

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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 11 A. M. on Monday, the 31st March, 1947.

P R E S E N T

The Hon'ble Mr. Debeswar Sarmah, Speaker, in the Chair, seven Hon'ble Ministers and fifty-eight Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Assam Valley Indian Tea Planters' Association

† **Srijut RAJENDRANATH BARUA** asked :

*59. (a) Are Government aware that there is an organisation known as Assam Valley Indian Tea Planters' Association which is running in parallel with the Assam Branch Indian Tea Association in the Assam Valley representing the Indian section of the Tea Industry ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state why this Association is not consulted in all matters taken up for consideration concerning the Tea Industry ?

*60. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it received a copy of a resolution adopted in the Executive Committee meeting of the Assam Valley Indian Tea Planters' Association held on 3rd September 1946, which reads as follows—

“The question of denying the privilege of selecting representatives of the Indian Tea Planters of the Assam Valley to the Committees such as the Road Improvement Committee, Labour Committee which are of vital interest to the Tea Industry, composed under the auspices of the Assam Government to the Assam Valley Indian Tea Planters' Association was considered. As such privileges were and are given to the Assam Branch Indian Tea Association, the only sister Organisation of the Association in the Assam Valley, this meeting of the Executive Committee of the Assam Valley Indian Tea Planters' Association deeply regrets the indifferent and discriminating attitude shown to this Association by the Assam Government and the Executive Committee take this opportunity of requesting matters in the future and to see their way to give them a chance now to select their own representatives to fill in the seats in the various Committees formed for advising the Government in matters which concern the Tea Industry”.

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state why no response was given to it ?

(c) Whether it received another representation sent by the Honorary General Secretary of the said Association on 13th December 1946 over the same subject ?

(d) If so, will Government be pleased to state if any action was taken on it ?

† The Questions were put by Srijut Dandeswar Hazarika on authorisation.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS replied :

59(a)—Government is aware that there is an Association known as the Assam Valley Indian Tea Planters' Association but this Association does not represent the entire Indian tea interest of Assam Valley as there is another Association called the Assam-Bengal Indian Tea Planters' Association which also represents quite a large number of the Indian-owned estates of the Assam Valley.

(b)—Government have been moved only recently in the matter. Government would welcome any arrangement which would secure co-ordination between the various bodies in matters concerning relations with the Provincial Government.

60.(a)—Yes.

(b)—It is regretted that no acknowledgment was made.

(c)—This cannot be traced.

(d)—Does not arise.

(Starred Questions Nos 61-64 were not put and answered as the hon. Questioner, Maulavi Dewan Abdur Rob Chaudhury was absent).

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table.)

Transfer of Shillong Cantonment

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY asked :

259. Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to move the Central Government to remove the Shillong Cantonment from its present site to the Happy Valley and get the whole area now under Cantonment, under the Shillong Municipality ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

259.—The matter is under consideration of Government.

Scarcity of Sugar

Maulavi Dewan TAIMUR RAZA CHOUDHURY asked :

260. (a) Are Government aware of the scarcity of sugar and of the difficulties of the people in not having adequate supply thereof ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state what measures are being taken to ensure adequate supply of sugar to the public ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE replied :

260. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Procurement and allotment of the Provincial Quota are controlled by the Government of India. This Government have repeatedly pressed Government of India for increase of the Provincial quota.

Scarcity of Mustard Oil in the Dhubri Subdivision

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEV of Sidli asked :

261. (a) Are Government aware that mustard oil has become very scarce in the Dhubri Subdivision and as a result it is selling at Rs.3-8-0 only per seer in the interior markets of the Subdivision ?

(b) Is it a fact that Government Agents for importing mustard oil could not procure oil at the rate allowed by Government ?

(c) Is it a fact that they had to suffer loss in the past owing to the high price they paid to the oil mill-owners in other Provinces ?

(d) Do Government propose to communicate with the Governments of exporting provinces and make arrangements so that the Agents may procure this oil at lower rate in order to keep down its retail price in Assam ?

(e) Is it a fact that Government have increased the wholesale price of mustard oil to compensate the said Agents at their request ?

(f) Are Government aware that the retail price will go up as a result of this increase ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE replied :

261. (a)—Government are aware that there has been scarcity of mustard oil in the Dhubri Subdivision. Government are not aware that it was selling at Rs.3-8-0 per seer in the interior markets of the Subdivision.

(b)—Quantities, so far moved through Government agents from exporting provinces were procured and obtained at controlled rates.

(c)—Government have no definite information, but Government would be obliged if the hon. Member furnishes detailed information.

(d) to (f)—In view of decontrolling of mustard seeds and oil by the Government of India, in respect of prices, movement and procurement, etc., the question does not arise.

Assam School Service Officers serving in the Supply, Textile and Procurement Departments

Maulavi Md. ABDUL LATIF asked :

262. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many officers were appointed in the Supply Department from the Assam School and Education Services ?

(b) How many of the above mentioned officers were appointed in the Supply (Procurement) Department ?

(c) How many of the Assam School Service officers have been reverted to their former posts up till now ?

(d) For what reasons they have been reverted all of a sudden ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that the Assam School Service officers were taken in as Inspectors of Supply Procurement on the definite assurance of their continuance till the scheme remains in operation ?

(f) If so, why these officers have now been reverted to their original posts ?

(g) Whether their services were demanded back by the Director of Public Instruction ?

263. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many of the Assam School Service officers are at present serving in the Supply, Textile and Procurement Department ?

(b) How many of them belong to the Assam Valley ?

(c) How many Muslim and Hindu officers of the Assam School Service and Assam Education Service officers of the Assam School Service

ed in Question (a) above have since been reverted (figures to be shown Valley by Valley) ?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Assam School Service officers were asked by wire to revert even without a day's notice ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the officers appointed as Inspectors of Procurement did not apply for the post and that they were asked by wire without ascertaining their previous consent to appear before the Selection Board for the posts ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction requested the officers concerned personally to accept the offer ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE replied :

262. (a)—Twenty-six.

(b)—Fourteen.

(c)—Thirteen.

(d)—They were wanted back by the Education Department.

(e)—No.

(f)—Does not arise.

(g)—Yes.

263. (a)—Seven in the Supply Department and 4 in the Textile. None in the Procurement Department.

(b)—Eight.

(c)—Assam School Service—

Surma Valley	Muslim	...	...	...	8
	Hindu	...	...	...	3
Assam Valley	Muslim	...	...	...	2
	Hindu	...	...	...	None
Assam Education Service—					
Surma Valley	Muslim	...	...	...	1
	Hindu	...	...	...	1

(d)—Yes. But a few days' notice was given to those employed in the Surma Valley Rice Procurement in view of the reduction in the staff.

(e)—They were chosen by the Education Department.

(f)—Government have no information.

Principles for allocation of lease-lead vehicles to private parties

Shri ABALAKANTA GUPTA asked :

264. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of applicants among different communities, who applied till now to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller for the purchase of new chassis of Lease-lead cars ?
- (b) The principle followed by them in issuing permits for such purchases ?
- (c) The number of permits allowed in each Subdivision of the Province, with names of permit holders ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE replied :

264. (a)—It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to controlled transport vehicles.

If so,—

Hindus	...	...	...	...	...	2,117
Muslims	...	...	...	...	...	920
Hills Tribal	...	...	...	...	...	73
Others	...	...	...	...	...	117

(b)—The principles for allocation of Lease/Lend vehicles to private parties — which were laid down by the War Transport Department of the Government of India—were that allottees must observe and be bound by Lease/Lend conditions, and that preference should be given to—

- (i) Substantial transport operators.
- (ii) Approved contractors employed on supply work, Munitions firm and other urgent War works.
- (iii) Individual small operators, preferably those who have already got permits for vehicles which are worn out and need replacement.

(c)—A statement giving the information is placed on the library table. The figures given therein are as for the time when the hon. Member first mooted his questions.

Establishment of Cattle Breeding Stations in Assam

Babu JATINDRA NATH BHADRA asked :

265. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The idea and purpose of establishing cattle-breeding stations in Assam ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that breeding bulls of unknown pedigree were imported from Bhairab with a view to improve the cattle of Surma Valley ?
- (c) What principles of breeding were adopted here for improving the breed of cattle ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Dairy Section used to pay a pittance of Rs. 3 (rupees three) to each keeper as maintenance allowance for each of these Bhairab bulls ?
- (e) Whether Government still follow the system of improving cattle of the Surma Valley by these Bhairab bulls of unknown pedigree ?
- (f) If not, what are the present arrangements ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

265. (a)—To grade up local cattle for milk and for draught.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Production of pure Scindi Stock in the farms and grading up of local cattle through Scindi bulls.

(d)—Yes, to the loanes ; no keeper has been employed.

(e) & (f)—Yes, in those areas where Scindi stock could not yet be replaced. But Government have been contemplating to replace the present arrangement as the result achieved is not satisfactory.

Babu JATINDRA NATH BHADRA : Regarding the reply to Questions Nos. 265 (e) and (f). Is the Subdivision of Sunamganj outside the scheme of this improvement, Sir ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : It is not, Sir.

Babu JATINDRA NATH BHADRA : Will Government please see that this Subdivision is supplied with bulls ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Question (e) is "Whether Government will follow the system of improving cattle of the Surma Valley by these Bhairab bulls of unknown pedigree". In view of that how the question of supply of bulls for the Sunamganj Subdivision can arise ?

Babu JATINDRA NATH BHADRA : Sir, there are no such bulls in the Sunamganj Subdivision.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : That question cannot arise. I now pass on to the next Question.

Shortage of rented houses in Towns

Srijut BELIRAM DAS asked :

266. (a) Is Government aware that for want of sufficient rented houses, particularly in the towns of the Province, many Government servants and business people are living at great hardship and inconvenience to themselves ?

(b) What steps Government propose to take for housing of these needy persons ?

267. Does Government propose to take necessary steps to lease out temporarily all available Railway and Government lands to the suffering public to make their own houses and thereby relieve the congestions and insanitary conditions of towns which the present housing problem has created ?

268. (a) Is Government aware that some lands which are not contiguous to the Railway lands and in the midst of civil population, were requisitioned by the Railway during war time at Gauhati town ?

(b) Does Government propose to ask the Railway Authorities to relinquish these lands for the benefit of the owners who are now living in rented houses or for the benefit of such persons who want immediate houses for living purposes ?

(c) Does Government propose to see that the Railway do not permanently acquire any land which are not contiguous to their own lands and are in the midst of civil population ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

266. (a) & (b)—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to the Unstarred Questions Nos. 84 (a) & (b) in this Session of the Assembly.

267.—This Government have no control over Railway land ; Government lands in or adjacent to towns are so few that they are all likely to be required for Government or public purposes and cannot be settled with private persons ?

268. (a)—Only one block of land not contiguous to Railway land but just near the Railway land was requisitioned for Railway use at Gauhati.

(b) & (c)—No formal request for acquisition of the land has yet been received. It is however stated that Railway proposes to acquire the land. When and if the proposal for acquisition is received and the preliminary notification issued, it will be open to persons interested to file objections. Government will consider the objections before passing orders.

Muslim Officers in the Department of Industries

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY asked :

269. Will Government be pleased to state the number of Muslim officers in the Department of Industries, Assam ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED replied :

269.—Fifty-two.

Stipends to the Students joining the Victoria Jubilee Technical School at Bombay

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY asked :

270. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of industrial stipends granted to students joining the Victoria Jubilee Technical School at Bombay, every year with the value of each such stipend ?
- (b) The number of such stipends granted in 1946-47 with the names of the stipend-holders ?
- (c) The year in which these stipends were first introduced with the names of the stipend-holders from that year up to 1946-47 ?
- (d) Whether there was any Muslim applicant for this stipend last year ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED replied :

270. (a)—Stipends are not granted annually. Generally, one stipend is awarded at a time and on the completion of the course. Another stipendiary is sent up. An exception was, however, made in 1926 when there were two stipendiaries at a time in the said institution. The value of the stipend is Rs. 40 per mensem.

(b)—Srijut Rohini Kumar Barua, B.Sc., was awarded a stipend in the year 1946-47.

(c)—The stipend was first introduced in the year 1924. The names of the stipendiaries from that year upto 1946-47 are as follows :—

(1) Babu Rash Behari Das	...	...	...	1924
(2) Srijut Gokul Goswami	...	...	...	1926
(3) Babu Birendra Chandra Das	...	...	...	1930
(4) Srijut Mohendra Nath Goswami	...	...	...	1935
(5) Mr. Osca Henry Roy	...	...	...	1940
(6) Srijut Rohini Kumar Barua	...	...	...	1946

(d)—Yes, there was one Muslim applicant for the stipend with the requisite qualification.

Damage of Paddy by wild elephants

Moulana MD. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN asked :

271. (a) Are Government aware that about 60 (sixty) Hals of paddy land owned by different persons of Circle No.3 of Ratabari Police Station, Karimganj have been destroyed by wild elephants during the months of November and December 1946 ?

(b) Have Government received any representation about that depredation ?

(c) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether they took any steps to protect the paddy of the poor cultivators ?

(d) If not, why not ?

(e) Are Government aware that though the cultivators had moved the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj, in time they did not get any help to protect their crops ?

(f) Is it a fact that the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj, had brought the matter to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner, Sylhet, who requested the Divisional Forest Officer, Sylhet, to take necessary steps and that the cultivators did not get any kind of help from them ?

(g) Are Government aware that the cultivators sustained a great loss for the depredation ?

(h) Are Government aware that if the elephants are not scared away, the people cannot cultivate that land in future ?

(i) Do Government propose to grant the cultivators concerned adequate compensation and take necessary steps to scare away the elephants ?

(j) If not, why not ?

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

271. (a)—Some petitions were received by the Subdivisional Officer and sent for report to the Forest Department.

(b)—No, not directly, but they have since learned of the fact.

(c)—Kheddah and Mela operations have been sanctioned in the Patharkandi and Ratabari thanas and so far 37 elephants have been caught.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—As already stated, action has been taken to deal with the herds.

(f)—No.

(g)—Government have no information as to the details of damage done.

(h)—No. It depends on how long the herd stays in the immediate neighbourhood.

(i)—The reply is in the negative in regard to compensation. Necessary steps have been taken by Mela and Kheddah Shikar. About 37 elephants have been captured.

(j)—As regards compensation Government cannot undertake liability caused by depredation of wild animals ?

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER : Sir, is it a fact that these 37 elephants caught are mostly *batchas* and the adults remain at large to continue large scale depredations ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : I have no information regarding that point, Sir.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER : Sir, will Government be pleased to obtain the information ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : Yes, Sir.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER : Sir, regarding Question (d). If it is accepted that the capture of 37 elephants is not likely to remove large scale depredation, why do Government consider that measures for the actual protection of cultivators' paddy are unnecessary ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : Protection by whom, Sir, the Government or by the people themselves ?

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER : The people in question have no means of protection of crops and so protection should be given by Government, or arrangements to protect the cultivators' paddy should be undertaken by Government.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : Sir, the matter will be considered by what method the cultivators' crops can be protected.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER : With regard to (e), from the replies of the Hon'ble Minister, are we to assume that cultivators applied for crop protection and did not receive it ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : What I want to say is this, the cultivators can call for men who have got guns even to kill the elephants when they come to destroy their crop. That is what they can do.

Mr. C. W. MORLEY : Does the Hon'ble Minister say that all these cultivators have got guns ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : I do not say that. All I say is that the cultivators can seek help from those who have got guns.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER : With regard to (g) Government state in reply "Government have no information as to the details of damage done". Are Government aware that repeated statements have been made in this hon. House in regard to the very extensive damage and Government have not troubled to make any enquiries or make a survey ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The hon. Member is making a statement. He should put his Supplementary Question.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER: Government's reply to Question No. 271 (g) is "Government have no information as to the details of damage done". Are Government aware that repeated statements have been made in this House in regard to the very extensive damage caused by wild elephants and Government have not troubled to make any enquiry or survey?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: I am aware of the statements that have been made in this House, but these are all general statements. If details of particular cases are given, Government will make enquiries about them.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Some specific details are given in Question (a), viz., "Are Government aware that about 60 *Hals* of paddy land owned by different persons of Circle No. 3 of Ratabari Police Station, Karimganj, have been destroyed by wild elephants during the months of November and December 1946?" That is very specific.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: The reply is there, Sir, that "Some petitions were received by the Subdivisional Officer and sent for report to the Forest Department". When particulars like this are given we make enquiries.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER: Am I to understand from the Hon'ble Minister that enquiry and survey will be made?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Yes, Sir, when detailed particulars are given we shall make enquiries.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER: Finally with reference to (j), is it not a fact that a person who preserves wild animals is under law liable for damage done and is Government exempt from the liability of civil law as imposed on an individual, and can Government state or cite any statutory exemption from civil liability?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Three questions have been put together; one is: Are Government absolved from the civil liability of making good for damages caused by wild elephants?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: That is a question of law which will have to be decided by a Court of Justice.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER: Is it not a fact that in law Government is a person and therefore similarly liable as a person?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: I will give the same reply, Sir, viz., that it is a question of legal opinion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: That is a question of opinion from the Government's lawyer.

Mr. J. S. R. TELFER: Can Government cite any statutory exemption from civil liability?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We have not got the Advocate-General here.

Settlement of Fisheries

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY asked :

272. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government sell things in auction including the Government fisheries to the highest bidders ?
- (b) If so, whether some departure has been made in the settlement of fisheries for the year 1947-48 in the Barpeta Subdivision ?
- (c) If the reply to Question (b) above is in the affirmative what step Government propose to take to redress it in this behalf ?

273. (a) Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state the actual revenue received by Government from the Barpeta fisheries this year, namely, 1946-47 ?

(b) Does the Hon'ble Minister propose to set apart a certain sum out of this amount for the improvement of the Barpeta fisheries ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

272. (a)—As a general rule in auctions things auctioned are knocked down to the highest bidders.

In the case of Government fisheries also this is the general rule which however, is in practice qualified by various considerations, *e. g.*—

- (1) whether bidding is speculative or reckless,
- (2) any of the bidders is financially unsound,
- (3) the previous record as a lessee of the bidder,
- (4) whether any of the bidders are entitled to preference, *e. g.*—local fishermen or co-operative fishermen's Societies.

The rule and the notice issued under the rules make it quite clear that the presiding officer is not bound to accept the highest bid or any bid.

(b)—The Subdivisional Officer reports that no departure was made.

(c)—Does not arise.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS:** Is the Hon'ble Minister aware that in the Gauhati Subdivision the officer who settled the fisheries did not obey any rules laid down here, and the fisheries were settled to the highest bidder ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: These Questions relate to the settlement of fisheries in the Barpeta Subdivision. I have no information at present regarding settlement of fisheries in the Gauhati Subdivision. If the hon. Member will give me specific instances I can call for a report.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

273. (a)—Rupees 1,84,615.

(b)—The income from fisheries merges into the general revenues of the Province and provision for expenditure is made on the basis of the demands and schemes submitted by the Department concerned.

*Speech not corrected.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS :** Are Government aware that no money up to this date has been spent for the improvement of any fisheries or transport of fish in the Province ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : This is a very general question, and it is difficult for me to answer a question of this nature.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS :** Will Government be pleased to spend some money for the improvement of fisheries and construction of roads for transport of fish, as fisheries are generally situated at out-of-the-way places ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : That will receive the consideration of Government.

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY : In view of the deteriorated condition of the fisheries, do not Government consider it necessary to accept a scheme for the improvement of the fisheries immediately ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : We have not got so many experts in the matter ; some of them have been sent for training. The one who is here has not been able to submit any definite proposal.

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY : When can we expect Government to take up a scheme ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Unless we get trained men to submit definite proposals after studying the situation in the locality, it is very difficult to answer that question, Sir.

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY : Will Government let the matter drift to the melting point ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : There is a proposal under the Post-War Reconstruction Schemes for the improvement of fisheries and for production of more fish in the Province.

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY : When Government are making so much money out of the fisheries, why can they not set apart some money for the improvement of the fisheries themselves ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : This is an argument, and not a question, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Will the hon. Member frame his question properly ?

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY : My point is that Government are deriving good income from the fisheries. But up till now they have not even drawn up a scheme for the regeneration of the fisheries. Will they allow this state of affairs to drift to a point when the revenue from the fisheries will vanish ?

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS :** As Government has derived a large revenue from the fisheries, will they be pleased to see that proper steps are taken to improve the fisheries ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : It is very difficult to reply, Sir.

Babu PURNENDU KISHORE SEN GUPTA : Sir, in view of the fact that fisheries are an important source of revenue and fish consumption is an important item of diet do Government propose to draw up proper schemes for the improvement of fisheries ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Sir, this is a question which relates to policy. Our difficulty is that there are no experts who can submit definite proposal. There are however some proposals in the Post-War Schemes as well as in the Industries Department but for want of expert advice Government have not been able to finalise the scheme and do not propose to waste money before the expert finally approve the schemes ; we do not want to waste money. On the other hand there is some obligation on the part of the lessees to keep the fisheries in proper order.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS :** Sir, have Government tried to secure the help of fishery experts from other provinces ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Sir, the people in the other provinces will be of little help to us as the Assam fisheries differ in many respects from the fisheries in the other provinces.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : But the Government of Assam have three experts.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : I do not know that. What I know is that one has been trained and two others have been sent for training.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : In reply to a question it was probably said the other day that there were three experts

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : I don't know, Sir.

Srijut LAKSHMIDHAR BORAH : Do Government propose to set apart a portion of the fishery revenues for the improvement of the fisheries ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : There is no question of setting apart a part of the fishery revenue for the improvement of the fisheries. Whenever it is considered necessary, provision will be made for the purpose.

Srijut LAKSHMIDHAR BORAH : Do Government call for any scheme from the district authorities ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : The main trouble is that the district authorities have very little idea as to how to improve the fisheries.

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY : Sir, are we to take from the replies of the Hon'ble Minister that the Government was sleeping over the matter so long ?

*Speech not corrected.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Government were not sleeping over the matter, Sir. The fact of increased revenues from the fisheries goes to show that the fisheries are improving.

