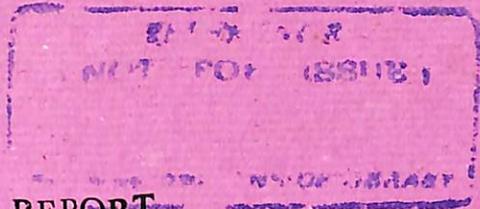


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**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
1998-2001**



**SEVENTY SIXTH REPORT
(TENTH ASSEMBLY)**



**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
ON THE REPORTS OF THE COMPTROLLER
AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA
(CIVIL) FOR THE YEARS 1991-92,
1992-93 AND 1993-94 PERTAIN-
ING TO THE IRRIGATION
DEPARTMENT, GO-
VERNMENT OF
ASSAM.**

Presented to the House on 22nd March, 1999

**ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
DISPUR, GUWAHATI—781006.**

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Secretaries:

1. Shri J. Talukdar, Secretary
2. Shri A. R. Chaudhary, Deputy Secretary
3. Shri Surajit K. Das, Under Secretary
4. Shri H. B. Chaudhary, Administrative Officer

**COMPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
COMMITTEE—1998-2001**

Chairman :

1. Shri Derhagra Mochahary

Members :

2. Shri Pulakesh Barua
3. Shri Kesharam Bora
4. Smti Renupoma Rajkhowa
5. Shri Hamanta Kalita
6. Shri Mohan Das
7. Shri Alauddin Sarkar
8. Shri Nizamuddin Khan
9. Shri Abdul Muqtadir Choudhury
10. Shri Mustafa Shahidul Islam
11. Shri Guatam Roy
12. Shri Kali Ranjan Deb
13. Shri Chandra Kanta Terang

Secretariat :

1. Shri D. Talukdar, Secretary
2. Shri A. R. Chetia, Deputy Secretary
3. Shri Subimal Kr. Das, Under Secretary
4. Shri B. Basumatary, Committee Officer

PREFATORY REMARKS

1. I, Shri Derhagra Mochahary, Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts having been authorised to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Seventy-sixth Report of the Committee on Public Accounts on the Audit Paras contained in the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Civil) for the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 pertaining to Irrigation Department, Government of Assam.

2. The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Civil) for the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 were presented to the House on 14-9-94, 15-3-95 and 18-9-95, respectively.

3. The Reports as mentioned above relating to Irrigation Department were considered by the foregoing Committee as in Annexure-I in their sittings held on 7th August, 1996, 4th September, 1996, 16th September, 1996, 16th & 17th October, 1996, 12th May, 1997, 27th May, 1997, 25th June, 1997, 19th January, 1998 and 9th June, 1998. The foregoing Committee considered this Draft Report but could not present the same before the House owing to expiry of their term.

4. The present Committee has considered the Draft 76th Report and finalised it in their sitting held on 25th February, 1999 for presentation before the House.

5. The Committee wishes thanks to the out-going Committee for their strainous works. The Committee also offers thanks to Departmental witness for their co-operation. The Committee also places on records their appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered by Accountant General (Audit), Assam, Finance Department and Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly along with Officers and Staff attached to Public Accounts Committee.

Dispur
The 25th Feb. 1999.

DERHAGRA MOCHAHARY,
Chairman,
Public Accounts Committee.

THE REPORT

CHAPTER-I

Loss due to delay in lifting of cement
(Audit para 4.3/CAG, 1991-92. Civil)

1.1 The Audit has pointed out that the Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation placed an order in March 1988 with Mawmluh Cherra Cement Ltd, Shillong for supply of 1500 tonnes of non-levy cement at Rs. 1273 per tonne to Jamuna Command Area Development Division (Irrigation) Hojai. The Division paid Rs. 19.10 lakh in March 1988 to the firm. In April 1988, the firm issued the delivery order for 1500 tonnes of cement. In June 1988, the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Sukla CAD, Guwahati who was authorised to issue carriage order on behalf of Jamuna and Kaliabor CAD allotted the work of carriage to a carriage contractor. But, in August 1988, the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Jamuna and Kaliabor CAD Authority, Nagaon requested his counterpart of Sukla CAD Authority to cancel the carriage order issued by him in June 1988 on the ground that tenders for the work of transport of cement were invited by him in July 1988. Thus due to lack of co-ordination between the CAD Authorities selection of carriage contractor was delayed and the work of carriage of 1500 tonnes of cement could finally be allotted to 4 carriage contractors during the period from December 1988 to January 1989. The period for completion of carriage was thirty days from the date (s) of issue of work orders. During the period from February to April 1989 the contractors lifted 1300 tonnes of cement. In the meantime, the price of cement was enhanced (Rs. 1419 per tonne with effect from February 1989 and to Rs. 1431 per tonne with effect from March 1989). The firm submitted a claim for an additional amount of Rs. 2.19 lakhs for 1500 tonnes of cement on account of increase in the price of cement. Approval for payment at enhanced rate had not been accorded by the Chief Engineer as of October, 1991. In August 1989 the Division lifted another 35 tonnes of cement and the firm adjusted Rs. 19.08 lakhs as the value of 1335 tonnes of cement at the enhanced rate which at the original rate of Rs. 1273 per tonne would be Rs. 16.99 lakhs. Thus owing to undue delay in lifting the cement, the department has to incur an extra expenditure

of Rs. 2.09 lakhs for procurement of 1335 tonnes of cement. The reason for delay in fixing and awarding the work to transport contractors was attributed by the Government to the probability of cement being caked/damaged if transported during rainy season and thus there was likely involvement of Rs. 2.15 lakhs as expenditure on rent of godown and shuffling and reshuffling of those cement. But the contention of the Department is not tenable as the cement was ready for delivery in April 1988 and original order of transportation of cement was issued by the Sukla CAD authority after taking this factor into consideration.

1.2. The Department in their written replies have stated that the Sukla Command Area Development Authority, Guwahati issued carriage order for 1500 M.T of cement in June, 1988. There set-in heavy rain already and it was considered by Jamuna and Kaliabor Command Area Development Authority, Nagaon not to under-take the process of carriage of cement during the rainy seasons. The works at sites had since stopped and carriage of cement and stock may lead to cake and stone. Jamuna and Kaliabor Command Area Development Authority Nagaon however selected 4 capable carriage contractors who were kept ready for the final order for carriage. As that year the rainy season has actually departed a bit lately so Command Area Development Authority, Jamuna and Kaliabor, Nagaon ordered for carriage in the December 1988. Quite unawarily for the Department the price of cement has also raised in the meantime. So the Department had to pay for the extra cost.

1.3. The Committee in course of its deliberation wanted to know :—

1. Who is the proper Authority for inviting tender and who is competent to issue carriage order ?
2. Why the estimate was not prepared by taking into consideration the prevailing conditions ? and
3. Why the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Lower Assam CAD Authority ordered carriage of cement for Upper Assam CAD Authority ? The Department clarified that (a) respective Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the authorities are proper authority for inviting tender and they are also competent to issue carriage order. (b) As the rise of

price of cement could not be foreseen, the estimate could not be prepared, considering this unforeseen situation. (c) Requirement of cement for both the CADs was dealt by the Chairman-cum-Managing Director Lower Assam CADA (Sukla CADA) due to location of its Head Quarter within Guwahati and easy compilation on above data. After carriage orders issued by the Sukla CAD to it was observed by the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Upper Assam CAD Authority (Jamuna CADA) that carriage rate to destination 'Hojai' (Under Upper Assam CADA's jurisdiction) was not included in the accepted carriage rates of such works in the Chief Engineer's rates and as such he went for separate carriage tenders for his own CADAs work. The Department has, however, noted displeasure of the Committee and assured that it will be very much careful in future in issuing work orders of cement.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

1.4. The Committee expresses its serious concern on the working of the Department in lifting of cement. However, after hearing the Audit, the Committee is pleased to dispose of the para with a note that the Department will be very careful in dealing with such matters to avoid delay and incurring extra expenditure in future.

CHAPTER II

Extra Contractual Payment

(Audit para 4.4/CAG, 1991-92-Civil)

2.1. The Audit has pointed out that the construction of Head work of Damugaoon Flow Irrigation Scheme under the Barpeta Irrigation Division, Sorbhog was awarded (February 1985) to a contractor. The rates provided in the agreement were inclusive of de-watering, where necessary. According to the agreement, the de-watering component of all the items of work was for any amount that would be required as per site condition and no claim for cost of extra de-watering for whatever reasons was to be entertained. It was observed in audit (May 1992) that the Additional Chief Engineer, Zone-I, Irrigation Department approved supplementary items for de-watering charges and the Division paid (January 1991) Rs. 3.56 lakhs on that account. As the rates for the work originally agreed by the contractor were inclusive of de-watering, payment of Rs. 3.56 lakhs by approving supplementary items resulted in avoidable extra expenditure and unauthorised aid to the contractor.

2.2. The Department in their written memorandum stated that in respect of 5 (five) items if the estimate there had not been included provision for de-watering, but was to be allowed as per the site condition. This has been allowed as per special clause in the tender agreement which reads "the de-watering component of all the items of work was for any amount that would be required as per site condition". When on the above quoted items de-watering was found required as per site condition. So the supplementary was allowed.

