655 as grants and Rs.2,50,000 as loan for this State Board during the First Five Year Plan.

(b) An amount of Rs.2,61,000 was spent during the First Five Year Plan period, i. e., 1955-56.

(c)—An amount of Rs.1,98,655 could not be spent during the period as the State Board received the amount at the end of the financial year as shown below :—

Rs.25,375 for Gur Industry received on 21st February, 1956 ; Rs.20,980 for Palmgur, received on 24th January, 1956 ; Rs.7,800 for Bee-Keeping, on 7th December, 1956 ; and the rest Rs.2,69,500 received in the month of November and September, 1955.

(d)—It is a fact that the Secretary, Cottage Industries Department who is an *Ex-Officio* Secretary of Khadi and Village Industries Board has other Multifarious Departments under his control ; and along with increase of the activities of the Board it has become difficult for him to give the required attention.

(e)—The Board is taking steps to appoint one whole-time Secretary or one Joint Secretary.

Inclusion of Muga and Assam Silk in the list of Khadi

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) asked :

622. Will the Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Khadi means hand-spun and hand-woven cloths ?

(b) Whether Muga and Assam silk of the State are hand-spun and hand-woven cloths ?

(c) If so, why this has not been included in the list of Khadi.

(d) Whether it is a fact that as Muga and Silk are not included in the list of Khadi, a Khadi Centre could not be started at Sualkuchi ?

(e) Whether Government propose to include Muga and Assam Silk in the list of Khadi and start a Khadi centre at Sualkuchi immediately to improve the economic condition of the people there ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving) replied :

622. (a)—Yes. Provided wages have been paid according to the rate laid down by Khadi Commission.

(b)—Question is not clear. Assam Silk means Muga, Endi and Pat. If they are hand-spun and hand-woven and proper wages are paid then they are so.

(c)—Assam Silk are already included in the list of Khadi in so far they are hand-spun and hand-woven with proper wages paid.

(d)—No. Muga and Silk also are Khadi *vide* (c) above. A Khadi Centre has already been started at Sualkuchi.

(e)---Does not arise.

Names of the present Deputy Directors of Sericulture and Weaving with their academic and Technical qualifications

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) asked:

623. Will the Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving be pleased to state—

(a) The names, academic and Technical qualifications of the present Deputy Directors of Sericulture and Weaving ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that some of these personnel were recruited from amongst the office assistants who have no technical qualification ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving) replied :

623. (a)—Deputy Director of Sericulture, Shri Jitendra Nath Barthakur.

Academic qualifications—

- (i) Matriculation in 1st Division with distinction in Additional Mathematics.
- (ii) B. Sc., with Honours in Geology and stood 2nd in order of Merit.
- (iii) M. Sc., 1st Class Second in Geology (C. U.)

Technical qualifications :---

Undergone training in the Central Sericultural Research Station at Berhampur, West Bengal for nine months. Then, Research Officer, at Titabar for 3 years, 2 months.

(2) Deputy Director, Weaving— Shri Dharjyadhar Duara.

Academic qualifications---

- (i) B. Sc.

Technical qualification—

- (ii) L. T. M. (Licentiate Textile Manufacture.)
- (iii) Served in the Department as Assistant Weaving Superintendent for 2 years 5 months. Superintendent for 2 years. Shri Duara has been appointed as Deputy Director of Weaving since 17th March 1958 but for want of reliever he has not joined yet.

(3) Deputy Director, Sericulture and Weaving (General Administration) Shri Nagendra Nath Keot.

Academic qualification---

- (i) Matriculation in 1st Division with distinction in Mathematics.
- (ii) I.Sc. in 1st Division.

- (iii) Served in the Department as office assistant for 21 years and Superintendent for 5 years ; Special Officer, Planning Cell for one year seven months.

(b)---Except Shri Keot, the others have technical qualification. Shri Keot has sufficient office and administrative experience and as one Deputy Director for general administration was necessary, he was selected.

Names of institutions where training in Cottage Industries, Sericulture and Weaving is imparted

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi)
asked :

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

- (a) The names of institutions where training in Cottage Industries and Sericulture and Weaving is imparted together with actual number of trade or craft taught therein ?
- (b) The number of boys passed from each of these institutions during the last five years ?
- (c) The number of trainees employed in their respective trades and also the number of the trainees appointed by the Government ?
- (d) Whether there is any follow-up schemes for these trainees ?
- (e) Whether there is any arrangement for apprenticeship training for the successful boys ?
- (f) Do Government think that the standard of training has attained the requisite level of technique ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries, Sericulture and Weaving, etc.) replied :

624. (a)—The names of institutions and trades or crafts taught are indicated in columns 1 and 2 of the Statement given below—

ANNEXURE "A"

Name of the Training Institutes	Trade or craft taught there	Number of boys passed during the last five years, viz., from 1952 to 1957	Number of boys employed
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
A.—COTTAGE INDUSTRIES—			
1. Cottage Industries Training Institute, Gauhati.	Bamboo and Cane works, Leather works, Doll and Toy making, Blacksmithy, Carpentry and Pottery.	28	2 in Government service. 19 in private enterprises.
2. Government Soap Factory and Training Institute, Gauhati.	Soap manufacturing ..	59	3 in Government service. 2 in private firm. 2 in business.
3. Government Bee-keeping Training Institute, Shillong.	Bee-keeping ...	50	12 in Government service. 18 in private firm. 20 in own business.
4. Government Paper making and Book-binding Training Institute, Shillong.	Paper making and Book-binding.	77	2 in Government service. 2 in private firm. 1 in own business.
5. Government Furniture making Training Institute, Shillong.	Furniture making ..	18	14 in private firm. 4 in own business.
6. Government Umbrella Handle making Training Institute, Dudhnai, Goalpara.	Umbrella handle making.	16	1 in own business.
7. Government Blacksmithy and Carpentry Training Institute, Barpeta, Kamrup.	Blacksmithy and Carpentry Works.	19	19 in private enterprises.

ANNEXURE "A"—*contd.*

Name of the Training Institutes	Trade or craft taught there	Number of boys passed during the last five years, viz., from 1952 to 1957	Number of boys employed
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
8. Sitalpati Demonstration Centre, Karimganj.	Sitalpati making ...	2	2 in own enterprises.
9. Knitting and Embroidery Institute, Shilong.	Knitting and Embroidery.	17	.....
10. Training-cum-Production Centre, Diphu.	Doll and Toy making...	} 1st batch did not complete the course.	} not the
11. Training-cum-Production Centre, Kokrajhar.	Blacksmithy and Carpentry.		
12. Training-cum-Production Centre, North Lakhimpur.	Blacksmithy and Carpentry.		

B.—UNDER SERICULTURE AND WEAVING—

1. Weaving Training Class at Tura.		28	
2. Weaving Training Class at Kacharipathar.		21	
3. Weaving Training Class at North Lakhimpur.			First batch did not complete the course.
4. Weaving Training Class at Sarupathar.		Do.	
5. Weaving Training Class at Raha.	Practical training on improved method of Handloom Weaving both for Cotton and Silk and Cotton and Eri Spinning.	Do.	
6. Weaving Training Class at Hajo.		Do.	
7. Weaving Training Class at Ganakuchi.		Do.	
8. Weaving Training Class at Resubelpara.		Do.	
9. Weaving Training Class at Jowai.		30	
10. Weaving Training Class at Ramphalbil.			First batch did not complete the course.
11. Weaving Training Class at Mussalpur.		Do.	

ANNEXURE "A"—*contd.*

Name of the Training Institutes	Trade or craft taught there	Number of boys passed during the last five years, viz., from 1952 to 1957	Number of boys employed
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
12. Weaving Training Class at Mokokchung.	Practical training on improved method of Handloom Weaving both for Cotton and Silk and Cotton and Eri Spinning.	16	
13. Weaving Training Class at Lungleh.		29	
14. Weaving Training Class at Kohima.		First batch did not complete the course.	
15. Weaving Training Class at Haflong.		25	
16. Weaving Training Class at Sarihajan.		40	
17. Weaving Training Class at Aijal.		40	
18. Weaving Training Class at Shillong.	Practical training on Handloom Weaving, Cotton and Eri Spinning and Knitting.	First batch did not complete the course.	
8.—ASSAM TEXTILE INSTITUTE, GAUHATI—			
(i) Diploma Course..	Training in hand-power loom weaving and preparatory processes with complementary science subjects, management and propaganda works.	First batch did not complete the course.	
(ii) Certificate Course	Training in improved handloom and Textile Chemistry, management and propaganda works.	95	All 95 are employed in Government service as Weaving Demonstrator.
(iii) Artisans Course..	Practical and theoretical training in spinning, weaving and dying.	85	7 employed in Government service as Weaving Demonstrator.

ANNEXURE 'A'—*concl'd.*

Name of the Training Institutes	Trade or craft taught there	Number of boys passed during the last five years, viz., from, 1952 to 1957	Number of boys employed
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
19. Sericulture Farm at Shillong.	Practical and theoretical training on improved method of Rearing, Spinning, Reeling, Grafting and Plantation of all kinds of food plants.	12	All 93 are employed in Government service as Sericultural Demonstrator.
20. Sericulture Farm at Jowai.		7	
21. Sericulture Farm at Gaurisagar.		15	
22. Sericulture Farm at Mangaldoi.		14	
23. Sericulture Farm at Diphu.		4	
24. Sericulture Farm at Aijal.		1	
25. Sericulture Farm at Howli.		5	
26. Sericulture Farm at Sanchoa.		15	
27. Sericulture Farm at Titabar.		6	
28. Eri Seed Grainage at Haflong.		14	
		93	
29. Sericultural Training Institute, Titabar—			
(i) Diploma Course	Training in up-to-date method of both mulberry and non-mulberry silk with complementary science subjects, management and propaganda works.		First batch did not complete the course.
Certificate Course	Practical and theoretical training in all branches of Sericultural Industry, management and propaganda works.	106	100 employed in Government service as Sericultural Demonstrator.

(b)—The number is indicated in column 3 of the Statement referred to at (a) above.

(c)—The number is indicated in column 4 of the Statement referred to at (a) above.

(d)—Yes ; as far as has been possible.

(e)—Yes, such arrangement exists in the Cottage Industries Department but not in Sericulture and Weaving Department.

(f)—The institutions being new, the standard of training is not yet upto expectation ; but Government are taking necessary steps to raise the standard of training by introducing modern tools and equipments with modern technique.

Loan issued to Artisans Craftsmen and the passed-out boys in Cottage Industries, Sericulture, Weaving, etc.

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi)
asked :

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

625. (a) What amount of loan was issued separately to artisan craftsmen and the passed-out boys during the last five years

(b) What is the total amount of loan issued from year to year during these five years ?

(c) The number of established artisans and craftsmen engaged in each trade (excluding sericulture and weaving) in the State ?

(d) Whether Government have supplied the artisan and craftsmen mentioned in sub-question (c), above with the requisite raw materials and facilities for marketing of their finished products ?

(e) If so, to what extent since the 1st April, 1956 to the 31st May, 1957 ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries, Sericulture and Weaving) replied :

625. (a)—In Cottage Industries Department there is no demarcation in respect of granting loan to Industrialists, Artisans, Craftsmen and passed-out boys ; but every application is considered on its own merit. However, passed-out boys receive due encouragement in the shape of loans and grants whoever applies. Loans issued are shown in (b) below. Regarding Sericulture and Weaving Department loans issued are as follows:—

(1)					Artisans	Craftsmen	Passed-out boys
					(2)	(3)	(4)
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1952-53	..	..	..	..	Nil	8,000	Nil
1953-54	..	..	..	..	600	22,000	Nil
1954-55	..	..	..	..	1,500	32,000	600
1955-56	..	..	..	..	3,600	67,850	Nil
1956-57	..	..	..	..	6,600	31,300	1,000

(b)—In Cottage Industries Department—

					Rs.
1952-53	..	..	..	..	66,000
1953-54	..	..	..	..	98,200
1954-55	..	..	..	..	2,96,938
1955-56	..	..	..	..	4,84,150
1956-57	..	..	..	..	7,15,762

Total .. 16,61,050

In Sericulture and Weaving Department—

					Rs.
1952-53	..	..	..	..	8,000
1953-54	..	..	..	..	22,600
1954-55	..	..	..	..	34,100
1955-56	..	..	..	..	71,450
1956-57	..	..	..	..	38,900
					<hr/>
Total ..					1,75,050
					<hr/>

(c)—Such statistical figures are not available.

(d)—Supplied steel to Karanga Kamar Silpa Co-operative and other institutes. A scheme for establishment of central stores and emporium for supplying raw materials to the Handicraftsmen, Cottage Industrialists and Small Scale Units and marketing their products has now been taken up.

Implementation of the scheme is in progress.

(e)—5 tons of Scrap steel supplied to Karanga Kamar Silpa Co-operative.

Machineries purchased for the Cottage Industries Training Institute at Gauhati

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi)
asked :

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

(a) Whether all the machineries purchased for the Cottage Industries Training Institute at Gauhati have been installed ?

(b) What is the cost of machineries still lying unused at the Cottage Industries Training Institute, Gauhati ?

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

- (a) What was the amount of loan sanctioned by the Government of India for the establishment of Industrial Estate at Gauhati last year and amount spent out of it?
- (b) When the Industrial Estate will start to produce goods?
- (c) What is the rent per hundred sq. ft. to be recovered from the Industrialists of the Industrial Estate?
- (d) Whether the applicants for space in the Industrial Estate, were informed for approximate rent to be had before the space was finally allotted to them?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries, Sericulture and Weaving) replied :

626. (a)—All the machineries could not be installed for non-completion of some of the buildings and in some cases the earth-work being not settled, foundations for machineries could not be constructed.

(b)—Machineries valued at Rs.90,000 are lying unused for non-availability of electric power, which is now made available.

627. (a)—Last year, *i. e.*, 1957-58 the amount sanctioned was Rs.6,00,000. Previous to that Rs.5,70,000 were sanctioned. Total expenditure out of these amount till 31st July, 1958, is Rs.10,72,178.

(b)—Within next 6 months.

(c)—Rent tentatively fixed at Rs.13 per 100 sq. ft. per month.

(d)—Yes, 39 were provisionally selected and 18 of them have been finalised. They have been informed the rent and other terms and conditions before final allotment.

Water Supply for the Murkongselek Transferred Area

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA Saikhowa (asked) :

628. Will the Minister-in-charge of Town and Country Planning be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that 35 water supply projects were sanctioned during the last 3 years (1954-55, 1955-56 and 1956-57) for the Murkongselek Transferred area at a cost of Rs.12,305 ?
- (b) If so, what are the names and addresses of those projects, the executing agency of each project and the amount of money paid against each project up till now ?
- (c) Whether the execution and completion of those projects were inspected by any of the officials ?
- (d) If so, who inspected the completion of those projects ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Town and Country Planning) replied :

628. (a)—Yes.

(b), (c) & (d)—A statement containing all the required particulars is laid on the Library Table.
(Please see Library Register No.S22).

Amounts sanctioned for the Social and Cultural Organisations under Article 275 of the Constitution

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

629. Will the Minister-in-charge, Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

- (a) What were the amounts sanctioned for the Social and Cultural organisations under Article 275 of the Constitution in the year 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58 in the State of Assam excluding the Hill Tribal Areas ?

(To be shown year by year).

- (b) What are the names of those institutions ?
- (c) What amounts were sanctioned for Social Welfare Organisations under Article 275 of the Constitution in the year 1957-58 and what are their names and the amounts sanctioned ?
- (d) Whether they are situated within the Tribal Areas ?
- (e) If so, which are in the Tribal Areas and which are not ?
- (f) Whether grants under Article 275 of the Constitution are made available to some institutions which are not within the Tribal Areas and from which no Tribal people are benefited ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that grants under Article 275 of the Constitution are meant only for Tribal people and for their benefit ?
- (h) If so, why grants have been sanctioned to others at the cost of Tribal people ?
- (i) Whether there is any circular from Government of India for using grant under Article 275 of the Constitution for other purposes ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

629. (a)—The grants sanctioned under Article 275 are :—

Year					Grants to cultural Organisations	Grants to Non-Official Organisations doing welfare work among the Plains Tribal Areas
					Rs.	Rs.
1955-56	...	...	...	..	40,000	330,430
1956-57	...	..	...	...	49,000	55,000
1957-58	..	...	..	...	40,000	70,000

(b)—The names of the Institutions are shown in the list placed on the Library Table.

(Please see Library Register No,S23).

(c)—The amounts sanctioned are shown in there ply to (a) above and the names of the Institutions receiving the grants together with the amount are shown in the list placed on the Library Table.

(Please see Library Register No.S23).

(d) & (e)—The Scheduled Tribes in the State of Assam other than those in the Autonomous districts, the North-East Frontier Agency and Naga Tribal Area are generally known as the Plains tribals living together with the rest of the population in the State.

There are no areas known as Tribal Areas in the Plains Districts. The Institutions and Organisations receiving grants-in-aid under Article 275 in the State of Assam excluding the Tribal Areas in the autonomous districts as specified in paragraph 20 of the Sixth Schedule for encouraging the Social and Cultural activities of the Scheduled Tribes are those situated within the Plains Districts of the State. The question of their being within or outside the Tribal Areas does not, therefore, arise.

(f)—As already replied to questions (d) and (e) above the grants are given to Institutions within the State in the Plains Districts for the benefit of the tribal population served by them in their respective areas.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—The grants under Article 275 are sanctioned only for the benefit of the tribal people.

(i)—No, but Article 275 of the Constitution itself is that the schemes of development out of the grants-in-aid given under the Article 275 are to be undertaken by the State Government with the approval of the Government of India for the purpose of the Scheduled Tribes in the State or raising the level of the administration of the Scheduled Areas therein to that of the administration of the rest of the areas of the State.

Tours of Ministers and Deputy Ministers

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked:

630. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) For how many days did our Ministers and Deputy Ministers toured since the last Budget Session of the Assembly?

- (b) What was the total mileage covered by each Minister and Deputy Minister every month since the termination of the last Budget Session of the Assembly to the date of the resignation of the Ministry?
- (c) What is the total Travelling Allowance (with halting) earned by each Minister and Deputy Minister every month for the period mentioned in (b) above?
- (d) For how many days during the aforesaid period each of our Ministers and Deputy Ministers stayed in the headquarters at Shillong?
- (e) What places did the Ministers visit during the period mentioned in (b) above?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

630. (a) to (e)—A Statement is laid on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S24).

Places visited by Ministers after their taking Oath of Office

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

631. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) What places did the Ministers visit since their taking oath of office till the end of January, 1958?
- (b) What was the purpose of each of these visits?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

631. (a) & (b)—A statement is laid on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S23).

Public Health Dispensaries in Assam

Shri MANIK CHANDRA DAS (Tangakhat) asked :

632. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state how many Public Health Dispensaries are there in the State (to be shown district-wise)?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

632. There are 128 Public Health Dispensaries in the State. (A list of Dispensaries is placed on the Library Table). (Please see Library Register No.S25).

Persons convicted in Bornagar Circle, Barpeta Subdivision in connection with the National Movement since 1921

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

633. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) How many persons went to jail in connection with the National Movement since 1921 in Bornagar Circle, Barpeta Subdivision ?
- (b) What are their names ?
- (c) How many persons have been granted aids or pensions ?
- (d) What are their names and the amount given to each of them ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that many deserving persons have not been given any aid whatsoever ?
- (f) Whether Government received any representation to that effect ?
- (g) If so, from whom ?
- (h) Whether Government propose to consider the case of those political sufferers who have not yet received any aids ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

633.(a) & (b)—Government records showing convictions, etc., are destroyed after 12 years except in the case of conviction involving moral turpitude. As such, it is not possible to get record of a date prior to 1946 from any source.

(c)—45 persons of Barpeta Subdivision have been granted relief. Figure of Baranagar Circle is not available.

(d)—A list is given below :—

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NAMES AND PARTICULARS OF
THE POLITICAL SUFFERERS OF BARPETA SUBDIVISION
AND RELIEF SO FAR GRANTED TO THEM

Serial No.	Name and address	Relief granted
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Shrimati Gathuri Priya, Wife of Routaram Koch, Village Barsa- dari Pattacharkuchi.	Rs. 40 Per mensem.
2	Shri Ram Charan Choudhury, Barpeta	200 Lump sum.
3	Shrimati Durgeswari Bidhaya, Sarbhog, Barpeta	40 Per mensem.
4	Shrimati Bhabapriya Koch, Barsadari, P.O. Nityananda ..	20 Per mensem.
5	Shrimati Kanak Lata Talukdar, Gayanhati, Barpeta	25 Per mensem.
6	Shrimati Sobala Dashya, Nahati, Barpeta	25 Per mensem.
7	Shrimati Kunjalata Das, Raha, P.O. Chakchaka, Barpeta ..	20 Per mensem.
8	Shrimati Muleswari Dashya, Amguri, P.O. Sarbhog, Barpeta ..	30 Per mensem.
9	Shrimati Sarojini Baruah, Nakhandapara, Barpeta	20 Per mensem.
10	Shri Samudra Chandra Nath, Rampur, P.O. Sarbhog, Barpeta ...	400 Lump sum.
11	Shri Sarbeswar Das, Madulijar, P.O. Chakchakabazar, Barpeta ..	300 Lump sum.
12	Shri Dharmakanta Choudhury, Barbang, P.O. Pathsala, Barpeta	200 Lump sum.
13	Shri Bhagaban Chandra Talukdar (Cayanhati), Barpeta ...	250 Lump sum.
14	Shri Khageswar Kalita, Sarupeta, P.O. Sarupeta, Barpeta ..	500 Lump sum.
15	Shri Majaram Das, Kahitolapathar, P.O. Kamargaon, Barpeta ...	500 Lump sum.
16	Shri Jambaram Bora, Chamthaibari, P.O. Kamargaon, Barpeta	400 Lump sum.
17	Shri Mahendra Chandra Das, Nij Chakabausi, P.O. Chakchaka- bazar, Barpeta.	300 Lump sum.
18	Shri Mahodar Chandra Nath (Darji), Nijchaka Bausi, P.O. Chak- chakabazar, Barpeta.	400 Lump sum.
19	Shri Maheswar Das, Bairapur, Sarbhog, Barpeta	300 Lump sum.
20	Shri Muhidhar Das, Dakhin Ganakmari, P.O. Sarbhog, Barpeta	250 Lump sum.
21	Shri Bhara Chandra Das, Dakhin Ganak Gari, P. O. Sarbhog, Barpeta.	300 Lump sum.
22	Shri Ram Mohan Thakuria, Ahompathar, P. O. Sarbhog, Barpeta.	300 Lump sum.
23	Shri Kamala Kanta Das, Khichama, P.O. Kamargaon, Barpeta	500 Lump sum.

Serial No.	Name and address	Relief granted
(1)	(2)	(3)
		Rs.
24	Shri Shrikanta Basumatari, Bhotanta Mahitara, P. O. Nityananda, Barpeta.	300 Lump sum.
25	Shri Kamaleswar Majumdar, Puthimari, P. O. Bamakhata, Barpeta.	300 Lump sum.
26	Shri Purnachandra Talukdar, Manikpur, P. O. Baghmara, Barpeta.	300 Lump sum.
27	Shri Mothura Mohan Choudhury, Kalitapar, P. O. Sarbhog, Barpeta.	300 Lump sum.
28	Shri Chitoram Das, Raha, P. O. Chakchaka, Barpeta ..	300 Lump sum.
29	Shri Bhabin Chandra Das, Amguri, P. O. Chakchaka, Barpeta	300 Lump sum.
30	Shri Utso Chandra Das, Amguri, P. O. Chakchaka, Barpeta	300 Lump sum.
31	Shri Sargeswar Das, Sukanjali, P. O. Kamargaon, Barpeta	250 Lump sum.
32	Shri Bahia Ram Das, Kachamothaibari, P. O. Kamargaon, Barpeta.	250 Lump sum.
33	Shri Bhabendra Nath Sarma, Rampur, P. O. Sarbhog, Barpeta	300 Lump sum.
34	Shri Manikram Nath, Daramari, P. O. Sarbhog, Barpeta ..	300 Lump sum.
35	Shri Ramani Kanta Das, Dakhin Ganakbari, P. O. Sarbhog, Barpeta.	400 Lump sum.
36	Shri Tarini Charan Sarma, Barharid, P.O. Chakchaka, Barpeta	300 Lump sum.
37	Shrimati Urbashibala Das, Muguria, P. O. Pathchalla, Barpeta	200 Lump sum.
38	Shri Purandar Singha, P. O. Sarupeta, Barpeta	500 Lump sum.
39	Shri Nidhiram Dorjee, Madulijar, P. O. Chakchakbazar, Barpeta.	500 Lump sum.
40	Shrimati Bhagyeeswari Devi, P. O. Barpeta	35 Per mensem.
41	Shri Bhoben Chandra Das, P. O. Barpeta	25 Per mensem.
42	Shri Januram Deka, Bar Tezpur, P. O. Rampur	25 Per mensem.
43	Shrimati Sehati Bala Barmon, Chowkhuti, P. O. Barbang, Barpeta.	300 Lump sum.
44	Shri Bharat Chandra Sarma, Salmara, P. O. Dumnichali ..	500 Lump sum.
45	Shri Santi Ram Deka, Salmara, P. O. Dumnichalli	500 Lump sum.