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY: Sir, from the reply it is found that Government was finding it difficult to draw up schemes for improvement of fisheries for want of experts. Will it not be natural to deduct that the Government was sleeping over the matter for all this period?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I have already stated, Sir, that 2 or 3 persons were sent for training. Training, as you know, Sir, cannot be given in a day, and after training is complete they will have to visit different places to draw up schemes.

Babu PURNENDU KISHORE SEN GUPTA: Sir, is the Hon'ble Minister definite that the fisheries have improved only because the revenues from the fisheries have increased? But the fact is that the fisheries have actually deteriorated.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, this is argumentative and is a question of opinion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister thinks that this is very difficult and inconvenient to answer. (*Laughter*).

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS:** Sir, is it not a fact that fisheries have not improved and that Government are getting better revenue because of the high price of fish?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: This is also a question of opinion.

Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHOUDHURY: Sir, is it not a fact that fish is getting rarer every day?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, I don't think so. We are getting fish everyday.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Sir, is it not a fact that the Finance Minister is more anxious to get more revenues from the fisheries than the Industries Minister?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: No, Sir.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: Sir, may I know from Government whether they have engaged any special officer for the purpose?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: This is a futile attempt at fishing.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: The Hon'ble Minister said that the fisheries are to be kept in order by the lessees. Is there any officer to look after this, Sir?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, the Sub-Deputy Collectors and the Land Record staff look after this.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS:** Sir, the Hon'ble Minister for Industries wanted to make some statement. Let us hear him.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes, the Hon'ble Minister may make the statement.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED: May I inform the Hon. House, Sir, that one fishery expert from the Government of India is reaching Assam by the 15th of April? On his arrival he is expected to undertake an extensive survey of the Province along with our officers. Sir, only one officer was working in this Department since 1940 till the end of 1946. During this period he submitted several schemes but they were not accepted by Government. Two more trained officers have been appointed 2 months ago. They also are collecting all necessary information about fishery improvement which they will place before the expert of Government of India for his consideration. After that a complete scheme is expected to be submitted for consideration of Government.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Srijut Beliram Das raised the question of opening roads to fisheries, or in other words, for better transport facilities. That question has not been answered.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, as regards roads, no complaint was received up till now from any lessee. They made their own arrangements. Roads may not be necessary at all in some cases because fish is being carried by boats.

(At this stage Srijut Beliram Das rose to put more Supplementary Questions.)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, order, if the hon. Member wants to raise a discussion after 4 P.M. under rule 40 that may be considered. The matter has been well thrashed out.

Complaint *re*: non-receipt of Replies to certain Questions

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA: Sir, before proceeding with to-day's agenda I beg to rise on a point of order. Sir, you are the custodian of the privilege of the hon. Members of this House. Many hon. Members have complained times without number that they have not received the replies to their questions which they forwarded three or four months back. Now, Sir, it is an inherent right of every hon. Member to get their replies from Government as early as possible, when the questions are admitted. The other day also, Sir, I complained that some questions which I desired to ask and gave notice in the last Session of the Assembly have not been answered and so I like to draw your attention to Assembly Rule 34 which says:

"Questions which have not been disallowed shall be entered in the list of questions for the day and shall be called, if the time made available for the questions permits, in the order in which they stand in the list before any business is entered upon at the meeting. Any questions left over owing to time being not available shall be postponed to the next meeting of the Assembly when they shall take precedence in the list"

* Speech not corrected.

I beg to submit that questions which were admitted in the last Session of the Assembly should have got preference because the word "shall" is mandatory. But what we find is that many of the questions which have been admitted in this Session have been answered but the questions which were admitted in the last Session and carried over to this Session have not yet been answered. So, I beg to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Speaker to this rule and request him to see that the rights and privileges of the hon. Members of this House are not infringed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Premier is not present in the House now. Will any other Hon'ble Minister say anything about this?

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** I think with the prorogation of the Assembly the whole business except the Bills lapses unless it is renewed in the next Session. So if these questions are renewed and if we know the number of those questions, enquiries will be made.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: A number of hon. Members have complained that answers to questions which were submitted and admitted sometime ago have not been received.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** In some cases information had to be brought from the district. In these cases efforts have been made to send an interim report from the informations available here and other informations should be supplied afterwards when they are received from the district. If any particular instance is brought to our notice, we shall certainly enquire.

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** We do not understand why should we not get reply to those questions put in time and duly admitted? As for instance, I put certain questions regarding corrupt practices in regard to the distribution of foreign scholarships. Government promised that they would enquire into the matter and a report would be submitted. Even though I repeated the questions, there was no answer. I do not know why Government should not bring pressure on the departments concerned to expedite the matter instead of keeping those informations out from the public gaze. That seems to be the main object of some of the departments, so I request Government that particularly those questions which have not been answered should be given preference in the next Session. We want certain assurance from the Government on this point.

***Srijut BELIRAM DAS:** I tabled a large number of questions particularly with regard to the Public works Department with a view to bring out information, many of which could be answered from Shillong without being referred to the district office. I submitted those questions in the middle of January and they were admitted, but still I have not received any reply. I want to know from the Government why these questions were not replied in this Session.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: The hon. Members have not mentioned the dates on which these questions were admitted. They should have mentioned those dates, so that an enquiry as to why answers were not forthcoming could be made. After the questions are admitted they are sent to the departments concerned, but if after the date of submission of the questions to Government time is not sufficient for getting all the informations, sometimes from the district and sometimes from the Subdivision, it is very difficult for Government to give replies as promptly as the hon. Members desire.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Is there any method or device for finding out how many questions have been admitted and gone to the Departments and of these how many have not been answered? Is there any method of checking this, just as the Judge can by seeing the record, say how many cases or appeals have been disposed of and how many are pending so that the Peshkar cannot indefinitely shelve any record of a pending proceeding?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: If the Hon'ble Chair help us as for example, by sending a list of admitted questions giving the numbers, in that case it may be possible for the Minister to know the position quickly otherwise there will be delay. The procedure that is being followed at present is that copies of the admitted questions are sent to the departments concerned and the departments collect the information and then the files are placed before the Minister for approval of the draft replies. After the replies are approved by the Hon'ble Ministers with necessary additions and alterations they are sent to the Assembly Office by the respective departments.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the Hon'ble Minister suggest that duplicate copies should be sent direct to the Ministers for their information?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: If the Hon'ble Chair adopt this procedure certainly it will expedite matters.

The other day Sir, two hon. Members mentioned about only two questions relating to my department. I made enquiries so far as Mr. Dandeswar Hazarika's questions are concerned and I have already drafted the reply, I signed the same day before yesterday. As regards Mr. Faull's question, the difficulty is that though he sent the question on the 6th it was sent by the Assembly Department to Secretariat on the 17th and there were more than one set of questions relating to more than one Department, so it had to go to different departments, at first it was sent to the Finance Department. The Finance Department took up their portion and sent the question to my department. Now my department will take up its portion and will make necessary enquiries and then submit the file with the necessary information and draft for my approval with necessary additions and alterations. So the hon. Members will realize the difficulty of the Government in replying to such type of questions which contains a set of questions relating to different departments. Government is trying to give replies as speedily as possible and as far as possible. In some cases, when we have got to write to the District or Subdivisional Officer for certain information, if we do not get that information, say within 10 days, a reminder will be sent to them and this is the procedure we intend to follow now. I hope, Sir, you will not pass any uncharitable remark if I mention that the District and Subdivisional Officers are also engaged in other difficult tasks which you are well aware of; the time is not quite normal in some parts of the Province and therefore they cannot give adequate attention to this side. Most probably, that might also be one of the reasons so far as the current Session is concerned. Because in some cases although we wrote 17 or 18 days ago to these District and Subdivisional Officers we have not got any reply. In the meantime when there were agitations on the floor of this House as well as in the Council, we had to take up the questions and we may reply that we have called for the information. But, Sir, I did not like this kind of replies. This type of answers can be given even without making any enquiry. But we have taken the matter very earnestly and we shall see that the information sought for from the District and Subdivisional Officers are received within a reasonable time so that we may be in a position to give replies within a reasonable time.

I hope in the face of all these inconveniences as explained by me, the hon. Members will realise that we have also got our difficulties. I can assure them that it is not due to the fault or negligence of Hon'ble Ministers that replies are being withheld but due to other unavoidable reasons as already explained.

***Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** We do not accuse the Hon'ble Ministers. What we want to say is that there is something wrong in the Department.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: The present system is wrong. This red-tapism should go. It seems disgraceful that a matter which can be finished in the course of a day takes 4 to 5 days to be completed. The root is there. It will take us sometime to uproot it. Under the present system delay is unavoidable.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: My hon. Friend, Srijut Beliram Das has referred to the questions in my Department, viz., Public Works Department. As far as the questions relating to the Public Works Department are concerned, every question that has been sent to me is disposed of on the same day. If he refers to any particular question I will make an enquiry.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Srijut Dandeswar Hazarika has referred to a very pertinent question relating to the privileges of this august House. Every hon. Member has an undisputed right to put questions and get reasonable replies to them, if admitted. There are several factors which appear to control the replies. Time is an essential factor in this matter. In this connection I will read a circular letter issued from my Office to each hon. Member; that was dated the 29th October, 1946. As early as 29th October 1946, a circular letter was issued reading.

"I am directed to request you to be so good as to send notices of Bills, Motions, Questions and Resolutions, etc., from now on without waiting for intimation regarding date for commencement of the next Budget Session of the Assembly. I may also point out that it will be convenient for all concerned if such notices are sent sufficiently ahead and thereby giving more time to Government to collect the necessary information with regard to replies to questions etc."

This circular was rather unnecessary as the hon. Members already know what is sought to be intimated to them and also that after the Assembly is prorogued, questions lapse. I directed my Secretary, to issue the circular so that Members might not wait till they get notice of the commencement of the Session but send questions well ahead in time to enable them to get replies during the Session.

Mr. W. R. FAULL: It is very often the case that a question is not in existence until one comes up here for the Assembly.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This is a different matter. There in the case of such an eventuality, special consideration is always made within the limits of the rules. But questions like those regarding fishery and Public Works Department, as are mentioned now could surely be put in October or November.

Having said that, I am compelled to say that Government are also not alert in this matter. I am not personally conversant with their system of actual working but probably the Hon'ble Ministers have not got the means of checking as to how many questions have been admitted in respect of the subjects included in their portfolio, and how many of them have been replied to.

A suggestion has been made by the hon. the Deputy Leader of the House that if duplicate copies of admitted questions are sent to Hon'ble Ministers direct they may have easy facility for checking. I will try and see if that can be done. My Department is always ready and willing to help the hon. Members as best as we can. But our means are very limited. It is not unknown to hon. Members and to the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Legislative Department that when a request is made for any urgently necessary addition to the Assembly Department or even for small but urgent matters, the replies received from Government are not very encouraging. Perhaps the Secretariat enjoys better facilities in this respect. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to do all that they possibly can so that replies may be given in time. If in spite of this matter being raised on the floor of the House during this Assembly Session, Government do not pay necessary heed to the matter and if hon. Members feel the same inconvenience hereafter also, the matter may be put to the Privileges Committee of the House to consider as to what steps can be taken in the matter, because as the hon. Members very well know a Speaker under the Government of India Act, 1935, and Rules thereunder has not got the means to compel the Executive Government to do what is right and proper, except by very drastic measures. But I hope Government will not be unmindful of the grievances of the hon. Members ventilated on the floor of this House from time to time in this respect.

Condolence on the Deaths of Prof. Abdul Bari and Sir Azizul Haque

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we take up the next item on the agenda, I think, I shall be failing in my duty if I do not make mention of the sad demise of Prof. Abdul Bari, President of the Bihar Congress Committee who has been killed the other day. I need not take up much time of the House by detailing his activities which he pursued for the independence of our country. His life was a life of sacrifice and he was a great personality. He did all that was humanly possible to achieve India's goal of independence. I do not know, Sir, how that sad accident took place; the details about the same are still wanting. I hope, Sir, we shall express our condolence by standing up for some time as you would direct us to do and a copy of our resolution expressing our heartfelt sorrow for the sad demise of the great soul may be sent to the members of the bereaved family.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Was he once the Deputy Speaker of the Bihar Legislative Assembly?

Mr. PRABHUDAYAL HIMATSINGKA: Yes, Sir, he was the Deputy Speaker of the Bihar Legislative Assembly in the 1st Assembly and now President of the Bihar Provincial Congress Committee.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED: I think, Sir, the hon. the Deputy Leader of the House should also mention about the death of Sir Azizul Haque.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Just now I hear, Sir, about the sad demise of another notable personality, I mean, Sir Azizul Haque. Just now I have learnt of his sad demise, otherwise I would have certainly mentioned about his death before. Sir Azizul Haque was the Speaker of the Bengal Legislative Assembly and also a Member of the Executive Council of the Government of India. He also held many other distinguished offices and in the fitness of things we must condole his death in the same way as we propose to do in the case of the death of Prof. Abdul Bari. A copy of our condolence resolution may also be sent to the members of the bereaved family.

Mr. W. R. FAULL: Sir, my Group desire to share in the condolence message to be sent to the members of the bereaved families and in this connection I should like to add also that we express our disgust that Professor Abdul Bari should have met his death in the manner reported.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I associate myself with all that has been said by the Hon'ble the Deputy Leader of the House and hon. the Leader of the European Group. Late Sir Azizul Haque was an erudite scholar and a great son of India. He discharged heavy public responsibilities in various capacities as the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, as a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, as High Commissioner for India and also as the Speaker of the Bengal Legislative Assembly. India is distinctly poorer by his death.

The death of Professor Abdul Bari in the hands of dastardly assailants is an extremely regrettable and unfortunate incident. He was the Deputy Speaker of the Bihar Legislative Assembly during the last period. He was a selfless and indefatigable worker for the cause of the poor and down-trodden labourers. He spent all his life in the service of the country. In this connection, I also associate myself with what the hon. the Leader of the European Group has said that effort to settle political ideologies by such murders and violent methods is to be greatly regretted. India, at any rate, is not the suitable place for such violence. The trend of events during the last 3 or 4 decades has amply shown that the Terrorist policy of murdering people holding different views will never pay.

I will carry out the wishes of the hon. Members of this House and send messages of condolences to the Members of the bereaved families. Now let us all adopt the resolutions of condolences by standing for one minute.

(All the Members stood up for a moment.)

Statement *re*: election of member to the Central Textile Board

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I am sorry, Sir, I have to crave your indulgence in order to bring to your notice the fact that day before yesterday after I went out of the Chamber, I received a file wherein I found that the Government of India wrote to us to the effect that they were going to reconstitute the Central Textile Board and so they desired that this hon. House should elect a representative to be a member of that Board. They have also requested us specially mentioning the fact that as the House is on, it will be very much appreciated if the House elects the representative and send the name of the representative to them so that the next meeting may be held with the new members, otherwise the present system, which is a much condemned one, will continue. So, Sir, I would request you to kindly allow me to move a Motion either this afternoon or to-morrow and fix a date for election of the representative.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes, the Motion can be moved today after the Demands for Grants are finished.

Statement *re* decontrolling of controlled commodities

Mr. R.A. PALMER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I please make a very brief statement on a point of information. During the closing stages of the debate on food, the Hon'ble Minister observed that it was the unanimous opinion of this House that all controls should be removed. Though a brief opportunity was afforded for objection, our Group was not in a position to make any statement as we had not fully considered the implications of complete decontrol. We have

since discussed this and we feel that it is a question which requires prolonged examination in view of the serious consequences which resulted from a brief period of decontrol in 1943.

We would be grateful if Government would take note in addressing the Government of India that this section of the House desires to reserve its opinion on this very important question. We are, however, in full agreement that controls which are completely ineffective or discriminatory in character should be abolished.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : How can this explanation come in at this stage ? When the Hon'ble Minister of Supply was asking for the opinion of the House on this subject that was the proper time to express it then. Moreover, I think, the request to the Government of India has already gone by this time. This explanation becomes infructuous now.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : May I make my position clear, Sir ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : It is not necessary.

When the Hon'ble the Supply Minister invited the opinion of the House, he paused for a reply but nobody then said anything to the contrary and the Hon'ble the Supply Minister said 'I take it that it is the sense of the House that I should move the Government of India to decontrol the essential commodities.'

Mr. W. R. FAULL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the attendance at this Session has been poor and we have been operating at such speed that it was surely wrong for the Hon'ble Minister for Supply to accept that, since there was no immediate contradiction of his assumption, a unanimous decision of the House was indicated.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : He wanted to know the sense of the House.

Mr. W. R. FAULL : I consider he should not put it in that way if he wants the sense of the House. I think the question at issue is too great to be dealt with at such speed. I myself was not here when the statement was made.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : It was an important matter, the objection should have been raised then and it would surely receive due consideration, but it seems to be an after-thought and any objection on the particular point is obviously out of time.

Mr. W. R. FAULL : Sir, the procedure reminds me of that picture with the "caption "That's shell ! that was !"

Discussion on the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure charged upon the revenues of the Province during the year 1946-47

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Order, order. We pass on to the 2nd item, i.e., discussion, if any, of †supplementary statement of expenditure charged upon the revenues of the Province during 1946-47. May I take it that no hon. Member will take part in this discussion.

Then we pass on to item No. 3—Voting on Demands for Supplementary Grants for 1946-47.

†See Appendix "C".

Point of order re : Supplementary Demands for Grants

Mr W. R. FAULL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise on a most important point of order relating to the Supplementary Demands. After examining the printed lists of Demands we found that we were unable to examine the expenditure because no detailed statements had been supplied in the customary form of lists of new schemes. This form was utilised for the first Supplementary Demand presented at the last session of the Assembly in September and I have here the printed list of those new schemes as published in the Gazette. It will be seen that the schemes presented in September were fully explained and detailed analysis of all expenditure given : the number of staff to be entertained and rates of pay of each post supplied. Also, in this first Supplementary Statement full details of the cost of each new scheme in the current financial year and the ultimate annual cost of each scheme is also given.

We find the same practice continued, up to a point, in presenting the Budget for the year 1947-48. In the memorandum on the Budget new item statements have been supplied for all major heads as far as 50.—Civil Works. After that point there seems to have been a collapse on the part of Finance Department, but as far as major heads up to 50.—Civil Works is concerned, these new schemes were correctly presented in the form of new item schedules.

I will quote a simple example from the list in the Memorandum. On page XVIII under 37.—Education, General Charges, Scholarships, Creation of two Additional Post-Graduate Scholarships, the object of the scheme was explained in eleven lines of print. There is a detailed statement showing the calculation of the sum of Rs. 688, a detailed statement showing the estimated cost over a complete year and a detailed calculation on the ultimate cost of the scheme.

I have demonstrated that in the first Supplementary Demand in September last and in the Budget for the coming financial year, new item schedules for new schemes have been supplied in the proper form, but there has been no attempt made to supply new item schedules for the Supplementary Demand which is now to be considered. There is no difference in the rules laid down by Government in regard to the first Supplementary and Supplementaries later in the year, and the rules laid down for presentation of the Budget are equally applicable to Supplementary Demands.

As we were unable to examine the Supplementary Demands owing to absence of details, we addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Legislative Assembly with a request to obtain the new item statements before being required to table Cut Motions. You, Sir, very kindly extended the date for filing Cut Motions but we have still not received the new item statements which are essential. Some figures were supplied in response to our request but these cannot be regarded as being of any value at all and do not comply with the mandatory requirements of the Budget Manual. We maintain, Sir, that without new item statements, it is impossible for any member who has not access to the detailed estimates in the Secretariat to consider how this expenditure covered by the Supplementary Demands has been incurred. Without the details it is impossible to examine the schemes and the right of discussion and the right of voting Supplies are completely nullified.

The money which is included in the Supplementary Demand List has already been spent ; it is not a question, therefore, of being compelled to make difficult calculations on the basis of inadequate data, but of reporting to this House how the expenditure has been incurred. In such circumstances there can be no valid excuse for failing to produce the full details in the same form as has been done for the First Supplementary Estimate and to a partial extent in connection with the Budget of 1947-48.

It is an obligation of Government to show under each Demand what amounts represent expenditure on standing charges and what covers expenditure on new schemes.

It is necessary, however, to refer to a provision in the Budget Manual that even expenditure on old schemes, where it is a large sum, constitutes a new scheme and I would invite particular attention to the provisions on paragraph 55 of the Budget Manual. Even the reconstruction of a building costing Rs. 5,000 is a new scheme for purposes of the Budget. Under this rule projects which may be inevitable or obligatory and for which Government are entitled to anticipate the vote of the Assembly, must subsequently be submitted for the vote of the Assembly in a new item statement. This covers a new item statement. This covers increase in war allowances, flood relief expenditure, interim relief and various other items which can be found on almost every page of the list of supplementary demands. There has been no attempt made by Government to show what schemes, if these supplementary demands were to be passed, would create a permanent commitment and what schemes would be regarded as merely creating a commitment for the financial year. It is quite impossible to examine this list of supplementary demands and unless new item statements are prepared, the present list of supplementary demands is a meaningless collection of figures.

The defect of absence of new item schedules applies to every Supplementary Demand, from 1 to 27. I will, however, illustrate the defect by reference to 63-B.—Post-War Expenditure, Supplementary Demand No.27 for 59½ lakhs. Under this Budget head not a single rupee has hitherto been voted. All expenditure, therefore, is in pursuance of new schemes which have to be shown in new item statements. As a sub-head under 63-B, an expenditure of nearly 15 lakhs is to be incurred on Forests. The statement of the scheme is given in a few lines on page 40 and the broad division into minor heads is given on Page 36. In this list we have construction of roads—7½ lakhs, without a single work of detail and there is a similar absence of explanation either of figures or of the scheme in regard to all these items. In the subsequent lists which we were given there is not even mention of the scheme under 10.—Forests

Allow me, Sir, to contrast the detail of the Goalpara Tramway scheme, which was submitted at a cost of Rs. 10,824 in the first Supplementary, where details occupy the whole page of the Gazette (Page 1360) with the scheme for development at a cost of 1½ lakhs, which is not even described in the list of Supplementary Demands.