2.3. The Department, subsequently clarified on enquiry by the Committee as :- (a) In some items of works, they included the word "de-watering" and in some items they included the word "bailing out of water". In some other items, the word either "de-watering" or "bailing out of water" is not there. However, a special clause was added at the end of the accepted tender which read as (1) "The de-watering component in all the items of works is for any amount which will be required as per site conditions. No claim of cost of extra de-watering for whatever reasons adduced later will be entertained. (2) No. P. V. C. will be allowed" It was thus interpreted as in the items of works where de-watering will

be involved, the quantum of de-watering will be for any amount and no cost of extra de-watering will be allowed if subsequently it is observed that H. P. of pumps utilised for de-watering is much more than originally contemplated at the time of framing the estimate/tendering for rates. In the items of works where de-watering was not there in the accepted tender but found to be required during actual execution of work, will be paid separately. As such in the items of works where de-watering was not there in the accepted tender but subsequently required due to site condition, it was allowed as an extra item.

(b) It is a fact that, the records of de-watering kept in the site were lost due to theft.

(c) Cost of de-watering, inspite of theft of records, could be determined. For the de-watering component of sheet pile portion, the records were there and the cost was found out as per actual analysis.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

2.4. The Committee observes that the Department could not foresee the quantum of de-watering and could not mention explicitly. The de-watering component was already there in the agreement and the Department paid for the same without thorough examination. The explanation of the Department is found not at all satisfactory.

2.5. The Committee therefore recommends that the Department will take due care in approving supplementary items in future and avoid extra payment to contractors. The Committee recommends that the concerned officer of the Deptt. who will be found guilty in future for such lapses will be dealt with seriously.

CHAPTER—III

Unfruitful Expenditure

(Audit Paras 4.5/CAG-1991-92 and 4.5,4.7/CAG-1992-93-Civil)

3.1 The Audit has pointed out the following cases of unfruitful expenditure :-

(a) Under Badhapur Deep Tube well Scheme (DTW) boring and installation of deep tube wells at 4 points, was administratively approved in February 1986 for Rs. 22.06 lakhs. Technical sanction for the first point was accorded by the Additional Chief Engineer, Irrigation, Zone-I for Rs. 7.19 lakhs in October, 1986. The bore work at the first point, undertaken by Goalpara Mechanical Irrigation Division in March 1989 had to be abandoned on account of encountering granite formation at a depth of while reporting the abandonment of the work to the Superintending Engineer, Mechanical Circle (Irrigation) in March 1989, the Division pointed out that in the opinion of Geologists of the Department of Irrigation as well as Geology and Mining, the water sources beneath that layer were 'rare' and penetration to the water source was not possible with the available type of drill bits. As a result expenditure of Rs. 3.98 lakhs (installation of deep tube well Rs. 3.23 lakhs; expenditure on work charged staff Rs. 0.46 lakh; cost of P. O. L Rs. 0.14 lakh; and contingencies : Rs. 0.15 lakh) incurred on boring work proved unfruitful. The Division stated (December 1990 and May 1991) that there was no separate feasibility report for this particular scheme and that as per the feasibility report of Central Ground Water Board for the district of Goalpara the area of the scheme was not suitable for shallow tube wells due to deeper water table and hence D.T.W. scheme was considered feasible. The contention of the Division is not acceptable in-as-much as the Division could have obtained the opinion of the Geologists regarding the availability of water bearing strata prior to taking up the work.

(b) Belengbari Deep Tube Well Scheme under Irrigation Division, Sibsagar designed to provide the Irrigation facilities to 120 hectares of land was administratively approved in February 1985 for Rs. 13.89 lakhs for com-

pletion by March 1987. Technical sanction for part-I boring and installation of wells was accorded in June 1986 and that for procurement and installation of pumpsets in January 1988. Estimate for part-II (civil part) was not sanctioned till March 1992. Three deep tube wells of the scheme were installed in April 1986 by upper Assam Drilling Division (Irrigation), Jorhat. Between March 1988 and June 1988, Sibsagar Irrigation Division completed PVC pipe distribution system for two deep tube wells only. In April 1991 pump sets were installed in these two deep tube wells. Delay in installation of pumpsets was attributed (October 1992) by the Sibsagar Irrigation Division to failure of the Assam State Electricity Board to provide service connection of high tension line in time. However, on being operated, the wells discharged heavy sand. Upper Assam Drilling Division (Irrigation) Jorhat stated (July 1991) that discharge of sand was attributable to delay in installation of pump sets and keeping the assembly of deep tube wells idle for five years. Till the date of audit (March 1992) no effort had been made by the Division for re-development of the wells. The work of distribution system for the third tube well has not been executed. The expenditure of Rs. 18.90 lakhs incurred on the scheme upto December 1991 was unfruitful as irrigation facilities could not be provided to the cultivators even five years after the scheduled date of completion of the scheme.

(c) According to instruction (February 1977) of the Additional Chief Engineer, Zone III, the Executive Engineer, Nagaon Investigation (Irrigation) (re-named as Nagaon Irrigation Division) submitted (April 1977) an estimate for Rs. 1.82 lakhs to the Superintending Engineer, Central Assam Investigation (Irrigation) circle, (renamed as S. E. Nagaon Circle (Irrigation) Nagaon for the work "Survey for Kapili LIS to provide irrigation facilities in Lanka Hojai Area. In February 1978, the estimate was technically sanctioned for Rs. 1.48 lakhs by the Superintending Engineer. Test check (August 1991, of records of the Division revealed that the Division incurred expenditure of Rs. 2.06 lakhs upto July 1991. In December 1983, the Executive Engineer had asked the concerned Sub-Divisional Officer (Irrigation) to submit the progress report of the work alongwith survey papers. Till the date of audit (August 1991) neither the progress report nor survey papers were submitted by the concerned Sub-Divisional Officer. In December 1990, the Division stated that there was no

proposal for a scheme in the area and the survey papers were, therefore, not consulted. The expenditure of Rs.2.06 lakhs proved unfruitful.

(d) Survey work for implementation of "Sissi Lift Irrigation Scheme under Dhemaji Irrigation Division was carried out in 1978, The scheme was administratively approved for Rs. 9.53 lakhs in April 1978 and technically sanctioned Rs.10.42 lakhs in December 1984. The scheme was taken up for execution in the year 1981-82 and proposed to be completed in 1989-90. Meanwhile, the Department in March 1983 extended the scheme for covering more areas for irrigation. Extended portion of the scheme was administratively approved for Rs. 14.98 lakhs in March, 1983 and technically sanctioned for Rs. 15.75 lakhs in July 1986. In July 1987 the Division submitted a revised estimate of Rs. 97.17 lakhs to complete the scheme which was necessitated due to escalation of cost of material and wages for change in intake point not finalised. The revised estimate has not been sanctioned till the date of audit (December, 1992). Till the flood of 1988 expenditure of Rs 37.88 lakhs was incurred on the work. Due to non-adoption of any flood protection measures, severe damages occurred to the already constructed brick-lined canal system during the flood of 1988 which caused breach in dykes at many reaches. These were required to be reconstructed. Moreover, the scheme could not be taken up for operation due to its feeder channel being silted up. Pump house was required to be re-located and redesigned to suit the new location near the bank of the river Sissi away from Brahmaputra. Till November 1992, the Division incurred an expenditure of Rs 76.45 lakhs on the scheme. But the work has not yet been completed due to delay in finalisation of intake point. Expenditure of Rs. 76.45 lakhs on the scheme, thus remained unproductive so far (December 1993). Which included expenditure of Rs. 2.33 lakhs incurred between July, 1988 and November, 1992 on maintenance of the inoperative scheme.

(e) The work "Installation of 5 Deep Tube Wells in Khaspur Area" under Irrigation Division, Silchar was administratively approved for Rs. 24.00 lakhs in March 1982. The work was awarded to a firm of Guwahati in December 1982 without being technically sanctioned. The firm altogether carried out the work of 9 tube wells of which 8 became unsuccessful owing to hard rock boulders and

insufficient water bearing strata. Upto November 1991, the Division incurred an expenditure of Rs. 15.06 lakhs on the entire scheme of which Rs. 2.38 lakhs were incurred exclusively on 8 unsuccessful wells. The successful deep tube wells also remained undeveloped after drilling as on the date of audit (February 1992). There was no evidence on record regarding any consultation having been made with the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) or the State Geology and Mining Department for certifying the water bearing strata. The Division, thus incurred wasteful expenditure of Rs. 2.38 lakhs and not taken action to complete the works in respect of successful bores.

3.2 The Department replies against each Audit objection are as below :—

(a) Our prior experience of the Department is that in the same Zone where the Bodhapur area is located, earlier Khagrabari D. T. W. S. Bamunipani Khowa D. T. W. S. and Hadiagaon D. T. W. S. all the schemes were successful which had been taken up as per the survey report of the Central Ground Water Board as has been taken up in the case of Bodhapur D. T. W. S. So the failure of the Bodhapur D. T. W. S. Scheme can be attributed to the vagaries of nature. The fact was further born by the detail investigation of the Geologists and of the Director, Geology and Mining Department, Assam, Assam area by nature being rocky, sometime at a very little distance a major variation, in the underground sub-soil occurs, which cannot be helped. So the unsuccessfulness of the present scheme can be attributed to the natural reason and thus the expenditure was unavoidable but truly unfruitful.