(e)—No.

(f)—No.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—Cases of all deserving political sufferers will be considered on the merits of each case.

**Pay Scales to Teachers of Government High Schools
Middle Schools and Aided High Schools**

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

(a) What pay scales on the light of the Pay Committee's recommendations have been granted to ?

(i) Government High and Middle School teachers ; and

(ii) Aided High and Middle School teachers ?

(b) What pay scale has been granted to the Hindi teachers of Government Aided High and Middle English Schools ?

(c) If the reply is in the negative, whether Government propose to consider and grant a suitable pay scale with effect from the date of granting it to other Government employees ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

634. (a) (i) & (ii)—A statement is given below—

STATEMENT SHOWING PRE-REVISION AND REVISED PAY SCALES 1956 FOR GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

Government High Schools	Pre-Revision scale, i. e., Revised 1948 Scales	Revised scales 1956	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Headmasters ..	Rs. 175—15—250—20—350—(E.B.)—25— 400—	Rs. 200—20—300—25—400—(E.B.)—25— 500.	Minimum starting pay Rs. 350 per mensem.
Assistant Headmasters ..	Rs. 100—10—130—6—190—(E.B.)—10— 250 plus a special pay of Rs. 50 per mensem.	Rs. 125—7½—155—9—245—(E. B.)—10— 275 plus a special pay of Rs. 50 per mensem.	
Graduate Teachers, Classical Teachers with Titles.	Rs. 100—10—130—6—190—(E.B.)—10— 250.	Rs. 125—7½—155—9—245—(E. B.)—10— 275. Graduates with Honours, Distinc- tion, B. I. or Post-Graduates Degrees will get two advance increments.	
Intermediate or Matric Normal Passed Teachers.	Rs. 75—2½—100—(E.B.)—4—120 ..	Rs. 75—3—105—(E.B.)—4—125 ..	
Matric Teachers ..	Rs. 40—1—50—2½—65. ..	Rs. 60—4—80—(E.B.)—4—100—(E.B.)— 5—125.	
Normal Passed Teachers ..	Rs. 55—2—75—(E.B.)—3—90 ..	Rs. 60—2—80—(E. B.)—2½—100 ..	
Hindi Teachers ..	Rs. 75—2½—100—(E.B.)—4—120 ..	Rs. 75—3—105—(E.B.)—4—125 ..	

B.--GOVERNMENT MIDDLE
ENGLISH SCHOOLS--

Headmasters/Head Pandit	Rs. 75-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -100-(E.B.)-4-120	..
Intermediate Passed Teachers	Rs. 75-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -100-(E.B.)-4-120	..
Matric Normal Passed Teachers	Rs. 75-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -100-(E.B.)-4-120	..
Non-Matric Normal Passed	Rs. 55-2-75-(E.B.)-3-90	..
Matric Teachers	Rs. 40-1-50-(E.B.)-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -65	..

Pay scales of teachers of Government Middle English Schools should be the same as those sanctioned for teachers of Government High English Schools, according to qualifications. The Headmasters should get a special pay of Rs. 20 per mensem.

C.—GOVERNMENT MIDDLE
VERNACULAR
SCHOOLS—

Category	Rs. 30-1-40	Rs. 35-1-45 (Guru)	Rs. 40-1-60	Rs. 45-1-75	Rs. 50-1-90	Rs. 55-1-105	Rs. 60-1-120	Rs. 65-1-135	Rs. 70-1-150	Rs. 75-1-165	Rs. 80-1-180	Rs. 85-1-195	Rs. 90-1-210	Rs. 95-1-225	Rs. 100-1-240	Rs. 105-1-255	Rs. 110-1-270	Rs. 115-1-285	Rs. 120-1-300	Rs. 125-1-315	Rs. 130-1-330	Rs. 135-1-345	Rs. 140-1-360	Rs. 145-1-375	Rs. 150-1-390	Rs. 155-1-405	Rs. 160-1-420	Rs. 165-1-435	Rs. 170-1-450	Rs. 175-1-465	Rs. 180-1-480	Rs. 185-1-495	Rs. 190-1-510	Rs. 195-1-525	Rs. 200-1-540	Rs. 205-1-555	Rs. 210-1-570	Rs. 215-1-585	Rs. 220-1-600	Rs. 225-1-615	Rs. 230-1-630	Rs. 235-1-645	Rs. 240-1-660	Rs. 245-1-675	Rs. 250-1-690	Rs. 255-1-705	Rs. 260-1-720	Rs. 265-1-735	Rs. 270-1-750	Rs. 275-1-765	Rs. 280-1-780	Rs. 285-1-795	Rs. 290-1-810	Rs. 295-1-825	Rs. 300-1-840	Rs. 305-1-855	Rs. 310-1-870	Rs. 315-1-885	Rs. 320-1-900	Rs. 325-1-915	Rs. 330-1-930	Rs. 335-1-945	Rs. 340-1-960	Rs. 345-1-975	Rs. 350-1-990	Rs. 355-1-1005	Rs. 360-1-1020	Rs. 365-1-1035	Rs. 370-1-1050	Rs. 375-1-1065	Rs. 380-1-1080	Rs. 385-1-1095	Rs. 390-1-1110	Rs. 395-1-1125	Rs. 400-1-1140	Rs. 405-1-1155	Rs. 410-1-1170	Rs. 415-1-1185	Rs. 420-1-1200	Rs. 425-1-1215	Rs. 430-1-1230	Rs. 435-1-1245	Rs. 440-1-1260	Rs. 445-1-1275	Rs. 450-1-1290	Rs. 455-1-1305	Rs. 460-1-1320	Rs. 465-1-1335	Rs. 470-1-1350	Rs. 475-1-1365	Rs. 480-1-1380	Rs. 485-1-1395	Rs. 490-1-1410	Rs. 495-1-1425	Rs. 500-1-1440	Rs. 505-1-1455	Rs. 510-1-1470	Rs. 515-1-1485	Rs. 520-1-1500	Rs. 525-1-1515	Rs. 530-1-1530	Rs. 535-1-1545	Rs. 540-1-1560	Rs. 545-1-1575	Rs. 550-1-1590	Rs. 555-1-1605	Rs. 560-1-1620	Rs. 565-1-1635	Rs. 570-1-1650	Rs. 575-1-1665	Rs. 580-1-1680	Rs. 585-1-1695	Rs. 590-1-1710	Rs. 595-1-1725	Rs. 600-1-1740	Rs. 605-1-1755	Rs. 610-1-1770	Rs. 615-1-1785	Rs. 620-1-1800	Rs. 625-1-1815	Rs. 630-1-1830	Rs. 635-1-1845	Rs. 640-1-1860	Rs. 645-1-1875	Rs. 650-1-1890	Rs. 655-1-1905	Rs. 660-1-1920	Rs. 665-1-1935	Rs. 670-1-1950	Rs. 675-1-1965	Rs. 680-1-1980	Rs. 685-1-1995	Rs. 690-1-2010	Rs. 695-1-2025	Rs. 700-1-2040	Rs. 705-1-2055	Rs. 710-1-2070	Rs. 715-1-2085	Rs. 720-1-2100	Rs. 725-1-2115	Rs. 730-1-2130	Rs. 735-1-2145	Rs. 740-1-2160	Rs. 745-1-2175	Rs. 750-1-2190	Rs. 755-1-2205	Rs. 760-1-2220	Rs. 765-1-2235	Rs. 770-1-2250	Rs. 775-1-2265	Rs. 780-1-2280	Rs. 785-1-2295	Rs. 790-1-2310	Rs. 795-1-2325	Rs. 800-1-2340	Rs. 805-1-2355	Rs. 810-1-2370	Rs. 815-1-2385	Rs. 820-1-2400	Rs. 825-1-2415	Rs. 830-1-2430	Rs. 835-1-2445	Rs. 840-1-2460	Rs. 845-1-2475	Rs. 850-1-2490	Rs. 855-1-2505	Rs. 860-1-2520	Rs. 865-1-2535	Rs. 870-1-2550	Rs. 875-1-2565	Rs. 880-1-2580	Rs. 885-1-2595	Rs. 890-1-2610	Rs. 895-1-2625	Rs. 900-1-2640	Rs. 905-1-2655	Rs. 910-1-2670	Rs. 915-1-2685	Rs. 920-1-2700	Rs. 925-1-2715	Rs. 930-1-2730	Rs. 935-1-2745	Rs. 940-1-2760	Rs. 945-1-2775	Rs. 950-1-2790	Rs. 955-1-2805	Rs. 960-1-2820	Rs. 965-1-2835	Rs. 970-1-2850	Rs. 975-1-2865	Rs. 980-1-2880	Rs. 985-1-2895	Rs. 990-1-2910	Rs. 995-1-2925	Rs. 1000-1-2940	Rs. 1005-1-2955	Rs. 1010-1-2970	Rs. 1015-1-2985	Rs. 1020-1-3000	Rs. 1025-1-3015	Rs. 1030-1-3030	Rs. 1035-1-3045	Rs. 1040-1-3060	Rs. 1045-1-3075	Rs. 1050-1-3090	Rs. 1055-1-3105	Rs. 1060-1-3120	Rs. 1065-1-3135	Rs. 1070-1-3150	Rs. 1075-1-3165	Rs. 1080-1-3180	Rs. 1085-1-3195	Rs. 1090-1-3210	Rs. 1095-1-3225	Rs. 1100-1-3240	Rs. 1105-1-3255	Rs. 1110-1-3270	Rs. 1115-1-
----------	-------------	--------------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-------------

Government High Schools	Pre-Revision scale, i. e., Revised 1948 scales	Revised scale 1956	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

D.—EXISTING ENCUMBENTS IN ASSAM LOWER SCHOOLS SERVICE—

Graduate Teachers ..	Rs. 100—10—130—(E.B.)—6—190—(E.B.) 10—250.	Rs. 125—7½—155—9—245—(E. B.)—10— 275.	
Grade "A" Teachers ..	Rs. 75—2½—100—(E.B.)—4—120	Rs. 75—3—105—(E.B.)—4—125	..
Grade "B" Teachers ..	Rs. 60—2½—100—(E.B.)—4—120	Rs. 60—3—105—(E.B.)—4—125	..

STATEMENT SHOWING PRE-REVISION AND REVISED PAY SCALES 1956 FOR AIDED SCHOOLS

A. High Schools	Pre-Revision scale, i. e., Revised 1948 scales	Revised scale 1956	Remarks
Matriculates ..	Rs. 50 per mensem ..	Rs. 60—1—70—2½—75	..
Intermediate Passed ..	Rs. 60 per mensem ..	Rs. 75—2—95—3—125	..
Graduate Teachers ..	Rs. 80 per mensem ..	Rs. 100—5—200.	Graduates with Distinctions, Honours, B. T., or Post-Graduates Degree will get 2 advance increments.

Normal Passed ..	Rs. 50 per mensem ..	Rs. 60-1-70-2½-75 ..	..
Matric Normal Passed ..	Rs. 50 per mensem ..	Rs. 75-2-95-2½-100 ..	..
Classical Teachers ..	Rs. 60 per mensem ..	Rs. 100-5-200 for Graduates with 2 advance increments for Distinctions, B. T., Honours, or Post-Graduates in Arts or Science. ..	..
		Rs. 75-2-95-3-125 for Intermediate Passed. ..	..
Hindi Teachers ..	Rs. 60 per mensem ..	Rs. 60-2-100 ..	..
Assistant Headmasters ..	Rs. 100-5-200 plus an allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem. ..	Rs. 150-10-300 (For Graduates only) plus an allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem. ..	..
B.—MIDDLE ENGLISH SCHOOLS—			
Intermediate Passed ..	There was no scale of pay to Middle English Schools Teachers prior to Pay Committee's Recommendations 1956. ..	Rs. 75-2-95-3-125 ..	Headmasters will get a charge allowance of Rs. 10 per mensem. ..
Matric Passed or Normal Passed ..	They used to be paid as the School Funds permitted. ..	Rs. 60-1-70-2½-75 ..	..
Matric Normal Passed ..	..	Rs. 75-2-95-2½-100 ..	..
Graduate Teachers ..	..	Rs. 75-2-95-3-125. Higher initial at Rs. 85. ..	..
Hindi or Classical Teachers ..	..	Rs. 55-1-61-2½-80 ..	..

(b)—Rs. 60—2—100 for Hindi teachers of Aided High Schools.

Rs. 55—1—65—2½—80 for Hindi Teachers of Aided Middle English Schools.

(c)—Does not arise.

Test Relief Works in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

(a) Whether he would furnish a list of amount allotted to different Subdivision for the purpose of Test Relief Work in 1957-58 ?

(b) Who was the executing authority for Test Relief works in 1957-58 in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

(c) Whether Government are aware of this fact that in several parts of Dibrugarh Subdivision (rural area) people suffered for want of employment during the months of September and October last and that they find it very difficult to get square meals a day ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that semi-famine condition in certain parts of rural area of Dibrugarh Subdivision was not brought to the notice of Government by the officials of Dibrugarh ?

(e) Whether Government propose to allot grants for Test Relief works in Dibrugarh Subdivision also in the same proportion with other Subdivisions of Assam ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

635. (a)—The following amounts were sanctioned—

	Rs.
Dibrugarh Subdivision	14,800
North Lakhimpur Subdivision	70,000
Jorhat Subdivision	11,000

				Rs.
Sibsagar Subdivision	...	...	...	18,419
Golaghat Subdivision	...	...	...	13,000
Nowgong District	...	...	...	1,60,979/94 n. p.
Gauhati Subdivision	...	...	...	25,500
Dhubri Subdivision	...	...	...	10,000
Goalpara Subdivision	...	...	...	55,000
Silchar Subdivision	...	...	...	7,000
Total	...	...	...	<u>3,85,698/94 n. p.</u>

(b)—The Executive Engineer and Subdivisional Officer, Embankment and Drainage Division, Dibrugarh.

(c)—Government have no such information.

(d)—No report of semi-famine condition was received by the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, from any part of Dibrugarh Subdivision.

(e)—There is no such proposal at present.

Wilton Ground in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal) asked :

636. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) What was the total area of land of Wilton Ground in Dibrugarh Subdivision requisitioned during the last five years ?

(b) Who were settled in that requisitioned ground ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the present settlers in that ground have their own lands and properties in other places ?

(d) Whether Government propose to make immediate enquiry into this matter ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

636. (a)—The total area requisitioned from Wilton Grant is 975B—2K—5L.

(b)—131 flood and earthquake affected families, *i. e.* 109 families of Tengakhat Mouza and 22 families of Bardalani Mouza were allotted land in the requisitioned area.

(c)—Out of the 131 allottees only 26 allottees had lands elsewhere but their holdings were uneconomic and rendered unfit for cultivation due to floods.

(d) --No further enquiry is considered necessary.

Lakhicherra Forest Reserve

Shri TAJAMMUL ALI BARLASKAR (Udarband) asked :

637. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether any proposal has been received by the Government from the Land Settlement Advisory Board, Silchar, requesting the Government to open a portion of the Lakhicherra Forest Reserve for giving settlement to the landless cultivators of Silchar ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that there is a large number of landless cultivators in the District of Cachar ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that many of the landless cultivators applied to the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar for giving them land in the above Reserve Forest ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to open a portion of the above Reserve Forest and give settlement to the landless cultivators of the district ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forest) replied :

637. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes. A portion of Lakhicherra Reserve Forest has been opened for settlement as a Forest village with 30 households.

Second Medical College in Assam

Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

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

- (a) Whether there was a proposal for establishing a second medical college for Assam at Gauhati ?
- (b) Whether Government of India was agreeable to sanction a second medical college in Assam on the basis of one qualified doctor for 5,000 of population ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Government of India was waiting for the decision of Assam Government in this matter ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Assam Government failed to intimate its decision in time and that the Second Medical College for Assam did not receive sanction of Central Government due to indecision on the part of Government ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

638. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

(c)—No.

(d)—It is not a fact.

Embankment on the North Bank of Bhogdoi River

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

639. Will the Minister-in-charge of Flood Control be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware of the calamities of people of the Baligaon and the Parbatia Mouza in Jorhat Subdivision owing to flood havoc caused by river Bhogdoi due to the non-completion of the embankment on the North Bank of the said river ?

(b) What steps have been taken so far to avert the flood havoc of river Bhogdoi ?

(c) Whether Government are aware of the representations made by the people of the locality ?

(d) If so, whether Government propose to take adequate measures to solve the problems permanently within the Second Five Year Plan ?

(e) Whether Government propose to provide adequate funds for the implementation of the improved scheme such as digging of direct canal from Jorhat to Kokilamukh which will also serve as a waterway ?

(f) If not, why ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Flood Control) replied :

639. (a)—Yes, a few petitions were received from the public of the area.

(b)—The matter is under investigation.

(c)—Yes, as indicated in (a) above.

(d)—There is no provision for any scheme in this respect in the Second Five Year Plan.

(e)—No.

(f)—Any such proposal for diverting a river of the magnitude of Bhogdoi through an excavated canal will require prolonged and rigorous examination including model experiments before the question of financing it can come up for consideration.

Artificial Insemination Centre at Tihu

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

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

(a) Whether there is a Veterinary Dispensary at Tihu ?

- (b) If so, what is the number of staff and store of medicine ?
- (c) Whether there is doctor for the said dispensary ?
- (d) If not, whether doctor will be appointed immediately ?
- (e) Whether there was representation to that effect ?
- (f) Whether the former Chief Minister, Assam, gave an assurance to open an Artificial Insemination Centre at Tihu ?
- (g) If so, why it is not yet been implemented ?
- (h) Is it a fact that a proposal had been submitted by the District Veterinary Officer for an Artificial Insemination at Tihu ?
- (i) If so, when the proposal was given and why it is not implemented up till now ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

640. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The staff is a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and two Veterinary Field Assistants. Medicines are stocked according to the requirement of the locality.

(c)—At present the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon is on medical leave and the Field Assistants are managing the dispensary.

(d)—Attempt will be made to post one Veterinary Assistant Surgeon at Tihu as soon as available.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Due to acute shortage of technical staff.

(h)—No.

(i)—Does not arise.

Establishment of Veterinary Dispensary at Sorbhog Town

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

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

(a) Whether a Veterinary Dispensary will be established at Sorbhog town with doctors ?

(b) If so, when ?

(c) What is the reason for not establishing a Veterinary Dispensary at Sorbhog town up till now ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

641. (a)—No. The existing State Veterinary Dispensary at Amguri Sapana within $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Sorbhog town serves the locality within the radius of ten miles.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Constitution of a Town Committee at Sorbhog and Barpeta Road Towns

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

642. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Town Committees will be constituted at Sorbhog and Barpeta Road Towns ?

(b) If so, when they will be constituted ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

642. (a) & (b)—The matter is under correspondence with the Local Officers and it is premature to say whether and when they will be constituted.

Local Board Contractors

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

643. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Local Board contracts have been denied to non-Congressmen ?

(b) If so, what is the reason ?

(c) How many Local Board contractors are Congressmen and how many are non-Congressmen ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

643. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Except Dibrugarh and Hailakandi Local Boards, all other Local Bodies have replied that no record of contractors is maintained on party basis. It is therefore not possible to furnish the information. The figures in respect of two mentioned Local Boards are—

			Congress	Non-Congress
Dibrugarh Local Board...	...	...	10	26
Hailakandi Local Board...	...	...	24	54

Barbil Nullah near Digboi in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked :

644. Will the Minister-in-charge of Flood Control be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware of loss to the public and Government revenues caused by the Barbil Nullah near Digboi in the Dibrugarh Sub-division ?

(b) In which year Government had received complaints or come to know first about Barbil Nullah ?

(c) How many enquiries had been made up-till now since the receipt of first complaint as in (b) above ?

(d) Why work has not yet been started inspite of its Budget provision for the year 1957-58 ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that the Barbil Nullah is one of the most important drains to be cleared and dug for the interest of the State's food problem ?

(f) If so, whether Government will take necessary step to execute the work of the said Nullah at an early date ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Flood Control) replied :

644. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Deputy Commissioner has reported that the received complaints about the Barbill Nullah first in 1948.

(c)—A joint enquiry by the Commissioner of Divisions and Additional Chief Engineer, Embankment and Drainage, Assam was carried out in 1954 and surveys for drawing up a Scheme has since been undertaken.

(d)—The work could not be started as yet as the Detailed Surveys and collection of hydrological data necessary for drawing up the scheme have not been completed yet.

(e)—No. According to the report of the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur only about 622 bighas of cultivable land and a village grazing reserve are effected by this Nullah. There are many such problems of much higher magnitude in the state which could not be undertaken as yet due to financial limitation and dearth of technical personnel.

(f)—The Scheme is programmed for execution during 1958-59.

**Amount sanctioned for the subsidy Scheme for
Lungleh Subdivision**

Shri C. THUAMLUAIA (Lungleh: Reserved for Scheduled Tribes) asked :

645. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) What were the amounts sanctioned for the subsidy scheme for Lungleh subdivision during the years :—

1. 1954-55 ;

2. 1955-56 ; and

3. 1956-57.

(b) What were the amounts actually spent on subsidy during those years (figures to be given year by year) ?

(c) Whether Government received any representation from the public to the effect that the present quotas of sugar, Kerosene oil and maida are not sufficient and that the quotas for these commodities should be increased ?

(d) Whether Government received repeated representations from the Pawi and Lakher Regional Council as well as from the local leaders to extend to subsidy scheme of Kerosene oil for the Pawi and Lakher area where there are already two civil supply branches ?

(e) Whether Government are aware that school children of the Pawi and Lakher area cannot study at night for want of Kerosene oil ?

(f) Whether Government propose to give Kerosene oil to the Pawi and Lakher area by extending the subsidy scheme this year ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

645. (a)—

						Rs.
1. 1954-55	...	...	...	...	...	3,15,000
2. 1955-56	...	...	...	...	...	3,00,000
3. 1956-57	...	...	...	...	...	3,00,000

(b)—Amount actually spent :—

1. 1954-55	...	...	...	...	...	2,93,879
2. 1955-56	...	...	...	...	...	2,56,693
3. 1956-57	...	...	...	...	...	2,19,518

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Copy of proceedings of the General Assembly of the Pawi and Lakher Tribal Union regarding the inclusion of Kerosene oil in the subsidised commodities received by the Tribal Areas Department has been sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Mizo District for necessary action.

(e)—Government have no such information.

(f)—The Deputy Commissioner, Mizo District has already been asked by the Tribal Areas Department to submit a formal proposal for supply of Kerosene oil to the Pawi and Lakher areas by extending the subsidy Scheme and his proposal is being awaited.

Storm damage grant to Lower Primary Schools in the State

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government have allotted any storm-damage grant to Lower Primary Schools in the State in 1957-58 ?

- (b) If so, what are the amounts sanctioned in this behalf subdivisionwise ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that no sanction was accorded to the list submitted by the Nowgong Board ?
- (d) If so, what are the reason of such omission ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

646. (a)—Yes.

(b)—A statement is given below :—

GRANTS TO LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOLS DAMAGED BY
STORM IN 1957-58

		Rs. Np.	
Dibrugarh Subdivision	...	75,000	(including Middle Vernacular Schools).
North Lakhimpur Subdivision	...	1,35,750	
Sibsagar Subdivision	...	1,56,892.50	
Jorhat Subdivision	...	1,26,380	
Golaghat Subdivision	...	1,42,935	
Tezpur Subdivision	...	1,78,275	
Mangaldoi Subdivision	...	1,87,717.50	
Nowgong Subdivision	...	75,000	(including Middle Vernacular Schools).
Morigaon Subdivision	...	30,487.50	
Gauhati Subdivision...	...	1,84,612.50	
Barpeta Subdivision	...	85,815	
Goalpara Subdivision	...	36,337.50	
Dhubri Subdivision	...	16,514.25	
Silchar Subdivision	...	1,75,725	
Hailakandi Subdivision	...	12,412.50	
Karimganj Subdivision	...	1,08,750	
Garó Hills District	...	2,250	
Total	...	17,30,854.50	

(c) & (d)—No list was received from the Nowgong Board. But a sum of Rs.75,000 has recently been sanctioned for Middle Vernacular and Lower Primary Schools on a proposal received from the Basic Education Officer.