I have selected at random a simple scheme which is shown under 42.—Contingencies, F—Other Charges, Co-operative Collective Farming, at Page 39 of the list of Supplementary Demands. Pay of Establishment is Rs. 2,000, Contingencies Rs. 62,700. This is described at Page 43 in the following terms:—

“The provision is required for the purpose of starting certain farms on a co-operative basis particularly for the cultivation of special crops like sugarcane, mustard and pulses”. This clearly cannot be regarded as being any new item statement and there is a complete absence of explanation of what the money is required for, what staff is to be appointed, what expenditure is to be incurred with such large provision for contingencies. In the subsequent statement provided by Finance Department we have been given merely the repetition of the very same figures without the addition of a single detail.

With your permission, Sir, I will mention briefly the important mandatory rules to be observed in presenting estimates for a new scheme either in the Budget or a Supplementary Demand. It will be appreciated that the right of voting Supplies is perhaps the most vital of all the privileges of this House and if this right is curtailed it will severely impair the effectiveness of the authority of the Legislature. Section 98 of the Assembly Manual requires detailed estimates to be provided in the Budget, and detailed estimates have been defined in the Budget Manual—Page 16, Budget Manual, 13 (VII)—as the “consolidated statements prepared by the Finance Department..... combined with the Schedules of New expenditure”. The procedure for preparing estimates of new schemes is laid down in Chapter VII of the Budget Manual and the form actually prescribed and utilised by Government in September is given at Page 300 of the Manual. In paragraph 31 of the Manual it is expressly stated that the Explanatory Memorandum *will deal separately with each item of new expenditure.*

The procedure for presenting the Budget is virtually the same in other provinces in India although the actual language in the various Manuals of the Legislatures differs slightly. There is, however, no room for doubt that everywhere full details are to be supplied in connection with new schemes to be voted by an Assembly whether in the Budget or in a Supplementary Demand. In this connection Rule 144 (3) of the Bihar Legislative Manual is of great interest :—“When a Demand for Grant or any part of it relates to any new scheme or general revision of pay or allowances of a class of Government servants or creation of a new office or Department on a permanent basis, all material details of such scheme or general revision of pay or allowances or new office or Department shall be included in the Financial Statement”. If any further confirmation were needed it can be found in the instruction given by the Central Government to the Government of Assam in connection with the preparation of Budget Estimates for Central Agency subjects. These are given at pages 276 to 278 of the Assam Budget Manual and clearly show that Schedules of new items are to be provided for all new expenditure for inclusion in the Budget.

The present manner of presenting the list of Supplementary Demands is entirely unconstitutional. There is in fact no Supplementary Demand in the legal form before this House and there is, therefore, nothing which this House can be required to consider, and we would submit that the present item of business should be ruled out of order and taken up when Finance Department have supplied the essential material for incorporation in this Supplementary List of Demands.

As hon. Members may enquire what will be the effect of the postponement, I will venture to supply the answer. The money has been spent and if there is no vote in the present Financial year there will be an uncovered excess just in the same manner as there was in the previous year. This excess was considered by the Public Accounts Committee and voted recently by this House. We consider, however, that the procedure of leaving the expenditure uncovered as an excess over the Grants is the only way out of a situation which has been created by the failure of Finance Department to give estimates which they are required by Statutory Rule to furnish.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think this point of order should have been raised at the time when the Demand No. 27 was moved. Mr. Faull's principal objection is with regard to demand No. 27.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: No, his objection is with regard to the presentation of the Supplementary Demands in the present form.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: But mainly as regards Demand No.27.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: No, it is against the practice adopted in presentation of the Supplementary Budget.

Mr. W. R. FAULL: My objection is with regard to the whole of the Supplementary Demand.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Now, Sir, this procedure has been followed since the inauguration of the constitution in this House; this is the form that is being followed. The details and explanations given here are similar to those given in previous years.

Mr. W. R. FAULL: On a point of explanation, Sir. Will the Hon'ble Minister explain why we got this form in September and why we got this in March?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Faull need not be very anxious. I did not interrupt him when he was stating his case. There is nothing hearing instead of interrupting in this portion (Mr. W. R. Faull:—I have been schooled in this House).

Now, Sir, as I said, that was the procedure followed. The only difference that has been pointed out by Mr. Faull is that in September last when new schemes were given to the House, the explanation was quite clear. The last Budget was prepared by the previous Ministry and we did not have time to scrutinise the schedule of new schemes. We therefore stated that the schedules would be scrutinised and the new schemes would be presented at the next Session of the Assembly. We had no obligation to do so, but we promised that new schemes would be presented in September. Accordingly while presenting of the Supplementary Demands the new schemes were presented. But in Supplementary Demands relating to any of the previous years nothing more than the explanations now given was given and no objection was raised then. That is the procedure which had all along been followed since the inauguration of the Constitution.

Mr. Faull's objection is with regard to the new schemes. Sir, the Budget Manual provides that at the time of asking for Supplementary Demand the head of the department should explain why the need for the larger provision could not be foreseen when the departmental estimate was prepared, and he should show that in the absence of such provision serious inconvenience or loss to the public services will result. Now, Sir, we should see whether these have been fulfilled with regard to these Supplementary Demands. So far as the post-war schemes are concerned, my Hon'ble Colleague the Minister in charge mentioned that "Government have been proceeding with the sanction of the interim schemes in anticipation of the vote of this House, because the schemes are of an extremely urgent character....."

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Which provision of the Budget Manual is the Hon'ble Minister referring to?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I am referring to paragraph 94 at Page 37 of the Budget Manual.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : But that refers to the power of appropriation and reappropriation of the Government and other authorities. Is it the Hon'ble Minister's contention that when Supplementary Demand is moved for new services he is not to give any detail ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : But as regards these Demands they practically include no new scheme, Sir. It is only supplementary expenditure incurred in connection with old schemes. That has been the procedure followed in previous years too.

Now, Sir, as regards post-war schemes, the whole thing has got to be submitted to the Government of India for their approval.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : But in other matters also there is nothing which gives any adequate information about them.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : These were old schemes, Sir, and this procedure has been followed in previous years too.
Sir, I may also refer to paragraph 55 at Page 27 of the Budget Manual....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : That is a quite different thing.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : New service has been explained.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I am afraid the Hon'ble Minister is speaking without going through paragraph 55 at Page 27.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : The preliminary test to be applied is whether or not the Legislative Assembly has voted the expenditure of a similar nature in the past year. Similar expenditure was passed in the Budget and this is only a supplementary expenditure.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : But in some cases, however, the expenditure on a recognised service may, from its extent, be important enough to be regarded as new project.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : But the rules of procedure are there. This is the procedure which has been followed ever since the inauguration of the new Constitution.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : But the point has been raised that the additional expenditure should be treated as a new Demand in certain circumstances.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : But this is not so in these cases.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : But even so, in most items the horns are bigger than the buffalo itself.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : I will refer you to individual grants, Sir. Grant No. 1. Grant originally voted by the Assembly—Rs. 22 lack. The additional grant voted at September, 1946 Session—Rs. 28 thousand.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : But the Supplementary Demand is for Rs. 1,64,19,288. Sight should not be lost of the total figure. Perhaps before the war the entire revenue of Assam did not exceed 3 crores.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : I am coming to each item one by one. Item No. 1. If some clerks are appointed due to development of a department, such cases cannot be considered as new schemes, simply because due to increased work in the office of the survey, settlement and record operations and charges in England.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : It may be clear to one who knows the details. But is it clear to one for whom it is not possible to know the facts: It may be clear to the Hon'ble Finance Minister, in fitness of things.

Mr. W. R. FAULL : Sir, he has details, but it is not clear to me, not having the explanation before me.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : With regard to item No. 1, it is mainly due to no likelihood of getting any contribution from the Defence Department on account of the services rendered by Sub-Deputy Collectors in connection with the acquisition and requisition of land for the Defence Department, partly counterbalanced by smaller expenditure due to transfer of junior officers as colonisation officers. Then item No. 2. This is also of the same type. It is mainly due to the sanction of two temporary posts of office assistants interim relief with effect from 1st August 1946. This is also due to development of the office and cannot be treated as a new scheme. Item No. 3. The explanation is "Excess expenditure is due to increase in the sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps than was originally anticipated." Item No. 4. Grants originally voted by the Assembly Rs. 8, 10, 200. The explanation is "The provisions for all Post-War Development Schemes have been made under Supplementary Demand No. 27 but following the procedure adopted by Government it is necessary to provide money under the service head concerned by a corresponding various provision to the heads "63B". Ultimately there will be no expenditure under this head but for the approval of the Assembly a token supplementary grant of Re. 1 is presented. Then Item No. 5. The explanation is: "The increase is due to (1) granting of interim relief and (2) entertainment of more extra writers and temporary office assistants due to increase in the number of presentations and also due to short contribution to be made by the Mechpara Wards Estate towards the maintenance of the commissioned sub-Registry Office at Lakhipur in the district of Goalpara". Similarly all these explanations will show that this is due to development of certain department or due to increase of work. Item No. 6.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : But is that not vague? Is the mere knowledge that there will be development, enough for the hon. Members of this House to discharge their responsibility in the matter of voting rate-payers monies?

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI :** Sir, if any detailed information was wanted, this could have been supplied. Two questions were referred in the letter addressed to the Assembly office and handed over to us and we have supplied the necessary information.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The point of order that has been raised relates to the privilege of the Members of the Legislative Assembly as representatives of the people. He raised a general question as to the form of the Supplementary Demand. This is a constitutional matter.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: As regards the Supplementary Demand, Sir, I may say that many of these are not new schemes. It is only an expansion or increase of work in certain department. This may not be treated as new scheme.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: In this connection may I make one point clear, Sir? This is becoming more difficult for us to follow.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: If the hon. Minister thinks that the 'Gaddi' of an Hon'ble Minister is a bed of roses, he is, I am afraid, very much mistaken.

***The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** I am feeling that every second, Sir. You need not remind me of that. If there is an enemy, I do not know if I have one, he will also admit that.

The point of privilege has been mentioned by the Hon'ble the Chair. My point is this. May I request the hon. Member who has raised that point to tell us what particular item of privilege which the House used to enjoy before has been violated by us and whether we have not afforded the same privilege which the House used to enjoy before. It would be better if the hon. Member who has raised the point would mention that. With regard to Supplementary Demand if he can show that this used to be done which has not been done in this particular case, I shall bow down and also we shall be able to find out where is our mistake. He has mentioned about the Supplementary Demand of the September Session but he has conveniently forgotten that that was a special case. The new schemes which were usually part of the original Budget could not be included in the original Budget because a new Ministry came in and had not sufficient time to examine the schemes and include them in the Budget. Hence it was asked by the Government that they may be given that opportunity as a special case to come forward with the new schemes in the shape of Supplementary Demands. That should not be taken as an example.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Was it then a favour shown to the hon. Members?

***The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** To the Ministers, because at that time we were not able to go through the new scheme that was prepared by the previous Government. The policy of the previous Government was also changed and the policy of the present Government is not the same. Therefore they took time. That was a peculiar kind of Supplementary Demand specially for this year. But so far as other Supplementary grants are concerned I shall be highly obliged if the hon. Members who have raised this point can point out one instance that certain privileges which had to be given to the Members of this House have not been given in the current year. But this case which as the hon. Members know had to be made a special case for some special difficulties should not be cited as an example where such a privilege which was enjoyed by the hon. Members in the previous years was denied this year. I may say, that was not the privilege. I would like the hon. Member to point out so far as the Supplementary Demands are concerned.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the Hon'ble Finance Minister want to know the point from him? Has Mr. Faull anything to add?

*Speech not corrected.

Mr. W. R. FAULL : Sir, this is the Budget Manual of the Government of Assam and this book is a Bible to us in so far as the procedure is concerned. Mr. Mookerjee said that because some errors were committed and that some of the provisions were not followed, and the hon. Members of the House did not draw the attention of the Chair to that—therefore the rules according to this book lapse and we might as well scrap it. He claims that last September Government did the right thing and that was a special or accidental happening. But I appeal to you, Sir, as the custodian of the rights of this House to give your interpretation.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Evidently it is clear that this is the procedure which was followed in 1946-47 and the hon. Member, who has raised the point of order practically indirectly admits that this is the procedure which was followed in the previous years.

Mr. W. R. FAULL : I do not admit it, Sir. I merely quoted the Hon'ble Minister's statement.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Can the hon. Member show from any Supplementary Demand in which more information was given ?

Mr. W. R. FAULL : I am not here to prove the Hon'ble Minister's case, I am here to present my own.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : From the explanation it will appear that this was the practice followed in the previous years and which is being followed in the present year. The explanation and details are given like this, some more details were given in the September session as we had to present a Budget during the Budget Session without any new scheme. We could not then put the new schemes, as we had no time to scrutinise the schemes. At the time of making Supplementary Demands we prepared the new schemes and they were here presented before the House in September. This was an exception as I have already stated.

Now, from the explanations and reasons, it appears that under Grant No. 9 of Sylhet district and owing to the grant of retrospective effect to the existing rates of cost of living (war) and dearness allowance from 1st July 1944 and so on. So, no further explanation can be given than this for the amount already incurred by the Government.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Does the Hon'ble Minister propose to go through all the items ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : No, Sir, I am only trying to show from this that all other items except item No. 27 cannot be treated as new schemes.

Then Demand No. 12. The explanation is—"An additional sum of Rs. 20,000 is required to meet the cost of arrear dearness allowance and war allowance granted to officers and staff of the Government Arts College." What more details can be given ?

As regards the Post-War Schemes. At the last session of the Assembly in September my Hon'ble Colleague had already made a statement to the effect that Government were ahead with the interim schemes in anticipation of the vote of the House as the schemes were of an extremely urgent character. We could not present the schemes in September because they were not finally sanctioned

by the Government of India. As they were extremely urgent, we could not wait till the sanction of the Government of India was received. As they have had to be approved in principle by the administrative departments concerned, then approved in principle by the Government of India and then set forth in detail in order to be finally sanctioned by Government, it was not possible to present them to the House in the shape of a Budget. It was hoped to present at this Session Supplementary Demands in respect of those of the schemes that have so far been sanctioned by the Central Government. But on further consideration Government have decided that they should present a full Supplementary Budget when the whole picture is clearer and individual schemes can be shown in their proper perspective. They hoped that it would be possible to do so by the end of the year. This was the statement made by Hon'ble Mr. Mookerjee.

Then as regards item No. 27 of 59½ lakhs. A letter was received by us from the Assembly Office, containing the principal objections:—

“The list of supplementary Demands which has been supplied gives only the very broad outlines of the expenditure. For example under the head 63-B, for which no sums have hitherto been voted by the Assembly, there is an expenditure of Rupees 59½ lakhs, all of which must relate to new schemes. There is a very broad explanation given of the main heads under which this expenditure falls but no details as required in a List of New Schemes has been furnished”.

They particularly invited attention to items under 63-B-25—General Administration,—M (a)—Civil Secretariat—“An expenditure of over one lakh of rupees is proposed but beyond a broad classification between pay of officers, pay of establishment, allowances, and contingencies, no details have been supplied”. These are the objections.

Now as regards that, I would draw the attention of the hon. Members of this House to the particulars that are given at page 40 of the List of Supplementary Demands. Let us now see the first item. The main objection that is taken is in respect of 25.—General Administration—M (a)—Civil Secretariat Headquarters Establishment.

The explanation is—“this is to meet the cost of Planning and Development Department of the Secretariat whose function is to examine, co-ordinate, sanction and supervise generally the Reconstruction and Development schemes. Besides a Secretary and other Secretarial officers, the Department has a number of Special officers to deal with various aspects of work.” This is said to be a new scheme but it is in fact not a new scheme.

So far as general administration is concerned in item No. 25, the expenditure involved does pertain to a new scheme. The Secretariat staff, including the Secretary himself was formerly borne on the Secretariat cadre. That was not a new appointment. The officer was working in another department of the Secretariat. He was entrusted with the new department and was then transferred to 63 (B) and the work is entirely in connection with the Post-War Development. That is not a new department. In our appropriation accounts his pay is being drawn therein. With the increase of work in the Post-War Department this officer was placed exclusively in charge of Post-War work. Details were furnished to my hon. Friend Mr. Faull. Civil Secretariat—Pay of Officers, pay of the Secretary—Rs. 27,500. The Assembly office has got one copy and a copy was given to my hon. Friend through Assembly office. The expenditure relates to an officer who was in the Secretariat in-charge of other work but with the increase of Post-War work he was entrusted exclusively with Post-War Development Department. All the money that was shown as spent was recovered from the Central Government (Grant under Post-War Re-development.)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I am sorry I have not been able to follow the Hon'ble Minister. Is it appropriation or re-appropriation or is this a Supplementary Demand for Grant ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : This is Supplementary Demand, Sir. There was no new scheme. It is stated under head—General Administration, at page 36, item No. 25.—General Administration, Civil Secretariat—Appointment of a Special Secretariat Staff for Planning and Development. He is not an outsider ; he was an officer in our department.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : From the explanation given it does not become clear. At page 40 it is said : "This is to meet the cost of Planning and Development Department of the Secretariat whose function is to examine, co-ordinate, sanction and supervise generally Reconstruction and Development schemes. Besides a Secretary and other Secretarial officers, the Department has a number of Special Officers to deal with various aspects of work." This leads one practically no further.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : I am coming to that. After these particulars were furnished in the first page detail is given—pay of officers, pay of Secretary has been shown as Rs. 27,500, pay of the Assistant Secretary, Rs. 21,150, Special Officers Rs. 12,250, Industrial Adviser and so on and so forth. These details were furnished to him and after receipt of these details he did not ask for any other details. Mr. Hadi Hussain who was acting in the Secretariat to this department and the money was appropriated from the Post-War Budget instead of spending money from the ordinary Budget.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Then in that case Demand should have been for re-appropriation and not Supplementary Demands. If that be so, more money is not required. That is where I have not been able to follow. Was not the salary of the Secretary included in the ordinary Budget for the year ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : This is Post-War Budget.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : That particular officer's salary must have been included in the ordinary Budget for 1946-47. Mr. Hadi Hussain's salary was surely included in the Budget. If he is a permanent official then his salary could not but be included in the ordinary Budget. Then why do you come with a Supplementary Demand ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : This expenditure was not shown in the Budget because the interim schemes began from 1946.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : In that case if his employment started from the year previous to this, i. e., 1946, then why was not his salary included in the Post-War Department Schemes ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : This expenditure was not shown in the Budget because the interim schemes began from 1946.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : There was no Post-War Budget in 1946-47. It was only a new scheme of the provincial finances.

***Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN :** May I be permitted to add a few words, Sir ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : After the Hon'ble Minister has finished.

**Speech not corrected.*

***Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN:** It seems, Sir, that a point of order has been raised. Even if we concede, for argument's sake, that there is violation of the provisions of the Budget Manual, I do not think that a point of order arises at this stage because I would refer you, Sir, to our Assembly Rules to see whether the requirement has been amply fulfilled by the statement that has been placed before this House. I refer you, Sir, to rule 98. That is the only thing that is required ; every other thing is left to the discretion of the Hon'ble Finance Minister.

***The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS:** The Finance Department is the sole master of the whole thing.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It is an outstanding proposition. If the Finance Department is the sole authority in this matter, then in place of the Assam Legislature there ought to be a rubber stamp.

***Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN:** I refer you to Rule 98 (2).

"(2) Each demand shall contain, first, a statement of the total grant proposed and then a statement of the detailed estimates under each grant divided into items.

(3) Subject to these rules the Annual Financial Statement shall be presented in such a form as the Minister-in-charge of the Finance Department may consider best fitted for its consideration by the Assembly and a copy of such Financial Statement shall be supplied to the Members at least 14 days before the first day on which the demand for grants are taken up."

So, the only requirement that is made is No. 2. Demands shall contain statement of detailed estimates under each grant divided into items. That is required by the rule. The rest is entirely left to the discretion of the Minister-in-charge who may present it in any form he may consider best fitted for the consideration of the Assembly. So, even supposing there is lack of details, I think the hon. Member who has raised this point of order can very well get all the details from the Hon'ble Finance Minister even on the floor of this House and I do not think the point of order arises at this stage.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I think we should continue after 2.

Adjournment

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

(After lunch)

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I could not finish with the question that was put to me. If you would turn over to page 62 of the present Budget, the whole position will be clear. There the details of the items of expenditure have been fully stated and at the bottom it has been shown that the amount, that has been voted for, will be recovered from the Central Government, and it will be taken under the Post-War Heads. So, it is perfectly clear that it is an expansion of work and not a new work. I think, I am clear, Sir.

Now the explanation at page 41 of the Supplementary Budget relates to travelling allowances of the members of the Rural Development Advisory Board, which has been recently set up, and of Honorary Provincial Organiser, recently appointed. The provision is required to meet the cost of Officers of Government for Basic Education with Clerical staff and additional Clerical staff appointed in the office of the Director of Public Instruction. Then, Sir, there are other details which were furnished to the hon. Members and after these details were furnished to the hon. Member, no further details were asked by him.

Now, Sir, in the Budget Manual the rules are framed for the guidance of the Finance Department and the only thing the House is concerned with are Sections 78 and 81 of the Government of India Act.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Is the Budget Manual a public document?.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : This document contains rules and instructions for the guidance of the Departments of Government and other authorities in connection with the framing of the Budget and the Revised estimates of the control and receipts of expenditure, which vest in the Finance Department.

So, we are concerned with Section 78. It reads as follows: "The Governor shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before the Chamber or Chambers of the Legislature a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Province for that year, in this Part of this Act, referred to as the 'annual financial statement'."