(b) Part I and Pt. II, of Balengbori D. T. W. S. was completed as per estimate, but it is seen at the time of trial run that both the Tube Wells were discharging heavy sand so the tube wells to be re-developed which ultimately made the Tube Wells sand free and capable of discharging water as desired. Since that the cultivators of the Command area are getting the Irrigation water in Kharif & pre Kharif crops since 1994. As regards Pt. III, the A. S. E. B. has recently completed the H. T. lines, pump sets, panel Board and 60 K. V. A transformer has also been procured. P. V. C. distribution with 200 mm dia for length of 300 R. M. alongwith part distribution has also been completed. T. S. for the scheme has already been

accorded by Addl. Chief Engineer, Zone III, Irrigation, Assam, Jorhat for Rs. 7.80 L. Now the point is almost ready for providing Irrigation facilities to the cultivators. As the functioning of the D.T.W.S require timely providing of the electricity facilities so the delay caused on that, causes some difficulties in the operation at the initial stage. As the scheme of all the 3 (three) points have been proved successful so the expenditure incurred is justified and not unfruitful.

(c) Survey for Kapili L I. S. to provide Irrigation facilities in Lanka, Hojai Area was taken up to find out the feasibility of the scheme. Accordingly Rs. 2.06 Lakhs was expended for the survey works and found that there will be a medium project with an area of 6.72 Hec (NIA). Therefore, a revised survey estimate for Rs. 4.60 Lakhs is prepared for detail survey, which is within 1% of the proposed medium Irrigation project with an approximate estimated cost of Rs. 32.25 Cr. The detail survey will be started to find out the authentic aspect of feasibility. Therefore, the expenditure already incurred for the survey for Rs. 2.06 lakhs is reasonable as 50% progress of survey is done within the proposed revised estimate of Rs. 4.60 lakhs. The para may please be dropped.

(d) The survey work for the Sissi Lift Irrigation Scheme was carried out in 1978. This Division got administrative approval for the scheme for Rs. 9.53 lakhs in April, 1978 and technical sanction of Rs. 10.42 lakhs in December, 1984. The scheme was taken up for execution in the year 1981-82 with the target to complete in 1989-90. Subsequently, the Department on March, 1983 had extended the scheme covering more areas and the extended portion of the scheme was administratively approved for Rs. 14.98 lakhs in March, 1983 and technically sanctioned for Rs. 15.75 lakhs in July, 1986 by the competent authority. But due to inevitable rise of cost of materials, wages of W/C and M/Roll personnel and the change of location of the intake point of the scheme, the Division submitted a revised estimate of Rs. 97.17 lakhs to complete the scheme. The devastating flood of 1988 and subsequent flood of 1992, causing breach in the Sissi Moridhol Dyke had caused silting up of the feeder canal of the scheme. This has necessitated to review the basic planning of the scheme coupled with the experience of difficulty in running the scheme. There was also consistent fund constraint since 1990 in the Department.

This has resulted the continuity of the scheme. Since there is still persisting resource constraint, the completion of the scheme will be delayed but on completion of the scheme the utility of the scheme is assured. Hence the expenditure is not unfruitful, only that the accrued benefit is delayed, because of constraint of fund and necessity of reviewing the planning of the intake point based on the experiences of flood of 1988 and 1992. The basic study on the modification of the intake point is being done and as soon as this is finalised the revised estimate as per latest cost will be prepared for revised A. A. and T. S. and work executed accordingly.

(e) The work "Installation of 5 (five) Deep Tube Wells in Kashpur area" was administratively approved for Rs. 24.00 lakhs in March, 1982. The concerned project was taken up with the aim of providing Irrigation facilities by installation of 5 (five) Deep Tube well Schemes in Kashpur area, under Silchar Civil Sub-Division. The work was allotted to a Guwahati based firm M/S. Associate Tube wells private Ltd., Guwahati, by the additional Chief Engineer, Zone-IV. The firm altogether carried out 9 Tube wells and out of which 8 become unsuccessful owing to availability of hard rock boulders and also insufficient water boring strata. The said 8 Nos. of unsuccessful Tube wells costs Rs. 2.38 lakhs. In this connection it is to mention here that before taking up the boring works necessary consultation with the Hydrogeological Map of Cachar District as published by the Central Ground water Board was also made. In this Hydrogeological Map it is seen that the location where Kashpur is situated is marked by "due" i.e. availability of ground water and accordingly boring work was started. As regards successful Deep Tube well and its necessary development, it is to be stated here that further development of undeveloped successful Deep Tube well is not possible at this moment since the firm to whom the work was entrusted had left the work site in incomplete stage without any intimation inspite of several correspondences made in this regard. The Executive Engineer, has now been directed to rescind the contract and finalise the bill with necessary penalty recovery etc. as per terms and condition of the accepted tender agreement and complete the balance of works at the risk and cost of the defaulting contractor.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

3.3 The Committee, after hearing the comments of Audit, disposed of the paras with a note that the Department will submit information regarding the work-charge expenditure on the schemes. However, it is found that the Department failed to submit the required information within the stipulated time of 30 days so the committee takes a serious view and the Department is instructed to submit the information within 15 days without fail.

CHAPTER-IV

Avoidable Expenditure

(Audit paras 4.6/CAG- 1991-1992, Civil)

4.1 The Audit has pointed-out that :-

(a) The work of Deep Tube well at Kabarugaon, Golaghat was allotted in February 1989 by Irrigation Division to a contractor without geological investigation. The contractor started the work in February 1989 but did not find water bearing strata even after drilling upto a depth of 138 R.M, against the estimated depth of 110 R.M. According to instruction of the Superintending Engineer of the circle, the same contractor in May 1989 took up drilling at second point and also could not reach water bearing strata upto a depth of 300 RM. The aquifer samples of the second point borehole were, however, sent in June 1989 to Geologist of Irrigation Department who in July 1989 opined that suitable water bearing strata would not be available in this bore-hole. As a result, both the well points were abandoned. Division incurred an expenditure of Rs. 2.55 lakhs on unsuccessful bore at the second point.

4.2 The Department has stated that the boring and Installation work of D.T.W of 1st point of the scheme was completed upto 138 rt. but no water bearing strata was found available for placement of strainer, so it is considered as unsuccessful. Again as per strong public demand for Irrigation water for the field, the department, had to under-take 2nd point of the D.T.W in that area after consultation with the Geologist of this Department under Jorhat Drilling Division (Irrigation). There is no other alternative source for Irrigation facilities other than ground water. There was some possibility of getting Ground water bearing strata in that area as per Ground water map of Geological Survey of India. Moreover the nature of under ground strata is of wave type and so it is expected to get water bearing strata very near to the site of non-water bearing strata. On that idea the boring and installation work of 2nd point is completed upto 300 mtrs. but unfortunately no water bearing strata is found. hence 2nd point of the scheme is also became unfuccessful.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

4.3 The Committee recommends that the Department should ensure existence of water bearing strata before taking up the work of Deep Tube Well and these should be a standing instructions/orders in this regard.

CHAPTER—V

Loss due to non-recovery of Cement (Audit para 5.1/CAG, 1991-92 Civil)

5.1 The Audit has pointed out that during test check of records of Barpeta Irrigation Division Sorbhog it was noticed that 2500 bags of cement were issued in May and June 1987 to a contractor for executing the work construction of Headworks of Damugaon Flow Irrigation Scheme and receipt of the same was also acknowledged by the contractor. It was, however, noticed in audit that only 1000 bags were shown to have been issued in the records and cost thereof was recovered alongwith other recoveries from the final bill paid in January, 1991. The cost of balance 1500 bags was neither recovered nor the balance cement returned by the contractor. This resulted in loss of Rs.1.65 lakhs to Government at double the issued rate. Besides, the division recovered a sum of Rs.27.55 lakhs from the final bill towards the value of other materials issued to the contractor against actual value of Rs.27.65 lakhs, due to mistake in calculation which resulted in short recovery of Rs.0.10 lakh.

5.2 The Department in their written statement stated that the work "Construction of Head works of Damugaon F. I. S." was allotted to the contractor and accordingly at the time of execution of the head works 2500 bags of cement were issued in excess for which the value of the cement is proposed to be recovered from the final Bill. Accordingly value of 1,000 bags of cement was recovered from the final Bill of the contractor and for the value of 1500 bags of cement in double the issue rate for Rs.1.65 Lakhs+0.10 Lakhs for excess payment due to miscalculation of Rs.1.75 Lakhs is yet to be recovered from the contractor. The contractor was requested to refund Rs.1,75,000 by the Executive Engineer, Barpeta Division (Irrigation), Sorbhog, but the contractor has filed a case in the Hon'ble Court of Munsiff No.2 in Barpeta case No. TS/2/94, the case is subjudice. Further action will be taken after finalisation of the case.

5.3. In course of oral deposition, the Department has clarified that they initiated departmental action against five officials of the Division for excess payment made to the contractor of Lamugaon head works under Barpeta Division

(Irrigation), Sarbhog due to non-recovery of the value of 1500 bags of cement. The delinquent officers, after enquiry were quotioned to be more careful in future. The contractor agreed to get the excess recovered from the pending bills. The matter is however subjudiced as the contractor preferred an appeal before the Munsiff Court at Barpeta.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

5.4. The committee recommends that all necessary steps shall be taken by the Department to recover the excess payment from the contractor and intimate to the Committee, about the action taken within 3 months from the date of presentation of this report before the House.