Teaching Staff for Basic Educational Institutions at Titabar

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

(a) How many Basic Educational Institutions are there at Titabar and what are their names ?

(b) Total strength of teaching staff scheduled to be appointed and how many of them have really been appointed so far ?

(c) Why the remaining staff have not yet been appointed ?

(d) Whether it is due to want of suitable persons ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that lately some posts were advertised, candidates interviewed and selections were also made but persons appointed are not forthcoming ?

(f) If so, why ?

(g) Whether the remaining staff will be appointed soon ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

647. (a)—Two.

(i) Post-Graduate Basic Training College and

(ii) Basic Training College.

(b)—I. Post-Graduate Basic Training College :—

Staff sanctioned—

Principal	...	...	...	...	One
Lecturers	...	...	...	...	Four
Instructors	...	...	...	...	Six

Only Principal and two Lecturers appointed.

II. Basic Training College :—

Staff sanctioned—

Principal	...	...	...	...	...	...	One
Lecturer or Instructors	...	...	...	...	...	...	Four.

The post of the Principal is lying vacant and Shri N. Choudhury, Principal, Janata, College is acting as the Principal in addition to his own duties.

(c)—Due to non-availability of suitable persons for the posts.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes, but no suitable persons were available.

(f)—As in (e) above.

(g)—Government have taken necessary steps to fill up the vacancies and the appointments will be made soon as suitable persons are available.

Agriculture in the Basic Colleges at Titabar

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government is aware that agriculture is one of the basic items of basic Institution ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that now there is no provision for agriculture in the Basic Colleges at Titabar ?

(c) Whether Government is aware that lack of fencing is one of the reasons for this ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

648. (a)—Yes. Agriculture is one of the crafts.

(b)—No. Provision exists.

(c)—There is a fencing.

Drainage in Basic Training College, Titabar**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar)** asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government is aware that the dining hall and the kitchen of the Basic Training College at Titabar are very dirty ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that the drains and the surroundings of the hostels are also dirty and rain water does not pass through the drains?
- (c) Whether Government propose to take necessary steps to improve the conditions of the hostels in so far as these matters are concerned ?
- (d) Will the Government take care of these ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

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

(c) & (d)—The matter will be looked into.

Inspection or Dak Bungalow at Saikhowa**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)** asked :

650. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Road and Building) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there was an Inspection or Dak Bungalow at Saikhowa prior to 1950 ?
- (b) Whether it is also a fact that the said Inspection or Dak Bungalow was washed away by the mighty Brahmaputra after the great earthquake of 1950 ?
- (c) If so, whether there is any proposal to construct one such bungalow at Saikhowa ?
- (d) If so, why ?

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

650. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It was submerged and silted up by the Brahmaputra in 1952 subsequent to the great earthquake of 1950 and dismantled afterwards.

(c) & (d)—No proposal has been taken up so long as this area is subjected to the floods of the Brahmaputra.

The Embankment and Drainage Bund constructed to protect the area was so long under observation. As it now appears to have stabilised, a proposal for construction of an Inspection Bungalow within the area protected by the bund will be submitted to the Government of India for their consideration.

Dearness Allowance Bills of Haribhanga Middle English School and Namati Vidyapith

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

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Dearness Allowance Bills for 1956-57 of Haribhanga Middle English School and Namati Vidhyapith have been lost in the D. I. Office, Gauhati ?

(b) If so, how the said Dearness Allowance Bills have been lost ?

(c) Whether Government has enquired into the matter ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied:

(a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—The matter is under Police investigation

Juro Ram Pathak Girls' High School, Barpeta

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware that the only Girls' High School, Juro Ram Pathak Girls' High School, Barpeta town is in a very deplorable condition so far the buildings are concerned ?
- (b) If so, whether Government propose to reconstruct the building ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that inspite of assurances given by the then Deputy Minister of Education during his last visit to Barpeta, nothing has yet been done ?
- (d) If so, when Government propose to implement those assurance given by the then Deputy Minister ?
- (e) Whether any money has been sanctioned by Government for the improvement of the buildings of the said School ?
- (f) If so, how much ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

652. (a)—No. The School has a semi-permanent building and its condition cannot be described as deplorable.

(b)—Government do not undertake construction of buildings of non-Government Schools.

(c)—Government is not aware of such assurance.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e) & (f)—The following amounts of non-recurring grant have been granted to the school since 1952-53 :—

							Rs.
1952-53	..	...	..	..	...	...	3,000
1953-54	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500
1954-55	....	....	...	...	...	...	1,500
1955-56	....	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
1956-57	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
1957-58	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
for buildings and Rs.750 for sports.							

**Saikhowa Middle English School of Dibrugarh
Subdivision**

Shrimati LILY S N GUPTA (Lahowal) asked :

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

- (a) The present number of boys and girls reading in the Saikhowa Middle English School of Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether there is any grant-in-aid given by Government to this school during the years 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957 ?
- (c) If so, what amounts were given as grant during each of the aforesaid years ?
- (d) Whether the aid was spent for the purpose for which it was given ?
- (e) Whether the teachers and staff of this school received their salaries as per Government recommendation as notified in the State Pay Committee's Report ?
- (f) Whether any building grant was given by Government to this school during the aforesaid years ?

(g) If so, what is the amount so given ?

(h) Whether the grants that have been given were fully utilised ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

653. (a)—Boys—45, Girls—12.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Rupees 80 per mensem in each year.

(d)—Yes. Recurring grant is given for general maintenance and renewed every year by the Inspector of Schools.

(e)—No. Minimum enrolment required is 60 to be eligible for pay scale grants.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—1954 Rs.250 for equipment.
1955 Rs.8,000 for building.

(h)—Yes.

Functions of Local Boards, Rural Panchayats, Panchayat and Subdivisional Development Boards

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

654. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the functions of Local Boards, Rural Panchayats, Panchayats and Subdivisional Development Boards are identical in matters of sanction and execution of a development and water supply projects ?

(b) Whether Government are aware of the anomalous condition created as a result of functioning of the Rural Panchayats and the Local Boards simultaneously with the same source of income ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that for the last two years Government are contemplating to abolish the Local Boards, but have not taken any effective measures in this respect ?
- (d) Whether Government consider it unnecessary and uneconomic to allow the Local Boards to continue to function ?
- (e) What definite measures have been taken to abolish immediately Local Boards after the Rural Panchayats have been constituted ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware of or received any report of the mismanagement of the affairs of the Gauhati Local Board ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that (i) some employees of the Gauhati Local Board are going without pay for months ; (ii) payments have not been made to contractors for years ; (iii) deposits have not been returned to many institutions in spite of reminders ; (iv) earmarked grants of Government have been utilised for other purposes ; (v) Test Relief grants have not been utilised for relief of the distressed and (vi) Cheques issued had to be returned discredited by Treasury ?
- (h) Whether Government have received any allegation of misuse of money by Gauhati Local Board ?
- (i) If so, what steps have been taken by Government to check this ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, L.S.-G.)
replied :

654. (a)—The objects are more or less identical but the functions are different.

(b)—Government are not aware of any anomalous position. Government are however aware of the financial difficulty of the Local Boards on accounts of sharing of funds by Panchayats.

(c)—Yes. This has been engaging the attention of Government for sometimes past and a bill to amend the Assam Rural Panchayat Act, 1948 is being introduced in the present Session of the Assembly.

(d)—Government consider that until some authority comes into existence it is necessary for the Local Boards to function.

(e)—In the form of an Amending Bill of the Assam Rural Panchayat Act, 1948 which is likely to be introduced in this Session of the Assembly.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Information is being collected.

(h)—Yes.

(i)—The Deputy Examiner, Local Accounts have been asked to audit the accounts of the Gauhati Local Board immediately.

House for Bornagar-Bhattodev Library

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

655. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Sorbhog Village authority house has been handed over to the Bornagar Bhattodev Library ?

(b) Who is the authority of the house ?

(c) Whether it will be donated to the Bornagar Bhattodev Library ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

655. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Under section 3 of the Assam Repealing Act, 1957 (Assam Act XXI of 1957) the property vests in the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta who shall hold in trust until it is made over to the Panchayat or the Town Committee established in the area over which the village to whom the property belonged had jurisdiction.

(c) It will be for the Panchayat or the Town Committee which will be established in that area to consider this question.

Construction of roads by the Karimganj Local Board

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked :

656. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government Department be pleased to state—

(a) How many roads were constructed by Karimganj Local Board in the South Karimganj Legislative Constituency during the period from 1954 to February 1957 (names of roads to be given) ?

(b) How many roads were constructed in the rest of the subdivision in the said period ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

656. (a)—Thirty one roads.

Names of the roads

1. Kaliganj-Roypur Road.
2. Kaliganj-Suprakandi Road.
3. Mahishasan Feeder Road.
4. Baghan Road.
5. Extension to Balidara Road.
6. Latu Ferryghat Road.
7. Sutisain Road.
8. Moujkarni Road.
9. Daulatpur Road.
10. Khagail Road.
11. Moujkarni-Kakra Road.
12. Meghnabarantar-Bajialala Road
13. Surigram Road.

14. Teorikhal-Baldakhai Road.
15. Moujkarni-Karaiala Road.
16. Seki-kanishail.
17. Durlavpur Road.
18. Batoiya-Chararmukhbazar Road.
19. Dasgram Local Board Road to Nilambazar-Sabjpur Road.
20. Ramnagar-Kanishail Road.
21. Latubazar-Bhericherra Road.
22. Pathu-Balidara Road *via* Prakashpur.
23. Batoiya Road.
24. Bashbari Road.
25. Putimara Road.
26. Sujarkandi-Bajailala Tank Road.
27. Deotali Road.
28. Pathu-Barapunji Road *via* Dedrong.
29. Puranpara Road.
30. Surigram-Bedrong Road.
31. Dakhingram Road.

(b)—Thirty-three roads.

Names of the roads

1. Badarpur-Bargul-Barthal Road.
2. Baroigram-Dhalcherra Road.
3. Charakuri Road.

4. Vatgram Road.
5. Mendibari-Lakshipur Road.
6. Jatkapan Road.
7. Lalarchak Road.
8. Longai-Keuti Road.
9. Poddarpar-Nalarpar Road.
10. Paterakandi Road.
11. Fatekhal-Dimpur Road.
12. Hamindpur Road.
13. Deokuri Road.
14. Patharkandi-Duhalia *via* Bagadabar Road.
15. Raghurtook-Dhalcherra Road.
16. Jatkapan-Barkatpur Road.
17. Nabipur-Ichamati Road.
18. Arengabaj Road.
19. Ambari-Kachua River Road.
20. Kazitika Road.
21. Kachua River-Lalarchak Road.
22. Jatkapan-Panchananvidyapith Road.
23. Barkatpur-Lamajuar Road.
24. Barbari-Ghormara Road.
25. Anglarbazar-Chakitika Road.
26. Kaparibank-Bashabari Road.
27. Linking-Malijuri Nayagram Road.
28. Lamajuar Road (Karimganj Police Station).

29. East Nairgram Road.
30. Chaitanyanagar-Jagannathi Road.
31. Dattapur-Mugrapur Road.
32. Jatkapan Road (11).
33. Koilma Road.

Non-recurring grant to Satrasal Vidyapit High School

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj)
asked:

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a non-recurring grant of Rs.3,000 had been sanctioned for the Satrasal Vidyapit High School in Dhubri Subdivision in 1955-56 under Assistant Director, Public Instruction's Memo. No.4M-IC/19/55/PF/12325-28-G., dated Shillong, the 4th February 1956 under the authority conveyed in Government of Assam, Education Department letter No. ESS. 118/55/138, dated the 25th January 1956?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that the said sanction was mis-sent to Vidyapit High School, Barpeta by the office?
- (c) If the reply is in the affirmative, whether the said sanction reached the Satrasal Vidyapit High School after financial year was over and the grant was thus lapsed?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Government was intimated of the position duly and request was made for renewal of the said grant or any other grants for the same?
- (e) Whether the Government has considered the matter?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied:

657. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The bill for the amount after countersignature was despatched from the office of the Inspector of Schools, Lower Assam Circle on 22nd March 1956 but through mistake the bill was sent to Barpeta and then to Goalpara.

(c)—The bill reached the School authority on 31st March 1956.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes.

Black topping of the Assam Trunk Road beyond Talap in Saikhowa

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

658. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R.&B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is no 'black topping' of the Assam Trunk Road beyond Talap in Saikhowa Assembly Constituency ?
- (b) If so, why the black topping of a few miles of the Assam Trunk Road has been left out when the entire road from Dibrugarh to Talap, a distance of about 55 miles, is covered by black topping ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware of the inconvenience caused to the people of Balibazar near Talap by dust of the Assam Trunk Road ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to extent black topping of Assam Trunk Road up to Saikhowa ?
- (e) If not, whether Government propose to extent the black topping by one mile only to save Balibazar from dust ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.) replied :

658. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It was a State Road before declaration as a National Highway in April 1947. It is presumed that Assam Trunk Road beyond Talap was not black-topped originally as the traffic in this portion in those days did not justify metalling and surfacing.

(c)—In case of gravelled roads some inconvenience due to dust is unavoidable.

(d) & (e)—Yes. There is a provision of Rs.3.5 lakhs in the 2nd Five Year Plan for metalling and surfacing of Assam Trunk Road beyond Talap. The estimate is under preparation and will be submitted to Government of India shortly and the work will be taken up as soon as Government of India's technical approval and financial sanction is received.

Appointment of Chairmen for settlement work in Bornagar Circle.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Chairmen have been appointed for settlement work in Bornagar Circle ?
- (b) If so, how many and what are their names ?
- (c) Who appointed them ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

659. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Thirteen. The names are given below—

1. Shri Prafulla Ch. Medhi.
2. Shri Abdul Rashid.
3. Shri Kamaleswar Barua.
4. Shri Farid Sk.
5. Shri Charan Ch. Nath.
6. Shri Kolimuddin Ahmed.
7. Shri Kishon Mohan Medhi.
8. Shri Rajendra Ch. Nath.
9. Shri Harendra Ch. Nath.
10. Shri Kanak Ch. Das.
11. Shri Khagendra Ch. Das.
12. Shri Kakhan Ch. Das.
13. Shri Dharmeswar Pathak.

(c)—The Settlement Officer, Kamrup appointed them on the suggestion of the circle Assistant Settlement Officer.

Chungi Local Board Road in Titabar Mauza of Jorhat Subdivision

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

660. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Chungi Local Board Road in Titabar Mauza of Jorhat Subdivision has been taken over by Public Works Department ?
- (b) If so, what is the progress in respect of earthwork till now ?

(c) Whether Government is aware that the people had to undergo immense troubles due to non-construction of the Kachajan wooden bridge, the bamboo bridge and culverts at Khatapathar in Kharkhowa Gaoñ in the Jorhat Subdivision?

(d) Whether Government are taking any steps to remove all these inconveniences?

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

660. (a)—Yes, during March, 1957, under the Second Five Year Plan.

(b)—75 per cent of the total earth work has so far been completed.

(c)—Some difficulties or inconveniences are inescapable in cases of those roads, where improvement works are in progress. But, the Officers concerned, have already been instructed to keep such roads fit for foot and cart traffic as best as possible.

(d)—Yes; as far as possible. As a temporary measure, regular sub-ways are being maintained by the Government and construction of necessary bridges and culverts are also in progress.

Number of foreign owned Tea Estates in the State of Assam

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Mangaldoi) asked :

661. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) How many foreign owned tea estates are there in the State of Assam at present?

(b) How many Assamese young men have since been employed in the officers rank in those foreign owned tea estates?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the sons of the Indian tea garden employees are generally not given the officers' post in these foreign owned tea estates?

(d) If so, why?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :

661. (a)—573.

(b)—256 Indians were employed in managerial post in such gardens on 1st January 1958. The information in regard to the number of Assamese employed in officers rank is not readily available.

(c) & (d)—According to the Employers' Associations appointments are made on merit and suitability with reference to school and college records, family back-ground, character and apparent suitability for tea garden life. Experience in plantation worker as well as administrative ability is also taken into account in case of senior appointments. In view of this, the question of giving preference to the sons of the Indian tea garden employees in the matter of appointment in such posts does not arise.

High Court Bar Association Library

Shri MATHIAS TUDU (Gossaigaon) asked :

662. Will the Minister-in-charge of Judicial be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government have received any representation from the High Court Bar Library regarding the grant of money for the High Court Bar Association Library ?
- (b) If so, what action has been taken ?
- (c) Whether any money has been given to the District Bar Libraries ?
- (d) If so, what are the names of those district Bar-Libraries and what are the amount given to each of them ?
- (e) Whether the Advocates are allowed to use the Judge's Library in the Gauhati High Court ?
- (f) If not, why not ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Judicial) replied :

662. (a)—No such representation appears to have been received by the Government but Government are aware that High Court Bar Library has adopted a resolution to approach the Government for the grant.

(b)—When the representation from the High Court is received, the Government will give due consideration.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e) & (f)—To allow the Advocates to use Judge's Library in the Gauhati High Court is not within Government's jurisdiction. The Library is under the control of High Court but Government have information that the Advocates are allowed restricted use of the Library.

Number of employees in the Veterinary Department

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

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

(a) The number of employees in the Department—

(i) Technical.

(ii) Non-technical.

(b) The number of employees in the Headquarters and the districts (to be shown community-wise, i. e., Assamese Hindu, Non-Assamese Hindu, Assamese-Muslims, Non-Assamese Muslims, Scheduled Castes, Plains-Tribals, Hills tribal) ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

663. (a)—

(i) Technical	...	...	...	...	728
(ii) Non-technical	...	...	...	...	90
				Total	818

(b)—(i) Number of employees in the headquarters (i.e. at Gauhati-159)

Community-wise

(i) Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	110
(ii) Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	4
(iii) Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	23
(iv) Non-Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	10
(v) Scheduled Caste	...	...	...	5
(vi) Plains Tribals	...	...	...	4
(vii) Hills tribals	...	...	...	1
(viii) Others	...	...	...	2

(2) Number of employees in the District—

(1) Goalpara district

(i)	Assamese Hindus ...	...	...	...	40
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	8
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	9
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	0
(v)	Scheduled caste	...	...	...	2
(vi)	Plains tribals	...	...	...	6
(vii)	Hills tribals	...	...	...	2
(viii)	Others ...	...	...	...	0
					<hr/>
					67

(2) Kamrup district

(i)	Assamese Hindus ...	...	...	...	89
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	3
(iii)	Assamese Muslims...	...	...	...	21
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	5
(v)	Scheduled Caste	...	...	...	9
(vi)	Plains tribals	...	...	...	5
(vii)	Hills tribals	...	...	...	1
(viii)	Others ...	...	...	...	2
					<hr/>
					135

(3) Darrang District

(i)	Assamese Hindus ...	..	...	...	54
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	4
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	10
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	6
(v)	Scheduled Caste	...	...	...	8
(vi)	Plains Tribals	...	...	...	5
(vii)	Hills Tribals	...	...	...	0
(viii)	Others ...	...	...	...	2
					<hr/>
					89

(4) Nowgong district

(i)	Assamese Hindus ...	...	..	...	54
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	1
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	15
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	4
(v)	Scheduled Caste	...	...	...	6
(vi)	Plains Tribals	...	...	...	7
(vii)	Hills Tribals	...	...	...	0
(viii)	Others ...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					88

(5) Sibsagar district

(i)	Assamese Hindus ...	...	...	...	53
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	0
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	19
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	4
(v)	Scheduled Caste	...	...	...	7
(vi)	Plains Tribals	...	...	...	4
(vii)	Hills Tribals	...	...	...	3
(viii)	Others ...	...	...	...	2
					<hr/>
					92

(6) Lakhimpur district

(i)	Assamese Hindus ...	...	...	...	48
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	9
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	5
(iv)	Non Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	2
(v)	Scheduled Caste	...	...	...	1
(vi)	Plains Tribals	...	...	...	6
(vii)	Hills Tribals	...	...	...	1
(viii)	Others ...	...	...	...	0
					<hr/>
					72

(7) Cachar district

(i)	Assamese Hindus ..	...	...	...	2
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	26
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	0
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	19
(v)	Scheduled Caste ...	...	...	...	2
(vi)	Plains Tribals	...	...	...	0
(vii)	Hills Tribals	...	...	...	0
(viii)	Others	...	...	...	3
					<hr/>
					52

(8) United Khasi & Jaintia Hills

(i)	Assamese Hindus ...	...	...	...	11
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	...	...	...	5
(iii)	Assamese Muslims..	...	...	...	4
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	...	...	...	4
(v)	Scheduled Caste ..	...	...	...	1
(vi)	Plains Tribals	...	...	...	3
(vii)	Hills Tribals	...	...	...	7
(viii)	Others	...	...	...	0
					<hr/>
					35

(9) Garo Hills

(i)	Assamese Hindus	..	...	10
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	..	...	0
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	..	...	3
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	..	...	0
(v)	Scheduled Caste	...	...	0
(vi)	Plains tribals	..	...	0
(vii)	Hills tribals	...	...	2
(viii)	Others	..	...	0
				<hr/>
				15

(10) Mizo Hills

(i)	Assamese Hindus	..	...	0
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	..	...	0
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	..	...	0
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	..	...	0
(v)	Scheduled Castes	..	...	0
(vi)	Plains Tribals	..	...	11
(vii)	Hills tribals	...	...	0
(viii)	Others	..	...	0
				<hr/>
				11

(11) North Cachar & Mikir Hills district

(i)	Assamese Hindus	..	...	1
(ii)	Non-Assamese Hindus	..	...	0
(iii)	Assamese Muslims	..	...	1
(iv)	Non-Assamese Muslims	..	...	0
(v)	Scheduled Castes	..	...	0
(vi)	Plains tribals	..	...	1
(vii)	Hills tribals	...	...	0
(viii)	Others	..	...	0
				<hr/>
				3

Total ...

 818

Opium smugglers in the State

Shri MALIA TATI (Doom Dooma) asked :

664. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

(a) The number of suspected opium smugglers in the State (to be shown district-wise) ?

(b) Whether census of the suspected smugglers is taken periodically ?

(c) If so, at what intervals ?

(d) When the last census was taken ?

(e) The figures of the last census and that of the previous one ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise) replied :
664. (a)—This cannot be disclosed in interest of public service.

(b) to (e)—No. A list is maintained and new suspects added now and then.

Khanapara Farm

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) asked :

665. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to State—

(a) What amount is spent for cultivation of fodder at Khanapara Farm for the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?

(b) What amount is spent for purchasing straws for the cattle of Khanapara Farm for 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

665. (a)—Amount spent in 1956-57	Rs. 6,030·25 n.p.
and 1957-58	Rs. 11,921·81 n.p.

(b)—Amount spent in 1956-57	Rs. 6,030·25 n.p.
and 1957-58	Rs. 11,061·28 n.p.

Dhubri Government Aided College

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government is aware that the Dhubri Government Aided College, a first grade Arts College, started Science Section in the Intermediate class since 1954 ?

(b) Whether the said college has been sanctioned any grant for Science Section ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that repeated representations were sent to the Government from time to time by the college authorities in this behalf ?

(d) Whether it is fact that some Ministers in the course of their tours including the Minister-in-charge of Education expressed their opinion that the College building of this college is the worst and most dilapidated ?

(e) Whether Government propose to sanction any grant towards immediate repairs of the said college building to avoid any possible accident ?

(f) Whether Government propose to provincialise the said college which is the only institution for higher education in the district ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied:

666. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Only a non-recurring grant of Rs. 3,000 has so far been made for purchase of Science apparatus.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Nothing on record.

(e)—There is no provision of funds for the purpose in the current year's Budget.

A sum of Rs. 3,000 was however sanctioned in 1955 for repair of building.