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Wherefrom the previous portion was read out by the Hon'ble Finance Minister?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Its contents are to be found in the Introductory chapter of the Budget Manual of the Government of Assam, which runs as follows:

"Under Section 78 of the Government of India Act, 1935, an annual financial statement showing the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Province for every year is laid before the Legislature. They can discuss the estimates of expenditure other than those relating to salary and allowances of the Governor and other expenditure relating to his office for which provision is made under His Majesty's Order in Council. So much of the estimates of expenditure as is not charged upon the revenues of the Province under various sections of this Act is submitted in the form of Demands for grant to the Legislative Assembly which can assent, or refuse to assent, to any demand or assent to a demand subject to a reduction of the amount specified therein. The duty of preparing these important estimates and proposals for grants is laid upon the Finance Department under rule 17 (h) of the Business Instructions framed under section 59 (3) of the Act and it is empowered to obtain from the departments concerned material on which to base its estimates. The rules in this Manual are the rules and instructions laid down by the Finance Department for the guidance of officers and departments concerned to enable it to obtain the necessary material".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Can not a part of the financial rules framed under section 151 (1) of the Government of India Act be altered to conform to the changed condition under the new situation?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : That is a different matter, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister's contention is that these are the rules for the guidance of the Finance Department, but there it is laid down that it forms a part of the financial rules.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : I will have to look into section 151 which says "(1) Rules may be made by the Governor-General and by the Governor of a Province for the purpose of securing that all moneys received on account of the revenues of the Federation or of the Province, as the case may be, shall, with such exceptions, if any, as may be specified in the rules, be paid into the public account of the Federation or of the Province, and the rules so made may prescribe, or authorise some person to prescribe, the procedure to be followed in respect of the payment of moneys into the said account, the withdrawal of moneys therefrom, the custody of moneys therein, and any other matters connected with or ancillary to the matters aforesaid. (2) In the exercise of his powers under this section the Governor-General or a Governor shall exercise his individual judgment".

Now, how the payment is to be made and who is authorised to spend the money. These are, Sir, the relevant matters regarding which rules can be framed under this section. Any other rule regarding any other matter does not come under the purview of Section 151, Government of India Act. Budget Manual—paragraph 1 clearly says that the rules and instructions are laid down by the Finance Department for the guidance of officers and departments concerned to enable it to obtain the necessary material for the purpose of preparing the Financial statement.

Now, under section 78, I am reading the necessary particulars. "The Governor shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before the Chamber or Chambers of the Legislature a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Province for that year, in this Part of this Act referred to as the 'annual financial statement'".

The estimates of expenditure embodied in the annual financial statement shall show separately—

(a) the sums required to meet expenditure described by this Act, as expenditure charged upon the revenues of the Province".

The only obligation laid down under the Act is what amount of expenditure is charged upon the revenues and the sums required to meet other expenditure to be met from the revenues of the Province. No further details are necessary.

Then what particulars are to contain in a supplementary statement of expenditure to be presented before the House are laid down under Section 81 of Government of India Act which runs as follows. "If in respect of any financial year further expenditure from the revenues of the Province becomes necessary over and above the expenditure theretofore authorised for that year, the Governor shall cause to be laid before the Chamber or Chambers a supplementary statement showing the estimated amount of that expenditure, and the provisions of the preceding sections shall have effect in relation to that statement and that expenditure as they have effect in relation to the annual financial statement and the expenditure mentioned therein." These are the particulars necessary under the Government of India Act. That is why the rule that was framed by the Assembly Department also makes it clear. I would draw the attention of the hon. Members to that rule which is rule 98 (3) which says "Subject to these rules, the Annual Financial Statement shall be presented in such a form as the Minister-in-charge of the Finance Department may consider best fitted for its consideration by the Assembly and a copy of such Financial Statement shall be supplied to the

members at least 14 days before the first day on which the demand for grants are taken up." So, these are the details which are to be furnished. The point of order raised under the circumstances is not tenable. No privilege of the Members conferred by law and rule can be said to be infringed in any way.

Then as I have already stated the Post-War Budget or other Budgets are mere expansions. It is a question relating to expenditure necessitated by ordinary expansion of the Department. If any hon. Member goes through the explanatory note of the Budget he will find that there is no new scheme in it except expansion. In view of all these I think the point of order should be ruled out.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I crave your indulgence to add a few words to what has been said against the point of order raised by the hon. Mr. Faull, the Leader of the European Group, although it is not proper for me to intervene at this stage after the Hon'ble Finance Minister had replied. My excuse is, Sir, that after having listened to the debate I feel tempted to speak a few words on the point of order. Now, the Hon'ble Leader of the European Group has brought to the notice of the House the way and the manner in which the Government of Bihar present their Supplementary Statements before their Legislative Assembly, as the ideal to be followed by this Government. It seems, therefore, to me, Sir, that although the Members of the European Group, which play such an important part on the floor of this House in the conduct of the business of this Assembly, had Bihar experience behind them all these years this House was free from such a trouble of a point of order from them on financial proposals that were presented before the House by Government in the past—(Laughter). I do not know whether that experience has been so greatly reinforced this time as to make the New Leader of the European Group to ask Government to face this new trouble of a point of order, if I may say so, this imported new "Bihar trouble"—(renewed laughter). But, Sir, I now come to the point of order. It has been said that there is a privilege of the House, which has been infringed by the manner in which the Supplementary Demands have been presented before the House. But what is that privilege? So far as the presentation of Annual Financial Statement and Supplementary Statements are concerned, whatever privilege the House may claim, must be based on the provisions of the Constitution Act in that behalf and the rules framed by the House for the conduct of its business on the floor of the House. Now the two sections which are relevant to this purpose have been mentioned several times by my Hon'ble Colleague, the Finance Minister. These are sections 78 and 81 and the rule of the Assembly Rules prescribing to the manner in which a financial statement is to be presented has been read out, and it is rule 98. Now, these sections and this rule show the extent of the right of the House as to the details it can claim to have presented before it by an Annual Financial Statement and by Supplementary Statements. Under sub-section (2) of Section 78 of the Constitution Act the Annual Financial Statement is to show the sums required to meet expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province, and the sum required to meet other expenditure proposed to be made from the revenues of the Province, distinguishing at the same time expenditure on revenue account from other expenditure and indicating the sum, if any, which has been certified by the Governor for inclusion as being necessary for the due discharge of any of his special responsibilities. Then comes Rule 98, which provides that expenditure is to be shown only under some main heads and then under some sub-heads with some details. Now, these are all the rules which prescribe the manner in which Budget is to be presented and these rules are also to be followed in regard to Supplementary Statements. There is nothing in the rules to show what should be the limit of the details to be shown. Rather, there is one provision in the rules which leaves to the discretion of the Minister-in-charge of the Finance Department to decide how much details are to be placed before the House and how much are not to be

placed before the House. If minute details are to be shown, that will be a tremendous task and there is nothing prescribed in that behalf. So there has been some discretion left to the Finance Department. If I remember aright, Sir, in the Orissa Legislative Assembly the Finance Minister presented a Budget once without giving details, showing the expenditure only under the main heads, and the Hon'ble the Speaker of that Assembly ruled that the Finance Minister was entitled to present the demands as he liked. That ruling was given in that Legislative Assembly after the Section 93 Administration in that Province was revoked. Now I submit that in presenting the Supplementary Demands, the procedure that has been followed is sufficient and quite proper. It has been said that in respect of the Grants under Planning and Development the elaborate details of the Schemes should have been shown and the details under other grants are also quite inadequately given. But, Sir, in support of my assertion that all that is necessary has been shown, I would refer to the Demand No. 1. It would appear that the main Heads "A", "B", "C" under which sanction of expenditure has been asked for are there with expenditure shown under the appropriate minor heads arranged in the same way as in the Annual Financial Statement with explanatory notes showing why the excess of expenditure has become necessary. Thus the Finance Department decided to show details to that extent and not any more. The Hon'ble Finance Minister has said that it has been the practice, rather the time-honoured practice, to present the Supplementary Statements in the way it has been done this time. This was the practice in vogue in the pre-reform days also. It is only out of courtesy and in order to give facilities to the Members of the House to know fuller details than what are given in the Statements that some officers of the Finance Department are kept in attendance in the Assembly building to furnish more details whenever required by any Member.

There was the grievance made that details of the New Schemes have not been shown. But what is the definition of a new scheme, according to the hon. Member? I pause for a reply.

Mr. W. R. FAULL: I have already quoted the pages, Sir.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Sir, it is therefore necessary to see what definition has been given by the Rule in that behalf in the pages of the Budget Manual he has quoted. "New Service", "New Schemes", these are the two expressions that are found in the Budget Manual. Now, Sir, I shall read out rule 55 at page 27 of the Budget Manual. "Votable expenditure on a 'new service' must be specifically provided for in the budget either through the schedule of new schemes or by a supplementary or additional grant. It is difficult to define exactly the term 'New' in such expressions as 'New Scheme' and 'New Service', but in determining whether or not an item of expenditure comes within the scope of the expression, the primary test to be applied is whether or not the Legislative Assembly has voted expenditure of a similar nature in the past years....." Now, Sir, what is the primary test so far as this demand is concerned? The primary test to be applied is whether or not the Legislative Assembly voted expenditure of a similar nature in the past year. There is no doubt of the fact that the Legislative Assembly voted expenditure of a similar nature under some heads which have been shown. I may now read out the latter portion of the Rule? "In some cases, however, expenditure on a recognised service may from its extent be important enough to be regarded as a new project. Any scheme involving considerable recurring expenditure must be treated as new, but expenditure necessitated by ordinary expansion, such as the addition of a clerk to an office to meet a gradual increase of work, or the addition of a teacher to a school staff to meet gradually increased enrolment, need not be so treated. On the other hand if a school is raised from the status of a

Middle English school to that of a High school, the additional expenditure should be treated as a new demand." In this way it has been prescribed that it is the Finance Department which is to consider which is to be treated a "new scheme" or "a new service." In support of this we finally come to rule 56 which says: "If doubt arises whether particular expenditure is a new service or not, the matter should be referred to the Finance Department for advice." Here the Finance Department which has framed all the rules in the Budget Manual for the guidance of the other Departments say that if there is any doubt the matter should be referred to them. If the Finance Department say that a scheme is not considered as a new scheme then that decision is binding on all concerned.. ..

Mr. W. R. FAULL: Sir, on a point of information. May we take it that when a demand for a supplementary grant, supposing say to an extent of 5 lakhs, comes before the House, without details, we have got to be content, as Members of this Legislature, by being told that the Finance Department approves the expenditure. I do not think this should be the position.

* **Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN:** Sir, if the Government refuse to give details of the expenditure the House is entitled to reject it, if it so desires.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: It is a question of vote, not a privilege. The question is how much of details is to be given in the supplementary Statements. If any details beyond those given in the supplementary Statements are wanted by the hon. Members, the Finance Minister can furnish them in the course of his speech on the floor of the House or may cause the supply of these details to them in other ways. If the House is not satisfied with the details shown then the House has the right to reject the demand altogether. That is the position.

Sir, there is another very serious aspect of the question which should be also considered. These financial statements are really being presented by His Excellency the Governor because it is the duty of the Governor to cause the Annual Financial Statements, Supplementary Statements to be presented before the House. And therefore in all the Motions it is to be found that it is on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor that the demands are presented. Now, His Excellency the Governor has considered the Supplementary Statements and the Hon'ble Finance Minister has presented the Supplementary Statements on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor. If it is to be decided that a privilege has been infringed, Sir, then it will have to be held that it is His Excellency the Governor who has infringed the privilege of the House. So, these are the considerations, Sir, which, I submit, should guide your decision on this matter.

* **Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN:** On a point of information, Sir. Even supposing that there has been a breach of the privilege, if the Budget is presented in the form prescribed by our rules, can a point of order arise?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: So, I say it cannot arise, and the only remedy for the grievance that has been made is not that you should decide that Supplementary Demands will not be allowed to be moved, but it is for the House to decide whether the demands should be refused. The House have got the right to reject the demand altogether. The House can say

* Speech not corrected.

"our right has been infringed and therefore we refused to vote this demand". If the Chair undertakes to give a ruling that there has been a breach of privilege and therefore it would not allow these demands to be presented that would be a very serious matter as it will go to show that the Chair has exercised a right which belongs to the House. I shall appeal to you to consider this aspect of the question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: May I point out that on a previous occasion the same Hon'ble Minister said that it was for the Chair to say whether a Supplementary Demand for grant is necessary or not.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: If I remember aright, it was only for interpretation of the word "necessary".

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Yes, it was said that the Chair would see if the expenditure was *prima facie* necessary. It is not for the Chair to say that a privilege of the House has been infringed and therefore it would not allow the demands to be moved. Whether the demand is necessary or not is quite irrelevant so far as this question is concerned. In this case, Sir, I submit, that to say that a privilege has been infringed and therefore the supplementary demand should not be moved would be going too far.

Then, with regard to the supplementary schemes of the Planning and Development Department it has been said that these are all new schemes and that there should have been a list of these new schemes. As I said, Sir, sufficient explanation was given by the Hon'ble Finance Minister. We do not consider them as new schemes as defined in the Budget Manual. If the House consider that their right has been infringed by not treating these schemes as new schemes they have their course open to throw out the entire demand. So, I should not take any more time of the House. I have presented all the aspects of the question. But the voting on the demands should not be held over till the question of privilege is decided. You may take your time to decide whether there has been an infringement of the privilege of the House but in the meantime voting should go on, as I have shown that the granting or presentation of the Supplementary Demand is quite apart from the question of privilege.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: How can I put the demand to vote before deciding the point of order?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: As I said, Sir, voting is quite independent of this question of privilege. The remedy for breach of privilege is not that the demand should be thrown out by the Chair.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: But a constitutional issue has been raised.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: You may take time to give your ruling on this point, but let the voting go on and the hon. Members who feel aggrieved may try to see if they can succeed in throwing out the Demand.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Can I draw the analogy "let the man be hanged and his appeal will be heard later"?

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: If the Finance Minister can be hanged by the refusal of the demand it is not necessary to give a ruling on the point of order.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: We shall not be sorry at all.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will the Hon'ble Minister please enlighten me as to what will happen if the Supplementary Demands for grants are held out of order?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: The whole administration will come to a collapse.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: But the money has been spent. Is it correct to say that if the Supplementary Demands are not allowed to be moved, they will go to the Public Accounts Committee for scrutiny?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Government have also got the right to come up with them again. If the Supplementary Demands are rejected once, the Finance Minister can come again with the Demands. But there is some expenditure to be incurred during the current year also.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: What is the harm in coming with these Demands, with sufficient details, afterwards?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: We have already supplied all necessary details.

Mr. W.R. FAULL: Mr. Speaker, Sir.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, order. Enough has been said on this—the hon. Members have taken more than one hour 45 minutes. A point of order of very considerable importance has been raised by the hon. Leader of the European Group. The question is whether a Supplementary Demand for grants which includes new service is in order if it does not disclose sufficient details to enable hon. Members of this House to grasp the nature of expenditure and criticise it. I am thankful to the hon. Members who have given their views in respect of the point of order raised.

Section 81 of the Government of India Act relates to the Supplementary Demands for grants and the relevant rule in this respect is Rule 98 of the Assam Legislative Assembly Manual. Now, what is a Supplementary Demand and other ancillary matters bearing on it were discussed in detail in the ruling given on a previous occasion on the floor of this House which will be found at page 13 of "The Assam Legislative Assembly, Selections from the Decisions of the Chair, illustrative of the procedure of the House drawn from the Sessions of 1946". It is a fairly long ruling and I will not take the time of the House by reading it. I only hope that the hon. Members will go through it. At page 201 of the 'House of Commons Manual of Procedure and Public Business, laid on the Table by Mr. Speaker for the use of hon. Members, sixth edition', we find "An estimate must be presented for a supplementary or additional grant when (1) the amount, named in the ordinary estimates for a particular service is found to be insufficient for the purposes of current year; or (2) a need arises during the current year for expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the ordinary estimates for that year." In the Mother of Parliament only under these two headings a Supplementary Demand for grant is submitted—

- (1) when the grant named in the estimates for a particular service is found to be insufficient for the purpose of the current year,
- (2) when a need arises for some new service not contemplated in the ordinary estimates for the current year.

It is obvious that only under two categories, namely, when the voted amount for a particular item for a particular service is found insufficient to meet the expenditure under that item and secondly for a new service which could not be contemplated or which was not anticipated at the time of presenting the annual statement of expenditure, that is to say, the Budget, a Supplementary Demand can be brought forward.

In the matter of the democratic Parliaments exercising vigilance over Supplementary Demands I need not take the House into detail. It is a very well-known and well-established principle of budgetary scheme of finance that the Government should come up to the Legislature for expenditure for one year only once. But as it is found everywhere, the ideal does not always happen. Calculations are found to be fallible and almost always unforeseen circumstances arise and Supplementary Demands for grants are presented. As to the nature of the Supplementary Demands and what that ought to include and what that ought not to include, I refer to the elaborate ruling I just cited in which was also discussed the rulings given by my illustrious predecessor on previous occasions. I may only invite the attention of the hon. Members to one or two relevant passages. Says Col. Durell on Parliamentary Grants Chapter I, page 49, "It is a sound principle that one and only one estimate of national expenditure should be laid before Parliament during each session, for to render Parliamentary control effectual, it is necessary that the House of Commons should have the money transactions of the year presented to it in one mass and in one account."

Then again Mr. Justice G. C. Ghose in *Kumar Sankar Roy Vs Cotton*, 40 Calcutta Law Journal, 515 at pages 527-28 says :

"Supplementary estimates are always looked upon with particular jealousy by popular Legislatures because they tend to diminish the control of the Legislature. Reference may be made to the speech of Sir Austin Chamberlain in the House of Commons in 1921, where he described supplementary estimates 'as the weak joint in the armour of any Government'".

Now, it will be conceded by all that it is the duty and responsibility of every member of a popular Legislature to study and scrutinise and where necessary to criticise every item of expenditure from public revenue. The time is very short. Let us not dilate into the long historical background of Parliamentary system of Government. It is well-known to all that Parliamentary system of democracy evolved from the long conflicts, between the subjects and the monarchs or rulers over two matters, first civic rights and second expenditure from the revenues of the State. With the development of the democratic Parliamentary system of Government the duty and responsibility of every member of the popular Legislature to study the items of public expenditure and to check these have become all the greater. I feel sure, that there will be no dispute about it. Nobody will contend that it is not the undoubted right and the bounden duty of the Members to fully know how the expenditure from the State revenue is made. If it is the duty and responsibility of a Member of the Legislature to scrutinise and criticise the expenditure from the State revenues, how is he to do it? The first essential pre-requisite to enable him to discharge his duty is to know the details of such expenditure. If the theory which is advanced by certain hon. Member of this House, namely, that it is up to the Finance Department to decide what quota of knowledge will be distributed among the Members as regards the expenditure, is accepted, then clearly the hon. Members of this House will not be able to properly perform their duties or discharge their due responsibilities. If they are true to those whom they represent, I mean the people, they must have detailed information as to how the expenditure from the State revenues are being made. So, the theory that the Finance Department constitute the ultimate authority to decide as to how much of the necessary information is to be supplied to the Members of this Assembly may fit in with

the domestic budget of King Charles of England or Henry VIII of France, but that is out of the question here. I think, the House will agree with me that the hon. Members will be gravely concerned if that theory is sought to be pushed. If it does not suit Government to let the Members know the number of posts, the scales of pay of officers, etc. in a new service, then it will be a bad day for democracy and I must say that it is upto the Chair, who is the custodian of the privileges of the Members of this House, to resist such an attempt, such an encroachment, such an invasion on the rights of the representatives of the people. It is further argued that the Members should apply for information as to how the expenditures from the State revenues are being made and the Finance Department may be pleased to give it. I must uphold that it is not the business of the Members to ask for these informations; on the other hand, they have a right to be supplied with these and it is the bounden duty of the Government to give every necessary detailed informations in respect of new service on the Budget or in the Supplementary Budget to enable the Members to have a clear idea of the expenditure. The sole criterion of sufficiency in giving necessary details will be whether the information given enables an ordinary Member, not a talented Member—a talented Member might infer many things which an ordinary Member may not be able to do—to understand and form considered judgment about the propriety or otherwise of the expenditure. It was good of the hon. Leader of the European Group to ask for the informations. But I repeat that it is not the obligation of the hon. Members of this Legislature to ask for the detailed information in respect of a new Scheme; it is Government's duty to supply these.

Several rules have been quoted. These rules may or may not be sufficient, may or may not be defective but we have to look to the purpose and the facilities these rules afford to achieve that purpose. What is the underlying principle or purpose of a Budget before a representative House, I mean the Legislative Assembly? It is this that the Members will study, check and criticise the receipts and expenditures, cast their votes to the best advantage of the Province. Further it has been urged that it is for the House to accept or reject the Demands. There again I cannot accept the contention. If that theory were right the Party system of Government would be a mockery. The Government is run by the majority party and they can very well say, "We do not give the minority Party the necessary information but matters will be decided by vote". I think, that the question of decision by votes can come only after the hon. Members are supplied with the necessary data to form the judgment about the merits of a particular item of expenditure and if the Chair is truly the custodian of the rights and privileges of every Member of the Assembly whether he belongs to the majority or minority Parties it will be upto him to see that the minority Parties are not placed at such a disadvantage for want of necessary information to enable them to judge the propriety or impropriety of a particular expenditure.

Here we find under rule 98(2) of the Assembly Manual—"Each demand shall contain, first a statement of the total grant proposed, and then a statement of the detailed estimates under each grant, divided into items".

Now, what is the detailed estimate is defined at page 16 of the Budget Manual definition, *vide* rule 13(VII)—"Detailed estimates are the consolidated estimates prepared by the Finance Department from the various departmental estimates of ordinary expenditure, combined with the schedules of new expenditure". It is argued that the Budget Manual is for the guidance of the Finance Department. Whatever that may be, if the Supplementary Demands for grants do not conform to the rules prescribed by the Assembly Manual and the Budget Manual in this respect it is liable to be thrown out. Now, in the present instance we find that the total of Supplementary Demands for grant is Rs. 1,64,19,288.

Certainly for such a small province as Assam this is not an inconsiderable amount. It probably would constitute more than half of the pre-war entire Assam revenue.

Apart from the Post-War Development schemes, I find that the explanation given in Supplementary Demand for Grant for new service under other heads is not sufficient to enable the hon. Members of this House to get a clear idea as to the nature of the expenditure. Those who have not the advantage of knowing from any other source as to how the expenditures were made, perhaps will not find enough of data from this Supplementary Demand for Grant to form a considered judgment as to whether this expenditure is justified or not. And what is of a rather more undesirable trend of affairs is to advance a theory that this should be considered enough and that the Finance Department has the final say in the matter. The lovers of democracy, the lovers of Parliamentary system of Government, must consider such theories advanced from responsible quarters as a grave menace to the Constitution, and I shall be failing in my duty if I omit to sound a word of caution that if I happen to continue in the present position I must in future throw out any Supplementary Budget which will not give enough of data to enable the Members of this House to arrive at a considered judgment as to whether an expenditure, in respect of a new service was proper or not. I made almost a similar statement in milder terms, in my previous ruling but I must now make it clear that if in future any Demand for Supplementary Grants which consists of two classes of items, (1) expansion and development and (2) new services, does not disclose sufficient information to enable the hon. Members to form a considered judgment as to the propriety or otherwise of a new service, will be held out of order and thrown out.