CHAPTER—VI

Purchase without requirement

(Audit para 5.2/CAG, 1991-92-Civil)

6.1 The Audit in course of their test check found that Golaghat Irrigation Division revealed that between April 1987 and December 1989, the division procured without assessing actual requirement 427 RM of 200 mm dia Electro-Resistance Welded (E.R. W) strainer of 3mm X 75mm size slot worth Rs. 2.15 lakhs by charging to different works. The entire quantity remained unutilised as of July 1992. Reasons for purchase without requirement were neither on record nor could be explained to Audit. Reason for non-utilisation of the materials was stated (July 1992) by the Division to slots being oversize. The Division stated (July 1992) that the Chief Engineer, Irrigation had been requested to arrange for transfer of the materials to other Divisions requiring the same. Thus Government funds to the extent of Rs. 2.15 lakhs had been blocked-up for long periods.

6.2 The Department has stated that 427 R. M. of strainer with slot size 3mm X 75mm were procured for the Irrigation schemes under Golaghat Division (Irrigation). But at the time of actual execution it is seen that the under ground soil is not suitable for 3mm X 75mm slotted strainer for the Area of Golaghat District as well as in nearby areas. Therefore, the entire 427 R. M. of the Strainer is transferred to Goalpara Division (Irrigation) to utilise the same against the Irrigation Scheme of that area during 1995-96 as the under ground soil is suitable of the same.

OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATIONS

6.3. The Committee observes that the entire quantity of articles worth Rs. 2.15 lakhs purchased between April, 1987 and December, 1989 by the Golaghat Irrigation Division

remained unutilised in the Division. Even after transfer of the articles to Goalpara Irrigation Division only a few quantity is stated to be utilised. The reason for purchase without requirement were neither on record nor could be explained before the Committee.

6.4. The Committee therefore, recommends that such type of purchase without requirement should not take place in future. The Committee is pleased to dispose of the para with a note that the department will furnish information regarding utilisation of materials to the Committee.

6.2. The Department has stated that 427 R. M. of strainer with slot size 3mm X 75mm were procured for the irrigation schemes under Goalpara Division (Irrigation). But at the time of actual execution it is seen that the under ground soil is not suitable for 3mm X 75mm slotted strainer for the Area of Goalpara District as well as in nearby areas. Therefore the entire 427 R. M. of the strainer is transferred to Goalpara Division (Irrigation) to utilise the same against the Irrigation Scheme of that area during 1987-88 as the under ground soil is suitable of the same.

OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATIONS

6.3. The Committee observes that the entire quantity of articles worth Rs. 2.15 lakhs purchased between April 1987 and December 1989 by the Goalpara Irrigation Division

CHAPTER VII

Infertuous Expenditure

(Audit para -4.2/CAG, 199293-Civil)

7.1 The Audit has pointed-out that the construction of Head works and other appurtenant works of Champamati Irrigation project was estimated cost Rs. 472 lakhs (as per NIT) was awarded to and taken up by a contractor and taken up the work by him in May 1981. The work was still in progress as of September 1993. It was seen in audit (June 1992) that the actual construction of barrage was started during 1983 on the basis of departmental drawings before getting the design of gates approved by the Central Water Commission (CWC). Provisions for fitting and fixing of steel gates was kept in the departmental drawings. However, in February 1985, CWC sent the gate drawings with some alterations in the grooves and alignment for better functioning of the gates. Modifications suggested by CWC were carried out, subsequently for which the division had to dismantle (April 1988) cement concrete/reinforced cement concrete works already constructed (in 1983) at a cost of Rs. 0.79 lakh on payment of Rs. 0.96 lakh to the contractor towards dismantling. Expenditure of Rs. 1.75 lakhs thus became infertuous due to taking up execution of barrage work prior to approval of design gates by the CWC.

7.2 The Department has stated that the construction of Champamati Head Works was actually started in the year 1983 as per the Departmental design and drawings after preliminary discussion with C.W.C. It was thought that the formal approval would come from the C.W.C. within a reasonable time and the work was therefore allowed to be progressed slowly. Finally when approved drawings of gates were received from C.W.C, some modification of already constructed structure had to be done for better functioning of the gates and for that reason as pointed out in the para the expenditure to the tune of Rs. 1.75 lakhs has to be borne by the Government for unavoidable and unanticipated changes in the drawings and design. From the time onward the Department has become very caution in taking up such work required to be approved by C.W.C. only after the full approval of the C.W.C.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATION

7.3 The Committee recommends that the Department shall not undertake such type of works in future without formal approval from Central Water Commission and necessary instructions to all Departmental officers should be issued. The para is disposed of.

CHAPTER VIII

Unproductive outlay

(Audit paras 4.3/CAG, 1992-93-Civi)

8.1 The Audit has pointed out that Bhumeswar Electric Lift Irrigation Scheme under Bongaigaon Irrigation Division was administratively approved in March 1987 for Rs.94.95 lakhs and technical sanction to the Civil work was accorded in February 1989 for Rs.5.64 lakhs. Between 1988-89 and 1992-1993 (upto January 1993) the division incurred an expenditure of Rs.11.25 lakhs on final survey, protection of bank approach road pump house etc. However, till the date of audit (March 1993), construction of canal, (estimated cost Rs. 53.63 lakhs) could not be taken-up due to non-acquisition of the land, which resulted in unproductive investment of Rs. 11.25 lakhs unfruitful, apart from delaying the project with probable further cost escalation. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bongaigaon stated (December 1993) that acquisition of land had not been made because preliminary survey work could not be carried out due to obstruction of pattadars. Further development is awaited. Reasons for non-acquisition of land and further development in this regard so far were not on record.

8.2 The Department has stated that there are more than one factor contributing to such delay. The most prominent being public opposition and obstruction in the process of land acquisition for the canal system. In the 1st part of 1994 as per direction of the Civil authority, this Department and some influential local did take up concrete measures to save the scheme from abandoning. Due to joint initiative from the above mentioned organisations the local public have had agreed to handover the minimum land required for a lined canal. Accordingly the design of the main canal had been modified to lined canal and technically sanctioned. In the meantime fresh proposal for land acquisition has been submitted to the Civil authority which is under process. In this regard it may be mentioned that the work executed earlier was not in vain as the scheme had not been abandoned. On completion of the scheme it will create

required irrigation potential which will help in boosting up agricultural production.

OBSERVATIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS

8.3. The Committee recommends that in future such schemes shall be started only after acquisition of land to avoid unproductive outlay as pointed out by Audit.

8.1. The Audit has pointed out that Bhusnagar Electric Lift Irrigation Scheme under Bhusnagar Irrigation Division was administratively approved in March 1987 for Rs.94.92 lakhs and technical sanction to the Civil work was recorded in February 1989 for Rs.5.04 lakhs. Between 1988-89 and 1992-93 (i.e. January 1993) the Division incurred an expenditure of Rs.11.22 lakhs on final survey, protection of bank approach road, pump house etc. However, (i) the late of audit (March 1993), construction of canal (estimated cost Rs. 23.63 lakhs) could not be taken up due to non-acquisition of the land, which resulted in unproductive investment of Rs. 11.95 lakhs. Unfruitful apart from delaying the project with probable further cost escalation. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bhusnagar stated (December 1993) that acquisition of land had not been made because preliminary survey work could not be carried out due to obstruction of parcels. Further development is awaited. Reasons for non-acquisition of land and further development in this regard so far were not on record.

8.2. The Department has stated that there are more than one factor contributing to such delay. The most prominent being public opposition and obstruction in the process of land acquisition for the canal system. In the part of 1994 as per direction of the Civil authority, this Department and some influential local did take up concrete measures to save the scheme from abandonment. Due to joint initiative from the above mentioned organisations the local public have agreed to handover the minimum land required for a lined canal. Accordingly the design of the main canal had been modified to lined canal and technically sanctioned. In the meantime fresh proposal for land acquisition has been submitted to the Civil authority which is under process. In this regard it may be mentioned that the work executed earlier was not in vain as the scheme had not been abandoned. On completion of the scheme it will create

CHAPTER—IX

Loss due to non-delivery of Cement.

(Audit Para 4.4/CAG, 1992-93-Civil)

9.1. The Audit has pointed out that in May 1991, Chairman cum Managing Director (CMD) Jamuna and Kaliabor (Command Area Development) CAD Authority Nagaon awarded to a carriage contractor the work of lifting of 1000 tonnes of cement to be supplied by Cement Corporation of India (CCI) from New Guwahati Railway head for delivery to Jamuna Command Area Development Division (Irrigation), Hojai. Test check in Audit (May 1993) of records of the division, revealed that of the 954.40 tonnes of cement supplied by the CCI and lifted by the contractor between July and August 1991, only 910.25 tonnes were delivered to Departmental Godown (Irrigation), Hojai between July 1991 and September 1991 and the balance quantity of 44.15 tonnes remained undelivered. According to terms and condition of the work order, the carriage contractor was liable to pay 3 times the cost of materials in the event of shortage, damage, loss and theft. In April 1993 the division reported the matter of non-delivery of balance cement, to C.M.D. Nagaon. Steps were not taken there after to recover the cost of undelivered cement valued at Rs. 2.94 lakhs (calculated as per terms and conditions of work order) against which Rs. 0.32 lakhs was available at the credit of carriage contractor in the Division as security deposit and earnest money. Similarly, in June 1992, the work of transportation of 700 tonnes of cement from the godown of an agent of Birla Jute and Industries at Guwahati for delivery to Jamuna Command Area Development Division (Irrigation), Hojai was awarded to the same contractor. Between May 1992, and January 1993, an agent of Birla Jute and Industries delivered 467.05 tonnes of cement to the carriage contractor. Till the date of Audit, the carriage contractor delivered only 419 tonnes to the division. The balance 48.05 tonnes remained undelivered. Steps were not taken to replace the undelivered quantity cement or to realise the cost thereof amounting to Rs. 3.09 lakhs. Against Rs. 3.09 lakhs a sum of Rs. 1.07 lakhs has been lying at the credit of the contractor in the divisions on account of security deposit and unpaid value of carriage bill.