(f)—No.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

(To which oral answer was given)
Scarcity of water in Shillong

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
 asked :

3. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware of the fact that the scarcity of water in the capital town, Shillong, has been keenly felt by the people of the town for the last few weeks ?
- (b) If so, what measures have been taken by Government to remove this scarcity and to supply adequate quantity of water to the people ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that some lakhs of rupees were advanced to the Shillong Municipality about one or two years ago for improvement of water supply in the town ?
- (d) If so, why this scarcity is going on ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to take over the charge of water supply in the town from the Shillong Municipality when the latter has failed to discharge its responsibility ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

3. (a)—Yes.

(b)—There are two Schemes, one (Permanent Scheme) at an estimated cost of Rs. 30.55 lakhs approved by the Government of India, Ministry of Health under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme. Medical Department have since accorded administrative approval and the Public Health Engineer has also taken up the work in hand.

The other (Emergency Scheme) was drawn up at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,78,000 by the Public Health Engineer but Public Works Department, who was consulted, advised that the infructuous expenditure which is likely to be Rs. 1,43,000 should be reduced to the minimum. The Scheme was accordingly revised by the Public Health Engineer and sent to Shillong Municipal Board for acceptance in a meeting of the Board and for obtaining the approval of the Chief Engineer as required under the Rules. The Shillong Municipal Board has accepted the Scheme but approval of Chief Engineer is awaited.

(c)—A sum of Rs.1,50,000 was advanced in 1953 and a further sum of Rs.1,50,000 was sanctioned in 1955. No utilisation certificate has yet been received in respect of subsequent amount from the Shillong Municipality and it is learnt that some amount is still lying unutilised.

(d)—The improvement made by the Municipality has not been found adequate to meet the demands of the increased population since 1955. For this reason the bigger Scheme involving the cost of Rs. 30.55 lakhs has been taken up.

(e)—The matter is under consideration of Government.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):

When can we expect the approval from the Chief Engineer ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, L.S.G.)

It is expected very shortly.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Do Government think that the Shillong Municipality will be in a position to execute the scheme ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: The permanent scheme will not be executed by the Shillong Municipality ; it will be done by Government. Similarly, the emergency scheme, which is expected to be completed within a year's time, will also be executed under the supervision of a Government Department.

Rev. J.J.M. NICHOLS ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: May I know whether Government have examined a scheme for supplying water to Shillong by erecting a storage tank in Upper Shillong ? There is a stream in the vicinity of the Upper Shillong Government Farm and millions of gallons of water can be drawn from it to a big storage tank and that will solve the problem of water supply to the whole of Shillong. I request the Government to examine the scheme.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: For the information of the hon. Member, I may tell him that, all these matters were enquired into by our experts. Their view is that spring water should be collected and for that purpose a scheme of damming has been suggested. My Friend, Rev. Roy, is suggesting some place in Upper Shillong. That also has been taken into consideration and the experts have advised collection of water in a place which is also nearabout Upper Shillong wherefrom we can expect supply of about 20 lakh gallons of water more than what we have at present.

Shri RAM NATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : May I know when the Shillong Municipality sent the scheme to the Chief Engineer for approval ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : (Minister, L.S.G.)
It has to go through the Department concerned. The resolution adopted by the Shillong Municipality came to the Local Self-Government Department and the matter has now been referred to the Public Works Department.

Shri RAM NATH DAS : May I know when did the Municipality send their resolution to the Government ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Very recently, Sir.

**Cottage Industries Minister's Statement regarding
reply to Unstarred Question Nos. 552 and 553
on 10th April, 1958**

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries) : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, যোৱা ১০—৪—৫৮ তাৰিখৰ অনা তাৰক চিহ্ন ৫৫২ আৰু ৫৫৩ নম্বৰ প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰ প্ৰসঙ্গত কুটিৰ শিল্প বিভাগত Assistant Director এজন Regulation 3(e) মতে লোৱা আৰু ১২ জন Superintendent লোৱা সম্বন্ধে এই সদনত সন্তোষ জনক উত্তৰ দিব নোৱাৰাত অত্যন্ত দুখ প্ৰকাশ কৰিছো। মই তাৰো এই সম্বন্ধে সদনৰ মাননীয় সদস্য সকলৰ মনৰ সন্দেহ দূৰ কৰা নিতান্ত উচিত বিবেচনা কৰি এই সম্বন্ধে এটি বিবৃতি দিব খুজিছো। আশাকৰো অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়ে অনুমতি দিব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, জিলা সমূহত কুটিৰ শিল্প বিষয়ে দেখাশুনা কৰিবৰ কাৰণে ১২ জন Assistant Director পদৰ কাৰণে ১৯৫৭ চনৰ নবেম্বৰ মাহৰ শেষ ভাগত মঞ্জুৰী পোৱা হৈছিল। A.P.S.C. ৰ জৰীয়তে এই পদ কেইটি পূৰণ কৰিবলৈ যথেষ্ট সময়ৰ আৱশ্যক। ইফালে কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ দ্ৰুত গতিত প্ৰগতিৰ পথত আগবঢ়াই নিবলৈ ইতিমধ্যেই বিভিন্ন জিলা সমূহত প্ৰায় ১২ জন Superintendent নিয়োগ কৰা হৈছিল। এই সকলো বিলাকৰ কাম দেখাশুনা কৰিবলৈ অতি কমতে ৩ জন Assistant Director লোৱা নিতান্ত জৰুৰী বিবেচনা কৰি কুটিৰ আৰু ক্ষুদ্ৰ শিল্প বিষয়ত অভিজ্ঞতা থকা আৰু উক্ত বিভাগতেই বহু বছৰ কাম কৰি অভিজ্ঞতা লাভ কৰা দুজন কন্সটাৰীক আনজন উপবোক্ত শিল্প স্থাপন আৰু পৰিচালনা বিষয়ত বিদেশত শিক্ষা লৈ অহা লোকে সম্প্ৰতিকৈ কাম চলাবৰ বাবে Regulation 3(e) মতে লোৱা হয়। এওঁলোকক কাছাৰ, যোৰহাট, আৰু গুৱাহাটীত মকৰল কৰা হয়।

এই পদৰ কাৰণে প্ৰস্তাৱিত জাননীত প্ৰাৰ্থী সকলৰ নিম্নতম সাধাৰণ শিক্ষা ধাৰ্য্য কৰিবলৈ যোগ্য কৰাৰ কথা যদিও উল্লেখ কৰা হৈছে, কিন্তু তাতেই এই কথাও অন্তৰ্ভুক্ত কৰা হৈছে যে যি সকল প্ৰাৰ্থীৰ নিম্নলিখিত বিষয় সমূহত অভিজ্ঞতা আছে, সেই সকলৰ প্ৰতি নিম্নতম সাধাৰণ শিক্ষাৰ বিষয়ত কিছু টিলাই দিয়া হ'ব। যেনে:—

(ক) বিভাগীয় কাৰ্য্য পৰিচালনা, শিক্ষকতা বা গবেষণাত অভিজ্ঞতা থকা।

(খ) কুটিৰ আৰু ক্ষুদ্র শিল্পত আৰু বানিজ্য বিষয়ত যথোপযোগী জ্ঞান থকা।

(গ) ৰাজহ বিষয়ত অভিজ্ঞতা থকা।

(ঘ) কাৰখানা বিষয়ত অভিজ্ঞতা থকা।

Regulation 3 (e) মতে লোৱা তিনি জনৰ ভিতৰত শ্ৰী বীৰেন্দ্ৰ নাথ দাসৰ উপৰোক্ত (ক), (খ), আৰু (গ) ত উল্লেখ কৰা বিষয়ত যোগ্যতা আছে।

যিহেতু তেওঁ এই বিভাগত একাদিক্ৰমে ২০ বছৰ কাম কৰি আহিছে, কুটিৰ শিল্প বেচম আৰু বয়ন বিভাগৰ দফতৰত (office) Superintendent হিচাবে বহু কাল কাম কৰাৰ উপৰিও, হাত-তাঁত, বেচম আৰু বয়ন বিভাগৰ Statistical officer হিচাবেও কাম কৰি আহিছে। বিভাগীয় প্ৰমোচনৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ধাৰ্য্য কৰা নিম্নতম শিক্ষা সম্বন্ধীয় যোগ্যতাৰ প্ৰয়োজন নেথাকে। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও, Regulation 3(e) অনুসাবে কৰা নিয়োগ বিলাকত প্ৰাৰ্থীৰ সেই পদত নিগাজিকৈ লোৱাৰ দাবি কৰাৰো অধিকাৰ নাথাকে। এও লোক সকলোৱোই, এই পদৰ কাৰণে নতুন প্ৰাৰ্থীৰ দৰেই A.P.S.C. ৰ ওচৰত আবেদন কৰিব লাগিব। এওৰ সেই পদৰ কাৰণে যোগ্যতা অনুসাবে তেওঁক বচা নবচা টো A.P.S.C.-ৰ কথা, তাত কোনো বাধ্য বাধকতা নাই। গতিকে Regulation 3 (e) অনুসাবে নিয়োগ কৰাত আপত্তিৰ কাৰণ নেদেখো কাৰণ ই এটা কাৰ্য্যৰ দ্ৰুততাৰ কাৰণে অস্থায়ী ব্যবস্থাহে মাত্ৰ।

শ্ৰীদাসৰ ওপৰত Proceedings draw up কৰা সময়ত তেওঁ Suspension-ত থকা খবৰটো সত্য নহয়। ১৯৫৩ চনত Rural Development Directorate অৰ অন্তৰ্ভুক্ত বিভাগ বিলাকত শৃঙ্খলা আৰু কাৰ্য্যকুশলতাৰ হ্ৰাস হোৱা দেখা গৈছিল। সেই কাৰণে সেই সময়ত, সেইসময়ৰ Secretary আৰু Director এ সমষ্টিগুণ বিভাগ সমূহৰ প্ৰায় ৫০ জন Assistant আৰু Field officers অৰ বিৰুদ্ধে Proceedings draw কৰিব লগাত পৰিছিল। সেই সময়ত শ্ৰীদাস কুটিৰ শিল্প বিভাগৰ Head Assistant ৰ কাম কৰিছিল, আৰু তেওঁৰ অধীনৰ কৰ্মচাৰী সকলেও কাম পেলাই থোৱাত যথোপযুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা লব নোৱাৰা কাৰণে তেওঁৰ ওপৰতো Proceedings অনা হৈছিল আৰু এবছৰৰ কাৰণে প্ৰমোচন স্থগিত ৰখা হৈছিল। সেই এবছৰ উকালি যোৱাৰ পিচত তেওঁৰ ওপৰত থকা নিষেধ আজ্ঞা উঠাই লোৱাত তেওঁৰ স্বাভাবিক পাবলগীয়া প্ৰমোচন আদি পায়।

মহোদয়, ইয়াৰ বাহিৰেও সিদিনা কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ কাৰণে নিয়োগ কৰা ১২ জন ইনস্পেক্টৰক Superintendent নামাকৰণ কৰি তেওঁলোকৰ বেতনৰ নিৰিখো বঢ়াই দিয়া সম্বন্ধে উপপ্ৰশ্ন উঠিছিল।

এই বিষয়ে মই জনাও যে ১৯৫৭ চনৰ জানুৱাৰী মাহত ১২জন ইনস্পেক্টৰৰ পদ পুৰাবলৈ নাছিলি ১৫০—১৫,—১৮০, (ইবি)—১৫,—৩৬০, (ইবি) ১৫,—৪৫০, বেতনৰ নিৰিখ ধাৰ্য্যকৰা হৈছিল। A.P.S.C. ক ১৯৫৭ চনৰ জানুৱাৰী মাহতেই জাননী দিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনোৱা হৈছিল, কিন্তু তেখেত সকলে ১৯৫৭ চনৰ মাৰ্চ মাহত জাননী দিয়ে। এই পদবী কেইটাৰ কাৰণে শিক্ষাৰ মান ধাৰ্য্য কৰা হৈছিল নিম্নোক্ত অনুসাবে:—

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ৰ স্নাতক (Graduate), বিশেষ হিচাবে যি সকলে ৰাজহ বিষয়ত আৰু চৰকাৰী বা খ্যাত ও প্ৰশাসিত বেচৰকাৰী কাৰখানাৰ কুটিৰ ক্ষুদ্র শিল্পত অভিজ্ঞতা অৰ্জন কৰিছে।

2816 COTTAGE INDUSTRIES MINISTER'S STATEMENT [24TH APRIL,
REGARDING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION
Nos.552 AND 553 ON 10TH APRIL 1958

এই ইনস্পেক্টৰ সকলৰ কাম নিম্নলিখিত ৰূপ:—কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ উন্নয়ন আৰু ক্ষুদ্র শিল্প সমূহক সহায় আৰু পৰামৰ্শ দিয়া আৰু ঋণ সম্পৰ্কত দৃষ্টিবদ্ধ।

১৯৫৭ চনৰ চেপ্তেম্বৰ মাহত A.P.S.C. ৰ সমৰ্থন পোৱাৰ পূৰ্বেই ১৯৫৭ৰ জুলাই মাহত কুটিৰ শিল্প বিভাগটোক দৰ্শন্যকৈ আবদ্ধ কৰি বৰ্ত্তমান আৰু অতিৰিক্ত। কৰ্মচাৰীৰে সৈতে সম্পূৰ্ণ ভাবে পুনৰ সংগঠন কৰিবৰ কাৰণে Director এ প্ৰস্তাব পঠায়। সেই প্ৰস্তাবতে কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ ইনস্পেক্টৰ নামৰ ঠাইত Superintendent নামাকৰণ কৰা আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ বেতনৰ হাৰ মহিলি ১৭৫৭—৪৫০ টকালৈকে ধৰাৰ কাৰণে প্ৰস্তাবত দিয়া হৈছিল।

কুটিৰ শিল্প বিভাগে উক্ত প্ৰস্তাবটো ভালদৰে পৰীক্ষা কৰি ১৯৫৭ চনৰ আগষ্ট মাহৰ শেষ ভাগত বিত্ত (Finance) বিভাগলৈ পঠোৱা হয়। বিত্ত বিভাগে সামান্য সংশোধন কৰি ১৯১১১৫৭ তাৰিখে সম্মতি দিয়ে। কিন্তু বিত্তীয় বিভাগে কেবল ইনস্পেক্টৰ সকলক নতুনকৈ Superintendent নামাকৰণ কৰাত তেওঁলোকৰ বেতন ১৫০—৪৫০ টকাৰ পৰা ১৭৫৭—৪৫০ টকালৈ নিয়া সমৰ্থন কৰি বাকী সকলৰ বেতন বৃদ্ধি কৰাত সম্মতি নিদিলে।

পাৰ্থকাৰ্য্যটো হৈছে মাত্ৰ সংশোধিত বেতনৰ নিৰিখৰ আৰম্ভনিত ২৫ টকা বৃদ্ধি হব; আৰু ৩৪০ টকা মহিলি বেতন হোৱাৰ পিচত বৃদ্ধিৰ বহুবেকীয়া নিৰিখো বৃদ্ধি হব। বৰ্ত্তমান তেওঁলোকৰ বহুবেকীয়া বৃদ্ধিৰ হাৰ আগৰ ১৫ টকাৰ ঠাইত ২০ টকাকৈ ধৰা হৈছে।

কিন্তু আগতে কৈ অহাৰ দৰে কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ ইনস্পেক্টৰৰ সম্পৰ্কিত A.P.S.C. ৰ অনুমোদন ১৯৫৭ চনৰ চেপ্তেম্বৰ মাহত পোৱা হয় আৰু পুলিচ অনুসন্ধানৰ পাচত ১৩১১১৫৭ তাৰিখে তেওঁলোকক কামত মকৰল কৰা হয়। নতুন নামাকৰণৰ অনুমোদন বিত্তীয় বিভাগৰ পৰা পোৱা হয় ১৯১১১৫৭ তাৰিখে। এই অনুমোদন পাই ৩০১১২৫৭ তাৰিখে চুপাৰিন্টেণ্ডেণ্ট অৱ ইণ্ডাষ্ট্ৰিজ বুলি নতুন নামাকৰণ কৰি সংশোধিত বেতনৰ সৈতে জাননী দিয়া হয়।

এই পদ কেইটিক এতিয়াও গেজেটেড পদ বুলি ঘোষণা কৰা হোৱা নাই। বিষয়টো চৰকাৰৰ বিবেচনাধীন হৈ আছে। দৰ্শন্য কৰ্মটিৰ অনুমোদন অনুযায়ী চৰকাৰে কমিউনিটি প্ৰজেক্ট বিভাগৰ এছিষ্টেণ্ট একজিকিউটিভ অফিচাৰ আৰু মাকেটিং চুপাৰিন্টেণ্ডেণ্ট, আৰু ৰেছৰ বয়ন বিভাগৰ উইডিং চুপাৰিন্টেণ্ডেণ্ট আৰু চেৰিকালচাৰ চুপাৰিন্টেণ্ডেণ্ট সকলৰ মহিলী বেতনৰ হাৰ ১৫০—৪৫০ টকাৰ পৰা ১৭৫৭—৪৫০ টকালৈ সংশোধন কৰিছে।

যিহেতু কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ ইনস্পেক্টৰৰ দায়িত্ব আৰু কৰ্ত্তব্য উপবোদ্ধ পদবী বিলাকৰে সৈতে একে ধৰণৰ সেই হেতু কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ ইনস্পেক্টৰ সকলক চুপাৰিন্টেণ্ডেণ্ট অৱ ইণ্ডাষ্ট্ৰিজ বুলি নতুনকৈ নামাকৰণ কৰা হৈছে।

এনে ক্ষেত্ৰত কুটিৰ শিল্প বিভাগৰ ইনস্পেক্টৰ সকলৰ বেতনৰ নিৰিখ নতুন নামাকৰণ কৰা পদবীৰ লগত খাপ খুৱাই সংশোধন কৰিবলৈ বিত্তীয় বিভাগৰ বিবেচনাৰ কাৰণে দিয়া হৈছিল।

সংশোধিত বেতনৰ নিৰিখৰে সৈতে জাননী দিয়া হলে সম্ভৱতঃ অধিক যোগ্যতা সম্পন্ন প্ৰাৰ্থী এই পদবী বিলাকৰ কাৰণে পোৱা গলহেতেন। কিন্তু সেইটো কৰা হোৱা হলে আৰু ছমাহ বা ততোধিক সময় লাগিল হেতেন আৰু কামৰ অগ্ৰগতি বন্ধ হৈ থাকিল হেতেন। মনত ৰখা উচিত এই বিষয় সকলক উচ্চতৰ বেতন নিৰিখৰ সুবিধা দিবলৈকে বুলি বাচনি কৰা হোৱা নাছিল। কিন্তু দৰ্শন্য কৰ্মটিৰ অনুমোদন অনুযায়ী এওঁলোকেও অন্যান্য বিষয়া সকলৰে সৈতে সেই সুবিধা অৱশ্যে পাইছে।

**Calling attention to matter of urgent public
importance regarding loss of properties by
fire in several towns of Assam**

Mr. SPEAKER : Now, I call Shri Dandeswar Hazarika to move his notice drawing attention of the House to a matter of urgent public importance.

Shri DANDESAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Assembly Rule 54, I would draw attention of the Minister to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., destruction of houses by fire all over Assam.

Sir, you are aware that during the current month of April in the first fortnight, there were certain cases of fire in some parts of the State and as a result of which many families have been rendered homeless and properties worth several lakhs were destroyed. At Gauhati on 4th April, it is reported that 50 houses were gutted by fire at Chandmari and as a result of that fire about 50 families have been rendered homeless and it is further reported in the press that loss sustained by these families amounts to about rupees two lakhs and on the same day in the afternoon there was a severe fire at Nowgong near railway station. That was in a refugee colony in which 200 families were affected. It was further reported that two persons died. It is also reported in the press, Sir, that our Hon'ble Speaker was pleased to visit the scene at Nowgong. Then again, Sir, in Mangaldai, in a refugee colony, several houses were destroyed by fire and many families have been rendered homeless. Similar fire broke out in Shillong on the 5th April where portion of the Bara Bazar was gutted. In Jorhat also many houses including Auniati Satra were gutted by fire and it is estimated that the loss is over a lakh of rupees. There was also a case of fire reported at Upper Shillong in which the Upper Shillong Farm and some Government buildings have been destroyed along with property worth several thousands. After the fire at Gauhati on the 4th April it was further reported in the press that there were other cases of fire at Gauhati. Also there were several fire havoc in many villages of Assam where people were rendered homeless.

So, Sir, we are anxious to know what steps have been taken by Government to render help to these fire victims. We also want to know how many families have been affected by fire in the State and secondly, we want to know the extent of damage or loss sustained by these affected families and also whether the reported death is true or not. What relief measures, both short term and long term measures have

been taken by Government to help the affected families. Further, Sir, I would request Government to see that some arrangement is made specially in the congested areas, in the towns, to protect them from outbreak of fires. As you know Sir, we have no fire brigade in most places in the State and no adequate arrangement for water supply is also available so that fire can be checked and controlled. I hope Government will enlighten the House as to what steps they have taken to help the fire victims in different places.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Sir, I will give the figures subdivision-wise. There was fire in Nowgong in Rupahi Bazar on 15th February 1958, number of families affected 17, extent of loss Rs.50,000. Rs.3,400 issued as rehabilitation loan. Another fire broke out in Doboka Bazar on 24th March 1958, number of families affected—150, extent of loss 6 lakhs. Clothes worth Rs.500 were distributed. Distribution of 200 bundles of C. I. sheets has been arranged as loan. Then another fire at Panigaon of Nowgong town broke out on 4th April 1958, number of families affected—165, extent of damage Rs. 20,000. Rs.6,700 as gratuitous relief has already been issued, and another amount of Rs.1,550 as gratuitous relief is under consideration. Silchar—Fire occurred in Singerbond on 16th March 1958, number of families affected—57, extent of damage Rs.1,50,000. Gratuitous relief worth Rs.1,000 was given. Fatak Bazar, fire occurred on 27th March 1958, number of families affected 78, extent of loss Rs.5,33,268. Rehabilitation loan petitions have been received which are under enquiry. Hailakandi—four minor fire incidents occurred in four different places, number of families affected—23, extent of damage Rs.67,890. Gratuitous relief of Rs.550 has been given and issue of further gratuitous relief and rehabilitation loan is under consideration. Karimganj—six incidents occurred in six different places including Bridge Road and Charbazar areas, number of families affected—271, extent of damage 3,18,500. Necessary gratuitous relief and rehabilitation loan of Rs.24,900 have been issued. Dhubri—70 stray cases in different places occurred. Number of families affected—191, extent of damage Rs.1,67,359. Rehabilitation loan petitions are under consideration. Goalpara—50 stray cases in different places occurred, number of families affected—82, extent of damage Rs.26,595. Kokrajhar—16 stray cases in different places occurred, number of families affected—29, extent of damage Rs.87,598. Gauhati—23 incidents in different places including Tihu Bazar, Chandmari and Uzankuri

took place. Number of families affected 147, extent of damage Rs.4,83,300. In Tihu Bazar, rehabilitation loan of Rs.30,000 has been issued. In Uzankuri, gratuitous relief of Rs.350 was distributed and for Chandmari, gratuitous relief of Rs.2,900 was given. For Pandunath, rehabilitation loan of Rs.350 and gratuitous relief of Rs.75 have been given. Barpeta—two incidents at village Raghabil and Chakchaka Bazar occurred, number of families affected 77, extent of damage Rs.88,333. Sari and blankets worth Rs.150 have been issued to victims of Raghabil. Grant of rehabilitation loan is under consideration.

Jorhat: 11 incidents including Auniati Satra. Families affected 107. Loss of property Rs.4,73,012. Gratuitous relief of Rs.5,000 was distributed. Of these 107 families, 95 families were given relief.

Golaghat: 5 incidents took place in different places. Family affected 11, loss of property Rs.8,500, gratuitous relief issued was Rs.200.

Mangaldoi: 13 incidents took place in different places. Number of families affected 61, loss of property Rs.33,250. Some ration worth of Rs.59 was distributed.

North Lakhimpur: Incidents took place in 11 Mauzas. Family affected 22, extent of loss of property Rs.70,000. Rehabilitation loan is under consideration.

Tezpur: Three incidents took place at Charali, Bindukuri and Sootea, number of families affected 52, and gratuitous relief of Rs.1,539-38 nP issued to the 32 families of Charali and rehabilitation loan of Rs.26,000 was sanctioned for all those 52 families.

This is with regard to plains districts.