Coming to the present, we find two things—firstly, that the expenditure was already made, and secondly, the Leader of the European Group sought and got the explanation from the Finance Department. Therefore, the objective of the Leader of the European Group in raising this point of order, has to my mind, been substantially realised and finally, as the present Supplementary Demand for Grant is in respect of new services, considered from the democratic standard as also from the point of view of rules, I do not think that I need hold that this present Demand for Supplementary Grant should be thrown out. Therefore, I shall ask Hon'ble Srijut Bishnuram Medhi to move.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

No. 1

("7—LAND REVENUE")

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.1,90,777 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "7.—LAND REVENUE."

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	22,16,700
Additional grant voted at September, 1946 Session	28,690
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	

Charges of Administration—

A.—General Establishment—

	Rs.
(i) Pay of officers	39,306
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	33,168

B.—Tahsil and other establishment—

(i) Tahsil establishment	Rs. 832
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G.—Land Records—

(b) District Charges—

(i) Pay of Establishment	40,000
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	50,000
(iii) Contingencies	7,000
	<hr/> 97,000

F.—Survey, Settlement and Record operations—

(a) Assam Surveys—

(i) General and Controlling Section	1,680
(ii) Reproduction Section	440
(iii) Traverse Section	16,360
	<hr/> 18,480

(b) Settlement operations—

(1) Pay of officers	603
(2) Pay of Establishment	16
(3) Allowances and Honoraria	865

—Charges in England	1,484
	<hr/> 507

Grand total 1,90,777

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister need not go through further details and he may now refer to the explanatory notes.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** The explanatory note gives the details and the reasons for these expenditures from A to K and I need not take the hon. Members through these items. In view of this I expect that the hon. Members will accept this Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That an additional sum of Rs.1,90,777 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘7—Land Revenue.’”

*Speech not corrected.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—(i)—Mainly due to no likelihood of getting any contribution from the Defence Department on account of the services rendered by Sub-Deputy Collectors in connection with the acquisition and requisition of land for the Defence Department, partly counterbalanced by smaller expenditure due to transfer of junior officers as colonisation officers.

A.—(ii)—Due to the grant of retrospective effect to the existing rate of cost of living (war) and dearness allowance from 1st July 1944.

B.—(i)—Due to the grant of interim relief and retrospective effect to the existing rates of dearness allowance from 1st July 1944.

There is one Cut Motion standing in the name of Babu Bidyapati Singha. It is out of order, because in a Supplementary Demand no Cut Motion of the general policy is allowed.

Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA: I have already submitted a note for the withdrawal of the Cut Motion, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It is not before me. Now I am putting the Supplementary Demand as a question.

The question is : .

“That an additional sum of Rs. 1,90,777 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘7.—Land Revenue’ ”.

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 2

(8.—Provincial Excise)

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 53,900 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head “8.—PROVINCIAL EXCISE.”

Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs. 4,77,600

G.—(b) (i)—Due to grant of interim relief to all the members of staff, appointment of two new recorders in Khasi and Jaintia Hills and retention of temporary Land Records Staff for the completion of the survey and settlement of Jamira deforested area.

G.—(b) (ii)—The excess is due to (1) the Travelling Allowance bills of Land Records Staff in some districts being cashed in current year, (2) the Land Records Staff doing extensive tour in connection with the flood relief operation and other miscellaneous duties and (3) arrear dearness allowance being drawn by the Land Records Staff.

G.—(b) (iii)—The excess is due to increase in the rates of wages for labours and miscellaneous expenses and payment of some pending bills of the previous year during the current year.

F.—(a) (i)—Due to grant of interim relief, arrear dearness allowance and cost of living allowance from July 1944.

F.—(a) (ii)—Due to acting arrangement of printers on leave and also to the grant of arrear dearness allowance.

F.—(a) (iii)—The excess is due to (1) curtailment of budget estimates on account of “Probable Savings” and (2) grant of interim relief, corresponding increase in dearness allowance, (3) increase in temporary staff for line cutting on the Sylhet-Tripura Boundary and (4) increase under head travelling allowance.

F.—(b)—Due to the appointment of special officers and peons and other charges in connection with preparation of forecast reports for resettlement operations.

K.—To meet the demand for purchase of stores.

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

A.—Superintendence—

Rs.

(i) Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	1,700
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	1,600

B.—District Executive Establishment—

(i) Allowances and Honoraria	33,000
(ii) Prohibition Propaganda	11,000

F.—Works—

(i) Original Works	6,600
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Total ... 53,900

The †explanatory notes explain the details of expenditure.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 53,900 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘3.—Provincial Excise’ ”.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 53,900 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘8.—Provincial Excise’ ”.

The question was adopted.

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

The reasons for excess are :—

A.—Superintendence—Pay of Establishment.—It is mainly due to the sanction of two temporary posts of office assistants and of the post of a peon to cope with the normal increase of works and grant of interim relief with effect from 1st August 1946.

A.—Superintendence—Allowances and Honoraria.—Due to grant of dearness and war allowance with retrospective effect from 1st July 1944.

B.—District Executive Establishment—Allowances and Honoraria.—Mainly due to :—

(1) More expenditure on account of travelling allowances of officers and Establishment due to extensive touring undertaken by the officers for prevention and detection of offences in the interest of provincial revenues.

(2) Payment of rewards to Government servants to the extent more than anticipated, necessitated by detection of a large number of important opium smuggling cases and (3) grant of arrear dearness allowance with retrospective effect from 1st July 1944.

B.—District Executive Establishment—Prohibition Propaganda.—The excess is due to setting up of a non-official Organisation in connection with total Prohibition of Opium.

F.—Works—Original Works.—Due to construction of Government quarters for the additional of a country spirit shop in the town of Jowai and (2) reconstruction and repairs of certain Patrol Party quarters in the district of Sylhet.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 3

(9.—Stamps)

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.9,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "9.—STAMPS."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	62,000
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for:—	
	Rs.
A.—Non-Judicial ...	6,500
B.—Judicial ...	2,700
Total ...	9,200

The details have been given in the *Explanatory Notes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:
 "That an additional sum of Rs. 9,200 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '9.—Stamps'."
 There is no Cut Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 9,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '9.—Stamps'."
 The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 4

(10.—Forests)

† **The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** I move for the Hon'ble Mr. Bhimbor Deori.

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Re.1 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "10.—FORESTS."

	Rs.
I.—Grants originally voted by the Assembly ...	8,10,200
Supplementary grant voted at the September Session ...	100

* EXPLANATORY NOTES

Excess expenditure is due to increase in the sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps than was originally anticipated.

† The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy moved the Demand in the absence of the Hon'ble Srijut Bhimbor Deori.

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

			Rs.
A.—Conservancy and Works—			
Post-War Development Schemes	...	...	14,72,300
Deduct—Amount transferred to “ 63-B ”	...	...	14,72,300
B.—Establishment—			
Post-War Development Schemes	...	...	15,400
Deduct—Amount transferred to “63-B ”	...	...	15,400
Total demand	...	...	Nil

The details are there in the † explanatory note.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Re. 1 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘10.—Forests’.”

There is no Cut Motion.

I put the question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

“That an additional sum of Re. 1 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘10.—Forest’.”

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 5

(11.—Registration)

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.30,031 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head “11.—REGISTRATION”.

I.—Grants originally voted by the Assembly

Supplementary grant voted at the September Session

...	Rs.
...	2,05,300
...	3,525

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

The provisions for all Post-War Development Schemes have been made under Supplementary demand No. 27 but following the procedure adopted by Government it is necessary to provide money under the service head concerned by a corresponding various provision to the head “63B”. Ultimately there will be no expenditure under this head but for the approval of the Assembly a token supply grant of Re. 1 is presented.

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

	Rs.
A. District Charges—	
(a) 2. Pay of Establishment	14,233
(b) 3 Allowances and Honoraria	13,500
4. Contingencies—	
(c) Other non-contract contingencies	938
(d) Contract contingencies	1,300
(e) B. Works—Repairs	60
Total	30,031

The details are there in the † explanatory note.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 30,031 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘11.—Registration’.”

There is no Cut Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 30,031 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘11.—Registration’.”

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 6

(12.—Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act)

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.3,30,633 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head “12.—CHARGES ON ACCOUNT OF MOTOR VEHICLES TAXATION ACT”.

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

(a) The increase is due to (1) granting of interim relief and (2) entertainment of more extra writers and temporary office assistants due to increase in the number of presentations and also due to short contribution to be made by the Mechpara Ward's Estate towards the maintenance of the commissioned Sub-Registry Office at Lakhipur in the district of Goalpara.

(b) The excess is mainly due to increase in the rates of dearness allowance with retrospective effect.

(c) Of the entire amount of Rs. 938 as asked for, Rs. 240 is on account of the rent of the Barpeta Sub-Registry Office building for 6 months which could not be drawn and disbursed for want of bill forms, Rs. 480 for payment of rent in respect of the Barpeta Sub-Registry Office building for the year 1946-47. No provision in the current year's budget could be made as the arrangement was made after the framing of the budget estimates, and Rs. 218 which represents the difference between the amount of Rs. 2,000 only sanctioned against the amount of Rs. 2,218 as originally estimated for 1946-47 budget. This amount is necessary as rent of certain Sub-Registry Office buildings was raised temporarily.

(d) Due to (i) increase in the rate of dearness allowance of the contingency menials with retrospective effect, (2) increase in correspondence due to the opening of three additional Sub-Registry Offices and (3) increase in price of materials.

(e) This additional amount is necessary in connection with the repairs to the Katigora Sub-Registry Office building which was badly damaged by the last flood.

					Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly...	...				5,41,700
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grants will be accounted for :—					
A.—Charges of collection—					Rs.
Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	6,900
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	3,030
					<hr/> 9,930
B.—Inspection of Motor Vehicles—					
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	28
Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	898
					<hr/> 926
E.—Other Charges—					
Grants to local bodies	...	...	...	...	3,29,777
					<hr/>
Grand total	...				<hr/> 3,30,633

The details are there in the printed list and the reasons for which this grant is necessary has also been explained in the † explanatory note.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 3,30,633 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ‘12.—Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act’.”

There is no Cut Motion. I now put the question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 3,30,633 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ‘12.—Charges on account of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act’.”

The question was adopted.

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. & B.—*Allowance and Honoraria*.—Excess is due to the grant of dearness allowance at an enhanced rate and extensive tour by Motor Vehicles Inspectors.

Contingencies.—Excess is due to the increase in contingent expenditure.

Pay of Establishment.—Excess is due to the grant of interim relief.

E.—The additional amount is required for giving grants-in-aid to the Local Bodies for improvement of ordinary communications and for flood damage repairs.
These grants represent the accumulated surpluses in the *pro forma* account of revenue from motor vehicle taxation which are available under previous practice for expenditure on local bodies roads, and which hitherto have been expended through the Public Works Department. The decision to make direct grants is due to the fact that shortage of materials and labour has held up Public Works Department works. A total grant of Rs. 5,46,527 has been sanctioned during the year of which Rs. 2,16,750 will be met from savings in the original provision under the sub-head concerned.

Supplementary Demand No. 7

(18.-B and 68-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works)

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 1,32,002 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head "18-B AND 68-B.—NAVIGATION, EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE WORKS".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	6,91,700
Additional grant voted at the September Session	3,71,595

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

18-B.—Navigation, etc.—	Rs.
A—Works	4,001
D—Grants-in-aid	1
	4,002

68-B.—N. E. D.—Productive Works 1,28,000

Total 1,32,002

The heads and sub-heads are stated in the Statement and the details are explained in the †Explanatory Notes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,32,002 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head '18-B and 68-B—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works'."

There is no Cut Motion under this Demand. I put the question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,32,002 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head '18-B and 68-B—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works'."

The question is adopted.

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Works.—The work "Training the Noa Dehing River" was undertaken at an estimated cost of Rs. 59,871 as a measure for preventing floods in the Dibrugarh Subdivision by diverting the course of the Noa Dehing River. A sum of Rs. 38,000 is required for expenditure during the current financial year. Of this, a sum of Rs. 37,999 will be met from savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Re. 1 to meet the balance.

The work "Protecting the Barali near Rupahimukh with three Rows Leets fencing in Sibsagar Embankment and Drainage Subdivision" is proposed to be undertaken at an estimated cost of Rs. 32,340 as a measure for eliminating the danger of a marginal embankment bursting and causing unexpected misery to the rayots of the locality.

Supplementary Demand No. 8

(25.—General Administration)

†The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 4,13,777 be granted to the Minister-in charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

	Rs.
1. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	34,39,900
2. Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for:—	
1. Head of the Province and Ministers—	
H.—Ministers	12,300
2. Secretariat and Headquarters Establishment—	
M(a)—Civil Secretariat—	
2. Pay of Establishment	28,700
3. Allowances and honoraria	15,800
4. Contingencies	28,300
	<hr/> 72,800
Expenditure on Planning and Development Department	1,12,950
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	<hr/> —1,12,950
M(b)—Publicity Department—	
Planning and Development Schemes	2,500
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	<hr/> —2,500
I.—Provincial Legislative Assembly—	
Allowances and honoraria	13,754
J.—Legislative Assembly Department—	
1. Allowances and honoraria	2,525
2. Contingencies	5,309
K.—Provincial Legislative Council—	
1. Pay of Establishment	988
2. Allowances and honoraria	2,580
3. Contingencies (Contract)... ..	710
	<hr/> 4,278

†The Hon'ble Mr. Baidyanath Mookerjee moved the Demand in the absence of the Hon'ble Srijiut Gopinath Bardoloi.

A sum of Rs. 4,000 is required for expenditure during the current financial year.

D.—Grants-in-aid—The demand under this head represents the contribution of Rs. 10,000 made by this Government to the villagers of Kuruabahi and Mariahola in the Golaghat Subdivision who of their own accord started constructing a very useful bund designed to save crops of a considerable area but who on account of financial inability could not complete the work.

A sum of Rs. 10,000 is required on this account. Of this, a sum of Rs. 9,999 will be met from savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Re. 1 to meet the balance.

68-B.—N.E.D.—Productive work—The works "constructing the Brahmaputra Bund near Desangmukh" is likely to be completed during the current financial year. The provision made for the work in the current year's budget proved inadequate on account of breaches caused by the floods during the year. An Additional sum of Rs. 1,35,560 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs. 7,560 will be met from savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,28,000 to meet the balance.

						Rs
(c)—Legislative Department	...	...	...	...	...	71
O.—Revenue Tribunal	...	...	...	...	...	17,557
Q.—Local Fund Audit Establishment—						
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	856
R.—Commissioners—						
1. Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	...	3,700
2. Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	...	1,500
3. Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	3,400
4. Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	300
						<hr/> 8,900
District Administration—						
S.—General Establishment—						
3. Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	1,65,509
4. Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	40,000
U.—Other Establishments :—						
(a) Process-Serving establishment	...	...	...	...	...	69,700
Y.—Charges in England—						
Expenditure by the High Commissioner	...	...	...	...	...	227
						<hr/> Grand Total ... 4,13,777

The details have been stated in the note and the necessity has been explained in the ††Explanatory Note.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs.4,13,777 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head “25.—General Administration”.

There is one Cut Motion under this Demand.

Babu AKSHAY KUMAR DAS : As the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge is absent, I do not like to move the Cut Motion, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 4,13,777 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head “25.—General Administration”.

The question was adopted.

††EXPLANATORY NOTES

H.—Due to the grant of retrospective effect to the existing rates of cost of living (war) and dearness allowances and increased expenditure on touring and telephone charges.

M(a) 2.—Due mainly to grant of interim relief.

M(a) 3.—Due to the grant of retrospective effect to the existing rates of cost of living (war) and dearness allowance.

Supplementary Demand No. 9.

(27.—Administration of Justice)

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.2,55,632 be granted to the Minister-in charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for administration of the head "27.—Administration of justice".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	Rs.
Additional grant voted at September 1946 Session of the Assembly.	10,58,100
	100

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

B.—Law Officers—

(a) English Law Officers ...	Rs.
(c) Mufasil Establishment—	1,230
1. Pay of of Establishment	
2. Allowances and honoraria	1,122
3. Contingency	10,000
	14,880
	<hr/> 26,002 <hr/>

M(a) 4.—Mainly due to the increased expenditure on postage and telegram charges and on other contingent expenditure due mainly to the rise in prices.

I.—Excess due to larger number of sessions of the Assembly.

J.—1. On account of cost of living and dearness allowance and higher expenditure in travelling allowance of the Hon'ble Speaker.

2. Providing additional accommodation in members' hostels, higher expenditure on stamps due to larger number of sessions, etc.

K.—1. Due to interim relief and increase in pay.

2. Due to arrear dearness allowance and increase in travelling allowance.

3. Owing to hiring of houses for the hon. Members, interim relief and dearness allowance to contingency menials.

M(c).—On account of interim relief.

O.—Due to the reconstitution of the Assam Revenue Tribunal expenditure under almost all the heads have exceeded the grant and there was no provision for pay and travelling allowance of officers under voted.

Q.—On account of supply of liveries and carrying of records from Newgong to Shillong.

R.—1. Due to the leave salary of the retired Personal Assistant to the Commissioner preparatory to retirement.

2. Due to grant of interim relief.

3. Due to the grant of retrospective effect to the existing rates of cost of living and dearness allowance.

4. Due to rise in prices of article.

S. 3.—Due to the grant of retrospective effect to the existing rates of cost of living and dearness allowance from 1st July 1944 and also to the increased rates of cost of living (war) and other enquiries.

S. 4.—Mainly due to increased expenditure on maintenance of pooled trucks, arrear dearness allowance and interim relief which are also admissible to contingency menials, higher outlay on postage and telegram charges as a result of increase in correspondence work and rise in prices of articles.

U. (a).—Due to the grant of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance which are also admissible to contingency menials, larger outlay on temporary process-servers and increased expenditure on process-serving charges owing to increase boat charges.

Y.—Increase in the share cost of High Commissioner's establishment.

Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes—For details please see demand No. 27.

D.—District and Session Judges—

Rs.

1. Pay of officers	...	...	...	13,459
2. Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	13,801
3. Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	17,131
4. Contingencies	...	...	...	18,605

F.—Process-serving establishment

10,980

G.—Deputy Commissioners Civil Court Establishment.

3,678

I.—Criminal Courts—

1. Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	15,095
2. Allowances	...	...	...	21,468
3. Contingencies	...	...	...	1,14,183

Grand Total ... 2,55,632

The details are given in the †Explanatory Note, given in the Supplementary Statement.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs.2,55,632 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ‘27.—Administration of Justice’.”

There is no Cut Motion under this Demand. I put the question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

“That an additional sum of Rs.2,55,632 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for administration of the head ‘27.—Administration of Justice’.”

The question was adopted.

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

B(c).—1.—Excess is due to retaining fees to the three Subdivisional Government pleaders of Sylhet district.

2.—Excess is due to increased number of cases conducted in several districts.

3.—Excess is due to increase in number of cases conducted by pleaders other than Government pleaders.

D. 1.—Due to additional temporary officers.

D. 2.—Due to additional staff for temporary officers and grant of interim relief.

D. 3.—Owing to the grant of retrospective effect to the existing rates of cost of living (war) and dearness allowance from 1st July 1944 and increased expenditure on travelling allowance.

D. 4.—Due to the higher expenditure under “Diet and road money to witnesses”, allowances to assessors and Jurors owing to holding of more sessions courts in Sylhet and Cachar, grant of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance which are admissible to contingency menials also and rise in price of articles.

F.—Due to the grant of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance which are admissible to contingency menials also and higher outlay on “process-serving charges”.

G.—Due to the grant of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance.

I. 1.—Due to the employment of more temporary staff to cope with the work owing to the increase in the number of cases and grant of interim relief.

I. 2.—Due to arrear dearness allowance.

I. 3.—Due to large increase under “Diet and road money to witnesses”, “Hospital expenses of wounded persons”, arrear dearness allowance and interim relief admissible to contingency menials and rise in prices of articles.

B. (a)—Due to increase in clerical staff, arrear dearness allowance and re-installation of the office telephone.

Supplementary Demand No. 10.

(29.—Police)

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional grant of Rs.23,76,058 be granted to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "29.—Police".

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	39,42,300
Supplementary grant voted at the September session		2,55,432

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

Rs.

A.—Superintendence—

Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	5,995
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	2,982
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	625

B.—D.E.F.—District Police—

Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	10,522
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	3,44,460
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	2,73,626
Deduct—Recovery from the Defence Department				...	+14,50,937

Hospital Charges :—

Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	1,548
Allowances and honoraria	728
Contingencies	17,469

River Police—

Allowances and honoraria	2,660
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Steam Launch Establishment :—

Pay of Establishment	856
Allowances and honoraria	2,671
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	37,915

F.—Railway Police—

Supervising staff (voted)	...	...	...	...	15,500
Crime and Order Police (voted)	...	...	...	...	15,457

G.—Criminal Investigation Department—

Pay of officers (voted)	...	...	...	...	5,332
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	62,806
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	11,051
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	9,620
Anti-Corruption Branch	...	...	...	...	37,575

K.—Works—

Original works	...	...	...	...	5,300
Repairs	...	...	...	...	52,427
Rates and Taxes	2,476

M.—Charges in England—

(a) Expenditure by the High Commissioner	5,520
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Grand total ... 23,76,058

The details are there in the †Explanatory Note on the Supplementary Statement.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional grant of Rs.23,76,058 be granted to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '29.—Police'."

There is one Cut Motion under this Demand.

Babu JAGAT BANDHU SIRCAR : I do not like to move the Cut Motion, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I put the question. The question is :

"That an additional grant of Rs.23,76,058 be granted to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '29.—Police'."

The question was adopted.

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. Superintendence

(1) *Pay of Establishment.*—The excess is due to the unexpected leave of the Head clerk and consequent arrangement made. Entertainment of orderlies for a temporary post of Additional Assistant Inspector General of Police to clear up arrears and grant of interim relief.