9.2. The Department has replied that the Chairman cum-Managing Director, Upper Assam C.A.D. Authority-Katimari, Nagaon has taken up the matter personally for investigating into the details since the Executive Engineer of the Division was not in a position to make any headway for solution. The matter has also been discussed in the level of the Administrative and Head of the Department of Irrigation. The Chairman Cum Managing Director Upper Assam Jamuna C.A.D. Authority, Katimari Nagaon placed order in favour of M/S Cement corporation of India Ltd. (C.C.I.) Guwahati—5 for supply of 1000.00 M.T. Cement from factory to New Guwahati Rail head @ Rs. 2210.00 M.T. The carriage of Cement from New Guwahati to Departmental Godown at Hojai was allotted to M/S Borah Trading & Co. Out of 954.40 M.T. of Cement despatched by M/S C.C.I. M/S, Borah Trading & Co. delivered 910.25 M.T. of Cement only and 44.15 M.T. is still undelivered by them. The carriage contractors was instructed to deliver the balance quantity of Cement several times first verbally & then in writing. They assured the Executive Engineer to deliver the materials soon. But when they failed the matter was brought to the notice to the Chairman Cum-Managing Director, Upper Assam C.A.D. Authority. The carriage contractors was paid Rs. 3,00,723.00 for the Cement already carried and supplied by them, but no payment was made against the undelivered quantity of Cement. Again the Chairman Cum-Managing Director, Upper Assam C.A.D. Authority ordered M/S Atal Stores, Athgaon, Guwahati 1000.00 M.T. of Cement and Rs. 10.00 lakhs was paid. Accordingly, M/S Atal stores delivered 467.05 M.T. of Cement adjusting the paid amount of Rs. 10.00 lakhs. M/S Borah Trading Associate Carriage contractor was entrusted to carry the Cement vide Chairman Cum-Managing Director J & K's agreement No. JK-CADA/F-2/55 of 1992-93. Out of 167.05 M.T. of Cement delivered by M/S Atal Stores M/S Borah Trading Associates carried and delivered only 454.00 M.T. of Cement and 13.05 M.T. remain still undelivered. Total amount of Rs. 1,37,247.00 is lying in this division against M/S Borah Trading Associates and all payment against the party is stopped by the Chairman Cum-Managing Director, Upper Assam C.A.D. Authority, Katimari Nagaon. Several notices were served to the carriage contractor for delivering the balance quantity of 13.05 + 44.15—57.20 M.T. of Cement to the Departmental Godown at Hojai. But the carriage Agency had failed to deliver the same though final notice was issued when the department finally is left with

no alternative for realising the cost of undelivered Cement. It has been considered as a last resort to take-up the matter with D.C. Nogaon and accordingly Bakijai suit against non-delivered quantity of Cement in both the cases amounting to Rs. 4,80,480.00 has been filed. The department has also been persuing the matter with the Deputy Commissioner, Nagaon from time to time.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

9.3. The Committee feels that the carriage contractor might have lifted the entire quantity of Cement from the Factory but delivered short to the Department. This is a case of fraud and theft. The Committee could not understand why the same contractor has been awarded the second contract. Institution of a Bakijai case which is also not in progress till now and recovery of the amount for short supply is not sufficient. The Committee expresses its serious displeasure on the manner in which the matter is taken up.

9.4. The Committee therefore, recommends that stringent action should be taken against the carriage contractor by instituting a criminal case and black listing him. Similar action may also be taken against the Engineer/guilty persons for whose laxity the loss occurred and intimate to the Committee within 3 months from the date of presentation of this report before the House.

CHAPTER—X

Excess Payment

(Audit para 4-6/CAG, 1992-93 Civil)

10.1 The Audit has pointed out that during the years 1988-89, the work of transportation of 1300 tonnes of cement from Mawmluh Cherra cement factory to Departmental Godown at Hojai under Jammuna Command Area Development (Irrigation) Division, Hojai was allotted to three Carriers. The distance between the cement factory and Departmental Godown at Hojai as provided in the agreements was 301 Kilometres. Transport of 135 tonnes of cement was completed between July 1989 and September 1989, and payments were made in November 1989. It was noticed in audit (May 1993) that between March 1990 and March 1991, works of carriage of cement from the same factory to the same departmental godown at Hojai were again allotted to three carriers and distance between the two places at that time was taken as 339 Kilometres and mentioned in the agreements. 1374 tonnes of cement were carried by the carriers and payments to them were made in January, 1991 and March, 1992 for transporting 1319 tonnes as over a distance of 339 kilometres. Payment for carriage of the remaining 55 tonnes was waited till the date of audit. Enhancement of distance by 38 Kms. in the later case (339 Kms. - 301 Kms.) entailed an excess payment of Rs. 0.90 lakhs for carriage of 1319 tonnes, by the department. There would be further excess payment of Rs. 0.04 lakhs when payment for carriage charges of balance 55 tonnes would be made. Division stated (December 1993) that the contractor was allowed to carry the cement from Mawmluh Cherra to Hojai via Guwahati covering a distance of 339 K. M. and the contractor was allowed to carry the loaded trucks first from factory to Guwahati and after unloading cement at Guwahati the trucks rushed to factory to maintain the queue in the next morning for delivering the cement to Division in time. But the contention of the Division is not acceptable to audit because for delivering cement to Hojai the trucks need not ply through Guwahati as it is 19 K. M. away from the route from factory to Hojai

10.2 The Department has replied that apparently there was no justification in allowing the trucks to ply to a pocket at Guwahati from Jorabat and then back to Jorabat

in the carriage of cement from Muuwmluh Cherra Cement Factory to Hojai. Some time the things are not under the control of the Department as conceived and programmed earlier. The system of carriage of cement from the Factory of Mavmluh Cherra to any other place outside the State of Meghalaya is regulated from a long time back in such a manner that initially cement is to be carried by the trucks of Meghalaya Truck Owner's Association who will deliver the cement to any part of Guwahati City only and there-after only the cement could be carried by the other Carrier/agencies to any other places in Assam. In this case too, the tender agreement was signed keeping this provision of 19.19=38 km. into account. Accordingly, in this case of carriage too, the payment of 339 km. was made and the Department has not violated any clauses of tender agreement. Perhaps, the audit has given their observation from the most rationalistic point of view and found the extra 38 km. as unjudicious. But the State of Assam has little control over the arrangement as stated above in the sister state of Meghalaya otherwise the estimate would never have been prepared with these extra 38 km.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

10.3 In course of oral deposition it was clarified that there was no written condition of the cement Factory that only the truck of Meghalaya will operate in carrying cement. Under such circumstances, the following things arises—(1) It there was any kind of problem of lifting cement by Assam operators from Cherrapunji to Hojai directly did the officer concerned take any initiative for resolving this either by allotting the work to Meghalaya operators?

(2) If there was any problem for Assam trucks not being allowed to operate from Cherrapunji then there was no point for the cement to be brought to Guwahati unloaded here, again from Guwahati, Jorabat and Jorabat to Hojai. The Committee is not satisfied with the assurance of recovery from the defaulting officers and the contractors.

10.4 The Committee therefore, recommends that necessary action should be taken against the officers at whose fault excess payment occurred. The payment made in excess may also be recovered and intimated to this Committee within a period of three months from the date of presentation fo this Report before the House.

CHAPTER—XI

Bhirengaon Flow Irrigation Scheme

(Audit Para 4.8/CAG, 1992-93—Civil)

The Audit has pointed out that in January 1988, the Additional Chief Engineer, Zone I, Irrigation awarded the work "Construction of head work over river Ujani" (estimated cost: Rs. 12.22 lakhs) to a contractor to be completed within 6 months for implementation of Bhirengaon Flow Irrigation Scheme. As the contractor failed to execute the work the same was withdrawn from him in November 1990 and earnest money Rs. 0.12 lakh was refunded to him in May 1993. A test-check of records (June 1993) of Kokrajhar Irrigation Division disclosed the following. Between January 1988 and March 1988, 28.45 tonnes of Z type steel sheet piles valued at Rs. 2.88 lakhs were issued to the contractor and in March 1988 an advance of Rs. 0.72 lakh was paid to him for work done but not measured. Till the date of audit (June 1993), bill for the value of work done neither been finalised nor has the value of work done if any, made available to audit. It was found from the records that out of 28.45 tonnes of Steel piles issued to the contractor, 17.47 tonnes were utilised on the work and the balance 10.98 tonnes valued at Rs. 1.08 lakhs were stolen. The Government in May 1993 accorded write off sanction for the loss. Although as per conditions of the contract the contractor was responsible for safe custody of the materials. In October, 1991, the Additional Chief Engineer, Zone I reported the Chief Engineer, minor Irrigation, inter alia, that it would be unsafe to take up the construction of the head work unless work for anti-erosion measures in this place was taken up by the Flood Control Department and he proposed to defer the execution of head work. Till May 1993, the work of headwork had not been awarded to any other contractor for completion. The headwork being incomplete, the expenditure of Rs. 47.80 lakhs incurred on ancillary works to headworks i.e. earth-work, approach road, spillway and accommodation etc. remained unproductive so far.