With regard to the hills districts Government have already sanctioned as follows: -

Tura: Incidents took place in 13 places, number of families affected 228, loss of property Rs.2,60,000, and relief issued in kind Rs.10,651 and in cash Rs.3,420.

Aijal: Incidents took place in two places, families affected 23, loss of property Rs.62,000 and gratuitous relief given was Rs.2,300.

Lungleh: Incidents took place in 4 places, families affected 89, loss of property Rs.7,680.

Diphu: Incidents took place in 5 places, families affected 14, loss of property Rs.11,500.

Haflong: Nine incidents took place in nine different places, families affected 51, loss of property Rs.95,600 and gratuitous relief issued was Rs.7,815.

Shillong: 17 incidents took place in the Subdivision including Shillong proper. Loss of property damaged is Rs.6,12,835. Gratuitous relief given Rs.11 500 and rehabilitation loan of Rs.39,400 sanctioned for the victims of Shillong Barabazar.

Jowai: 11 incidents took place in different places. Families affected 42, loss of property damaged Rs.1,15,403. Rs.5,000 was issued in cash to the victims of Mawkyndeng village.

Then, Sir, I regret to state that the loss caused by fire during the past few dry months in many rural and urban areas of Assam is considerable. Generally speaking the causes of these fires are lack of fire precautionary habits on part of the people, accidents, forest fires and in some cases there are reasons to believe these are due to mischievous activity on part of some people.

It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide relief to the victims of fire by issuing gratuitous relief, rehabilitation loans and facilities for construction of buildings as far as possible.

Government feel that in order to cope with this problem it is necessary to expand the Fire Fighting Services by taking over and establishing more Fire Brigades.

Demands for grants

Mr. SPEAKER : Now Demands for Grants.

Shri GAURISHANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati): Sir, may I make a submission? Grant No. 5 and Grant No. 49 pertain to the same subject. These Grants could be moved by the Minister together and the Speaker then will ask the hon. Members to move only one cut motion instead of moving all cut motions standing in their names and they will speak only once and then the Minister may reply.

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, I think it would be convenient.

GRANT No. 5

“10—Forests”

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,21,77,500 (Rupees one crore, twenty-one lakhs, seventy-seven thousand and five hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head “10.—Forests.”

GRANT No.49

“65-A.—2.—Capital Outlay on Forests”

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam. I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 4,49,000 (Rupees four lakhs and forty-nine thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head—“65-A.—2.—Capital Outlay on Forests”.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motions moved : That a sum of Rs.1,21,77,500 (Rupees one crore, twenty-one lakhs seventy-Seven thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head “10.—Forests”.

That a sum of Rs.4,49,000 (Rupees four lakhs and forty-nine thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head “65.—A.—2.—Capital Outlay on Forests”.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motion standing in my name.

That the provision of Rs.16,45,000, under Grant No.5, Major Head—10.—Forests, Minor head—Development Schemes, Second Five Year Plan Schemes under Article 275, Sub-head B.-5.—Conservancy and Works under Sixth Schedule, Part "A" Areas at page 26 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,21,77,500 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To ask Government to clarify whether from the sum of Rs.4,18,600 in detailed head—Jhum Control and Shifting Cultivation under head—Organisation Improvements, etc., in the middle of page 18 of the Budget of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills; any amount is often used for cinchona plantation and Government is asked to clarify how much is spent annually for cinchona plantation and what its prospects are).

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-west): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,21,77,500, under Grant No.5, Major head—10.—Forests, at page 24 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,21,77,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(1. To criticise the grant.

2. To discuss about the erable lands in the forest and the beggary system).

That the total provision of Rs.4,49,000, under Grant No.49, Major head—65-A.—2.—Capital Outlay on Forests, at page 583 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,49,000, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To discuss the Grant).

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motion standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,21,77,500, under Grant No.5, Major head—10.—Forests, at page 24 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,21,77,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion).

Shri MATHIAS TUDU (Gossaigaon): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motion standing in my name.

That the provision of Rs.1,21,77,500, under Grant No.5, Major head—10.—Forests, at page 24 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,21,77,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion).

That the total provision of Rs.4,49,000, under Grant No.49, Major head—65-A.—2.—Capital Outlay on Forest, at page 583 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,49,000, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion.)

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,21,77,500, under Grant No.5, Major head—10.—Forests, at page 24 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,21,77,500, to stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the Forest policy of the Government.)

That the provision of Rs.28,000, under Grant No.49, Major head—65-A.—2.—Capital Outlay on Forests—Minor head—Wattle Cultivation under Sixth Schedule (Part 'A') Areas (total), at page 585 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,49,000, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for their negligence to exercise supervision and control over the cultivation of Wattle).

That the provision of Rs.48,000, under Grant No.49, Major head—65-A.—2.—Capital Outlay on Forests, Minor head—Medicinal and Economic Plant under Sixth Schedule (Part 'A') Areas (total), at page 586 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,49,000, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for their failure to develop the Medicinal and Economic Plants Section).

That the total provision of Rs.4,49,000, under Grant No.49, Major head—65-A.—2.—Capital Outlay on Forests, at page 583 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,49,000, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the policy of the Government.)

Mr. SPEAKER: All Cut Motions are moved as above.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak only a few words. The most important point on which I want to speak is forest beggary. Much is said about our State. Congress is going to have a socialist pattern of society ! But on the other hand we find still there is a system of forest beggary which is really most startling. In these days of democracy and civilisation, it is really shocking to us.

In our State there are hundreds of villages in forest areas and thousands of poor villagers are living in those areas. Though some of them are settled with land, the settlement so made is not permanent. They are settled in forest areas temporarily with the result that the villagers have to live upon the mercy of the officers concerned, who on their sweet will can drive out the villagers at any moment.

These villagers are also to work in the forest areas five days in a year without getting any remuneration for their work. They are to render services for 24 days in a year with a minimum rate of remuneration. So, Sir, this system of service without remuneration and the less amount of remuneration should be abolished, and land should be settled with the forest villagers permanently on periodical basis. Further settlement should not be made on individual basis, it should be made on the basis of collective or co-operative farming. If it is allowed too long in this way surely it will tell upon the improvement of our State.

One point which I would like to touch about this is that these people lead a very hard life. They are to fight with wild animals—like tigers, wild buffalos, poisonous snakes. Almost in many cases their produces are damaged by wild animals, and there is no proper measure of protection on the part of the Government. In the face of all these I do not find any reason why the revenue of these persons are increased from annas ten to annas fourteen. Formerly the revenue was ten annas and now it has been increased to fourteen annas. I submit to the Government that for the wretched plight of these forest villagers, the increase of revenue per bigha should not be given effect to, rather it should be decreased. I repeat again that the settlement of land should not be made temporary. These forest villagers are not foreigners, they are our brothers, they are our Indian nationals. If Government fail in their duty, surely it will retard our national progress. They should be given permanent protection and right so that they get the land with heritable rights.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that excess or non-required fallow land in the forest should be settled immediately, otherwise our national income would not rise. And in these days of food crisis, we should see that all arable lands which are lying fallow and which are not required for afforestation purposes, or for planting of new trees are settled with the landless people who are the tillers of the soil. Sir, I know in Sibsagar District in Rangul Forest Reserve and in Sapekhati Forest Reserve, there is a move to give the land to the forest villagers, but up till now it is not decided by the Government. There are such other cases in many other forest areas in the State. I think Government should take suitable steps regarding the arable fallow land.

Another point is that in some forest areas the villagers are going to be evicted, or already evicted ruthlessly. It should be stopped otherwise it will cause heavy losses to our State economy.

Sir, our Government should see so that the number of schools and roads are set up and constructed in greater number in those areas. In the booklet entitled—'Tenth Year of Freedom' published by the Government, referring to the improvement of forest villagers, Government has been proud to announce that 8 miles of forest village road have been constructed, 10 ring wells were made and 3 teachers quarters were erected in the forest villages throughout the State ! Sir, this is very meagre. It is not improvement at all. There are so many villages in the forest areas throughout the State and there should have been more roads, more schools and more water improvement plants in these areas. So, I hope that our Government will make the improvement of these people who are our brothers—their improvement should be effected immediately. With this end in view I suggest that instead of saying that Government has done such and such things for these poor people, they should come forward to help them to raise their standard of living, otherwise mere saying will not do.

Thank you, Sir.

***Shri MATHIAS TUDU (Gossaigaon):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our State of Assam the economic condition of the people, miserable is very poor ; but since there is great potential resources lying in our State, if they are properly harnessed and utilised, the economic condition of the State can be changed, and forest is one of these resources. While the aim of our development schemes is to better the economic condition of the State it seems that no deep consideration has been given

*Speech not corrected.

to the proper utilisation of the forest resources of the State. It is very much closely connected with the economy of our State. Sir, here I do not like to discuss about the various plans and programmes that have been taken up by the Government for the improvement of the forest wealth of the State. Here I shall confine my observation to the condition relating to the people living in the forest villages of the State, I mean the labourers working in the forest areas. I personally visited the forest villages in Goalpara West Division, and I find the condition of these people very much deplorable. My submission is that unless the condition of these people are improved I think we cannot expect to better the forest resources, because the people who work in the forest reserves, if their condition is poor, if their condition is not suitable then they cannot work in the forest reserves efficiently. So the schemes and programmes undertaken for the improvement of the forest resources will not be successful and the desired objective will not be achieved. As for the condition of the people, I know, Sir, their houses are very bad. During the winter season they can live anywhere, but during the rainy season, their conditions become very deplorable. They have no good houses to live in. People with their children get wet during that time. Now, it can be asked why these people cannot build their houses to live in, why do they suffer so badly during the rainy season. ? Well, they are very poor, they do not have enough money to spare for construction of houses. They are, as a class, labourers, they earn their livelihood as day labourers in the neighbouring forest areas. Their wages are so poor that what they earn by selling their labour which is hardly sufficient to make their both ends meet. They are a set of semi-starved, half-naked people. It is, therefore, no wonder that they do not have sufficient money to construct their houses. I, therefore, request Government to consider these things and take such steps as may be deemed necessary to better the pitiable condition of these forest dwellers. I say this, because the development of the forest wealth of the country as a flourishing industry earning good dividend to our Government is entirely dependent on the improvement of the living conditions of these forest villagers.

Now, the question is : how to improve the lot of these poor forest villagers ? In this connection firstly I suggest Government to consider the question of their education. Because of this illiteracy, they have become so poor. Illiteracy is the mother of all the evils in our society, and these poor forest villagers are no exception to this. But at

present Government do not seem to have taken any effective steps to spread education among them. I know, in the Goalpara West Division Forest, there are a few Lower Primary or Middle Vernacular Schools. But their number is so poor that they are not at all sufficient to cater to the needs of the people. So it is necessary to establish a number of Primary, Middle English and Middle Vernacular Schools, as also Basic and other schools in the area. This will greatly facilitate spread of education amongst the children of the forest villagers.

In this connection I would like to say a few words about the forest villagers of Kachugaon. Recently, Sir, here a meeting was held and the villagers from the various parts of the area came to attend this meeting. Here I had the opportunity to share their feelings. Most of the people there complained about shortage or non-availability of good drinking water and about lack of good communication. The Forest Department has sunk some tube-wells and ringwells there. But their number is entirely inadequate to meet their demand. I was also told that the people had on many occasions filed petitions to the Divisional Forest Officers concerned praying for a number of ring-wells or tube-wells, but no action was taken. I, therefore, request Government to look into the matter and take suitable steps to remove this grievance of the people.

Then, as regards communication. The condition of the existing forest roads are most deplorable. It is simply impossible for the people of one village to go to another during the rainy season because of the absence of any good road in the area. Sir, these forest areas are full of mountain streams, river and rivulets. In some of these streams, the Forest Department has provided some bridges, but the condition of these bridges is so bad that they become as useless as there had been no bridge at all. This is more so specially during the rainy season. These bridges are not properly looked after. I, therefore, draw the attention of the Government to this matter and to take steps to construct good roads for the villagers and also to improve the condition of existing forest roads with a view to improve the lot of these poor villagers.

Next thing that I would like to mention in this connection is about the behaviour of the forest officers to the villagers. Treatment meted out to the forest labourers is much to be improved. Even the street dogs are better cared

for and looked after. For even a slight mistake or wrong, they are kicked and slapped. If this is the sort of behaviour between the labourers and their officers, then I really wonder, what our democracy means. How our various developmental schemes and projects will go to improve the lots of poor people.

I, therefore, draw the attention of the Government to all these things and hope that suitable steps will be taken to better the conditions of the forest villagers.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding) মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, অসমৰ বনসম্পদ এটা অতীব দৰকাৰী সম্পদ। আজি যদি এই আপুৰুগীয়া সম্পদৰ পৰিসৰকে বৃদ্ধি কৰিব পাৰি তেন্তে আজি সমগ্ৰ অসমীয়া জাতিৰ জীৱনৰ মানদণ্ড বি এখোপ উঠিব তাত সন্দেহ নাই। সেইকাৰণে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে সেইবিষয়ে যি দাদ দাঙি ধৰিছে তাক মই সমৰ্থন কৰিছো আৰু তাৰ ওপৰত অনা কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ প্ৰতিব, কৰিছো।

মাজতে এই বহু মূলীয়া বন সম্পদৰ বৃদ্ধি আৰু উন্নতিৰ প্ৰতি চৰকাৰৰ অবহেলা দেখা গৈছিল কিয়নো চিন্তা হীনভাবে মনুহক যথেষ্ট কাঠ কাটিবলৈ দিয়া হৈছে; যতে ত'তে মানুহবহুৱা আমি এতিয়াও দেখিবলৈ পাইছো এইবিলাকৰ পৰা এই সম্পদৰ বৃদ্ধি পুষ্টিত বহুতো হকাৰধা হৈছে। বৰ্ত্তমান চৰকাৰে দৃঢ়তাৰে সৈতে সেই প্ৰতিবন্ধক বিলাক দূৰ কৰিবলৈ যি চেষ্টা কৰিছে সি বৰ প্ৰশংসনীয় দেখা যায়। Protection ৰ কামো বৰ্ত্তমান চৰকাৰে তৎপৰতাৰে হাতত লৈছে। বহু ঠাইত নতুন গছ গছনি ৰোৱাৰ আচনিও লৈছে। মোৰ বোধেৰে Forest Village বিলাকৰ সংখ্যা কমাই দিব লাগে; এখন দেশত কিমান Forest থাকিবলাগে তাক নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰা আছে। আমাৰ য'তে ত'তে গছ গছনি কটাৰ ফলত আৰু deforestation— ৰ ফালে আমাৰ ধাউতি বাঢ়ি যোৱাৰ ফলত আমি সেই নিৰ্দ্ধাৰিত পৰিমাণৰ পৰা বহুতো তললৈ নামিগৈছে। সকলোৱে কয় অসম প্ৰাকৃতিক সৌন্দৰ্য্যৰ ৰাণী; কিন্তু আজি অপৰিকল্পিত ভাবে বনজ সম্পদ নষ্টকাৰ ফলত সেই আখ্যা লোপ নষ্ট হৈছে এনে নহয়, ইয়াৰদ্বাৰা আমাৰ দেশৰ মাটিৰ উৎপাদিকাৰ্শক্তিও হ্ৰাস বৰষুণৰ ওপৰতো আছে। অসমত বৰষুণ কম হোৱাৰ এটা কাৰণ, আমাৰ গছ-গছনিৰ সংখ্যা হ্ৰাস কৰাও। গতিকে আমাৰ বন সম্পদ বৃদ্ধি কৰাটো এটা অপৰিহাৰ্য্য কাম। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা মাছকে আদি কৰি খাদ্য বৃদ্ধিটো সহায়তা কৰিব। গতিকে পাৰ্ধ্যমানে বনসম্পদ সংৰক্ষণ আৰু ৰক্ষা কৰি য'ত তত কাঠ কাটা বন্ধ কৰি ইয়াৰ পৰিসৰ আৰু সমৃদ্ধি বঢ়াবৰ চেষ্টা কৰিলে দেশৰ সম্পদ বাঢ়িব বুলি মই বিশ্বাস কৰো। এই সম্পদ বঢ়াব লগে লগে আমাৰ মূল্যবান কাঠতো বাঢ়িবই তাৰ লগে লগে আমাৰ মূল্যবান জন্তু বিলাকৰো বৃদ্ধি পুষ্টি সাধন হব।

ফৰেষ্টৰ মাজত যিবিলাক Fishery আছে সেইবিলাক Fishery যাতে ভাল বকমে আগবাঢ়িবলৈ যত্ন কৰা দেখিলে আনন্দ লাভ কৰিম। কাৰণ মাছ আমাৰ দেশৰ এটা মূল খাদ্য কিন্তু আমাৰ মাছ পোহা বা সংৰক্ষণ কৰাৰ বিশেষ কোনো দিহা নাই। চৰকাৰৰ fish firm বোৰেও বিশেষ কৃতকাৰ্য্যতা লাভ কৰিব পৰা নাই। এনে অৱস্থাত যদি forest ত থকা fishery বোৰ সংৰক্ষণ কৰা নহয় তেন্তে আমাৰ দেশৰ

মূল এই খাদ্য মাছৰ অভাৱ বিশেষ কৰি বৃদ্ধি পাব। Forest ৰ fishery বোৰ সংৰক্ষিত হৈ থাকিলে তাত মাছৰ সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি হোৱাৰ ওপৰিও বাৰিষা তাৰ মাছ বোৰ অন্যান্য বিল বা পথাৰত সিঁচৰিত হৈ পৰিব আৰু মানুহে সেই মাছ বোৰ ধৰি ব্যবহাৰ কৰিব পাৰিব।

আৰু এটা কথা এই যে deforestation কৰি forest কমাই দিয়াৰ ফলত আমাৰ দেশত বৰষুণৰ পৰিমাণ কম হৈছে। তাৰ ফলত আমাৰ দেশৰ খাদ্য শস্য উৎপাদন কমি গৈছে আৰু বৰষুণ নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে মাটিৰ উৎপাদিকা শক্তিও কমিছে। আজি ফবেষ্টৰ ১০০ বা ২০০ একৰ মাটি মুকলি কৰি দিলে যিমান শস্য উৎপাদন হব। যদি ফবেষ্ট বঢ়াই দি বৰষুণৰ মাত্ৰা আগৰ দৰে পোৱাৰ দিহা কৰিব পৰা যায় তেনেহলে তাতকৈ বহুত বেচি শস্য উৎপাদন হব। গতিকে মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যে আমাৰ ফবেষ্ট পৰিসৰ যি পৰিমাণ হব লাগে সেই পৰিমাণে যাতে হয় তাৰ দিহা কৰিব লাগে। লগে লগে ফবেষ্ট area বিলাকৰ যাতে বহু মূলীয়া গছ উৎপাদন কৰিব পৰা যায় তাৰ নিমিত্তে চৰকাৰে বেচিভণ্ডপৰতাৰে চেষ্টা কৰিব লাগে আৰু বন্য জন্তু আৰু পক্ষী বিলাকৰ যাতে সংৰক্ষিত হয় তাৰ কাৰণেও চাব লাগে। সেইকাৰণে মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যে deforestation ৰ ভাব টোকেই গুচাই দিব লাগে আৰু ফবেষ্ট পাৰ্য্যামানে বৃদ্ধি কৰাৰ দিহা কৰিব লাগে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই চৰকাৰে যিটো প্ৰস্তাব উত্থাপন কৰিছে তাকে সমৰ্থন কৰিলো।

Rev J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Cut Motion is only for the sake of asking the Government to clarify whether they are going to spend money on the cinchona plantation in the Nongpoh area from the sum of Rs.4,18,600 that has been budgeted for the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills for Jhum Control and Shifting Cultivation or whether the cinchona plantation has nothing to do with this provision and whether the cinchona plantation is bringing us no benefit at all. The general impression of the public is that Government is not getting any benefit from the money spent on cinchona plantation and so the money is wasted thereby. We would like to know the exact position whether the cinchona plantation on which some money is spent is at all profitable. The general impression of the public is that not only the money is wasted on cinchona plantation but the land that is taken by the Government for this purpose can be utilised by the villagers for other cultivation. If the Government has not been able to utilise the land profitably, then let that land be better utilised by the cultivators for some other cultivation. That is all I want to know from the Government.

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the forest of our State is possibly one of the richest sources and it is so in India also. In Assam we get it in abundance with all the natural varieties. In addition to that forest is one of the most suitable sources of revenue of the Government. So, if it is properly developed and tapped then our

State revenue will be very much increased. But it seems Government has not got any clear-cut policy for the protection, maintenance and development of our forest. For example, Government up till now has not decided what percentage of the total area of the State should be under forest. In this connection Government put the international figure of 25 per cent which should be the over-all average. But that also covers from the Himalayan and Sahara regions. But for areas with humid atmosphere like our State it is not possible to maintain that figure of 25 per cent. Under the circumstances therefore our figure should not be less than 15 per cent and on that basis I think our plan should be made in this connection.

The conservancy of reserves which contain valuable timber should be well protected and no encroachment under any circumstances should be allowed. It has been found that there are some rich forests under tea garden grants which are owned by different magnets. Those forests should be brought under the Forest Department. In the Dibrugarh Subdivision a particular grant was acquisitioned for settlement with the landless people and the whole area had to be divided into many plots. But afterwards the Forest Department discovered that a portion of this area contained rich forest and so it was again derequisitioned. Therefore, a survey to assess our sources and requirements should be carried on. We have no proper research to utilise our abundant forest produce and how to develop them further. If we take a rough estimate we find that our total capacity will be in the neighbourhood of 600 lakhs cubic feet of timber and out of this we have utilised in the last year only 7 million cubic feet of timber. The highest amount of timber in the whole of the State was 10 million cubic feet. That shows that if we calculate on a very orthodox system then we can utilise and sell 280 lakhs cubic feet of timber. If steps are taken for preservation of timber for conditioning or seasoning of timber then that can be stored up to an indefinite time and can be sold in the market, both in the State and outside. It is a long felt demand for establishing a research institute in our State. We do not know whether there is any contemplation of the Government to establish such a research institute here which is absolutely essential firstly to carry on statistical survey and secondly to make experiment on the produces of forestry, thirdly to make analysis of various forest materials and so on. For statistics and techniques also the Forest Research Institute should have a branch here. Our State having humid climate there should be arrangement for contracting timbers through processes in a research institute and also to classify different types of timbers. There is no

special branch under the Forest Department for silviculture and no special branch for soil conservation in our State, which is absolutely essential. These are not only of great help to the Forest Department but also to the Department of Agriculture and also to the Department of Public Health. In the absence of statistical data it is not possible to assess what quantity of moisture is found in our atmosphere, what quantity of forest is affected by soil erosion, etc. These figures are very essential not only for the Forest Department but also for the Departments of Agriculture and Public Health, as I have just now stated. But Government has no plan in that direction and have made no attempt to make any survey in that connection.

If we judge the work of the Forest Department then we find that in the maintenance of forest it has completely failed. For instance, in the district of Kamrup deforestation is going on and valuable trees are ruthlessly felled without any check and no proper step has been taken by the Government to stop this.

One of our biggest problems is soil erosion. To check soil erosion in the hills, a programme of afforestation should have been taken, particularly planting of hill-tops. Also there should have been belts of forests, one mile or half a mile deep on the banks of big rivers like the Brahmaputra, Dehing, Dapilig and others, to check erosion and maintain the fertility of the land. But no attempt has been made in that direction. After the banks have been eroded, the forest has also been destroyed and no attempt has been made by the Department to reconstruct and replant those trees.

Then, Sir, if we come to the question of distribution, the Government, we find, is not guided by any definite policy. Coupes are given to the contractors and also to individuals. When permits to individuals are given, we find corruption prevails in most cases. A person enters the forest with a permit for five trees and he goes on felling trees by dozens. Whenever he is tackled by a forest officer, he says “গছদানহে নিলো দান কেইদান আছেই” and then in the name of branches he carries on the whole process for three months or so. In the Gauhati subdivision, Sir, even after crossing the check gates the people have been detected carrying timber from the forest. The Department is inefficient and in certain cases corrupt. Here the Government should make up its mind. My suggestion, is that individual permits should be stopped. At present it is the Minister who has taken the responsibility of issuing permits. Formerly the Rangers used to issue permits, now the job

has been taken at the topmost level. I don't think it is necessary and I don't understand why the Minister should overburden himself with this kind of work. As I said, Sir, issue of permits to individuals should be stopped and Government should keep a stock of timber which can be sold to individuals if and when necessary; thereby corruption and destruction of forests can be checked to a certain extent. Government should also carry out a survey of these forests which are useless or which are still now called forest reserves though there is not a single tree there. For example, in the Rani Reserve, there is not a single tree; it is all marshy land and a part of it was opened for Boro cultivation. The people settled there and carried on Boro cultivation, which of course failed for lack of water supply. Last year, they took up Ahu cultivation in that area, but the Forest Department have now discovered that these people are squatters and should be evicted. Orders for eviction have been issued against them. That shows that the Forest Department is not guided by any principle or policy. The areas which are not actually under forest and not considered suitable for planting trees should be released for cultivation to the cultivators.