(2) *Allowances and honoraria.*—Excess is principally due to the drawal during the year of war and dearness allowance at the higher rate with retrospective effect.

(3) *Contingencies.*—Excess is due to the purchase of a type-writer.

B. D.E.F.—District Police

(1) *Pay of Establishment.*—Excess is mainly due to the grant of interim relief and inadequate provision in the original budget estimate and entertainment of additional drivers at an estimated cost of Rs.33,218 per annum.

(2) *Allowances and honoraria.*—Excess is due to the payment during the year of war and dearness allowance at the enhanced rates and inadequate provision in the original budget estimate.

(3) *Contingencies.*—The excess is due to the purchase of equipment and transport including wireless equipment at a cost of about Trs. 1,00 and 20 trucks at Trs. 1,00 to make the Police efficient which could not be secured during the war, and to the high cost of clothing. At the instance of the Central Government it was decided to provide the force with a wireless establishment and with 20 mobile trucks, which have both proved of very great value in actual working. Subsidiary causes were hiring of boats owing to flood and grant of dearness allowance at the enhanced rates, the cost of stationery articles which had to be purchased locally and the high prices ruling for other contingency articles.

Deduct—Recovery from the Defence Department.—The excess is due to the fact that the minus provision of Rs.14,50,937 made in the original budget on account of the Government of India's share for the Rail Force will not be adjusted this year. The Government of India has accepted the liability for the force only upto 1st September 1946 and Rs.8,50,000 on account of their share has been shown in the receipt side of the budget for next year.

Hospital Charges—

(1) *Pay of Establishment.*—Excess is due to the grant of interim relief.

(2) *Allowances and honoraria.*—Excess is due to the grant of dearness allowance at the enhanced rates.

(3) *Contingencies.*—Excess is due to increase in the cost of diet, the high cost of medicines and medical stores and also to inadequate provision in the original budget estimate, grant of interim relief and dearness allowance to contingency menials and the high prices of other contingent articles.

River Police—

(1) *Allowances and honoraria.*—Excess is due to the grant of dearness allowance at the enhanced rates.

Steam Launch Establishment—

(1) *Pay of Establishment.*—Excess is due to the grant of interim relief.

(2) *Allowances and honoraria.*—Excess is due to the payment of increased dearness allowance during the year.

(3) *Contingencies.*—Excess is due to the extensive repair and overhaul charges for steam launches which had to be delayed during the war and to rise in prices of coal.

(Continued in the foot-note of next page.)

Supplementary Demand No. 11.

(37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian.)

†**The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.7,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian Education."

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs.
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for:—	88,500
A. Government Secondary schools—	
4. Contingencies—	
Boarding charges (Non-contract contingency)	Rs.
Dearness allowance (Contract contingency)	6,500
	1,000
Total	7,500

The details are there in the ††Explanatory Note;

(Continued from the foot-note of pre-page.)

F. Railway Police

Supervising staff.—

(1) *Pay of officers (voted).*—Excess is due to the fact that no provision was made in the budget under this head, the expectation being that the post would be held by an officer whose pay is charged.

(2) *Pay of Establishment.*—Excess is due to the grant of interim relief.

(3) *Allowances and honoraria.*—Excess is due to the posting of an officer of the Provincial Cadre and payment of war and dearness allowance at the enhanced rates.

(4) *Contingencies.*—Excess is due to the increase in the prices of Contingent articles.

Crime and Order Police—

(1) *Allowances and honoraria.*—Excess is due to the payment of increased dearness allowance.

(2) *Contingencies.*—Excess is due to the rise in prices of articles of clothing and to the purchase of furniture for new beat posts.

G. Criminal Investigation Department

(1) *Pay of officers (voted).*—Excess is due to the posting of officers on higher pay.

(2) *Pay of Establishment.*—Excess is due to the grant of interim relief and entertainment of a staff for Wireless Telegraphists to operate the equipment already mentioned, at an estimated cost of Rs.55,176 per annum.

(3) *Allowances and honoraria.*—Excess is due to the grant of increased war and dearness allowance and extensive touring of officers.

(4) *Contingencies.*—Excess is due to the purchase of clothing and to the purchase of furniture for the wireless operative staff.

(5) The expenditure represents cost of establishment of the Anti-Corruption Branch recently started by the Government in the Police Department to combat corruption in the services of the Province.

K. Works

(1) *Original works.*—Excess is due to the reconstruction of Police buildings, which could be postponed no longer.

(2) *Repairs.*—Excess is due to the extensive repairs of Police and Railforce buildings damaged by flood.

(3) *Rates and taxes.*—Excess is due to the payment of arrear taxes. The increased expenditure on payment of enhanced rates of dearness allowance and war allowance is partially covered by recovery from the Government of India on account of forces paid by the Centre.

M. Charges in England

Due to increased expenditure on stores purchased from England.

†† EXPLANATORY NOTES
An additional amount of Rs.6,500 is required to meet the increased expenditure due to restoration of Boarding establishment of the Pinemount School. The provision made in the Budget for the purpose proved inadequate.

A sum of Rs.1,000 is required to meet the cost of arrear dearness allowance and interim relief for the contingency menials of the school.

†**The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** moved the Supplementary Demand in the absence of the Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs.7,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head—'37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian Education'."

There is no Cut Motion under this Demand, and so I put the question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the additional sum of Rs.7,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head—'37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian Education'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 12

37.—Education (other than European)

*The Hon'ble BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.6,08,710 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "37.—Education (other than European)".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	59,93,900
Supplementary grant voted in September session ...	4,54,622
II. Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	
University Education—	
A. Government Arts Colleges—	Rs.
(3) Allowances and Honoraria	20,000
(4) Contingencies (Contract)	27,000
C. Government Professional Colleges—	
(b) Training College	1,200
Secondary Education—	
E. Government Secondary Schools—	
(a) Secondary schools for boys—	
2. Pay of establishment	14,000
3. Allowances and Honoraria	37,000
4. Contingencies (Contract)	12,000
(b) Secondary Schools for girls—	
2. Pay of establishment	2,700
3. Allowances and Honoraria	8,000
4. Contingencies (Contract)	6,000
F. Direct grants to non-Government Secondary Schools.	30,100
G. Grants to Local Bodies for Secondary Schools	40,100

*The Hon'ble Mr. Baidyanath Mookherjee moved the Demand in the absence of the Hon'ble Srijut Gopinath Bardoloi.

I. Government Primary Schools—	Rs.
2. Allowances and Honoraria	16,000
J. Grants to Local Bodies for Primary Education	2,51,695
K. Direct grants to non-Government Primary Schools.	51,500
M. Government Special Schools—	
(b) Institute for higher Sanskrit learning at Sylhet—	
2. Pay of establishment	300
3. Allowances and Honoraria	800
4. Contingencies (Contract)	200
Planning and Development Schemes	47,800
Deduct—Amount transferred to “63B”	—47,800
N. Direct grants to non-Government Special Schools.	13,400
General Charges—	
Q. Direction—	
1. Pay of officers	6,285
2. Pay of establishment	4,800
3. Allowances and Honoraria	10,000
Planning and Development Schemes	11,900
Deduct—Amount transferred to “63B”	—11,900
R. Inspection—	
2. Pay of establishment	18,000
3. Allowances and Honoraria	21,000
T. Miscellaneous—	
(d) Other miscellaneous charges—	
1. Allowances and Honoraria	2,000
2. Grants	2,350
Planning and Development Schemes	10,500
Deduct—Amount transferred to “63B”	—10,500
V. Charges in England	12,286
Total	6,08,710

The details are there in the †Explanatory Note.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That an additional sum of Rs. 6,08,710 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ‘37.—Education (other than European)’.”

There is no Cut Motion. So I put the question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is: “That an additional sum of Rs. 6,08,710 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ‘37.—Education (other than European)’.”

The question was adopted.

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

- A. (3) An additional sum of Rs. 20,000 is required to meet the cost of arrear dearness allowance and war allowance granted to officers and staff of the Government Art Colleges.
 (4) A sum of Rs. 27,000 is required to meet the cost of (1) arrear dearness allowance and interim relief granted to the contingency menials of colleges, (2) increase of science seats in the Cotton College and (3) purchase of furniture, etc., for hostels and hospital attached to the Cotton College.

(Continued in the foot-note of next page.)

(Continue from the foot note of pre-page)—

C. A sum of Rs. 1,200 is required to sanction an additional grant to the St. Edmund's College, Shillong, in connection with the deputation of three more teachers of Government Aided Schools for B. T. Training.

E.(a) Additional sums of Rs. 14,000, Rs. 37,000 and Rs. 12,000 are required to meet the cost of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance granted to teaching staff, clerks, etc., including contingency menials of Government Schools for boys.

(b) The sum of Rs. 7,200, Rs. 8,000 and 3,000 are required to meet the cost of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance granted to teaching staff, clerks, etc., including contingency menials of Government Girls' Schools.

G. A sum of Rs. 6,000 is required for granting dearness allowance to Middle Vernacular School teachers as the provision made in the budget for the purpose proved inadequate. Another sum of Rs. 34,100 is needed to meet the cost of a flat rate increased pay granted to Middle Vernacular School teachers. The provision made for the purpose through a schedule fell short of actual requirement due to under-estimation as the accurate number of teachers under Local Bodies was not available at that time.

F. (a) A sum of Rs.30,000 is required for granting dearness allowance to teachers of aided secondary schools as the provision made in the budget fell short of actual requirement.

(b) Provision was made for organising six Training Centres—two for male and one for female teachers in each valley for training of 50 Primary School teachers in each centre. These centres were to be attached to six selected Government High Schools where there were B. T. teachers on the staff.

It is now proposed to organise the six training centres on aided basis in six selected Government Aided High Schools. As there is provision in the current year's budget for organising the six training Centres in six selected Government Schools made through a budget schedule and included in the list of supplementary grants, a supplementary grant of Rs. 100 (One hundred) only is sought for. The proposed change will involve no additional expenditure but merely a transfer of provision from one head to the other.

I. A sum of Rs. 16,000 is required for granting arrear dearness allowance to teachers of Government primary schools.

J. An additional amount of Rs. 2,51,695 is needed to meet the cost of dearness allowance granted to Lower Primary School teachers under Boards and also to meet the cost of arrear dearness allowance of such teachers under some Boards. The provision made in the budget proved inadequate of actual requirement.

K. A sum of Rs. 51,500 is required to meet the cost of dearness allowance granted to non-Government primary schools as inadequate provision was made in the budget due to under estimation at lower rates.

M. The additional amount of Rs. 300, Rs. 800 and Rs. 200 are needed to meet the cost of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance granted to the staff of the Sylhet Sanskrit College including its contingency menials and also to meet partly the cost of travelling allowance for the Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Sanskrit Education for his journey in connection with the development of Aurvedic classes at Gauhati.

N. A sum of Rs. 13,400 is required for granting dearness allowance to teachers of new Madrassas brought on to the aided list and for granting increased rate of dearness allowance to Pandits of aided Tols as in the case of Primary School teachers.

Q. 1. A sum of Rs. 6,285 is required due to leave granted to Mr. A. Lais and appointment of a special officer for primary education, for which no provision exists in the budget.

2. A sum of Rs. 4,800 is required for granting interim relief and appointment of staff of special officer for Primary Education.

3. A sum of Rs. 10,000 is needed for granting arrear war allowance and dearness allowance of the offices of the Director of Public Instruction and Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muslim Education and for war allowance and dearness allowance of special officer and his staff.

R. The sums of Rs. 18,000 and Rs. 21,000 are required for interim relief, arrear war allowance and dearness allowance of officers and the staff of Inspectors.

T. 1. A sum of Rs. 2,000 is needed to meet the cost of travelling allowance of members of the Educational Conference held at Shillong on the 4th July 1946.

2. A sum of Rs. 2,350 is required to meet the cost partly for the celebration of UNESCO Day and partly for holding the inter-collegiate sports.

V. The excess is due to leave salaries of officers deputed for training in the United Kingdom.

Post-War Planning and Development Schemes—For details please see Demand No. 27.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 13

(38.—Medical)

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.3,37,517 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "38.—MEDICAL".

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	15,10,200
Supplementary grant voted at the September session	25,569

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

A.—Medical Establishment—

(a) Superintendence (1)—

	Rs.
(1) Pay of establishment	14,747
(2) Allowances and Honoraria	8,904
(3) Contingencies—Non-contract	9,792
(4) Contingencies—Contract	2,000
Planning and Development Schemes	28,950
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63B"	—28,950

(b) District Medical Officers—

(1) Pay of Establishment	16,000
(2) Allowances and Honoraria	8,751
(3) Contingencies—Contract	12,839

(c) Reserve Medical Subordinates—

(1) Pay of Establishment	4,382
(2) Allowances and Honoraria	9,282

B.—Hospitals and Dispensaries—

(a) Ordinary Dispensaries—

(1) Allowances and Honoraria	31,122
(2) Contingencies—Non-contract	39,682
(3) Contingencies—Contract	23,606
Planning and Development Schemes	6,500
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63B"	—6,500

(f) Travelling Dispensaries—

(1) Contingencies—Non-contract	7,461
(2) Contingencies—Contract	2,744

(g) Leper Hospitals—

(1) Allowances and Honoraria	662
(2) Contingencies—Non-contract	12,622

(h) Leprosy Surveys—

(1) Contingencies—Non-contract	1,939
(j) Grants to hospitals and dispensaries	8,580

C.—Grants for Medical purposes—For Tuberculosis Association.

33,610

D.—Medical Schools and Colleges—

(b) Medical Schools—

(1) Pay of officers... ..	...
(2) Pay of establishment	1,721
(3) Allowances and Honoraria	2,446
(4) Contingencies Non-contract	5,860
(5) Contingencies contract	2,586
Planning and Development Schemes	5,784
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	13,32,670
	—13,32,670

E.—Mental Hospitals—				Rs.
(a) Mental Hospital—Tezpur—				
(1)	Pay of establishment	...	...	6,547
(2)	Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	7,417
(3)	Contingencies Non-contract	...	...	55,911
(b) Share cost for the maintenance of the Mental Hospital, Ranchi.				400
H.—Charges in England—				120
Grand Total				3,37,517

The details are given in the Explanatory Note*.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 3,37,517 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '38.—Medical'."

There is no Cut Motion.

* EXPLANATORY NOTES

- A.—(a)—(1) Due to provision of extra staff and grant of interim relief pay.
 (2) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rates.
 (3) Due to rent of office buildings and also repairing and maintenance of Inspector General's truck.
 (4) Due to purchase of office furniture.
- A.—(b)—(1) Due to grant of interim relief pay.
 (2) Due to grant of dearness allowance at an increased rate.
 (3) Due to increase in prices of miscellaneous articles and also grant of interim relief pay to contingency menials and also purchase of office furniture.
- A.—(c)—(1) Due to posting of more Sub-Assistant Surgeons on supernumerary duties and also grant of interim relief pay.
 (2) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rates.
- B.—(a)—(1) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rate.
 (2) Due to rise in prices of dietary articles and also increased diet scale and purchase of medical stores at increased rates.
 (3) Due to grant of dearness allowance to contingency Menials at increased rate and grant of interim relief pay.
- B.—(f)—(1) Due to purchase of medical stores for Khasi Hills Travelling Dispensary and also purchase of mobile First Aid Post at Rs. 3,397.
 (2) Due to repairs of truck and also grant of interim relief pay to contingency menials.
- B.—(g)—(1) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rate.
 (2) Due to increased expenditure on diet on account of increase in the number of patients.
- B.—(h)—Due to increased expenditure on diet of patients owing to high prices of food-stuff.
- B.—(j)—Due to additional grants to Gauhati Local Board.
- C.—Due to grant of an additional non-recurring grant towards the maintenance of Chest Hospital at Shillong.
- D.—(b)—(1) Due to increments drawn by officers.
 (2) Due to grant of interim relief pay and appointment of a senior Sub-Assistant Surgeon as Teacher of Compounder class and drawal of leave salaries.
 (3) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rates and also grant of Travelling allowance to an officer and also due to increase in number of scholarships.
 (4) Due to purchase of medical stores and payment of house rent.
 (5) Due to grant of interim relief and dearness allowance, pay to contingency menials and also purchase of furniture.
- E.—(a)—(1) Due to grant of interim relief pay.
 (2) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rate.
 (3) Due to prevailing high prices of dietary articles and other articles and also purchase of woollen blankets.
- E.—(b)—Due to more contribution towards the maintenance of the Mental Hospital at Ranchi.
- H.—To meet the cost of publications.
- Post-War Planning and Development Schemes—
- For details please see demand No. 27.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

" That an additional sum of Rs. 3,37,517 be granted to the Minister in charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ' 38.—Medical '."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 14

(39.—Public Health)

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Re. 1 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	18,62,100
Supplementary grant voted at the September session...	23,199

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

A. Public Health Establishmen:—

	Rs.
Post War Development Schemes	9,620
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	—9,620

C. Epidemic Diseases—

Post-War Development Schemes	1,67,900
Deduct—amount transferred to "63-B"	—1,67,900

The details are given in the Explanatory Note†.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

" That an additional sum of Re. 1 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ' 39.—Public Health '."

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

" That an additional sum of Re. 1 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '39.—Public Health '."

The question was adopted.

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

The provision for all Post-War Development Schemes have been made under supplementary demand No. 27 but following the procedure adopted by it, it is necessary to provide money under the service head concerned by a corresponding *minus* provision to the head '63-B'. Ultimately there will be no expenditure under this head but for the approval of the Assembly a token supplementary grant of Re. 1 is presented.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 15

(40.—Agriculture)

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAJUMDAR: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 3,41,918 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "40.—Agriculture".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	26,08,100
Supplementary grant voted at the September Session ...	63,732
II. Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for:—	
A.—Direction—	Rs.
Allowance and Honoraria ...	3,650
Planning and Development Schemes...	4,000
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B" ...	—4,000
B.—Superintendence—	
Allowance and Honoraria ...	19,100
Other Non-contract Contingencies ...	2,500
Flood Relief work at Nowgong ...	1,50,000
C.—Experimental Farms—	
(a) Jorhat, Titabar, Karimganj and Upper Shillong Farms—	
1. Pay of establishment ...	3,210
2. Allowances and honoraria ...	2,400
3. Contingencies ...	23,300
4. Deduct Recovery ...	6,500
(b) Shillong Fruit Garden ...	2,100
Planning and Development Schemes ...	1,38,500
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B" ...	—1,38,500
D.—Agricultural Experiments and Research—	
(a) Deep-water Paddy Farm ...	2,800
(f) Cattle Nutrition Scheme ...	830
(i) Scheme for research on pulses ...	5,660
E.—Subordinate and Expert Staff—	
(a) Agricultural Chemist ...	6,700
(b) Economic Botanist ...	3,795
F.—Agricultural Education—	
(a) Training of students in Agricultural Colleges ...	10,900
(b) " Agricultural graduates in Horticulture ...	1,703
Planning and Development Schemes...	3,500
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B" ...	—3,500
H.—Agricultural Demonstration ...	4,466
I.—Special Rural Uplift Schemes ...	5,046
J.—Other charges—	
(a) Seed Depôts—Contingencies ...	22,500
(c) Breeding operations ...	3,230
(d) Khanapara and Sylhet Cattle Farms ...	44,175
K.—Works—	
(a) Original works ...	17,100
L. Charges in England ...	253
Total ...	3,41,918

The reasons for moving this Supplementary Demand has been explained in the Explanatory Note*.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER.—Motion moved :

“ That an additional sum of Rs. 3,41,918 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ‘ 40.—Agriculture’.”

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

“ That an additional sum of Rs. 3,41,918 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head ‘ 40.—Agriculture’.”

The question was adopted.

* EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. *Direction*.—The extra expenditure is due to the grant of travelling allowance on recreation leave and also to increased rates of dearness and war allowances.

B. *Superintendence—Travelling Allowance of Establishment*. Due to increased tour necessitated by increased activity and flood relief work.

Dearness Allowance due to increased rates.

Other Non-contract Contingencies.—For electric fans.

Flood relief work at Nowgong.—Provision for this did not exist in the Budget.

C. (a) —1. For additional staff sanctioned and increased rate of pay.

2. Due to increased rates of dearness allowance.

3. (i) *Non contract*.—Due to high price of cattle food, seeds, manures and high rates of wages of labour and other necessary articles for the farms.

(ii) *Contract Contingencies*.—Due to high rates of pay of Contingency menials.

4. Recovery for departmental supply is less than the estimate.

(b) Due to high rates of labour and increased rates of pay and allowance.

D. (a) This is due to high rates of wages of labourers and high prices of cattle food and also due to additional pay and dearness allowance to Contingency menials.

(f) Due to tour of Physiological Chemist to Lucknow to attend the Animal Husbandry Wing Meeting and to increased rates of dearness allowance.

(i) Provision for this originally did not exist in the budget as sanction was received late.

E. (a) This is due to—

(i) additional staff sanctioned.

(ii) tour to Delhi to attend Indian Science Congress.

(iii) increased tour of the staff in connection with Soil survey.

(iv) increased rates of dearness allowance.

(v) Purchase of foreign journals on new scientific research.

(vi) high rates of wages.

(vii) purchase of chemicals and coals for gas plants.

(viii) large expenditure on service stamps for increased correspondence due to increase in the work of the section.

(ix) higher rates of pay and dearness allowance to menials.

(x) purchase of type-writers, the original grant for which was inadequate.

(b) Due to increased rates of pay and war and dearness allowances.

F. (a) —The excess expenditure is due to the award of 3 new stipends and contribution to Agricultural Colleges.

(b) The expenditure is due to the deputation of two Fruit Inspectors for training in Horticulture.

H. Due to wages of labourers in the seed farm and dearness allowance of the staff for jute propaganda.

I. This is due to increased rates of pay and dearness allowance.

J. (a) The amount is required for 4 tractors expected to receive during the current year. There was no provision in the current year's budget as the tractors were ordered two years back.

(c) Due to increased rates of pay and dearness allowance and to travelling allowance of the establishment which exceeded the budget grant.

(d) Due to (I) change of personnel and increased rates of pay and dearness allowance.

(II) high price of cattle food (III) high rates of wages

K. (a) This is (I) for a cattle shed at Khanapara under Cattle Nutrition Scheme.

(II) For quarters, etc., in the Pulse Research Scheme.

L To meet the increased leave salary.