11.2 The Department has replied that the Bhirengaon Flow Irrigation Scheme was proposed to be constructed on the river "Ujani" near the village Bhirengaon to provide irrigation water to the cultivators of 12 (twelve) villages

covering 679 hectares of cultivable land. Accordingly, one estimate was submitted and Administrative approval was accorded for Rs. 39,08,515.00 and Technical Sanction accorded for Rs. 31,64,000.00 partly for i) construction of Head works (ii) construction of spillway and (iii) construction of guide bund and afflux bund and (iv) prorota charges. Accordingly, construction of Head Works and ancillary works were allotted to different contractors in 1988. All the works were completed excluding the Head Works which had to be suspended considering safety of the structure, till anti-erosion measures were taken up by the E&D Department. Total expenditure incurred against the scheme came to Rs. 47,79,913.00 upto date for all ancillary works including Rs. 2,71,472.00 against "Head Works". The ancillary works had to be taken up to check price escalation one hand and public pressure for supply of water to the field on the other. So, the other items had to be taken up and completed in 1988. Irrigation water started supplying in field after completion of canal system through public "Lampha". Subsequently maintained by the Department and through this "Lampha" approximately 300 hectares of agricultural lands are irrigated out of the proposed 679 hectares to be irrigated after completion of the scheme in all respect. From the above points, it cannot be said that total expenditure of Rs. 47.80 lakhs incurred against the scheme was not infructuous as 50% of the proposed command area has been brought under irrigation through those ancillary items of work already completed. As regards "Head Work" the same was allotted to a contractor, who was allowed 6 (six) months to complete the work. The contractor, accordingly started the work but could not continue due to abnormal situation for ABSU movement. Subsequently, the contractor expressed his inability to continue the work and prayed for withdrawal of the same from him. The matter was referred to the Addl. Chief Engineer, Zone-I, Irrigation, Barpeta, for necessary action. The Addl. Chief Engineer, Zone-I, Irrigation, after due consideration withdraw the balance work from the contractor. The contractor was issued 28.45 M.T. of 'Z' type sheet piles of which 17.44 M.T. was utilised by him leaving a balance of (28.45-17.47) 10.98 M.T. and which were reported to be stolen away by some miscreants on 28th September 1989 during disturbed situation in Kokrajhar district. The matter was duly reported to the Dhaligaon Police Station, but the stolen materials could not be recorded. The cost of the materials, so stolen was

(10-98 M.T. × 9823-26 M.T.) 1,07,859.60. A proposal was accordingly, sent to the Government for writing off which was duly sanctioned by the Government. The advance payment of Rs 71,775.00 will be adjusted in the final bill. The total value of incomplete final bill has come to Rs. 1,46,842.00 only, which is lying in the Division office. The final bill could not be passed due to the paucity of fund. The contractor is yet to get an amount of Rs. 80,000.00 from the Division against his incomplete final bill and there is no other liability lying there against the contractor. Further, construction of head Works of the scheme has been deferred and duly approved by the Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation, pending anti-erosion measure is taken up by E&D Department. By this time the Flood Control Department has completed the river protection works and the suspended works of construction of the Head Works will be re-started by the Irrigation Department, for which revised Administrative Approval is to be required for Bodoland Autonomous Council. Accordingly the matter is under correspondence with BAC and progress also received in this regard.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

11.3 The Committee is pleased to dispose of the para with the note that the progress of the balance Head Work should be intimated to this Committee.

CHAPTER XII

Implementation of Chewni Irrigation Scheme

(Audit Para 4.9/CAG, 1992-93 Civil)

12.1. The Audit has pointed out that the work ("Construction of headwork of Chewni Irrigation Scheme" under Tangla Irrigation Division) was awarded (February 1988) to a contractor at tendered value of Rs. 9.32 lakhs for completion by February 1989. After execution of work valued at Rs. 3.17 lakhs the contractor stopped work from March 1989. In August, 1991, the Executive Engineer asked the contractor to complete the work by February 1992. Till the date of audit (September 1992), the contractor had not resumed the work. There was nothing on record of the division to indicate that action had been taken either to rescind the contractor to award the remaining work to some other agency. As a result, the work remained suspended and total expenditure of Rs. 5.83 lakhs incurred upto July 1992 on the work proved unproductive.

12.2 The Department has replied that the work "Construction of Cross & Head Regulators of Chewni Irrigation Scheme" was allotted to a contractor and twelve months time was allowed to complete the work. Accordingly, the work was started on 23rd February 1988 and the driving of sheet piles, construction of curtain walls, earth work in excavation in foundation of D/S abutment wall were completed and earth work in excavation of floor, U/S abutment concreting of abutments were partially completed, but due to heavy rainfall from 7th May 1988 to 13th May 1988 flood occurred and the U/S Coffier Dam was damaged in the river bed, the water way of diversion channel restricted to pass normal flood water for which the villages at upstream were submerged and silted up by the flood water. Again when the flood water receded and attained normal stage, the excavation of foundation was re-started on 17th May 1988 by repairing the damaged Coffier Dam. But due to incessant rainfall again, the river was in full spate and flood water submerged the whole Head works site for which the U/S Coffier Dam was once again damaged by the villagers to get relief of the flood water which created havoc in their villages. As a result the entire excavated portion was again silted up due to onrush of flood water

with silt and debris through the foundation pits. Thereafter, the whole Assam State was under the grip of flood and finally the devastating flood occurred in the 1st week of August' 1988 for which the contractor could not take up the work in time and one complete working season 1988-89 passed off without significant progress of work due to natural calamities, and the contractor was requested to re-start the work. But the contractor expressed his inability to start the work, as the river discharge was on higher side and the diversion channel so constructed could not accommodate the discharge at that time. In view of that the contractor prayed for extension of time upto 31st March 1991. He also prayed for payment of works (Coffer Dam and foundation pit) already executed by him and enhancement of rates as the labour wages and materials cost increased considerably. Again the contractor was reminded to start the work stated that he could not start the work due to disruption of road communication during Bodo agitation insufficient stock of cement, non-receipt of enhancement of rate. The contractor was also requested by the Executive Engineer to attend his office. But the contractor did not attend the office. In view of the above the work was stopped due to disruption of road communication, law and order situation in the work site and its surrounding areas was not conducive for execution of work and proper supervision thereof, sufficient stock of Cement was not available in Departmental godown. It may be mentioned here that total quantity of store materials issued to the contractor i.e. cement 1400 bags and M.S. rod 6 MT and total amount of store materials comes to Rs. 1,33,000/- (in 1400 bags of cement @ Rs. 65/- per bag = Rs. 91,000/-, 6 MT MS. rod @ Rs. 7,000/- per MT becomes Rs. 42,000/- = Rs. 1,33,000/-) has been recovered from the contractors bill. Out of the issued quantity i.e. 1400 bags of cement and 6 MT of M.S. rod as per the items the unutilised quantity of cement 1215 bags and M.S. rod 2.961 MT as per the items already measured. The balanced quantity (1400-1215 bags) = 185 bags of cement and (6.00-2.961 MT) = 3.039 MT of M.S. rod are still lying with the contractor as unutilised. It may further be stated that road communication to the site of work was restored by the P.W.D. during April 1996 and the contractor was notified to resume the work accordingly as the construction work was stopped due to Bodo agitation and disruption of road communication to the site in 1992. But the contractor has insisted upon granting of enhancement

of rate as prayed for by him earlier and has not yet resumed the work. This is the present position of the work allotted to the contractor. At present Rs. 46,969/- is lying against the contractor deposited in the Division and if any contingent penal action is to be initiated, this amount will be sufficient to cover the same.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMENDATIONS

12.3. The Committee is pleased to dispose— of the para with the note that the contract may be cancelled and awarded to other contractors at the risk of the former for whose fault the work remained incomplete.

CHAPTER XIII

(Idle investment)

(Audit Para 4.10/CAG, 1992-93-Civil)

13.1 The Audit has pointed out that between December 1986 and March 1988 Nagaon Irrigation Division paid Rs. 5.81 lakhs to Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB), for installation of H. T. and L.T. lines etc, required for energisation of nine completed irrigation schemes (lift irrigation and deep tube well scheme). Till the date of audit (September 1992), the ASEB had not provided H. T. and L. T. lines and as a result, the schemes remained inoperative rendering expenditure of Rs. 46.16 lakhs unproductive, the reasons on-energisation of these schemes, although payments were made to ASEB four to six years ago, were not on record.

13.2 The Department has replied that the Audit observation made in the concerning audit para has since been effectively investigated and the following observation of this Department put forwarded for kind appraisal of the Hon'ble P.A.C.

The Department through Executive Engineer, Nagaon Division (I) Nagaon, paid Rs. 5.18 lakhs to ASEB, Nagaon, for installation of H.T. & L.T. lines required for energization of the following nine Nos. of completed Irrigation Schemes under the jurisdiction of Nagaon Division (I), Nagaon between the period from 12/86 to 3/88.