Now, Sir, if we come to the development section of the Forestry, we find that we have year after year voted money on this account, but the whole Department is moving without any plan. Take for instance, wattle cultivation. Wattle cultivation has been carried on in only one district *viz.*, the Khasi and Jaintia Hills district. Here also we find that it has been carried on in some places of Shillong and Jowai subdivisions on an uneconomic basis in very small areas which will not be commercially profitable. Then no measures have been taken to protect the wattle from fire. It is said that when we complain that the Forest Department has failed to execute the plan, that they have cultivated wattle in small areas which will not be an economic proposition, in order to cover up their inefficiency and corrupt practice the Departmental officials set fire to the cultivation themselves and say afterwards that wattle has been destroyed by fire.

Then, Sir, if we come to other things, we know that Assam grows about 300 varieties of medicinal plants. But of these the Forest Department takes cognisance of only three or four varieties. Cinchona and Ipecac are the most important varieties. So far as cinchona is concerned, we planted cinchona and the bark was ready for extraction; but the barks were sent outside for analysis to determine their quinine content. Government had not made any provision within the State for such analysis. Provision could have been made in conjunction with

the laboratory of the Cotton College or of the University or the laboratory of the Pasteur Institute to analyse the quinine content of our cinchona bark. But no attempt was made in that direction and the barks were sent outside. It has now been found that the cost of extracting quinine from the barks produced here will be greater than the price of quinine in the market. So, this whole thing has been a waste and I don't know what will be the ultimate cost of this cinchona venture.

Then, Sir, if we take Purnanabha and Sarpagandha, from which drugs to treat various cases of ailment, particularly hypertension cases, are produced, we know they grow abundantly in Assam. But no attempt has been made by Government to grow them on a commercial scale. We could grow them, press the essence of the herbs and sell it in the market. This would have been a good source of revenue to the Government. Then, khetsapra also grows abundantly in our forests. But as I said, no research has been made by the Forest Department about the various medicinal herbs, growing wild in Assam, and no attempt has been made for their systematic cultivation and exploitation. Therefore, Sir, I commend my Cut Motion to the acceptance of the House and I also request the Government to prove into the possibilities of enhancing our revenues by improving our forestry. If the forestry is improved a series of industries can also be established. For example, the soap industry is dependent on vegetable oil. We grow in abundance Nahor seeds, which are now simply wasted. They can be collected and extracted. The extract contains about 75 per cent of oil. But one difficulty is that the oil has a colour and a bad odour, but by chemical process it can be deodoured and colour removed and this oil can be made a fit base for soap. In Assam we could have a plan which would give us at least one lakh maunds of oil per year; the cost of that oil after deodourisation and de-colorisation is Rs. 38 to Rs. 45 per maunds in the market. If we have a latest 15 tons plant which will cost us about 4½ lakh of rupees, the cost of production would be only Rs. 5 per maund. The Forest Department should give attention to this as this will give us a good base for a very important industry. Similarly, about Agar; it is not natural product, it is obtained by injecting some bacteria in a species of trees. But there is no arrangement at present to inject bacteria. The Agar Mahals are simply sold; the Mahaldars select the trees which are injected with the particular bacteria and those trees are removed. In other countries bacterial is injected into certain species of trees and Agar is created artificially. The Forest Department should take up this scheme also. Then, Sir, we grow lemon grass; we can extract lemon grass

oil, process it, as is done in Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, and send it even to overseas market, where there is great demand for the product.

Then, Sir, bamboos grow in abundance but they get rotten and wasted. We could have rayon, artificial silk and paper pulp industries. But the Forest Department is sitting tight and remaining content with selling a few bundles of bamboos possibly, to Titaghar Paper Mills.

So, I say, Sir, there are immense potentialities in the forests of Assam and I think it is one of the richest States in forest products. But no attempt has been made to exploit this wealth. It is high time that our Government should awake and draw up plans to develop, maintain and augment our forest resources.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point raised by Rev. Nichols-Roy that the amount meant for Jhum cultivation is diverted to cinchona cultivation is not correct. In page 34 of the Budget Memorandum you will find that for cinchona cultivation there is an amount of Rs.60,000, so whatever cost is incurred with regard to this cinchona matter is drawn from here and not from the amount meant for Jhum cultivation.

Now, about the future of this cinchona it is like this. During the war time there was great demand of quinine and therefore this cinchona cultivation was taken up on war footing but after the war it was found that quinine is not much in demand and the Government of India has already got a stock of quinine worth rupees two crores and the West Bengal Government who has got a factory for processing quinine, have incurred a loss of about rupees one crore. We incurred an expenditure of rupees seventeen lakhs for our cinchona plantation in about one thousand acres of land. There was a proposal in the war time to start a factory here for which investment of an amount of rupees five lakhs was necessary. It had to be stopped. Starting of the factory and expansion of cinchona cultivation have now been stopped. Now, in consultation with the Government of India and in agreement with the West Bengal Government we are exploiting the cinchona destructively.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Is it not a fact that we are one of the biggest suppliers of West Bengal's demand for cinchona?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests): That is not so. There is already a stock worth rupees two crores with the Central Government and the West Bengal Government is incurring lossevery year for its factory and the total loss incurred so far by them is about a crore of rupees. The present arrangement is that in seven years time this cinchona cultivation which we have will be destructively exploited and every year burks will be sent to West Bengal Government for processing for which they will charge only the actual cost of processing and the quinine which we will get by this process will be given to the Public Health Department for supply to the needy areas of the State. Thus it will be clear to Rev. Roy that we are not extending this cultivation ; so there is no question of taking any land depriving the cultivators.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: The question is this that when it is not profitable and as more and more land is required by our cultivators of this district the land which is now under cinchona cultivation should be made available to them.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: That will be considered. What shali we do with the land ? At present we have got a 7 years scheme to exploit the existing cultivation.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Will that be profitable ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It will not at all be profitable but some money will come in order that we suffer as much less loss as it is possible and after seven years the scheme will be abandoned. There is no question of extension. That is the position of cinchona cultivation.

Now, with regard to the other points raised by my Friends, Shri Mathias Tudu and Shri Nilmoney Borthakur, I am thankful to them for giving constructive suggestions. I am almost inclined to agree to the major portion of the suggestions of Shri Borthakur but when he goes into generalisation, I am sorry, I cannot agree with him. But with regard to Shri Tarun Sen Deka's suggestions, I regret, I cannot agree with any of them and his points have rather been answered by Shri Tudu and Shri Borthakur. Shri Deka wants that lands under forest which are not covered by trees should be settled with cultivators but Shri Borthakur said that the forest reserves should be maintained and preserved as these are the

resources of the country. He also wants that there should be no deforestation and that this should be prevented. I fully agree with him. Whatever there is in a forest is valuable. Even the reeds. Rayon and paper are prepared from these reeds. Anything grown in the forest is forest wealth. If properly utilised it will increase the wealth of the country. Now if Mr. Deka's suggestion is accepted and we open reserved land we will do contrary to the suggestion of Shri Borthakur that deforestation should be prevented. We want to preserve the forest, in case of habitation near the trees, trees may be felled by people and it will not be possible to detect them ; so there must be some buffer area for protection of trees. Trees are not the only property which the Forest claims but all things, which grow there. The other day some Japanese experts came to this State to examine a proposal for starting one rayon factory on public sector and another on private sector. They examined bamboos and reeds and they suggested that they would recommend a rayon factory on public sector in Badarpur area. But if we destroy the forest wealth, this will not be possible I agree with Shri Borthakur that up till now we have not been able to utilise properly everything in the forest.

Another point raised by Shri Deka is about the 5 days of free labour and 20 days of labour with wage by the people residing in forest villages. Answer to this has also been given by Shri Tudu. Shri Tudu said and rightly said that these forest villagers are poor people. He has got personal experience about these people because of all the forest villagers in Assam half of them are in the Goalpara district alone and the rest in different districts of Assam, and Shri Tudu comes from that area i.e., Goalpara where the half is. These forest villagers are poor. They want work and more work as Mr. Tudu suggested that they should be given work in order to give them money so that they can improve their condition of living. But Shri Deka suggested that these workers should not be given work there for 20 days even with wage. Sir, for the 20 days of work they get wage at the regular rate and for the 5 days of free rather exchange service they get free their necessities of the forest produce from the reserves. The rule says that they can elect to render free service for 5 days in a year and take their needs from reserved forests free or they pay regular royalty for the forest produce they use for their own consumption.

Adjournment

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

After Lunch

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests): Mr. Speaker Sir, with regard to this matter alleged by my Friend, Shri Deka, about giving free labour and paid labour, the position is like this. Forest villagers enjoy two concessions, viz., land at a flat rate of six annas per bigha and free use of forest produce for construction of their houses and other things for home consumption. Now, he can elect, if he wants to pay royalty for the forest produce used then he may not render this free labour for 5 days. Actually it is not free labour, it is rather "exchange" labour, that is, labour exchanged for certain concessions. As a matter of fact there are some villagers particularly in the Garo Hills who do not work for 5 days as free labour but they pay royalty for the forest produce they take. But this should be villagewise otherwise there is chance of misuse of the right. With regard to working for 20 days on full payment. My Friend, Shri Deka raised objection. But, Sir, most of these villagers are very poor. After the cultivating season they remain idle, so they were provided work by the Department so that they can earn some money. They do some public work for which they are paid. That is exactly the principle involved in the test relief system. In test relief system the villagers work and we pay them money. In other words, they do some public work and in return earn some money and thereby they are helped. Why this is resented I do not understand. These people are living in remote parts of the State and ordinarily, there is no one to engage them as day labourers, so the Department offer them some work and they were paid for it.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): Whether service rendered by these villagers is recognised?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests): Such question does not arise. It is a contract. If they enter into it that will mean they are agreeable to work accordingly. Let me read the relevant rule in this connection which will make the point clear. The rule says, 'forest villagers would pay for all forest produce taken by them at ordinary rates in force in the reserve

forest concerned, but may be allowed to remove free of royalty sufficient building materials for maintaining their houses and ten cart loads of fuel, if they elect to render 5 days' labour in lieu of paying royalty'. Then there is a proviso to this rule which says subject to the proviso that if the forest villagers wish to pay land revenue at ordinary 'khiraz' rate in lieu of supplying free labour, this can be allowed'. So, as I have said, in Garo Hills there are some people who elect to make full payment of royalty and they do not work 5 days' free labour.

Shri NALINDRO SANGMA [Dianadubi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : In Thangia villagers are exempted from working 5 days' free labour but in certain forest reserves, they are not so exempted.

Mr. SPEAKER : The idea of the hon'ble Member is that in Garo Hills certain categories of people are exempted from rendering this 5 days' free labour.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) : Yes Sir, I have said that in Garo Hills some people elect to pay royalty and they do not render free labour.

As regards the point raised by my Friend, Shri Borthakur about starting a research station. This is a very good suggestion. In fact the Government of India have agreed to start such a station here in Assam and they are now examining the site. When this is selected that station will be started.

As regards settlement of land in all forest reserves, that is not acceptable. My Friend, Shri Deka suggested that all cultivable land in reserve forests besides the land already occupied by forest villagers should be opened for settlement for cultivation. That suggestion cannot be accepted, because if that principle is accepted, all forest reserves will vanish in no time. My Friend, Shri Ramnath Sarma has given a suitable reply and so I need not reiterate. My Friend, Shri Tudu raised another point about bad roads and other matters. It is correct that there are some villages in remote parts and inaccessible areas which are not connected by good roads. The Department is gradually opening roads in these areas but there are still some areas which are unconnected. We shall remember the suggestions of Shri Tudu and Shri Borthakur.

Shri Borthakur also raised the question of wattle cultivation. It is true that wattle cultivation is still in an experimental stage in this State. Wattle cultivation was done in Upper

Shillong and Kohima and the plants were very luxurious. So it gave us some hope. Then in Jowai Subdivision it was cultivated but it was found that after certain height the plants began to die. Samples were sent to Dehra-Dun Forests Research Institute but they could not indicate as to why these plants died in that way. Then samples were sent to the Mycological Department of the Gauhati University. They examined the soil and found that the entire area was full of fungus and that was the cause of the death of the plants. Again these plants do not thrive in an altitude below four thousand feet. So suitability of site, suitability of soil and elevation these are the main factors for cultivation of wattle. If suitable site with that altitude is found and suitable soil be available then we intend to proceed with the wattle cultivation, but up till now it is correct that we have not been able to make any spectacular progress.

These are the only points raised. So I request my Friends, Shri Tudu and Shri Borthakur and Shri Deka to withdraw their Cut Motions.

(The Cut Motions were, by leave of the House, withdrawn).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.1,21,77,500 (Rupees one crore, twenty-one lakhs, seventy-seven thousand and five hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "10.—Forests".

(The question was adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.4,49,000 (Rupees four lakhs and forty-nine thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959, for the administration of the head "65.—A—2—Capital Outlay on Forests".

(The question was adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: Before we take up the next item, i.e., Medical and Public Health, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Members that we lost about half an hour after

the question hour on account of the short notice question and the statement in response to a "Calling Attention" notice tabled by Shri Dandeswar Hazarika. I suppose these are matters in which hon. Members are more interested than any other items. So I think that in fitness of things it would be better if we agree to sit for half-an-hour more this afternoon. Is that the sense of the House ?

(Voices: Yes).

GRANT No. 18

(38.—Medical)

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): On the recommendation of Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,11,48,500 (Rupees one crore, eleven lakhs, forty-eight thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "38.—Medical".

GRANT No. 19

(39.—Public Health)

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Public Health): On the recommendation of Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,09,64,300 (Rupees one crore, nine lakhs, sixty-four thousand and three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,11,48,500 (Rupees one crore, eleven lakhs, forty-eight thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "38.—Medical".

The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,09,64,300 (Rupees one crore, nine lakhs, sixty-four thousand and three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for their failure to start a second Medical College in the State at Gauhati.)

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No. 18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for their failure in taking up the Dispensary at Burinagar in Natundahar Mauza, where the public have constructed buildings and donated lands.)

That the provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No. 18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for failure to bring the Local Board Dispensaries and the Government Subsidised Dispensaries to uniform standards by taking management of the same by Government.)

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No. 18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for not improving the Barpeta Civil Hospital.)

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the demand.)

That the total provision of Rs.1,09,64,300 under Grant No.19, Major head 39.—Public Health, at page 206 of the

Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,09,64,300, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(Failure of the Government in maintaining proper functioning of the X-Ray Plant at Barpeta Charitable Clinic.)

That the total provision of Rs.1,09,64,300 under Grant No.19, Major head 39.—Public Health, at page 206 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,09,64,300, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the demand.)

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-East): I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(1. To criticise the grant.

2. To discuss about the different hospitals and dispensaries of the State).

That the total provision of Rs.1,09,64,300 under Grant No.19, Major head 39.—Public Health, at page 206 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,09,64,300, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(1. To discuss about rural water supply.

2. To criticise the lesser provision for Malaria.

3. To criticise the grant).

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the grant under this head.)

That the total provision of Rs.1,09,64,300 under Grant No.19, Major head 39.—Public Health, at page 206 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,09,64,300, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the grant.)

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for not establishing dispensaries equitable in rural areas.)

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the demand.)

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion.)

That the total provision of Rs.1,09,64,300 under Grant No.19, Major head 39.—Public Health, at page 206 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,09,64,300, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion.)

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Sir, I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name.

That the total provision of Rs.1,11,48,500 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, at page 178 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the Medical policy of the Government.)

That the provision of Rs.7,65,400 under Grant No.18, Major head 38.—Medical, Minor head—D-2.—Medical Colleges and Schools, Sub-head (a) Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh (total), at page 181 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for their failure to take steps against the Professor in-charge of E. N. T. Department of Assam Medical College who has been misusing his position for personal gains and personal whims).

That the provision of Rs.7,65,400 under Grant No. 18, Major head 38.—Medical, Minor head—D-2.—Medical Colleges and Schools, Sub-head (a) Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh (total), at page 181 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,11,48,500, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for the unhealthy state of affairs that are still continuing in the Assam Medical College).

That the total provision of Rs.1,09,64,300 under Grant No.19, Major head 39.—Public Health, at page 206 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1., *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,09,64,300, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the policy of the Government.)

Mr. SPEAKER : All Cut Motions are moved as above.

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):
In moving these Cut Motions let me draw the attention of the august House to Bhore Committee's Report. The Bhore Committee announced as early as in 1945 a comprehensive ten-year national health plan for India. The scheme which takes the village as the nucleus for health organisation, provides for:—

“1. Primary centres in every village with a dispensary containing 5 beds. Each group of villages with a population of 20,000 to be in-charge of a trained doctor with a woman doctor as well as a staff of 34. Each group of three primary centres to have 30 beds hospital; in addition there will be 2 doctors, 2 public health nurses, and 4 midwives at the villagers' home. Each primary unit is to have a health committee.

2. Secondary centres for a population of 50,000—60,000 with specialist staff and hospital and laboratory facilities higher than those in the primary centres, whose work they will supervise.

3. District centres with a still higher type of health organisation, each district hospital having 200 beds and being able to provide medical and surgical aid of a high order”.

Now I, to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that although these recommendations were made by the Bhore Committee as long ago as 1945, Government is not yet taking these suggestions seriously. In our villages we find that due to mal-nutrition and under-nutrition the resistance power of our people is reducing and as a result our young boys and girls and people of advanced age are becoming easy victims of malaria, Kala zar, small-pox, etc., etc. Our Government should be a bit active in establishing these dispensaries and hospitals and should follow the suggestions of the Bhore Committee, otherwise there is no hope for our people. For instance, in India the malaria cases are about 10 crores and deaths are about 10 lakhs. If we judge the percentage of these cases we find that 2,500 people die every year in Assam in malaria cases. Similarly in regard to tuberculosis, nearly 5 lakhs die every year in India, so in Assam too. In this tropical country specially in Assam where the climate is damp, the cases of such diseases are frequent and the Government of Assam should be more active and should be more prompt in establishing these hospitals and dispensaries. The Bhore Committee has also suggested that training centres should be opened to give training to people in the villages and to educate them in health matters. Now we find that our Government is not following those suggestions of the Bhore Committee and people are not getting any training in this line. We see people passing B.A. and getting many degrees but I doubt if these youths are getting enough knowledge on this branch of science and in general education in Assam. I think in every village in our State there should be medical staff with lantern machines and with literature to train as well as to impart sanitary education to our people. In that case we can expect in a large measure—the level of education and level of their knowledge for sanitation with a view to protect themselves against the attack of all sorts of diseases. But I see that our Government have been neglecting all these things. Not to speak of anything else, in Dikhowmukh there is a dispensary, but there is no doctor. In Maduri there is a dispensary but there is no doctor, and in Bakatha there is a dispensary but there is no doctor. So, Sir, we find that there are dispensaries without any doctor or compounder. In this way Government certainly cannot take pride that Department exists for anything, and that is why I am pressing these Cut Motions before the House. I hope and trust that our Government will be prompt in providing medical facilities to the

people of our villages who are really very poor. I think our Government will do their best in this regard. If these things to which I have referred are not adopted, in no time our people will be put to greater difficulties to save themselves from the attack of various diseases.

With these few words, I want to conclude my speech and I hope our Government will accept my suggestions.

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak a few words on the improvement needed in the Barpeta Civil Hospital. It is, Sir, the only Hospital in the town of Barpeta, in Barpeta Subdivision. Therefore, it needs all types of improvement with a view to meet the demands of the public. But in practice, what we find? We do not see anything of the kind which we saw before in the activities of the Civil Hospital at Barpeta. The hospital buildings are not taken up by the Public Works Department and it is not up to the standard of the Public Works Department buildings which has been taken by our Government. I think the Government should be prompt with a view to make it up to date and buildings should be of Public Works Department standard so that the hospital can function properly and accommodate all sorts of patients who go there for treatment under doctors, otherwise no useful purpose will be served by the Civil Hospital at Barpeta if the present condition of the hospital is allowed to continue.

Next, I come to water supply. Water supply in the hospital is rather not good. We have got there one old ring-well which very often goes out of order, and sometimes it becomes very dirty and the water becomes unfit for human consumption. So the position with regard to water supply in the hospital needs immediate attention so that the people to a great extent and at every moment get water in the hospital. Apart from this if the water is not pure and unfit for human consumption, it will not only hamper various treatment of diseases but in dealing with anti-biotics. So in this regard my suggestion is this that at least there should be a ring-well which might be fitted with a power-pump so that at any moment fresh and pure supply of water is available in the hospital.

Next I come to electrification of the hospital. It is reported that order has been sanctioned for the purpose of electrification of the hospital. But up till now we have seen nothing of the kind has been done. Electrification is definitely most important both from medical side as well as surgical and its—implications. So I would request the Hon'ble Minister in-charge that early steps should be taken for electrification of the hospital.

Next, I come to the most important thing and that is about surgical cases. Now-a-days injuries are increasing and surgical cases are also increasing due to accidents and other causes. In the Civil Hospital at Barpeta we have seen that for want of accommodation in the hospital both infected and non-infected patients are kept together with the ultimate effect that non-infected patients become infected. So I stress the view that at least one extra ward is made very soon in the hospital. In this regard I would like to point out that with the increase of accidents, cases of fractures are also found to be increasing for which treatment is to be given specially for the poor people on the spot. Unfortunately in the hospital there is no Plaster of Paris which is wanted there for some years, and it is really very troublesome for poor people to buy such Plaster which cost from Rs.60 to Rs.100 and therefore such Plaster of Paris should be made available to the poorer people and necessary arrangements should be made for supply of Plaster of Paris in the hospital, and that should be given free to the poor patients.

Then I come to the examination charges in the hospital. The examinations which used to be done in the hospital for Rs.2 per stool, urine, etc. has been raised to Rs.5. I think it is beyond the reach of the poor people to have their stool examination at such a high rate. Therefore, the rate of Rs.5 should be reduced to Rs.2 as was used to be done previously.

Next, Sir, I come to X-Ray Plant. It is really shocking to see that up till now the essential parts are not there in the hospital. Actually there was an X-Ray Plant meant for Barpeta Hospital which had been shifted elsewhere. At present there is a portable X-Ray Plant bought by the Local Board without the essential parts which are necessary for investigation of ordinary things. If such parts are not available for investigation of diseases of patients who come from a long distance then the poor people cannot help themselves to come to Gauhati. I know that for want of Barium meal people have to come to Gauhati from Barpeta for X-Ray examination. So I hope the Government will take note of these things and try to eliminate all the difficulties so that people will be benefited by these helps of Government through these Departments.

Then I come to the question of Assam Medical College. I would like to draw the attention of the honourable Members of this House to one point regarding treatment given by the Professor in-charge of E.N.T. Department.

I personally know of a case. A patient from Barpeta went to Dibrugarh Medical College. He was charged thrice amounting to about Rs.50. Even then ultimately he had to return

without any result. 'Again he will be charged for the operation if he is to undergo—and the other things like that also. Government should not allow these things and the public will not tolerate things like that. So I hope Government will focus attention to these points.

With these words, Sir, supporting my Cut Motion I conclude here.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the motion moved by the Medical Minister and oppose the Cut Motion moved by my Friends in the Opposition. Of course I support certain points which have been referred to just now by my Friend, Dr. Srihari Das.