Post-War Planning and Development Schemes—

For details please see Demand No. 27.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 16

(41.—Veterinary)

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAJUMDAR : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 23,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	2,85,400
Supplementary grant voted at the September Session	43,696
II. Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
A.—Superintendence—	Rs.
2. Pay of establishment	1,000
3. Allowances and honoraria—	
(a) Travelling Allowance of Officers	1,300
(b) Dearness allowances and Additional pay	2,000
4. Contingencies	2,000
B.—Subordinate Establishment—	
1. Pay of establishment	5,800
2. Allowances and honoraria—	
(a) Travelling Allowance of establishment	3,000
(b) Dearness Allowance, etc.	8,500
Planning and Development Schemes	7,000
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	—7,000
Total	23,600
C.—Veterinary Education and Research—	
Planning and Development Scheme	22,500
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	—22,500

The details are there in the Explanatory Note†.

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

A-2. The extra amount is due to the grant of additional pay by Government.

3. (a) This is due to increased tour, i.e., increased activity and for attending meetings of the Advisory Board of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research at Delhi and the Indian Science Congress at Lucknow.

(b) Due to the grant of Dearness Allowance by Government.

4. An excess amount has been spent for the arrear dearness allowance as well as for remitting these to officers by postal money order and also for service postage and telegraph charges owing to increased activities in connection with Post-War Reconstruction flood relief work, despatch of serum, vaccine, etc., to different places by messengers owing to postal strike.

B-1. This is due to the grant of additional pay by Government.

2. (a) This is due to attending cattle diseases in flood-affected areas and for the supply and despatch of medicines, serums, etc., to different places by messengers owing to postal strike and also or the inspection of dispensaries by the Veterinary Inspectors and for attending epidemics of cattle diseases, etc., by the officers during the remaining months of the year.

(d) Due to grant of dearness allowance.

Post-War Planning and Development Schemes—For details please see Demand No. 27.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 23,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '41.—Veterinary'."

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 23,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '41.—Veterinary'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 17

(42.—Co-operation)

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 1,08,359 be granted to the Minister-in-Charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "42.—Co-operation".

				Rs.
	Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	3,39,500
II.	Sub-heads under which the supplementary demand will be accounted for—			
A.—Direction—				Rs.
	1. Allowances, etc.	...	...	2,067
	2. Contingencies	...	...	4,200
	Planning and Development Schemes	...	...	2,300
	Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	...	...	—2,300
B.—Superintendence—				
	1. Pay of Officers	...	...	575
	2. Pay of Establishment	...	...	46,464
	3. Allowances, etc.	...	...	44,625
	4. Contingencies	...	...	9,838
C.—Co-operative Training and Education	...	...	...	590
	Total	...	...	1,08,359
F.—Other charges—				
	Planning and Development Schemes	...	...	64,900
	Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	...	...	—64,900

Details and *Explanatory notes are given below.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,08,359 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '42.—Co-operation'."

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,08,359 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '42.—Co-operation'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.18

43.—(Industries)

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 54,462 be granted to the Minister-in charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "43.—Industries".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	3,51,200
Supplementary grant voted at the September Session ... of the Assembly.	66,945

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

A-1.—Due to grant of arrear dearness and war allowances the provision included in the Budget proved inadequate. So a supplementary grant of Rs 2,067 is indispensable.

A-2.—Government sanctioned purchase of two more typewriters for the office of the Director of the Industries and Registrar, Co-operative Societies, the entertainment of a handyman for the staff car, and an additional grant of Rs. 1,500.

A sum of Rs. 1,200 is required for repair of the staff car and also further sum of Rs. 253 is absolutely required to meet the miscellaneous contingent expenditure. No provision exists in the budget for the increased expenditure for these purposes. It is therefore proposed that a sum of Rs. 4,200 be provided by a supplementary grant.

B-1.—One special officer was sanctioned by Government for the Co-operative Department. As no provision existed in the budget for his pay, the sum of Rs. 575 necessary for the purpose may be provided by a supplementary grant.

B-2, 3 and 4.—A reduced provision was made in the budget by Government with a view to reduction of temporary staff and consequent reduction in expenditure where possible. As no corresponding reduction of staff was possible, the provision proved inadequate grant of arrear dearness and war allowances and also interim relief added to the shortage of the budget provision. Supplementary grants of Rs. 46,464, Rs. 44,625 and Rs. 9,838 are therefore necessary under the minor heads, Pay of Establishment, Allowances, etc., and Contingencies respectively.

C.—No provision exists in the budget to meet expenditure in connection with the (i) arrear dearness and war allowances (ii) interim relief and (iii) contingent expenditure on the Co-operative Training classes held at Gauhati and Sylhet. So an amount of Rs. 590 is required to be provided by a supplementary grant.

Post-War Planning and Development Schemes—For details please see Demand No. 27.

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

	Rs.
A.—Industrial Development—	
1. Pay of Establishment	2,960
2. Contingencies	3,364
3. Contributions and grants-in-aid... ..	9,959
Planning and Development Schemes	1,07,100
<i>Deduct—Amount transferred to “63-B”</i>	—1,07,100
B.—Industrial Education—	
(a) Weaving Institute—	
(i) Pay of Establishment... ..	700
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	1,960
(iii) Contingencies	380
Planning and Development Schemes	65,000
<i>Deduct—Amount transferred to “63-B”</i>	—65,000
(b) Peripatetic Weaving Parties—	
(i) Pay of Establishment	1,455
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	4,047
(iii) Contingencies	1,430
C. Sericulture—	
(a) Sericulture proper --	
(i) Pay of Establishment	902
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	2,584
(iii) Contingencies	18,891
D Works	14,468
G. Fisheries	3,230
Total	66,330

Sir, a sum of Rs. 11,868 was allocated for the repairs of Jorhat Technical School. Director of Industries informed that he would not be able to carry out the repairs to the buildings of the Jorhat Technical School at an estimated cost of Rs. 11,868 within the current financial year. In view of this, Sir, this sum is to be reduced from the sum of Rs. 66,330 which was originally printed. So the sum will come to Rs. 54,462.

Details and ††Explanatory Notes are there.

††EXPLANATORY NOTES

A-1.—In connection with the contract undertaken by the Director of Industries, Assam, as an agent of the Provincial Government for supply of hats, Government sanctioned continuance of the Hat Factory at Sylhet with a staff of one Manager, one Factory Assistant, one Chowkidar and a peon for the month of March 1946 with a view to continue the Factory under the Planning and Development Schemes. Also owing to difficulties in winding up the war supply accounts Government sanctioned retention of the Upper Division Assistant in connection with War Supply work till February 1947. As no provision exists in the budget a supplementary grant of Rs. 2,950 is required for the pay of this staff including interim relief sanctioned by Government.

2. Owing to need of certain unavoidable contingent expenditure and also on account of contingent expenditure required in connection with the war supply staff, the provision under contingencies has fallen short by Rs. 3,364 which may be provided by a supplementary grant.

3. Government sanctioned an annual contribution of Rs. 1,500 to the Indian Institute of Art in Industry and a grant-in aid of Rs. 8,459 to the Karmi Bhavan, Kulaura for introduction of spinning and weaving in the tornado-affected areas of the Sunamganj Subdivision. No provision exists in the budget for these purposes. It is therefore proposed to provide funds for these purposes by a supplementary grant of Rs. 9,959.

B—(a) (i) A supplementary grant of Rs. 700 is required to meet expenditure due to grant of interim relief.

(ii) On account of grant of arrear dearness and war allowances and also on account of the fact that the provision made in the budget for travelling allowance of officers proved inadequate, an additional sum of Rs. 1,960 is required for these purposes and may be provided by a supplementary grant.

(iii) Government sanctioned as a temporary measure a house rent of Rs. 100 per mensem for a girls' hostel attached to the Weaving Institute, Gauhati. As no provision exists in the budget for the purpose, a supplementary grant of Rs. 380 is necessary.

(b) (1) (2) and (3) Certain unavoidable extra expenditure is required to be incurred on account of grant of interim relief and arrear dearness allowances. Besides due to shifting of the Weaving Institutes workshops many looms and accessories got damaged. Certain contingent expenditure is found unavoidable on this account also. Supplementary grant of Rs. 1,455, Rs. 4,047 and Rs. 1,430 against Pay of Establishment, Allowances and Contingencies respectively are, therefore, necessary.

(b) A sum of Rs. 13,000 is required for re-installation of the machineries and tools and plants of the Jorhat Technical School which have been received back from the military. The amount may be provided by a supplementary grant as there is no provision in the budget for the purpose. The balance will be met from savings.

C—(a) (i) A supplementary grant of Rs. 902 is necessary to meet increased expenditure due to grant of interim relief.

(ii) Due to increased expenditure on account of grant of arrear dearness and war allowances and also partly due to inadequacy of existing provision in the budget a supplementary grant of Rs. 2,584 is found necessary.

(iii) As the buildings for extension of the mulberry plantation at Gaurisagar could not be constructed during 1945-46, Government sanctioned construction of the buildings during the current financial year at an expenditure of Rs. 11,482. Besides the existing provision is found to be inadequate. A supplementary grant of Rs. 18,891 is therefore necessary.

D—To keep the buildings of the Sericultural stations in order an additional sum of Rs. 2,600 over the budget provision is essentially necessary. A sum of Rs. 11,868 is also necessary for maintenance of the buildings of the Jorhat Technical School received back from the military. A total supplementary grant of Rs. 14,468 is therefore necessary for these purposes.

G—No provision exists in the budget for contribution to Government of India sanctioned by Government for training Assam students in the Inland Fisheries Training Course held at Calcutta. A sum of Rs. 3,230 is required for the purpose during the current financial year which is proposed to be provided by a supplementary grant.

Post-War Planning and Development Schemes—For details please see Demand No. 27.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 54,462 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '43.—Industries'."

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 54,462 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '43.—Industries'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 19

(47.—Miscellaneous Departments)

***The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY :** On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 43,155 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1947, for the administration of the head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	Rs.
		1,62,200
Supplementary grant voted at the September session		14,894
II. Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—		
		Rs.
A. Inspector of Factories	... ..	10,300
B. Labour	... ..	20,618
C. Inspector of Steam Boilers	... ..	11,857
E. Provincial Statistics—		
Raingauge apparatus	... ..	210
H. Works—		
Original works—		
2. Raingauge and jute statistics	... ..	145
(b) Repairs —	... ..
Raingauge and jute statistics	... ..	25
Total	... ..	43,155

*The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy moved the Demand in the absence of the Hon'ble Srijut Bhimbor Deuri.

The details are found in the Printed statement and also the *Explanatory Note makes the matter very clear.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 43,155 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1947, for the administration of the head '47.—Miscellaneous Departments'."

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 43,155 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '47.—Miscellaneous Departments'."

The question was adopted.

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. The appointment of two Junior Inspectors to strengthen this inadequately staffed department, which it was impracticable to recruit a qualified Inspector from the province, of one statistical clerk to cope with increasing statistical work resulting from orders of the Central Government, the sanction of additional pay to the Chief Inspector of Factories for additional work on account of vacancy of the post of Inspector in addition to his duties were mainly responsible for the increase. Drawal of arrear war allowance and dearness allowance by the staff as well as travelling allowance drawn by the Junior Inspectors contributed towards the increase.

B The increase under this head is due to the following reasons :—

(a) The appointments of one Statistical Inspector and a clerk in connection with enforcement of the Industrial Statistics Act in 1945-46, drawal of arrear war allowance and dearness allowance by officers and staff, passage and travelling allowance and outfit allowance of an officer deputed to the United Kingdom for training in Labour Welfare duties mainly account for the increase. Fees and Travelling Allowance of the adjudicator appointed in connection with a dispute between the Assam-Bengal Cement Company, Limited and its employees, the Travelling Allowance of the Conciliator appointed in connection with a dispute between the Shillong Municipal Board and its conservancy staff and also Travelling Allowance of the members of the Plantation Labour Advisory Committees contributed towards the increase.

(b) The question of allocation of expenditure on family budget enquires (initiated in connection with the All India Cost of Living Index Scheme with effect from 1st April 1944) between the Central and the Provincial Government on 50:50 basis was not decided till September 1946 and consequently no provision was made in the budget for 1946-47. A total expenditure of Rs.9,502-9-0 was incurred in connection with the administration of the scheme in Assam by the Central Government. They have now raised a debit of Rs.4,751-4-6 equivalent to 50 per cent. of the expenditure against the Government of Assam for acceptance in the accounts for 1945-46.

3) (c) The increase is due mainly to the reversion of an Inspector from special duty, the appointment of a temporary Inspector to clear up heavy arrears and extra travelling for the same reason and to the cost of two temporary drivers and one handyman for two Departmental trucks which had to be obtained in order to enable the Inspecting staff to get round their areas. The cost of the trucks and also drawal of arrear war allowance and dearness allowances by officers and staff also involved increase under this head.

E. The amount was required for purchase of raingauges. During the war period the apparatus was not available. Hence these were to be purchased during the current year to meet the demands.

H. (a) The amount was required to install the raingauges purchased newly.

(b) The original grant was inadequate due to high price of materials and labour.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 20

(50—Civil Works Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment Charges)

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir to move that an additional sum of Rs.26,39,323 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "50.— Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment Charges)".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	59,11,200
Supplementary grant voted at the September Session of the Assembly.	6,89,631
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
A.—Original works—	
(a) Buildings—	
1. General Administration ...	Rs. 2
2. Education other than Europeans and Anglo-Indian ...	1
3. Miscellaneous Department ...	5,000
Expenditure on Post-war Development schemes ...	78,600
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63 B" ...	—78,600
Total ...	5,003
(b) Communications—	
1. Petrol Tax Projects—Ordinary ...	2
2. Motor Tax Projects—Provincial Roads ...	18
Total ...	20
3. National Highways ...	1,21,300
Expenditure on Post-war Development schemes ...	16,11,989
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63 B" ...	—16,11,989
B.—Repairs—	
1. Buildings ...	2,13,000
2. Communications ...	22,22,000
3. Tea Rates Works ...	78,000
Total ...	25,13,000
Grand Total ...	26,39,323

Details will be found in the printed statement and also the *Explanatory Notes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :—Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 26,39,323 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '50.—Civil Works (Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment Charges)' "

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 26,39,323 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '50.—Civil Works (Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment charges)'."

The question was adopted.

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

General Administration

(a) The accommodation in the Kutchery building at Mangaldoi was inadequate and it has become necessary in the interest of public service to extend the building at a cost of Rs.10,937. A sum of Rs.6,500 is required for expenditure during the current financial year. Of this a sum of Rs.6,499 will be met from the savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Re.1 to meet the balance.

(b) The "Brightwell" bungalow has recently been allotted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Assam by Government which is an unfurnished one. It is proposed to furnish the bungalow at an estimated cost of Rs.11,436. A sum of Rs.10,100 is required for expenditure during the current financial year. Of this a sum of Rs.10,099 will be met from the savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Re.1 to meet the balance.

Education other than Europeans

Due to the revision of estimate which was originally prepared at a time when prices of materials and labour were low, the work "water supply in the Government High School at Goalpara" has become a major work in the course of execution. The work is now estimated to cost Rs.7,487 and a sum of Rs.2,410 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.2,409 will be met from savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Re.1 to meet the balance.

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS

Due to extreme scarcity of house accommodation in Shillong it has become essentially necessary to construct 17 clerks' quarters at Kench's Trace, Shillong, at an estimated cost of Rs.1,35,021. A sum of Rs.1,35,000 is required for expenditure during the current financial year. Of this, a sum of Rs.1,30,000 will be met from savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.5,000 to meet the balance.

(b) Communications

Petrol Tax Projects—Ordinary

None of the new Petrol Tax Projects having been approved by the Government of India at the time the budget was framed a lump provision of Trs. 300 was made in the current year's budget. During the course of the year, however, some projects have been approved by the Government of India and the following two projects have been taken up for execution during the year.

- (1) Improvement of the Roha-Borpujia-Marigaon Road.
- (2) Tinali-Bhaman-Rajgarh Road.

Rupee one each for these projects may be voted by the Assembly, the balance being met from the savings in the current year's budget.

Motor Tax Projects*Provincial Roads*

The projects having not been ready at a time the budget was framed a lump provision of Rs.1,50 was made in the current year's budget. The following projects have been taken up for execution during the year.

- (1) Metalling and surfacing the town portion of the Tinsukia-Guijan Road.
- (2) Metalling and surfacing the Tinsukia-Tingrai-Hugrijan Road including widening where required.
- (3) Metalling and surfacing the town portion of Dhodar Ali through Golaghat town.
- (4) Metalling and surfacing a portion of the 1st mile of the J. Barua Road in Jorhat Division (towards Kokilamukh).
- (5) Widening bridge No. 10/1 on the Jorhat-Mariani Road.
- (6) Metalling and surfacing the town portion of the Silghat-Jakhalabundha Road.
- (7) Metalling side berms of the Shillong-Sylhet Road from Faradkhan bridge to Murarichand College gate.
- (8) Metalling the Sylhet-Sunamganj Road, 1st to 5th furlong of the 2nd mile.
- (9) Improvement of the Sonakhira Kalkalighat Road.
- (10) Surfacing the Barpeta-Tarabari Road and the Barpeta-Chapakamar Road in Barpeta Town.
- (11) Improvement of the Chapar-Basugaon Road from Assam Access Road to Basugaon.
- (12) Providing a Car park and landing place at the Brahmaputra Steam ferry ghat.
- (13) Improving the side berms of the Strand Road at Gauhati.
- (14) Reconstructing the coolie shed with additional accommodation at Gauhati.
- (15) Providing a cook-shed attached to the coolie shed at Gauhati.
- (16) Constructing two additional Mohurri's shed at Gauhati.
- (17) Providing a ring well in the coolie shed at Gauhati.
- (18) Improvement of bridges and culverts on unmetalled Roads in the Tezpur Subdivision.

Rupee 1 each for these projects may be voted by the Assembly, the balance being met from the savings in the current year's budget.

National Highways.—Due to the taking up of Interim National Highways schemes a sum of Rs.1,21,300 is required for expenditure during the current financial year on the following Roads:—

(1) Route No. 31—Behar North Bengal-Assam Road—	
(a) Bengal Boundary to North Salmara	Rs. 95,500
(b) North Salmara to Jogighopa	
(2) Route No. 40—Comilla-Sylhet-Shillong-Gauhati—	
(a) Widening the Shillong Nongpoh section of the Gauhati-Shillong Road.	25,000
(3) Route No. 37.—Assam Trunk Road (East)—	
(a) Improvement of alignment—	
(i) Surveying the portion from mile 255 to Sessa	150
(4) Route No. 38—Makum-Digboi-Ledo-Lekhapany—	
(i) Experiment works—carpeting Makum-Ledo Road	650
Total	1,21,300

B—Repairs—

- (1) Buildings.
- (2) Communications.
- (3) Tea Rates Works.

An additional sum of Rs.25,13,000 is required to meet demands for repairs as the original budget provision has proved inadequate.

The heavy programme undertaken during preceding year of reconditioning the roads and buildings unattended during war years and damaged by army movements and army occupation could not be completed on account of difficulty in procuring labour and materials and want of necessary staff and equipments. The balance of the work is being done during the current year in addition to the heavy normal annual repairs programme. Moreover, the anticipated reduction of rates and fall of prices has not materialised during the present post-war period, and again, the unprecedented floods during the year have entailed a heavy F. D. R. programme. As such, the requirement for a supplementary grant of Rs.25,13,000 has become an imperative necessity for the purpose of keeping the roads and buildings in proper condition.

Post-War Development Schemes—

For details please see Demand No. 27.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 21.

(54-A.—Famine Relief)

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 8,37,700 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "54A.—Famine Relief"—

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	50,000
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	

	Rs.
(a) Relief work	4,713
(b) Gratuitous relief	8,32,987
Total	8,37,700

The explanation is given in the * Explanatory Note with details.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 8,37,700 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '54.—Famine Relief'."

The question is :

That an additional sum of Rs. 8,37,700 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head '54.—Famine Relief'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 22.

("55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pension" and 85 —Payments to Retrenched Personnel.)

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 89,714 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March 1947 for the administration of the head "55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pension and "85.—Payment to Retrenched Personnel."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	21,05,800
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
	Rs.
55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pension—	
A. Superannuation and retired allowances	78,300
C. Compassionate allowances	2,827
H. Charges in England	2,587

* EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is due to the grant of adequate relief to the people in the flood-affected areas of the Province.

85.—Payments to Retrenched Personnel—

	Rs.
Payment of gratuities	6,000
Total ...	89,714

The explanation is already given in the * Explanatory Note with details.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs.89,714 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pension' and '85.—Payments to Retrenched Personnel' "

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs.89,714 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pension' and '85.—Payments to Retrenched Personnel'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 23.

(56.—Stationery and Printing)

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 99,050 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing."

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs.
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	5, 07,800
A. Stationery supplied from Central Stores...	Rs.
B. Discount on plain paper used with stamps	52,000
C. Purchase of plain paper used with stamps	100
D. Government Press	250
	46,700
Total	99,050

* EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is due to the following reasons :—

A.—Due to more retirements.

C.—Due to more cases for grant of compassionate allowances.

H.—Due to payment of pensions to fire officers who were employed during the

85,—Due to payment of arrear claims in respect of A. R. P. and other officers.

The details have already been given in the * Explanatory Notes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 99,050 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '56.—Stationery and Printing'." There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 99,050 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '56.—Stationery and Printing'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 24

(57.—Miscellaneous)

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 2,20,933 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous."

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	32,45,700
Supplementary grant voted at the September Session	...	...	16,688
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—			

Rs.

C.—Donations for charitable purposes	12,833
E.—Petty Establishments—			

(a) Circuit and Session Houses	4,700
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F.—Irrecoverable temporary loans written off	26,300
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I.—Contributions—

(a) Grant to local bodies for general purposes—Grants to municipal bodies	3,500
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K.—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—

(1) Expenditure in connection with the control and distribution of cloth and yarn	30,000
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* EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Allotments made to the Advocate General, Director of Public Instruction, Superintendent, Press, Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara, Conservator of Forests, Director of Industries and Registrar, Co-operative Societies, proved inadequate owing to prevalent high prices of stationery articles and expansion of work. Also some new offices were created for which no provision was originally made.