Sl.	Name of Scheme	Details showing payment made to ASEB, Nagaon			
1.	LIS from Haribhanga Beel at Niz-Lokhowa.	Rs.65,488/-	Cheque	No.	1476/23786. Dtd. 31.12.86.
2.	-do Kolong at Dakhinpat Barjoha.	Rs. 61,368/-	-do-	"	1476/73792 Dtd. 31.12.86.
3.	-do- Puthikhaiti Beel at Puthikhaiti.	Rs. 65,400/-	-do-	"	1476/73786 Dtd. 31.12.86.
4.	DTW at Rangloo	Rs. 63,063/-	-do-	"	1476/73786 Dtd. 31.12.86.
5.	-do- at Itapara Lalonggaon.	Rs.79,200/-	-do-	"	4050/204926 Dtd. 31.3.87.
6.	-do at Kathiatoli Area	Rs. 63,068/-	-do.	"	1476/73781 Dtd. 31.12.86

Sl. Name of Scheme	Details showing payment made to ASEB, Nagaon		
7. Beel at Joysagar Area	Rs. 63, 068/-	Cheque No.	1476/73780 Dtd. 31.12.86.
8. -do- at Dakhin Kumarikata,	Rs. 33, 600/-	-do- "	4099/204927 Dtd. 31.3.88.
9. -do- at Kumarikata	Rs. 45, 500/-	-do- "	4099/204927 Dtd. 31.3.88.

In spite of repeated persuasion with the ASEB authority the required electric connection for above 9 Nos. of Schemes not yet been provided. This was also discussed in the D.D.C. meeting held on 15th. July 1992 under the Chairmanship of D.C. Nagaon where representatives both from Irrigation and ASEB Department present and the ASEB representative assured immediate action will be taken for installation of electric connection. Later in a joint meeting was also held on 28th 11Nov 1994 at Nagaon between the officials of Irrigation and ASEB where threadbare discussion on the matter of installation of electric connection for the operation the above schemes. In the meeting, the S.E., ASEB, Nagaon informed their inability to proceed with new works of Irrigation Department as per policy decision taken by the ASEB for stoppage of execution of any new work for non-payment of huge accumulated energy charge bills by the Irrigation Department. The schemes have not yet been abandoned and Irrigation Department is persuing with all efforts for electric connection to the schemes. Under the above circumstances as expenditures incurred to the tune of Rs. 46.16 lakhs for completion of above 9 Nos. Schemes cannot be wholly treated as unproductive since electric installation will provide the Irrigation facilities and envisages and provide the benefit to the public for their cultivation. In this circumstances stated above, the Audit objection in the para may kindly be dropped.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

13.3. The Committee recommends that the matter of energization by ASEB for 9 (nine) nos. of completed Irrigation Schemes under the Executive Engineer, ASEB, Nagaon Division-I for which the Board received payment may be settled quickly and the schemes be put on services. A report of compliance may be furnished to the Committee within a period of 3 (three) months from the date of presentation of this report before the House.

CHAPTER XIV

Unauthorised payment

(Audit para 4.11/CAG, 1992-93-Civil)

14.1 The audit has pointed out that "Construction of Main Barrage and other appurtenant works (balance work)" of Dhansiri Irrigation Project under Dhansiri Project Weir (Irrigation) Division was awarded in December 1983 to a contractor. The work included in item, viz., "Construction of Coffor Dam" on lump sum for an amount of Rs. 15.00 lakhs to the same contractor. The agreement stipulated that cost of maintenance of Coffor Dam during execution of work of main barrage would be borne by the contractor. However, in the 22nd running bill, the division paid (December 1991) an amount of Rs. 6.28 lakhs to the contractor towards maintenance and repairing of the Coffor Dam during the period from January 1986 to June 1987. Payment of Rs. 6.28 lakhs was, therefore, beyond the scope of the agreement resulting in unauthorised aid to the contractor.

14.2 The Department has replied that the construction of main barrage and other appurtenant works (balance works) of Dhansiri Project was allotted to a contractor in December, 1983 with a stipulated time of completion within 2 (two) years. According to the Tender Agreement the work is to be completed in December, 1985 and the contractor was to construct the "Coffor Dam" within this 2 years with a lump-sum amount of Rs. 15.00 lakhs. But due to natural calamities like occurrence of devastating flood, scarcity of cement, steel etc. as well as delay in receipt of approved drawing and design from C.W.C, New Delhi the contractor could not complete the works within the stipulated time and accordingly extension of time granted upto June 1987. As the main work was done phase-wise and the construction of Coffor Dam was done accordingly in the river bed. The Coffor Dam constructed as per approved drawing in 1983 was prepared and maintained for next two working seasons in 1985 and 1986. As such as per claim of contractor the actual cost incurred for maintenance and repair of the Coffor Dam from extended period of January, 1986 to June, 1987 was paid as per sanctioned estimate prepared on the basis of actual site records. Hence the payment made for maintenance and repairs of the Coffor Dam beyond the stipulated time of the Tender Agreement i.e. from January, 1986 to June, 1987 is not an unauthorised payment.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

14.3. The Committee observes that the payment of Rs. 6.28 lakhs for maintenance of the Coffor Dam beyond the stipulated period was unjustified as the same was beyond the scope of the agreement between the Department and the Contractor. The Contractor was bound to maintain the barrage till the works are completed during the extended period.

14.4. The Committee, therefore, expresses its dissatisfaction and recommends that the payment of Rs. 6.28 lakhs made to the Contractor should be recovered and intimate to the Committee within a period of 3 months from the date of presentation of this report before the House.

CHAPTER XV

Injudicious procurement of pipes

(Audit paras 5.1/CAG-1992-93- Civil)

15.1 The Audit has pointed out that against an order placed by the Additional Chief Engineer, Irrigation, in February, 1987, the Kokrajhar Mechanical Irrigation Division procured (March, 1987) 596.49 running metres of 250 m.m. dia E.R.W pipes at a cost of Rs. 3.05 lakhs. Between January, 1988 and October 1991, only 92.31 running metres of pipes were issued to five schemes (6.16 running metres were being utilised in fabrication of bends upto the date of audit and 86.15 running metres were utilised in respected Schemes). Balance 504.18 running metres of pipes valued at Rs. 2.58 lakhs remained unutilised for over six years till the date of audit. During audit (September 1992) the Assistant Executive Engineer, (TC) of the Division stated that they were not in need of the above pipes for utilisation in any scheme under execution and no demand was placed for 250 m.m. dia pipes.

15.2 The Department has replied that since the matter was reported to the Government in September, 1993, senior officers of this Department had personally taken up the matter with the Kokrajhar Mechanical Division (Irrigation) Kokrajhar. The view put forwarded by the Asstt. Executive Engineer (T.C) of the Division was found not to be justified as by his designation and functioning he has got less authority in commenting on the actual execution part of the scheme. The press picture is that the balance 504.14 R. M. of 250 m.m. dia ERW pipe was proposed for utilisation in several DTW I/S in the District of Bongaigaon, Kakrajhar and Dhubri. The estimates were submitted to the Bodoland Autonomous Council for approval which is still awaited. Some of the DTWs are already installed and book transfer will be made after approval is accorded by the B.A.C. The execution of the scheme have become very difficult due to prevailing law and order situation within the B.A.C. area. The pipes are also proposed to be utilised in Lift Irrigation Schemes also after receipt of approval from the B.A.C. Considering current market rate, the utilisation of the pipes in schemes will be cheaper for which the schemes at present can be executed more economically. The demands of transfer of the pipes to other Divisions could not also be

met with as the indenting Divisions Could not make payment of the materials due to paucity of fund since the provision for transfer of materials under the suspense Head has been stopped.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

15.3 In course of oral deposition the Department clarified that the balance pipes are being utilised. The Committee feels that the departmental officers are not paying due importance in utilising the stocks for which these were purchased. The para may, however be treated as disposed of with above note.

years resulting in deterioration of quality. The cement procured in 1991 remained in stock over 3 cement reduces to 50 per cent after two years of storage. of India, the relative strength of the concrete made with Corporation Though according to information of Cement Corporation lakhs (@ Rs. 128/-per bag) remained unutilised in stock. of 263.12 MT (5623 bags) of cement valued at Rs. 6.74 quantity in which these cement was used. Thus, a quantity transfer to another division without indicating the nature of and August 1994). partly in works and partly by way of bags) of cement had been utilised (between December 1993 (October 1994) that a further quantity of 240.45 MT (4809 utilised in less important works. The Division stated reported after random verification that cement could be tional Chief Engineer, Zone II Irrigation in September 1993 quantity not lifted, is not in good condition. The Addi- mated Nagson Irrigation Division (August 1993) that the also lifted only 47.50 MT (930 bags) in April 1993 and this to the 200 MT from Nagson Irrigation Division. But the Divi- structure (April 1994) District Canal Division (Irrigation) want of funds. The Chief Engineer, Nagson Irrigation in- its transfer as the division had not started the work for prolonged storage by requesting the C.E. to arrange for to save the remaining cement from deterioration due to

16.2 The Department has stated that on receipt of the CAG Report (year ending 31st March, 1994) and the facts contained in the para having been brought to the notice of the Department, an enquiry has already been made in

CHAPTER XVI

Injudicious procurement of cement

(Audit para 4.5/CAG, 1993-94-Civil)