Sir, I am glad to say that the progress under the Medical Department is being made rapidly ; yet there are many things to be done. My Friend, Shi Barbaruah, has referred to the recommendations of the Bhore Committee. But I must say here that the Report of the Bhore Committee is a recommendation only. It is not possible for all the State Governments to give effect to these recommendations in toto because of the financial difficulties, because of the shortage of the medical personnel and other things. I am glad to see that the Government have accepted the basic principles of the recommendations. In this connection I want to make certain suggestions to the Government in the Medical Department that in the past we have seen that dispensaries have been opened indiscriminately because there are certain people who are very clever and it may be that they are health conscious, so in order to get a dispensary in a particular locality they invite the Minister and officers concerned and hold meetings and try to convince them about the necessity of having a dispensary and thereby try to get a commitment from the Minister about the establishment of a dispensary. We have seen also that within a short distance of 2 miles dispensaries have been opened. Of course, if density of population is high there may be more dispensaries. But I hope in future our Medical Minister should be a bit cautious in commitment in such a case, because we cannot allow the dispensaries to be opened indiscriminately. Before commitment, it should be examined thoroughly and the dispensary should be opened in a planned way. I need not suggest other major points, but I would like to request the Government just to take up the question of upgrading the Gauhati Civil Hospital in a serious way, because we have felt it is high time that this should be upgraded to the standard of a General Hospital. People from Lower Assam are suffering a great deal for want of such a Hospital. Even for minor cases they are referred to the Assam Medical College at Dibrugrah and the poor people cannot afford

to do so. So it is high time that the Government upgrade it to that of a General Hospital, with provision for good surgeons and physicians. At present most of the dispensaries are manned by inexperienced persons and even for minor cases patients are referred to the Dibrugarh Medical College. Therefore I would suggest that Government should consider this very seriously to improve and upgrade the Gauhati Civil Hospital at least in the coming year to a General Hospital, having various departments to be manned by efficient and experienced surgeons, physicians and specialists with provision for other facilities. The next step should be similarly to upgrade the Silchar Civil Hospital to that of a General Hospital, because it is not possible for the people of Cachar district and that region to get high standard of medical treatment in the present Civil Hospital there.

Now a question has been raised regarding some defect in the Barpeta Hospital. We have been pressing the Government to implement various schemes of setting up health units. We have been pressing the Government to implement the scheme. Of course, we are a bit convinced that the Government in the Medical Department is handicapped in the matter of construction of these Health Units because they are to depend on the Public Works Department for the construction work. Now my suggestion is that if the Public Works Department is not in a position to do the job, it is time that the Medical Department may think of having their own Public Works Department so that its plans may be executed as early as possible.

Again, I would suggest Government, particularly the Medical Department, to take up the problem of adulteration of food stuff and drugs—I mean the spurious drugs. I hope the Government will come forward with a proper scheme to check food adulteration and start an anti-adulteration drive to control the adulteration of the food-stuff and spurious drugs.

With these words, Sir, I support the motion moved by the Medical Minister and oppose the Cut Motions moved by my Friends in the Opposition.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the Medical Department the medical education is the most important item. In our State the only Medical College is at Dibrugarh, which is neither sufficient for the purpose nor so located as to be able

to serve the entire State of Assam. The people living at a distance from Dibrugarh, particularly the people of the Lower Assam districts find it difficult to avail of the amenities of the Medical College Hospital, rather they prefer to go to a distant place like Calcutta. Sir, from the inception of the Second Five-Year Plan, the people of Assam expected for a Second Medical College to be started in Assam and from some time past the Planning Commission of the Government of India was willing to sanction a second Medical College for Assam provided the Government of Assam could make a decision for fulfilling the conditions required for the purpose and we are very sorry to hear that when it came to the State Government it was before the last Election, our Cabinet could not decide as to the question of having a second Medical College for the difficulty of its site selection, as they considered if it was located at Gauhati there might be some dissensions. But after that when the new Cabinet was formed there were some Ministerial tangle and it is reported they could not make any decision also. As a result, we are going to lose the second Medical College which the Planning Commission was willing to sanction for Assam. Any way, I hope the Government of Assam will take up the matter in all earnestness for having a second Medical College to be located at Gauhati.

Sir, in our State several different types of dispensaries, such as, Sadar and Subdivisional Hospitals, the Public Health Dispensaries, Primary Health Units, Local Board Dispensaries, Government Subsidised Dispensaries and so on. Though these different types of dispensaries are meant for different purposes, all of them are meant to serve the medical needs of the people in the State. But unfortunately, at present we see a lot of differences in the matter of the up-keep and maintenance of the different types of dispensaries. For instance, a Local Board dispensary is much inferior to a State Hospital or a Primary Health Unit dispensary. Then again, the condition of the subsidised dispensaries are very precarious. It needs immediate attention of the Government to bring an uniformity of the functioning of these different types of dispensaries. Then again, we have heard a lot about the abolition of the Local Boards. When the Local Boards will be abolished, I do not know what will happen to these Local Board dispensaries. We have heard that Government are no longer going to encourage subsidised dispensaries. Whatever that may be, what I want to say is that the existing disparity in the matter of maintenance, up-keep and functioning of the different types of dispensaries cannot be allowed to continue like this,

Next I want to point out another local thing of my own constituency. Sir, there is a Local Board Dispensary started in a place called Burinagar which is a very backward area inhabited predominantly by Tribal people, and is meant for a population of 10,000 (ten thousand). The dispensary had its start with the active patronage and support of some of prominent local persons. The present Medical Minister is quite aware of the fact how the local people themselves took the initiative in having this dispensary by constructing the houses necessary for housing the dispensary by voluntary labour and public donations. But I am sorry to have observed that nothing has yet been done to take up the dispensary by Government. When the local people who are backward and poor themselves took up the initiative in building up such a public utility institution, I hope and trust our Medical Minister will see his way to encourage the people by sanctioning the dispensary there.

Then I want to speak a few words about the Primary Health Unit of my place. Sir, a Primary Health Unit requires only some officers, I mean a qualified doctor and a compounder. But our Nalbari Hospital being already advanced in that respect, they used to maintain some of these staff from before. The Hospital has two Wards—one General Ward and another Maternity Ward. But when the Primary Health Unit was taken up by Government, a peculiar situation was created. Only a skeleton staff has been maintained, some members of the staff have not been regularly receiving their salaries and some medicine Bills have been left unpaid. After having been taken up by Government, I regret to observe that it has not been managed as efficiently as it was expected. Rather it is now much more less efficient in the matter of its administration and management than it was before when it was managed by a committee of local people. I hope Government will see their way to have a State Hospital there because it fulfills all the conditions necessary for the purpose of converting it into a secondary Health Unit.

With these few words, Sir, I move my Cut Motions.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Cut Motions and yet I would like to give a few suggestions about Medical and Public Health Department of the Government. The Public Health and Medical Departments are amalgamated, but I find justice has not been done to the doctors. Let me cite an instance. Those doctors who were appointed by the Public Health Department in due course, they came under the Medical Department. But

those doctors during the pre-partition days were appointed by the then Assam Government and opted for Hindustan, i. e., Assam after Partition, unfortunately their seniority was not counted. Because when they were confirmed, they were confirmed from the date they were taken in the Medical Department, after 10 or 12 years and not from the date of appointment, and as a result, when they will retire, they will incur heavy loss in their pensionary benefits. At the same time I want to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that those who are in the Medical Department, such as Civil Surgeons of the districts, they have only medical degrees and not Public Health degrees but yet they have become senior to those who are in the Public Health Department and have served for more years.

Then I want to speak a few words about the Medical College. It has been stated by the authority that those who are serving as Assistant Professors and Professors, they are there on temporary basis. I do not find any justice in keeping that department as a temporary one. Why it is so? We are having this institution of our Medical College at Dibrugarh, and when it will continue to be there permanently, then why the department should be kept on temporary basis? I do not understand this. Now, Sir, there is one Assistant Professor there who has been serving the Assam Government for the last six or seven years. He was taken there on contract basis, and after the expiry of his term of office, he was taken to another post and another man was brought from outside Assam and he served for a contract period and left. Again that teacher has been taken to his old post but on temporary basis.

Shri RUP NATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister): It would be better, Sir, if the hon. Member gives out the names.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): One name is Dr. Raj Kumar Das, Assistant Professor, Gynecology. The other name I propose to give afterwards.

Then, it is understood that some stipendary students of the Medical College are not getting their scholarship money regularly. My information is that some stipendary students were not getting their stipends from last July till last February. This is the way the department is going on.

Sir, at page 179 of the Budget Estimates I find there is a proposal for establishment of a colony for after-care of T. B. patients, but there is no particulars given as to where the colony

will be established and how it will be done etc. I find also in another page that one more T. B. patients after-care colony will be established. I do not know whether this is the same with the latter or altogether two different institutions of the same nature will be started. There is no particulars about it, I do not know why? It is at page 182.—Establishment of a Colony for after-care T. B. patients. For this a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs has been provided and this is from the money of Sixth Schedule—Does it meant for Sixth Schedule areas?

I have to make a few suggestions more. In the Community Projects the medical units had come under the normal Medical Department. But we find that sometimes appointments are made whimsically I can give one example. Recently in the Hailakandi area a Dhai died and one new Dhai has been appointed in her place. There are so many retrenched Dhais, from the Community Project Department but they have not been given a chance and a new one has been appointed. I find that medical officers look after the medical aids and centres whereas other medical activities such as primary health units, specialised dispensaries, Ayurvedic dispensaries and other dispensaries within the Block areas are supervised by the Civil Surgeon. When they remain very busy I think they cannot do justice in supervising such activities. Moreover, reports are not found. I think medical officers of the Block areas should be responsible for all the medical activities and I think they should be under the control of the administrative officers of the Blocks. If there is no circular to this effect then I request the Government to issue a circular to make the medical officers responsible for all the medical activities under the supervision of the Civil Surgeon of that District.

In our State anti-malarial measures are also taken and I have come to know that the National Malaria Control Unit is doing some work in Salchapra National Extension Service Block. But it seems that the Civil Surgeon of that district or other medical officers who are in-charge of those areas where such operations are going on, do not know anything and bought medicines for anti-malarial activities in addition to that. At the same time there is overlapping of work. Let the National Malaria Control work be done in those areas also where such work has not been done and thus to avoid overlapping of work.

I find that there are provisions for 5 medical surgeons for 5 District Hospitals. Such provisions were also made in the last year's budget. But no appointment has yet been made.

At page 205 of the budget I find that in the development schemes some money has been allotted. I think this work should be re-organised. Otherwise there will be overlapping of work and consequently the people will suffer.

In page 206 of the budget under the Maternity and Child Welfare scheme some amount has been provided. But I do not know for which hospitals or for which centres this money has been allotted. I want to draw the attention of our Government that the Silchar Nari-Siksha Ashram is doing this kind of work for more than the last 25 years. But no recurring grant has yet been given to them.

Now I come to the Ayurvedic College : at page 181. It seems that the staff of this college are not getting the pay scales as recommended by the Pay Committee. I request the Government to consider their pay scales. They have not yet been confirmed though they have put in for more than 5 years of service. I hear that a new post of Deputy Director for Ayurvedic side is going to be created. Unless the works under the Ayurvedic unit are re-organised what is the use of creating one more post.

The course of the Ayurvedic college is 4 years. I think according to the adopted policy by Dave Committee it should be 5 years. In other States the course for Ayurvedic College is 5 years. Our Ayurvedic College should also have a 5 years course. I think the teaching staff of this College have not got any post-graduate training. Even the Principal has not got any-post graduate training—of course I am subject to correction. Some of the professors should be sent to Jamnagar College for their post-graduate training. Even in that college some injustice has been done. I want to draw the attention of the Medical Minister that one of the teachers who was serving for about 9 years and who was brought here on contract basis for 5 years had to appear before the Public Service Commission and after that his services were extended to another 4 years. But it is rather surprising that after that one substitute has been appointed who is less qualified, has no orthodox qualification and whose basic educational qualification is also less. I do not know how that man happened to be discharged. Even Dr. Bhubaneswar Barua Committee acknowledged the services of this teacher. In spite of that how it can be possible to discharge him? Even the Principal himself has no such orthodox qualification as this man has. If this sort of things goes on I am afraid we would not be able to raise the standard of our education ;

rather it will be deteriorated. So, I request the Government to think over the matter and do justice to all. I think his case would be given further consideration.

Our Medical College is a temporary one and those who are serving there are there temporarily. If that is so, how can we expect these staff to serve to the satisfaction of all concerned. So, I request the Government to think over it also and confirm those staff who have been serving there for so many years.

I also request the Government to have zonal hospitals, in Gauhati, Tezpur, Dhubri, Silchar, Shillong, etc., so that some justice can be done in serving the people in those zonal areas. If such zonal hospital is established in Silchar that may also serve the purpose of the Mizo District, North Cachar Hills, Manipur, Tripura, etc. I think our Minister will consider about this and the doctors who are not given due justice by them will be given due justice, specially those who are in the Public Health Department and their juniors serving in the Medical Department should not be given preference over them.

With these words, Sir, I take my seat.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by the Hon'ble Minister and to oppose the Cut Motions. Sir, while supporting the motion moved by the Hon'ble Minister, I should like to point out certain things. Sir, in the Dibrugarh subdivision, the number of State dispensaries is very small. To-day during the question hour, it was revealed, in reply to unstarred question No.632, that there are only two State dispensaries in the Dibrugarh subdivision, while the population is about nine lakhs. Moreover, these two dispensaries, one at Hilputa and the other at Lengeri, are located in the Khowang area. The people of the subdivision from different localities had moved the Medical Minister to establish certain dispensaries in different places and the Hon'ble Minister was pleased to give an assurance that one dispensary would be established at Kakapathar, but, Sir, I could not find any provision for it in the Budget. Similarly, there were demands from the public that dispensaries should be established at Duarmara, Langhashi, Panitola, Lahoal and other places. I hope Government will give attention in this direction. There are certain Local Board dispensaries, the condition of which is very deplorable. I would, therefore, request that Local Board dispensaries throughout the State should be taken over by Government. Regarding the pay scale of doctors of Local Board dispensaries, it is such that it can hardly attract qualified doctors. Therefore, it is

time that Government give serious thought to this matter of taking over all the dispensaries of the State managed by Local Boards. Sir, generally we find that in many parts of rural areas, the number of dispensaries is small; especially, we find that the people of the areas, who are not vocal enough, could not get medical facilities. For example, if you look into the Second Five Year Plan, you will find, Sir, that many important places, where people could not clamour, have been left out. I do not like to cite particular places as perhaps it is a fact throughout the State that where people could not represent their claims effectively they could not get justice. Therefore, Sir, I request Government to see these dispensaries are equitably distributed throughout the State.

Sir, coming to the Medical College, I should like to say a few words. The Assam Medical College is located at Dibrugarh. The hon. Member from Nalbari suggested the establishment of a second Medical College at Gauhati. Sir, I do not object to this demand, but I should like to point out that the Medical College at Dibrugarh is not yet a fullfledged institution; many departments are still to be attended to properly and the standard of the college is still to be enhanced. Sir, the hon. Member, Dr. Srihari Das, spoke about the Ear, Nose and Throat Department. These three are the vital organs of human beings and if there is any misdeed in this department, it need serious thinking; if necessary, this department should be overhauled. There are certain other complaints about the management of the Medical College. We generally find that the people who go there for treatment come back and say that this Medical College is only for the rich and the poor do not get proper treatment. I don't know how far these allegations are true, but I found generally that the middle and poor classes of people used to come back with frustration. So, Sir, I hope Government will give attention in this direction also.

Sir, although the Medical College is not very far from my home, you will find it surprising that we could get very little opportunity to go into the details of its working.....

MR SPEAKER:—Evidently the hon. Member has not fallen seriously ill.

Shri DEVENDRA NANH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): It is a fact, Sir. Due to the blessing of God, I did not have any occasion to go to the Medical College as a patient and I wish I should not go there. About the Governing Body, this matter was discussed during the question hour. I understand that the

Governing Body is going to be reconstituted within a few months. In reconstituting this body I request Government to nominate effective persons so that all these allegations will be heard and attended to and if necessary, these things can be brought to the notice of the Government.

(A Voice: Are you also interested). I am not interested in that way because I have no idea about the Medical Department. I am only voicing the opinion which is prevalent there. As a representative of the public I should have this chance to focus attention to this matter of great public interest.

With these few words, Sir, I support the motion moved by the Hon'ble Minister and oppose the Cut Motions.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): A word from the North Bank, Sir.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking on behalf of the North as well as the South Bank because my birth place is in the North Bank and I live in the South Bank. I think, Sir, I am competent to speak on this subject because of my own health also. Unlike my Friend, Mr. Hazarika, who had never been to the Medical College Hospital at Dibrugarh in spite of the fact that it is so near to his house, I had to run from far-off Gauhati to the Medical College Hospital and had to pass some weeks there as an indoor patient. As a matter of fact, thrice in my life I had to be an indoor patient in different hospitals and when I say something about the hospitals in our State, perhaps I am speaking to certain extent from my personal experience also. Now, it is a good thing that we are discussing two aspects of the Ministry, viz., the Medical and the Public Health together. It would have been much better if the two would have formed into one single unit or department, because the preventive and curative should be together. There respects the present trend is that there should be rather more emphasis on the preventive side than the curative side. If I had not the misfortune of being born in a malaria ridden interior village of Kamrup, perhaps, I would not have the reasons to lament about my health. From the report of the Government itself published by the Director of Health Services which I have tried to scan carefully, it is very clear that by the larger number of population in our State reside in the rural areas and the medical attention given to the rural areas is the least. So far as the expenditure in a combined manner for both Medical and Public Health is concerned this is also meagre. It is said that one cannot build up a nation unless and until we can build the health of our population. Our

State is in certain respects fortunate in having a temperate climate, good drinking water, vegetables and other health giving and nourishing food and yet the misfortune is that the health of the people of our State is one of the worst and the attention given by the Government is also far from satisfactory. If we compare our position with our neighbouring State of West Bengal or Bihar, we shall see the difference. As we all know, West Bengal is much ahead of us in this respect and there are many private institutions, besides Government institutions, where Ayurvedic or Unani or Homeopathic or whatever mode of treatment may be are there and there are also very big charitable dispensaries and hospitals run on private endowments and yet Government of West Bengal spend as much as 16·7 per cent of the total revenue of the State for medical and public health purposes and if we consider the *per capita* expenditure for every individual in West Bengal, the Government spends for medical and public health purposes Rs.3·15 naya paise but in Assam we are lagging far behind West Bengal. There are no public institutions or charitable dispensaries or hospitals worth the name. The Government spends only 8·2 per cent of the total revenue for medical and public health purposes and from the *per capita* point of view we spend only Re.1·19 n.p. for very person. That is the position. Even for Bihar they spend 16·8 per cent of the total revenue for medical and public health purposes. This, I hope, needs no comment and I think, the Government will carefully study its own Report and will see whether some improvement can be made in this sphere.

My Friend Shri Choudhury, has just now raised a point and that is about a second Medical College in Assam. So far as I remember, year before last, I had made a strong point against having a second Medical College in Assam at this juncture. There was at that time some move in certain quarters for starting a second Medical College at Gauhati. Though I have the privilege and opportunity of representing the Gauhati Constituency in this Legislature yet I opposed this move, and why? I said at that time that our first and foremost duty was to make the Assam Medical College at Dibrugarh a full-fledged one and an well-equipped one and when we would achieve that, then only we should consider the feasibility or desirability of having a second Medical College whether at Gauhati or Shillong, no matter where. It is very unfortunate that when we consider things of our State often local, district or territorial feelings are generated. Why can we not avoid such feelings and appreciate the point from the point of view of Assam as a whole? From the Report of the Government published by the Director of Health Services, it is quite clear

that Assam has got much less number of doctors than what we require. Not to speak of the recommendation of the Bhore Committee which was referred to by my Friend Shri Borbaruah, even the existing condition of different States in India will show that Assam needs a larger number of doctors than she has now. Government has shown that population per square mile in our State is below 200 whereas the population in West Bengal in every square mile is near about 800 and yet in West Bengal they have got for every 483 persons one doctor, whereas in Assam we have got one Doctor for every 4,744 persons but recommendation of the Bhore Committee is that there should be at least one doctor for every 2,000 persons. I was rather surprised to hear my honoured Friend Dr. Das, say that after all Bhore Committee recommendation is only a recommendation but I thought that at least as a medical man, he took the recommendation of the Bhore Committee with much more seriousness than what it appeared to me. It was a recommendation which was just and proper and the Bhore Committee made it very clear that they did not want this done in a year or two but in ten years time this should be done. In consideration of that, we should see what has been done in the last few years in our State. I am really sorry that we have not taken this recommendation very seriously and that is why I cannot agree with Dr. Das that there has been all-round progress in our medical and public health services. I must admit that there has been some progress. I do not say that we are in darkness and nothing but darkness. What I propose to emphasise is that the progress achieved is not what it should have been. There is another point which Government should consider. That point is that when the population is concentrated, the doctor can serve a larger number of persons because he has to cover a smaller area. But when the population is widely dispersed, in that case even when the doctor has to serve 2,000 persons as recommended by the Bhore Committee, he has to cover a big area. From that point of view it is all the more necessary that there should be a larger number of doctors because they are not only to give medicine but also to cover all those areas; it is humanly impossible for a doctor to cover an area in Assam which is populated by over 4,744 persons. I don't know whether Mr. Hazarika has been able to give the latest position, but I am told by some medical men including some Professors of the Medical College, that so far as the Assam Medical College at Dibrugarh is concerned, it can now be said that it is fully equipped and that it is one of the standard Medical Colleges in India. I think the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge can enlighten the House as to whether the Assam Medical College

at Dibrugarh has reached the status of a full-fledged Medical College. If it is so, it is now time to consider about a second Medical College. I am not suggesting any particular place for locating this second College—let the Government and the experts decide what place would be best suited. But one thing I can suggest. I fully agree with Dr. Das that the Gauhati Civil Hospital should get special attention of the Government. This hospital has to serve people from vast areas situated as it is in an important centre in the State. I am purposely using these words, I am not using the terms Lower Assam, or Upper Assam as Dr. Das has done because I actually feel sick when I hear anybody using the terms Lower Assam or Upper Assam or Central Assam and so on. We are in such a small State with such a small population. Can we not consider our State as one instead of using these terms Lower Assam, Upper Assam, etc. ? My submission is, Sir, let us have a full-fledged General Hospital at such an important place like Gauhati so that it can cater to the needs of the people—it may be people from other parts of India or even foreigners who visit Assam and so that full medical facilities may be given to the people. Sir, I had occasion to go to the Gauhati Civil Hospital only the day before yesterday to have an operation of my daughter. I was horrified to see the condition of the operation theatre there. There is hardly any space for the Surgeon, the nurses or the attendants to move. Things are kept as if they are kept in a Marwari godown. That is the position of the operation theatre at Gauhati.

Now, so far as the patients are concerned, if any hon Member of this House would be pleased to go there he will see that just behind the main building of the Hospital, first ward which was originally the general male ward and now converted into a female ward, female patients are kept not only on cots and small bedsteads but also in the space in between the beds on the floor. When I asked the Matron in charge why patients have been kept in such a miserable condition, she said, "What can we do ? A large number of patients are coming and many of them are really deserving cases. We cannot drive them away, so we have to accommodate them as best as we can". When I asked her again as to what happened to the ward which was made during the Congress Session in the large area newly acquired for the purpose she said that that was purely temporary. We thought that after the Congress Session it would be taken over as there was such a heavy rush of patients, but it is not at all well equipped. She also invited me to see the isolation ward and the T. B. Observation Ward. Now, it may be said

that is a place where a patient about to die is kept. As you know, Sir, in our villages when a man is about to die, just before his death he is brought under the 'Tulsi' tree so that the house may not be made impure, to die and go to heaven. Similarly it appears that this ward is a gate to hell or heaven whatever it may be, where a man who is destined to may die. That, Sir, is the position of the T. B. ward in the Gauhati Civil Hospital. It is known to all, Sir, that in a congested place there are more T. B. cases than in sparsely populated rural areas. It is really surprising that there is no T. B. Hospital in a place like Gauhati. It is true, some one may say that there is nearby the Loka Priya Bardoloi T. B. Sanatorium, but that is only for those who can afford to pay. It is not free for poor and indigent persons. And so far as the common people are concerned, they are deprived of the advantages of treatment in that place. I have therefore, to suggest that Government should give priority to this aspect of the Civil Hospital at Gauhati that it should be made into a General Hospital and there should be sufficient space for patient.

It has also been said that treatment that the patients get there is not good and that nursing and medical attendance is not very good. But I do not want to dilate on that point. It may be that the staff there are overworked; after all they are human beings and when they are required to strain their nerves they sometime become irritated. Or there may be another cause. The Hospital has to depend mostly on nurses undergoing training. As a matter of fact there is acute dearth of trained nurses in our State and so the Hospital has to depend mostly on trainees and that is why we are getting lots of complaints on this score. I hope in course of time, there will be adequate number of personnel and these complaints will be less.

Now, so far as food supply is concerned, not only in the Gauhati Civil Hospital but also in other Hospitals, Government should give a little more attention because under the existing circumstances it has become almost a rule to say that there is a certain amount of discount over which we have got no say. But certain percentage becomes a wastage either by appropriation or misappropriation. Whatever that may be, the residue that remains is not at all sufficient for an average man not to speak of patients. So Government should consider whether they cannot give more grant for the dietary of the patients because prices of things have gone up and the old scale will not serve any purpose in this period of rise in prices of essential commodities.

In this connection it can be said that Government should give special attention. Of course, Dr. Das, drew the attention of the Government that some special attention should be given to stop adulteration in food and also to eradicate and minimise the use of spurious drugs in our State. Now, what sorts of adulteration are there in food-stuffs? From the Government report itself it is available. There were certain sample surveys made by our Government in the year 1956. From the sample surveys it appears that there is adulteration of milk to the extent of 54.4 per cent. 54.9 per cent of tea is adulterated although Assam is a tea-producing State. There is adulteration in mustard oil to the extent of 32 per cent, Atta 44.4 per cent, Maida 14 per cent and Ghee 50 per cent. So, Sir, if this is the position with regard to our food-stuff, how can there be good health of the poor people of our country? We are almost in our middle of life, but what will happen to the generations of our country? So, Government should give some special attention to this matter.

Government have made some progress in the control of diseases like Cholera and Malaria in figures only. But when we come into the details, I can say that from what Government indicated so far as Malaria is concerned, it cannot be said that Malaria has effectively controlled. In this connection I would like to mention about one thing that last year or year before last year I invited the Medical Minister to be at Gauhati without a mosquito net and to pass the night without a mosquito net and then he would be able to know the position. Within the last one or two years, the position of Gauhati has become worse. I think that is the position in almost all towns of Assam except Sibsagar. So Government should make the Malaria Control Commission more effective. Of course there is one such organisation in Assam which is called Central Malaria Control Organisation.

I should like to conclude my speech by saying that in view of the fact that in our State there has not been much progress in general education where we have got only 18 per cent literate people whereas in the neighbouring provinces the per cent has been on the better side, there should be accordingly education in public health side.

Another thing that is to be noted is that there is one special factor in Assam and this is Leprosy. Medical men say that it is a controllable disease and it can be removed, and yet, Sir, it is stated that our Mikir Hills is the most Leprosy-ridden area

in the whole world. The other day I had a discussion with certain representative of the World Health Organisation and he suggested that if the matter be taken up in the Government level, the WHO would be glad to offer help in every way. In this connection I find that in the Budget a sum of Rs.2 lakhs has been provided for anti-Leprosy drive. I presume this is primarily for the Mikir Hills. I hope that the Government will make full use of the amount and we shall not mind even if a bigger amount is utilised for the purpose. If the Government could give a start to anti-Leprosy drive in our State; I am sure, the WHO with all its resources at its disposal—monetary, vehicular and personnel help will come to the aid of the Assam Government and then we shall see that within a few years we shall be able to eradicate this fell disease.

Lastly, I would like to say that it is really unfortunate that in a place like Gauhati the surrounding area is still an endemic one from the point of view of *Kala-azar*. This disease in other parts of the world is controlled, and yet we find there has been endemic in the surrounding area of Gauhati. So there should be some efforts to control *Kala-azar* in Beltola and Panbari areas. *Kala-azar* is also found in some part of Nowgong, Gola-ghat and perhaps to a certain extent in western Mikir Hills.

With these few words, Sir, I conclude my observations.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Bhattacharyya has spoken something in support of the cut motion. But I would like to differ from him while speaking on the subject. In Bengal and other States there may be more medical facilities, than in our State. It is not the medical hospitals and dispensaries which can give health to the people. In my opinion it is the food which gives us health, and so we must educate our people to grow all those things which can give health to our children and thereby build a healthy nation. It is true that the medical facilities help us in the preservation of our health by preventing diseases and by curing them; but for obtaining by a sound health and sound mind it is necessary that we should grow more fruit trees, increase milk supply, establish more poultry farms, increase the number of fisheries and improve our diet. Our fore-fathers used to feed our children Bhim plaintain and other fruits, Fish, milk and meat and so our State produced hero like Lachit Borphukan. Now, we give our children corn-flour and other tin-food. The result is that they cannot digest it and in the long run they become 'Payaloga' in the Assamese sense of the term.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I request the hon. Member to give the English rendering of Payaloga for the benefit of the Reporters ?

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla): Sir, Payaloga means that the lower portion of the body becomes more and more emaciated, the head becomes very big and the belly bulges out. This is the effect of using corn-flour, barley and other tinned food, etc., and so we cannot expect a healthy generation in future unless more attention is given to this aspect of the question. I request the hon. Members to ponder over this question because they have a duty to propagate those things. I am always confident that the health of the nation become poor because of the poor quality of food taken by its people. As far as practicable as Mahatma Gandhi told us, we should imbibe such habits as will enable us to have good health, so that we may be immune from attacks of diseases. Of course I do not say that we do not want any Hospital, we do not want any treatment. But my point is that treatment alone cannot enable a nation to have healthy people. If people do not take food which gives health, if people do live in a way which makes them unhealthy, establishment of Hospitals and provisions for treatment alone would not help us in building a healthy nation. I would therefore request the hon. Members to educate the people to acquire habits that will enable them to lead a healthy life, educate the people to grow more fruits, produce more milk and take them in adequate quantity so that they may have good health.
(A voice—অতিয়া কলনে ভীম কল ?)

Well, it is said that both Bhimkola and Athikola are full of glucose. Therefore we must pay more attention to the preventive side of the thing. Our people badly need education about the preservation of their health. There are certain diseases which can be kept away if we adopt certain measures. Our Publicity Department should take up the task of educating the people about the methods which are to be adopted for preservation of health. The Publicity Department may be utilised for propagating preventive measures. Take for example, the hookworm diseases. The late Revered Dr. Bhubaneswar Barua was the President of the Hookworm Prevention Committee appointed by the Government. I understand that Committee did some spade work in this sphere while he was alive. Progress of work has been slow now. So we should re-start the anti-hookworm campaign. If we visit any villages and hold any public meeting we find the people present pale and emaciated. This might be due to the fact that these people are suffering from hookworm disease. It is said that about 70 to 75 per cent of the people in the villages are

suffering from this disease. But to get rid of this disease we should not only depend on the curative side of the disease, but we should try to prevent the disease by educating the people to use pit latrines. Of course in the Community Project areas some such programmes have been taken up. I suggest that in the non-Community Project areas, such steps should be taken up, because this hookworm disease is eating into the vitals of the nation.

There is another fell disease of which our people are very much afraid of. I mean the disease of cancer. It is increasing every day. It is told, research is going on in respect of this disease, and it is also told that it can be cured if treatment can be arranged at early stage of the disease. Now though there is some arrangement for treatment of this disease at the Dibrugarh Medical College, it is not well equipped with all the modern methods of treatment. My suggestion is that adequate arrangement should be made for the treatment of this fell disease not only in Dibrugarh Medical College but also in every district and Subdivisional headquarters of the State.

As regards T. B., Sir, the few T. B. Hospitals set up by Government in the State are not adequate to accommodate the innumerable T. B. patients who are pouring in every day in Gauhati, Dibrugarh and Shillong for treatment. We are glad that at Dhubri a T. B. Hospital has been opened. It is good, and we hope that in each district Headquarters at least one T. B. Hospital should be established. Sir, this disease is spreading even to remote corner of the villages which were so long immune from this fell disease. Formerly this disease was not noticed in the villages. Now we find our young boys in the villages are also suffering from this disease. It is due to the general lack of knowledge how to live in hygienic conditions. More-over our youngmen going to the towns contact this disease by taking tea and food in the hotels and restaurants which are mostly in unsanitary conditions and carry the germ to the villages. These hotels and restaurants have become the main source for the spread of this contagious disease. Formerly, our ancestors could do without these hotels and restaurants, and I wonder why now our people cannot do without them. Our hotels and restaurants are not properly kept in hygienic conditions. They are not properly inspected by the Health Inspectors and as a matter of fact, our children, specially the students fall a victim to the T. B. disease by taking tea and food in these hotels and restaurants. Therefore we should take special measures to abolish them or to ensure that they are maintained in perfectly

hygienic condition. Sir, the flowers of the nations—the younger generation are pining day by day. As a matter of fact these hotels and restaurants which are frequented by our young-men have become the graveyard for them ! Therefore I request the Government to consider this question very seriously. If any steps are taken to abolish these stalls, I shall be very glad; but if this is not possible, strict measures should be taken to ensure hygienic and sanitary conditions in these tea-stalls and restaurant.

As regards the establishment of a full-fledged Hospital at Gauhati, I do not think there can be two opinions about this matter. But as regards, a Second Medical College, of course, there may be some difference of opinion. What about Silchar ? Silchar should have a fully equipped hospital. Silchar people cannot come all the way from there conveniently quickly to Gauhati or Dibrugarh for treatment of urgent cases. So there should be a full-fledged Hospital at Silchar too. As regards Gauhati, the blooming flowers of the entire nation flock round Gauhati and their future careers are built up there. We should not leave these future prospects of our country in a state of insecurity. Therefore, I say there should be a full-fledged well equipped hospital at Gauhati so that the people not only of Gauhati but from other parts of Assam, such as Goalpara, Tezpur, Barpeta, etc., may not have to go all the way to Dibrugarh or Shillong. Even in Shillong and Dibrugarh there is much difficulty in getting admission in the Hospitals there. I therefore support the view of having a full-fledged hospital at Gauhati.

Thank you, Sir.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that many hon. Members have taken very active part and great interest in the activities of the Public Health and Medical Department. I am, indeed, grateful to these hon. Members for the valuable suggestion offered to us, and I may assure them that their suggestions will be very carefully taken into consideration and and we will see how best those suggestions can be implemented

Now, Sir, regarding the point raised by the different hon. Members, I propose to give reply one by one. To begin with the point raised by my hon. Friend from Gauhati, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, he has indeed given a very good suggestion that instead of bringing two different demands, one for the Public Health Department and another for Medical Department, only one demand would have served the purpose

best. I quite appreciate his observation, and shall examine the matter and see whether it can be done in the next year's Budget Session.

My Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, was good enough to admit that some progress has been made in the matter of extension of medical facilities to different areas both in the Plains and Hills districts, but what he is not prepared to say is that that we have done quite a lot. Sir, I frankly admit that we have not been able to do all the things that we desire to do. The hon. Member has, compared Assam with West Bengal. My Friend knows quite well the conditions prevailing in both West Bengal as well as Assam, how many medical schools and colleges are there in the West Bengal? What an enormous amount of money they can afford to spend for the purpose. Sir, they have, in West Bengal, a large number of trained personnel. Whereas our greatest handicap is the acute dearth of trained personnel. Hon. Members are aware that since the abolition of the Berry White Medical School up to the time of production of medical graduates from our Medical College at Barbari, there was a big gap during which we could produce no doctor. But now, Sir, along with the coming out of medical graduates from our Medical College, the situation has definitely improved, and I can tell the hon. Members that in course of the next few years, we shall be able to fill up all the vacancies now we have in the different dispensaries of the State. I am glad that Mr. Bhattacharyya also feels very strongly that more money should be given for Medical and Public Health Department. If we can have more provision of money, more financial help from the State exchequer as well as from the Centre, then, Sir, we expect to do much more work than that we have been able to do so long with our limited means both of trained personnel and monetary provisions.

Then, as regards the question of the Second Medical College in Assam, my Friend, Shri Choudhury from Nalbari, stated that there had been some dissension among the members of the Cabinet. Sir, that is not a fact. So far, this matter has not come up to the Cabinet level even. But nevertheless, the proposal is still there and the matter is going to be taken up again very soon and we shall see what can be done about it, but how long it will take, I do not know at the moment, to come to a decision. As regards the question of selection of site for the Second Medical College, I think it would not be advisable for me not to commit anything at the moment. That there is a great necessity for the Second Medical College, there is no doubt about it. According to the policy of the Government of India, we cannot have more than one hundred

students in one Medical College. It may be known to the hon. Members that in our existing Medical College at Dibrugarh we can admit only 100 (One hundred) students, we have recently raised that number from 75 (seventy-five) to one hundred.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East): On a point of clarification, Sir. I did not mean that there has been dissension but what I meant to say is that no decision has yet been taken.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): I thought he meant dissension.

Any way, the proposal for establishment of a second medical college is already there, and we shall take up the matter again and see what can be done about it.

Then, my Friend, Bhattacharyya, and some other Friends also have drawn my pointed attention to the present state of affairs of the Gauhati Civil Hospital, and strongly feels that it should be upgraded to a full-fledged Hospital. Sir, in the Second Five-Year Plan we have already got certain schemes to develop not only this Gauhati Civil Hospital but all the hospitals in the different district headquarters of the State both in the Hills and the Plains, So far as Gauhati Hospital is concerned, we have already given administrative approval to develop the hospital to a full-fledged modern hospital. We have also acquired certain plots of land for the purpose. We hope in near future, we shall be able to bring this Civil Hospital at Gauhati to an up-to-date standard.

My Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, had further stated that we have not yet been able to control mosquitoes. But our spraying section was introduced not to control all types of mosquitoes, but only malarial mosquitoes. Of course, regarding Gauhati town we had D.D.T. spraying at the time of the out-break of the plague. The spraying of D.D.T. in municipal areas was not included in that scheme of malaria control. Now this control scheme has been converted into eradication scheme. This scheme is to cover both the plains and hill areas so that it will be possible to bring down the incidence of malaria to a great extent. Even now, after the operation of the control scheme, I can tell the hon. Members that we have been successful in bringing down the incidence of malaria to a considerable extent. Whenever I go down in the mofussil areas I gather the views of the local doctors and I am satisfied that as a result of the activities of the Public Health Department under this malaria control scheme we have been able to bring down the malaria incidence to a great extent and and

we hope that with the co-operation of the hon. Members and the public at large it will be possible to eradicate malaria throughout the whole State.

My Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, has made certain suggestions regarding leprosy and *Kala-azar*. So far as *Kala-azar* is concerned, I know definitely that incidence of this disease has been brought down and it has been now under control. We have been opening regular hospitals almost in all the districts where it is epidemic, specially in the submontane areas. Regarding leprosy also I have already stated on different occasions that we have definite schemes and over and above the schemes we have already taken in hand we are going to have 3 more pilot project centres to tackle this leprosy problem in Assam. Already we have got one centre in the district of Goalpara where the incidence is very high. We are going to have 3 more centres with the assistance of the Central Government. One of the pilot project centre will be at Mikir Hills, another at North Lakhimpur and the third one at the Mangaldai Subdivision.

My Friend, Mr. Barbarua, stated that we have not been able to open health centres according to the recommendations of the Bhore Committee. According to the Bhore Committee's recommendation there should be a health centre for every 20,000 population. But this recommendation has undergone a change and some modification in the meantime. Now, according to the modification there should be one primary health unit for every 60,000 population with one qualified doctor and other health personnel. We are trying to implement this according to the Bhore Committee's recommendation. We have been opening a good number of such health units in different areas of our State and we have converted some of the Local Board dispensaries into primary health units. We have also converted some other dispensaries in rural areas into primary health units. In this way, Sir, we have been trying to follow the Bhore Committee's recommendation. One of the recommendations of this Committee is that for offering health facilities the curative and preventive sides should be more co-ordinated and according to that amalgamation of the two departments is necessary. We have given effect to this recommendation and amalgamated the two departments both at the top and lower levels. We have effected the amalgamation at the top as far back as in 1953. In the amalgamation at the lower level now I think with the co-operation of the hon. Members and the public in general we shall have good result.

Mr. Barbarua also stated that we have no training centres to train our health personnel. That is not a fact. Besides the Medical College, we have got training centres for training

compounders (pharmacists). In this connection we have recently increased the number of seats. We have also centres for training nurses, midwives, at different places, such as, Gauhati, Shillong, Nowgong, Dibrugarh. There are other centres for training other health personnel. I did not know whether the hon. Member knows it that there is a training centre at Chabua for producing health inspectors and midwives *cum* nurses. This is a big scheme and according to that we have been giving training to our people for doing work as rural health inspectors and also auxiliary nurses. A good number of people has already been trained there. I request the hon. Members to go and see how training is given there.

Mr. Hazarika stated that our medical college at Dibrugarh is not a full-fledged one. My Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, knows the exact position and he replied to this point that it was not so. This college is not only a full-fledged one but it is one of the first grade colleges in India. Many health experts came and went round this college and were under the definite impression that this college is one of the best and first grade colleges in India.

My Friend, Dr. Das, from Barpeta offered certain suggestions for improvement of the Barpeta civil hospital. I think he knows that Barpeta hospital and some other subdivisional hospitals were managed by the Local Boards. We have now not only taken over the District civil hospitals but also the subdivisions civil hospitals which used to be managed by the Local Board. This is an interim period and things may not improve suddenly, within the course of a few years. It takes time. But I may tell the hon. Member, Dr. Das, that we have provided an amount of Rs.17,000 to bring that hospital at Barpeta to the Public Works Department standard and perhaps the work has been already taken up by the Public Works Department. Regarding supply of an X-Ray Plant I may inform him that steps have already been taken. He also wanted that water supply arrangement in the Barpeta hospital should be improved and electric connection should be given there. These suggestions will be borne in mind and I will see that they are implemented. He also raised the question of fees for operation and suggested to reduce it. That will also be examined.

There are some other points raised by some other hon. Members. Regarding spurious drugs and adulteration of food, I may tell the hon. Members that samples are sent here and analysed by

the Public Analyst in the Public Health Laboratory in Shillong. As a result of this and the steps taken by the Public Health Department, the percentage of adulteration of food has gone down. Of course, I do not know whether the figures given by Mr. Bhattacharya are correct.....

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): These are figures given by the Government of Assam.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): Not recent, I think.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: In 1956, but these are the latest figures supplied by the Government.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Any way, Sir, my information is that as a result of steps taken by the Public Health Department the percentage of adulteration has been brought down.

Regarding sale of spurious drugs, we are very strict about it; as a matter of fact, we have been accused by the pharmacists and other stock-keepers that we do not issue licences to them whenever they approach us.

Now, Sir, my Friend, Mr. Hazarika, coming from the remotest corner of our State, said that there are no dispensaries in different localities of his constituency. He particularly made mention of Kakapather. I did not give any assurance that I will give a dispensary there, but I feel that Kakapather is an outlying area and there is need for a dispensary there. When we select new dispensaries, I will consider the case of Kakapather along with others. I think it will not be out of place to mention here—as the question of having more dispensaries in the rural areas was raised—that formerly we had no charitable dispensary run by Government in the plains districts. It was the responsibility and liability of the Local Boards to open dispensaries and run them. What we did, was to give some money for medicines and improvement of buildings. But now as the economic condition of the different local boards is not well, we have decided to open new State dispensaries. We have also decided not to open any more subsidised dispensaries because these are not being managed properly in almost all the places. We are thinking of taking over some of the Local Board dispensaries and also subsidised dispensaries gradually.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East): What about the existing subsidised dispensaries ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): The existing ones will remain unless and until taken over by Government at a later stage. My Friend, Shri Choudhury from Nalbari, mentioned the name of Burinagar and said that the public have constructed the dispensary building and the doctor's quarters. But there is no proposal at present to open a dispensary at Burinagar. But in view of what the hon. Member said, the case of Burinagar will be considered along with other cases. The hon. Member should know that there are outlying areas in Assam where we have no dispensary within a radius of even 10 to 15 miles. As I said, Sir, that acute dearth of qualified doctors has been our greatest handicap; we have not been able to give doctors to many dispensaries. But with the coming out of graduates from our Medical College it would be possible to provide doctors. Sir, what is worrying me is the demand for more dispensaries throughout the State. In the current year's budget we have made provision for only seven dispensaries. I shall have a great deal of difficulty in distributing these dispensaries. There are seven plains districts and I don't know how I will distribute these dispensaries.

Sir, as we could not provide doctors we did not provide for any new dispensary last year. This year a provision for 7 new dispensaries has been made. Our idea is to run the existing dispensaries properly by giving qualified doctors. If the hon. Members feel that there should be more dispensaries and if I get more money, certainly I shall come up with a Schedule for next year's budget for opening a reasonable number of dispensaries.

The hon. Lady Member from Silchar made a good number of suggestions. I shall bear them in mind and see in what best way they can be put into practice. She complained that there were some Assistant Professors who could not be made permanent. On being asked by me, she gave the name of Dr. Rajkumar Das. Regarding Dr. Rajkumar Das, Sir, he did not have the requisite qualifications for being Assistant Professor, even then we have recently decided to appoint him subject to the approval of the Indian Medical Council.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): On a point of information, Sir. Is it not a fact that many officials, who have not got requisite qualifications, are holding high posts in the State?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): We shall have to obtain the approval of the Indian Medical Council.

Shri RAMNATH SARMAH (Lumding): Are you going to appoint professors without requisite qualifications ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: One of the qualifications is practice for a certain number of years. In this case, he has not completed the period.

Shri RAMNATH SARMAH: Only people with requisite qualifications should be appointed in the teaching line.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Mrs. Chanda raised another pertinent question that as a result of normalisation of the N. E. S. blocks certain health personnel had been thrown out. I do not know the exact position, I shall see what can be done.

I think, Sir, these are the salient points which were raised in the discussion.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) Mrs. Chanda also said that the present Principal of the Ayurvedic College has got no orthodox qualifications.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): I hear he is going to be appointed as Assistant Director of Health Services.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : Sir, I could not foresee all the points that would be raised by the hon. Members and so I was not prepared to reply to this particular matter. Now, that it has been raised I shall see whether he has the requisite qualifications and how he could hold the post without proper qualification.

Mr. SPEAKER : That is what hon. Member wanted to know.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): May I know whether the Local Board dispensaries will be taken over throughout the State ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I have already stated that we have already taken over some of the Local Board dispensaries and converted them into Primary Health Units. Now, the question of taking over all the Local Board dispensaries are

there and we feel that there is no meaning of keeping these dispensaries as they are with inadequate equipments and medicines and with the end in view of taking them over by the Government we have moved and the question only remains to be discussed and finalised in the Cabinet.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister just now made a point that he did not come prepared for some of the points raised by certain Members in the course of discussion. Now, the points raised in the course of discussion the House and hon. Members are entitled to get reply to them. The House cannot wait for them till the next Budget Session. When the Minister heard the points raised by some hon. Members it was his duty to collect the information from the department or departments concerned and should have replied.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): Another point which I raised regarding appointment of a Kabiraj as a substitute in place of a Assistant Professor has not been replied.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): The substitute is the relation of the Principal. (*Laughter*).

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): The post was advertised by the Public Service Commission and after proper interview they made recommendation and on the strength of the recommendation the Government made the appointment of the substitute concerned.

Now, regarding the qualification of the Principal of the Aurvedic College, he has passed the A. M. S. of the Benaras Hindu University, which is enough to be the Principal.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA: What about the orthodox qualification of the present incumbent, that means, does he possesses Sanaskrit title ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): It appears that the qualification which he possesses is enough to be the Principal. He is A. M. S. of the Banaras Hindu University.

Sir, in view of what I have already said, I hope, the hon. Members will see their way to withdraw the Cut Motions.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: On a point of information, may I know whether it is considered sufficient by the Minister that one who has got no Sanskrit title can be the Principal of the Ayurvedic College ?

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar West): And he is going to be made an Assistant Director.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMA (Minister, Finance): Sir, in Banaras Hindu University a student there has got to have Sanskrit teaching also.

Mr. SPEAKER: From my experience I can say that when I was a student of the Banaras Hindu University I had to appear in a Sanskrit test.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): That is not for the title.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: The title is immetarial.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has replied as best as he could under the circumstances. Now, what about the Cut Motions? Are the hon. Members going to withdraw them?

(The Cut Motions were, by leave of the House withdrawn).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.1,11,48,500 (Rupees one crore, eleven lakhs, forty eight thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in comse of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959, for the administrations of the head "38.—Medical".

(The question was adopted).

The question is that a sum of Rs.1,09,64,300 (Rupees One crore, nine lakhs, sixty four thousand three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

(The question was adopted).

Adjournment

The Assembly then adjourned till 9 A. M. on Friday, the 25th April, 1958.

SHILLONG:

R. N. BARUA,

The 3rd October, 1959.

*Secretary, Legislative Assembly,
Assam.*