16.1 The Audit has pointed-out that Nagaon irrigation placed (July 1991) demand for procurement of 1350 tonnes (27000 bags) of cement with the Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation, Assam for utilisation in 71 on going schemes during 1991-92. Against this demand the Division received 1800 MT (36000 bags) between July 1991 and may 1992 of which, the Division utilised only 936.40 MT (18728 bags) between July 1991 and November 1993. The Division had transferrred 360 MT (7200 bags) to 4 other Divisions (including 47.50 tonnes to Dhansiri Canal Division). The Executive Engineer (March 1993) made efforts to save the unutilised cement from deterioration due to prolonged storage by requesting the C. E, to arrange for its transfer as the division had not started the work for want of funds. The Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation instructed (April 1993) Dhansiri Canal Division (Irrigation) to lift 200 MT from Nagaon Irrigation Division. But the Division lifted only 47.50 MT (930 bags) in April 1993 and intimated Nagaon Irrigation Division (August 1993) that the quantity not lifted is not in good condition. The Additional Chief Engineer, Zone II Irrigation in September 1993 reported after random verification that cement could be utilised in less important works. The Division stated (October 1994) that a further quantity of 240.45 MT (4809 bags) of cement had been utilised (between December 1993 and August 1994), partly in works and partly by way of transfer to another division without indicating the nature of works in which these cement was used. Thus, a quantity of 263.15 MT (5623 bags) of cement valued at Rs. 6.74 lakhs (@ Rs. 128/-per bag) remained unutilised in stock. Though according to information of Cement Corporation of India, the relative strength of the concreet made with cement reduces to 50 per cent after two years of storage. The cement procured in 1991 remained in stock over 3 years resulting in deterioration of quality.

16.2 The Department has stated that on receipt of the CAG Report (year ending 31st March, 1994) and the facts contained in the para having been brought to the notice of the Department, an enquiry has already been made in

the line as has been observed in the para. The following facts are hereby placed before the Hon'ble Committee for consideration:-

a) The initial tentative requirement of cement for the year 1991-92 in respect of Nagaon Division (Irrign), Nagaon, submitted during July, 1991 was 1350 MT (27,000 bags). But realistic requirement worked out on the basis of sanctioned estimate comes to 1890 MT (37,800 bags) for the year 1991-92.

b) Against the above demand, Nagaon Division (Irrig.) Nagaon, has received 1800 MT (36,000 bags) of cement against which 937 MT (18,740 bags) of cement could be utilised as progress of the works was not as per work programmed for the year due to various difficulties including constraint of fund and a quantity of 360 MT (7,200 bags) issued to needy Divisions including Dhansiri Canal Division (Irrign.) during the period July, 1991 and November, 1993.

c) Against the refusal to receive the cement by Executive Engineer, Dhansiri Canal Division (I) on the ground of inferior quality, the cement was tested in Government recognised laboratory and the quality of the cement was found to be in order and accordingly the stored balance cement was also utilised upto March, 1995 leaving a balance quantity of 102.70 MT (2054 bags). If the provision of the fund could have been made available as per demand, the entire cement would have been utilised according to the work programme. Moreover, above balance stored cement of 102.70 MT have also since been utilised fully in the repair works during 1995-96 and at present no balance is lying unutilised in the stock of Nagaon Division (Irrigation), Nagaon. Thus there is definitely a considerable delay in the use of cement which has been accorded by Audit in the para and some doubts have also been arisen in the minds of various Departmental authorities. So, for knowing the actual condition of the cement at later stage and reasons for non-utilisation in time, the investigation as pointed out at the beginning have been made and it is seen that continual constraint in the flow of fund is the main reason for such delay in utilisation of cement in full quantity in time. Though there was enough scope in consideration of work in hand, had there been steady flow of fund in the period involved. This Department surely does not approve

of any such delay, but it has little hand in managing a wholly unmanageable circumstances, which sometimes the Department is forced to compromise with. As experienced in the above case the Department will surely take up works and arrange for procurement of so much of cement in future as the flow of fund only permits.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

16.3 The Committee expresses its serious concern on the affairs of Department in utilisation of cement after prolonged storage. The committee wants to know the purposes/works in which the Department have utilised the cement and the condition of structure made thereof as at present. This may be enquired into by an officer not below the rank of Additional Chief Engineer and the report shall be furnished to the Committee within a period of three months from the date of presentation of this report before the House.

CHAPTER—XVII

Avoidable expenditure on rent of Godown

(Audit para 5.1/CAG, 1993-94—Civil)

17.1. The Audit has pointed-out that the Guwahati West Irrigation Division (erstwhile Investigation Division, Irrigation) received machinery and equipments worth Rs.43.54 lakhs between March and September 1991 against the supply orders placed by the Chief Engineer (CE), Minor Irrigation, Assam in February and March 1991 for installation in a Research Laboratory under Irrigation Department in connection with "implementation of Centrally sponsored Scheme—Strengthening of surface water (minor irrigation) organisation in the State of Assam". These were stored in a hired godown at Panjabari since the date of procurement on payment of rent amounting to Rs.2.07 lakhs upto April 1993. Rent for the period from May 1993 till April 1994 is yet to be paid. Tenders for construction of Laboratory building was invited in November 1992 and the work allotted to a contractor with the stipulation to complete the work by February 1994. The work was in progress (April 1994). Procurement of machinery and equipment two years ahead of the allotment of construction work of laboratory building led to idle outlay of Rs.48.54 lakhs and infructuous expenditure of Rs.2.07 lakhs on godown rent (upto April 1993). Though the manufacturer of the instruments in question had informed the Department that the laboratory equipments supplied by them were sophisticated and hence required to be stored in air conditioned rooms, they were stored in ordinary godowns. The facility of free demonstration service by the manufacturer also could not be availed of.

17.2. The Department has stated that the machineries and equipments under Centrally sponsored scheme to research works for scientific advancement of Irrigation projects was initially sanctioned by the Government of India, Ministry of Water Resources with 50% grant in aid from Government of India and a matching share from State Government which had only a component to support staff but with no indication for construction of Laboratory building. During 1989-90 order for supply of equipment valuing Rs. 2,03,538.00 was placed and the sanction made therefore was revalidated by the Government of India for 1990-91

with the anticipation of developing the Irrigation Research facility in the State, this Department availed the opportunity for at least procuring the laboratory equipments with 50% grant. The State was at infant stage for irrigation development and these equipments were essential for taking up. Unfortunately the anticipation of starting the laboratory building did not materialise in 1990-91 due to financial constraint. Under such a situation, the hiring of Godown was unavoidable. But due to consistent fund constraint the Department constructed a temporary shed to be used as laboratory within the campus of Guwahati Division and most of the equipments have been shifted to the premises of that laboratory shed. The permanent laboratory building is under construction, at Basistha since 1992 but could not be completed as yet due to poor allocation of fund. Such a constraint of fund was not anticipated by the Department and this has resulted to this unfortunate situation which, however, is beyond the limits of normal anticipation. The procurement of machineries and equipments were time bound as per Government of India's programme. However, after completion of the laboratory building the Department will utilise the equipments which are of great necessary to this Department. It is reported by the Field Divisions, that most of the machineries and equipments have been tested properly barring a few for which laboratory testing are necessary. Since bills are yet to be finally paid, this perhaps can take-care possible repair that may be necessary after installation of the equipments.

17.3. In course of oral deposition the Department clarified the following as sought for:—

(i) Machineries were in a ware House of Assam State Ware Housing Corporation where there is a approved hire charge by the Government of Assam. Initially the monthly rent was charged for Rs.6000/-PM for the period from 19th April 1991 to 31st July 1991 and for Rs.9000/-P.M. for the period from 1st August 1991 to 21st July 1993 due to occupation of more space.

(ii) Payment of rent has been made in full with effect from 19th April 1991 to 21st July 1993. The total amount paid is Rs.2,95,500/—.

(iii) Construction of Laboratory was taken up after the purchase of the equipments. Regarding construction of A/C. Room, the construction of the same has not yet been upto plinth level.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

17.4 The Committee is not satisfied with Departmental reply and the clarification made to the Committee. The concerned officers have not paid any heed in keeping the sophisticated machineries properly. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the person/persons at fault may be brought to book, and necessary action should be taken and intimated to the committee within a period of 3 months from the date of presentation of this report before the House.

3. Shri. G. S. Rao
4. Shri. K. R. Rajan Deb
5. Shri. B. R. Chandra Rao
6. Shri. Mohan Das
7. Shri. D. S. Mohapatra
8. Shri. Mustafa Shabid Islam
9. Smti. K. S. Kulkarni
10. Shri. D. S. Kumar Saikia
11. Shri. B. S. Kumar Prasad
- * 12. Shri. B. S. Gowda
- * 13. Shri. H. S. Nath Goswami

* Separate Bids Gowda and Harendra Nath Goswami have ceased to be Members of the Committee on their appointment as Minister.

ANNEXURE

The Members of the fore-going Committee on Public Accounts.

Chairman :

1. Shri Holiram Terang.

Members :

2. Shri Abdul Muqtadir Choudhury

3. Shri Gautam Roy

4. Shri Kali Ranjan Deb

5. Shri Bhupen Chandra Rai

6. Shri Mohan Das

7. Shri Derhagra Mochahary

8. Shri Mustafa Shahidul Islam

9. Smti. Renupoma Rajkhowa

10. Shri Dilip Kumar Saikia

11. Shri Bhrigu Kumar Phukan

*12. Shri Binod Gowala

*13. Shri Hitendra Nath Goswami

*Sarbasree Binod Gowala and Hitendra Nath Goswami have ceased to be Members of the Committee on their appointment as Minister.