B and C.—Due to increased sale of plain paper.

D.—The excess expenditure is mainly due to (i) the *ad-interim* relief granted to the Press employees with corresponding increase in dearness and overtime allowance and also due to increase in freight charges, increased prices of Machines and other miscellaneous articles purchased during the year.

(2) Expenditure in connection with Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance Order, 1943	...	Rs. 2,500
(3) Expenditure on issue of Free Ration to Government servants	...	98,300
5. Miscellaneous charges	...	30,800
Post-War Development schemes	...	6,11,000
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	...	—6,11,000
L.—Losses on supply of food-stuffs to Government servants and other at concessional prices	...	12,000
Total	...	2,20,933

The details have been given in the †Explanatory Notes

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

C.—(i) The expenditure under this head is of uncertain nature and is dependent among other things on the number of dead paupers in the Police cases.

(ii) Government lent support to the plan of the Assam Women's Voluntary Services for establishing a Home called the "Assam Aram Ghar" in Shillong for totally disabled Indian Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen and men of the Indian Mercantile Marine. The institution is founded on humanitarian grounds and will provide for the unfortunate class of disabled service men—preferential treatment to men of Assam being allowed. The last Ministry provisionally agreed to make a grant of Rs. 5,000 per annum. The present Ministry reduced the sum to 2/3rd in view of the fact that part of 1946-47 had passed, and paid Rs. 3,333 this year to the institution in anticipation of approval of the Legislature. The Assembly is therefore asked to vote a grant of Rs. 3,333.

E.—(a) Mainly due to the grant of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance which are admissible to contingency menials also and to rise in prices of articles.

F.—It has been found necessary to remit some old agricultural loans in different districts. A supplementary grant for Rs. 26,300 is therefore asked for.

I.—(a) The additional amount is required for grants of Rs. 1,500 to the Nalbari Town Committee and Rs. 1,000 to each of the Palasbari and Gauripur Town Committees for general purposes, as these Town Committees did not receive any grant for this purpose.

K.—(a) This supplementary grant represents the additional expenditure incurred in connection with the Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Administration in the Province. This is required to meet the pay, travelling allowance, etc., of the second Assistant Provincial Textile Commissioner and his peons appointed after the Budget estimates for the current year was submitted to Finance and one additional Inspector and his peon appointed in July 1946; and to meet certain unforeseen and unavoidable expenditure necessitated by the increase of staff, transfer of officers, printing of ration cards in connection with the rationing, payment of arrear cost of living and dearness allowances of the officers and staff and cost of price and date stamps paid during the year.

K2.—The total expenditure under the head was estimated at Rs. 37,500. Recoveries under this head are estimated at Rs. 500 against Rs. 3,000 anticipated in the original Budget. There will, therefore, be a net expenditure of Rs. 37,000 as against Rs. 34,500 provided for in the original Budget necessitating an excess expenditure of Rs. 2,500 at the end of the current year for which a supplementary grant is necessary.

K3.—It is anticipated that the total expenditure during the current year on account of issue of Free Ration to Government servants will come to Rs. 20,56,000 of which Rs. 15,000 will be recovered from Central Government and others and Rs. 1,92,700 will be met from savings leaving a net balance of Rs. 18,48,300 as against the net original provision of Rs. 17,50,000 and as such a supplementary grant for Rs. 98,300 is necessary.

K.—The expenditure for the current year on refugees from East Bengal has been estimated to be Rs. 30,000 which is recoverable from the Government of Bengal. There is, however, no likelihood of getting this contribution from the Government of Bengal before the close of the current year. It is therefore proposed to meet this expenditure for the current year by obtaining a supplementary grant.

It is also necessary to provide for Rs. 700 on account of the share of this Government on the grant of financial assistance to the Indian evacuee orphans. This expenditure is shared equally between the Provincial and Central Governments.

The balance of Rs. 100 is required to meet increased expenditure on rewards for destruction of wild animals.

L.—A total expenditure of Rs. 4,10,000 will be required during the current year for supply of food stuffs at concessional prices to Government servants, sweepers of Municipalities and Medical Establishment under local bodies of which Rs. 30,000 is expected to be recovered from the Central Government and others, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,80,000 as against the net original provision of Rs. 3,68,000. Therefore a supplementary grant for Rs. 12,000 is necessary. Post-War Development schemes—For details please see Demand No. 27.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 2,20,933 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '57.—Miscellaneous'."

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 2,20,933 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '57.—Miscellaneous.'"

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 25

(64-B.—Civil Defence)

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.1,87,180 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up for payment in the course of the year ending on the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head "64-B.—Civil Defence".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... Rs. 100

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

					Rs.
A.—Expenditure on A. R. P.	...	...	...	...	77,300
D.—Works	...	...	...	...	5,000
E.—Charges in England	...	...	...	...	4,880
G.—Fire Service	...	...	...	...	95,000
I.—Static dams	..	...	...	...	5,000
			Total	...	1,87,180

The details have been given in the † Explanatory Note.

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Expenditure on A. R. P.—

		Rs.	
(1) Pay of officers	.. ..	600	Represents arrear claims paid during the year.
(2) Pay of Establishment	.. ..	6,000	Represents pay of the Civil Defence Directorate staff and also chowkidars engaged for guarding surplus A. R. P. stores and buildings in 3 A. R. P. centres.
(3) Travelling allowance of officers	..	300	Represents arrear claims paid during the year.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,87,180 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up for payment in the course of the year ending on the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '64-B.—Civil Defence'."

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,87,180 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up for payment in the course of the year ending on the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head '64-B.—Civil Defence'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 26

(Loans and Advances, etc.)

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 10,90,908 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc."

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs.
7,75,000

			Rs.	
(4) Dearness allowance	..	..	6,700	Arrear claims in respect of A. R. P. personnel who are in Government service and also the Directorate staff.
(5) War allowance	..	..	600	Arrear claims in respect of A. R. P. officers.
(6) House rent	..	..	100	Arrear claims.
(7) Contingencies (Miscellaneous).	..	..	45,000	Represents arrear and unadjusted claims which could not be settled earlier.
(8) Cost of centrally supplied equipment.			12,000	Unadjusted claims of previous years which remained unsettled.
(9) Gratuity	..	..	6,000	Arrear claims in respect of A. R. P. officers and also certain subordinate officers, not settled earlier.
<hr/>				
Total for A. R. P.	..	..	77,300	Unadjusted claims of previous year. Represents the leave salary of fire officers who served in Assam. The funds are required for meeting the contingent charges for the final winding up of the Fire Service in Assam and also for meeting the cost of skeleton staff maintained in districts for the care and maintenance of the equipment still not disposed of.
D.—Works (Voted)	..	..	5,000	
E.—Charges in England	..	..	4,880	
G.—Fire Service	..	..	1,00,000	
I.—Static dams	..	..

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

	Rs.
A.—Advances	1,50,000
B.—Loans and Advances by the Provincial Government—	
(a) Loans to land-holders and other notabilities ...	50,000
(b) Advances to cultivators	8,76,342
(c) Miscellaneous loans and advances	14,566
Total	10,90,908

The details have been given with an † Explanatory Note.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 10,90,908 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘Loans and Advances, etc.’.”

There is no Cut Motion.

The question is :

“That an additional sum of Rs. 10,90,908 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947 for the administration of the head ‘Loans and Advances, etc.’.”

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No 27

(63-B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes)

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 59,25,379 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1947, for the administration of the head “63-B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes”.

Grant originally voted by the Assembly Nil

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.—Additional grant of Rs. 1,50,000 is necessary as the original grant has proved short. An accurate estimate is not possible under this head.

B. (a)—The financial condition of the Dewan Manikchand—Mr. Gopika Raman Roy's Estate, which is under the management of the Court of Wards, Assam, has not yet improved. The budget of the Estate for the current year (1353 B. S.) is a deficit one by about Trs. 68. There are some immediate and obligatory demands to be met by the Estate during the year. As the whole Estate is already mortgaged against a Debenture Loan, there is no other way out for raising funds for the Estate to enable it to meet the demands mentioned above. Government have therefore granted a loan of Trs. 50 to the Estate for the purpose, and this sum of Rs. 50,000 is required under the head “Loans to land-holders and other Notabilities” under which there was no provision in the original Budget.

(b)—The excess of Rs. 8,76,342 under “Advance to cultivators” is due to the grant of agricultural loans to the distressed cultivators in the flood-affected areas of the Province. A total expenditure of Rs. 10,96,342 has been incurred for this purpose against the ordinary budget grant of Rs. 1,00,000 and the balance of Rs. 1,20,000 will be met from the anticipated savings under the sub-head concerned.

(c) Government approved a scheme for the grant of relief to the tornado affected people of the Sunamganj Subdivision by introducing Spinning and Weaving as a subsidiary occupation of the people. A special loan of Rs. 21,756 has been granted in that connection to the Secretary, Karmi Bharan, Kulaura. This loan is to bear no interest. As no provision exists in the Budget for the purpose, a supplementary grant of Rs. 14,566 representing the excess expenditure over Budget provision, is necessary.

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

10.—FORESTS—

A.—Conservancy and Works—

				Rs.
1. Revision of Working Plan	...	...	...	43,000
2. Regeneration of Reserved Forests	...	...	...	1,95,000
3. Buildings for Forest Department	...	...	...	1,68,000
4. Construction of Roads	...	...	...	7,75,800
5. Development of Sanitation	...	...	...	39,500
6. Development of Forest Villages	...	...	...	26,000
7. Development of Goalpara Tramway	...	...	...	1,25,000
8. Purchase of Stores and Equipment	...	...	...	1,00,000

14,72,300

B.—Establishment—

9. Establishment of a Foresters' School—Contingencies	...	...	...	14,000
10. Special Staff—Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	1,400

Total Forests ... 14,87,700

25.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

M.(a)—Civil Secretariat—

1. Appointment of a Special Secretariat Staff for Planning and Development—

				Rs.
Pay of officers	...	...	Voted	40,000
			Charged	27,500
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	27,250
Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	Voted	9,700
			Charged	3,700
Contingencies	...	...	...	4,800
				1,12,950

M.(b)—Publicity and Rural Welfare—

Establishment of Rural Welfare Training Centres—

Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...
Contingencies	...	...	...	2,000
				500

Total—25.—General Administration

1,15,450

37.—EDUCATION—

Q.—Direction—

1. Special Staff—

Pay of Officer	...	...	...	...
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	5,000
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	2,700
Contingencies	...	...	...	2,500
				1,700

Rs.

M.—Government Special Schools and Colleges—**2. Training of teachers for Basic Schools—**

Allowances and honoraria ...	36,400
Contingencies ...	6,400

3. Further Education of ex-Service Personnel—

Allowances and honoraria ...	5,000
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T.—Miscellaneous—**4. Setting up of a Committee of Experts for the preparation of Text Books for Basic Schools—**

Allowances and honoraria ...	Rs. 10,500
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Total—37.—Education ... 70,200

38.—MEDICAL—**D.—Medical Schools and Colleges—Medical College—****1. Establishment of a Medical College—**

Pay of Officers ...	3,920
Pay of Establishment ...	750
Allowances and honoraria ...	2,400
Contingencies ...	13,25,600

B.—Hospitals and Dispensaries—Ordinary Dispensaries**2. Provincialisation of 5 Hospitals—**

Contingencies ...	6,500
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A.—Medical Establishment—Superintendence—**3. Special Staff—**

Pay of Officer ...	9,300
Pay of Establishment ...	17,000
Allowances and honoraria ...	1,850
Contingencies ...	800

Total—38.—Medical ... 13,68,120

39.—PUBLIC HEALTH—**A.—Public Health Establishment—****1. Entertainment of a Public Health Engineer—**

Pay of Officer ...	600
Pay of Establishment ...	300
Allowances and honoraria ...	300
Contingencies ...	1,400

2. Nutrition—

Contingencies ...	520
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3. Special Staff—

Pay of Officer ...	2,800
Pay of Establishment ...	2,400
Contingencies ...	1,300

					Rs.
C.—Epidemic Diseases—					
4. Anti-Malaria Scheme—					
Pay of Officer	...	...	...	...	2,300
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	4,000
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	3,000
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	1,54,800
5. Provincial Anti-Tuberculosis Organisation—					
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	300
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	2,500
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	1,000
Total 39.—Public Health					1,77,520
40.—AGRICULTURE—					
C.—Experimental Farms—					
1. Establishment of an Experimental Farm in the Lower Assam Valley—					
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	Rs. 200
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	300
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	1,38,000
A.—Direction—					
2. Special Staff—					
Pay of Officer	...	...	...	...	900
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	600
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	1,000
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	1,500
F.—Agricultural Education—					
3. Contributions	...	...	...	...	3,500
Total 40.—Agriculture					1,46,000
41.—VETERINARY—					
B.—Subordinate Establishment—					
1. Establishment of Veterinary Hospitals—					
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	Rs. 7,000
C.—Veterinary Education and Research—					
2. Training of Veterinary Graduates—					
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	7,000
3. Training of Veterinary Field Assistants—					
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	15,500
Total 41.—Veterinary					29,500

42.—CO-OPERATION—

A.—Direction—

1. Special Staff—	Rs.
Pay of Officer	900
Pay of Establishment	600
Allowances and honoraria	500
Contingencies	300

F.—Other Charges—

2. Co-operative Collective Farming—	
Pay of Establishment	2,200
Contingencies	62,700

Total 42.—Co-operation	67,200
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43.—INDUSTRIES—

A.—Industrial Development—

1. Cottage Industries Institutes—	
Pay of Establishment	2,900
Allowances and honoraria	1,500
Contingencies	46,000
2. Buildings for Marketing Centres—	
Works	50,000
3. Rapid Industrial Survey—	
Allowances and honoraria	1,200
4. Special Staff—	
Pay of Officer	1,500
Pay of Establishment	900
Allowances and honoraria	1,600
Contingencies	1,500

B.—Industrial Education—

5. Technical and Vocational Training of <i>Ex-Service</i> Personnel—	
Contribution	65,000

Total 43.—Industries	1,72,100
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50.—CIVIL WORKS—

A.—Original Works—

(a) Buildings	78,600
(b) Ordinary Roads	16,01,989

Total 50.—Civil Works	16,80,589
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57.—MISCELLANEOUS—

1. K. Purchase of Military lands, buildings and stores ...	5,95,000
2. Expenditure in India in connection with Advanced Technical Training abroad.	16,000

Total 57.—Miscellaneous	6,11,000
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The details have been given with †Explanatory Notes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum of Rs. 59,25,379 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head '63-B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes'."

There are three Cut Motions under this Demand. Will the hon. Members bringing in those Cut Motions like to move them ?

Mr. W. R. FAULL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I intended to move my Cut Motions at some length, but although you ruled out my point of order, I got sufficient satisfaction from your statement to feel assured that the cause for complaint which prompted my Motions today, will not be again given, and I therefore beg leave not to put the Cut Motions.

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

In the Introduction to the Post-War Reconstruction and Development Budget for 1947-48, which has been printed as an Appendix to the Provincial Budget and already presented to the House, mention was made of certain schemes taken up in 1945-46 and 1946-47, preparatory to the formal commencement of the Five-Year Plan with effect from 1947-48. The expenditure incurred in 1945-46 was covered by an *ex-post facto* sanction by the Government of India. The present demand is in respect of the expenditure incurred in 1946-47 and it is being presented in fulfilment of the promise made by me in concluding the statement I made on the subject of Post-War Reconstruction and Development at the September 1946 Session of the House. The schemes in question were an outcome of the situation created by the cessation of hostilities earlier than expected and were, generally speaking, designed to fulfil the following objectives:—

- (i) to bring about a smooth restoration of the war economy to a peacetime basis ;
- (ii) to cope with unemployment and ancillary problems arising from the winding up of the large-scale war-time activities; and
- (iii) to prepare the ground for the introduction of system of planned economic development by bringing into existence the necessary supply of (a) administrative and technical personnel, (b) institutions and organisations, and (c) material equipment.

The amount spent will be entirely met from advance grants to be made by the Central Government out of the overall grant promised by them towards the Provincial Five-Year Plan. The Government of India have upto date actually sanctioned a total grant of 2.07 crores for schemes finally approved by them, though schemes costing a total amount of 3.08 crores were submitted to them.

10.—Forests

A.—Conservancy and Works (Schemes Nos. 1 to 8)

The Schemes are more or less an expansion of the existing departmental activities and are intended mainly to increase the capacity of the department to undertake a larger amount of work under the Plan so as to increase the forest wealth of the Province in the long run. They will provide office and residential accommodation for the increased staff, more roads for the working of the forests, better conditions of living in the forest villages, increased tramway facilities and certain stores needed for further work.

B.—Establishment—Scheme No. 9

The provision made under this scheme is for purchasing certain materials necessary for a Foresters' Training School which it is proposed to establish.

B.—Establishment—Scheme No. 10

This is to meet the cost of clerical staff sanctioned for Planning and Development work.

25.—General Administration

M.(a)—Civil Secretariat Headquarters Establishment

This is to meet the cost of the Planning and Development Department of the Secretariat, whose function is to examine, co-ordinate, sanction and supervise generally Reconstruction and Development schemes. Besides a Secretary and other secretarial officers the Department has a number of Special Officers to deal with various aspects of the work.

M.(b)—Publicity and Rural Welfare

The expenditure relates to the travelling allowance of the members of the Rural Development Advisory Board which has been recently set up and of an Honorary Provincial Organiser recently appointed.

37.—Education*Q.—Direction—I. Special Staff*

The provision is required to meet the cost of an Adviser to Government for Basic Education with his clerical staff and an additional clerical staff appointed in the office of the Director of Public Instruction.

M.—Government Special Schools and Colleges (Scheme No.3)

This is to meet the cost of 24 teachers deputed to Wardha and Jamia Millia for training in Basic Education and the cost of purchasing a military building at Silchar for a Basic School.

3. Further Education of Ex service Personnel

The provision is to meet the cost of 5 ex-service medical licentiates deputed for a condensed M.B. Course. In the case of this scheme, 50 per cent. of the cost will be met by the Central Government outside the development grant and the balance by the Provincial Government.

T.—Miscellaneous (Scheme No. 4)

With a view to inspecting certain Basic Education Centres in India, a committee of experts was set up to make recommendations to Government on Basic Education and text books required therefor. The committee have finished their tour and their recommendations are under examination. The provision is meant for their travelling allowances.

38.—Medical*D.—Medical School and Colleges—I. Medical College*

An Advisory Committee was appointed by Government to prepare a scheme for the establishment of a Medical College, and the Committee's report is now under consideration. Pending sanction of the scheme, it became necessary to purchase certain Military buildings and hospital equipment and to appoint a staff for the purpose. The scheme is in category "B" now; but a reference has been made to the Government of India to allow the cost to be met from their advance grants.

B.—Hospitals and Dispensaries (Scheme No.2)

Government have decided to provincialise five Local Board Hospitals—at Dhubri, Tezpur, Nowgong, Jorhat and Silchar. In the meantime, Government have sanctioned the purchase of certain Red Cross, Civil Porter Corps and Police Hospital articles necessary for the purpose. The provision is to meet their cost.

A.—Medical Establishment—Superintendence (Scheme No.3)

The provision is for a Special Officer and clerical staff sanctioned for the Department for Planning and Development work.

39.—Public Health

A.—Public Health Establishment (Scheme No. 1)

Some years ago there was a Public Health Engineer to advise Local Bodies and Government in matters regarding sanitary engineering, drainage, town improvement schemes, water supplies and other similar subjects. The post was abolished due to stringency. Under the present scheme the post has been revived.

(Scheme No. 2)

With a view to giving effect to recommendations made in this behalf by the Advisory Committee and Central Advisory Board of Health, the post of a Nutrition Officer has been sanctioned. Pending the appointment of the Officer, it is proposed to purchase certain furniture and equipment during the current year.

(Scheme No. 3)

This is to meet the cost of a Special Officer and clerical staff sanctioned for Post-War Reconstruction work.

C—Epidemic Diseases. (Scheme No. 4)

The provision is required for the purpose of setting up a malaria section under the Public Health Department, to begin with, which will co-ordinate all anti-malaria measures in the Province.

(Scheme No. 5)

This is for the post of an Anti-T. B. Officer with his staff and necessary equipment.

40.—Agriculture

C—Experimental Farms (Scheme No. 1)

Unlike the Upper Assam Valley and the Surma Valley, there is no experimental farm in the Lower Assam Valley, the necessity for which has been keenly felt. To remove this want, such a farm has been established at Golakganj. The contingency expenditure of Rs. 1,38,000 includes cost of land, fencing and reclamation, quarters and buildings, water-supply, survey and layout and furniture and office equipment.

A—Direction (Scheme No. 2)

This represents the cost of clerical staff sanctioned for Post-War Reconstruction work.

F—Agricultural Education (Scheme No. 3)

This is to meet a contribution made towards the cost of a Pre-Release Agricultural Training Centre at the Assam Regiment Headquarters at Shillong.

41.—Veterinary

B—Subordinate Establishment (Scheme No. 1)

It has been decided to establish 4 Veterinary Hospitals for the present and negotiations for lands are going. Pending actual construction of buildings, it is proposed to purchase the necessary materials and equipment during the current year.

C—Veterinary Education and Research (Schemes Nos. 2 and 3)

With a view to strengthening the department with trained personnel, five students have been sent to the Bombay Veterinary College for Veterinary Graduate Courses and a batch of 100 Veterinary Field Assistants have been trained inside the Province. The provision is required to meet the cost of their training.

42—Co-operation*A—Direction (Scheme No. 1)*

This is to meet the cost of a Special Officer and clerical staff sanctioned to deal with Post-War Reconstruction work.

F—Other Charges (Scheme No. 2)

The provision is required for the purpose of starting certain farms on a co-operative basis, particularly for the cultivation of special crops like sugarcane, mustard and pulses.

43—Industries*Industrial Development (Scheme No. 1)*

The hat factory at Sylhet, which came into existence during the war, has been given a further lease of life and it is also proposed to purchase available materials for certain similar cottage industries establishments to be started later.

(Scheme No. 2)

It is proposed to start 5 Handloom Cloth Marketing Centres at Sibsagar, Nowgong, Shillong, Maulvibazar and Silchar. The provision is required to start construction at 4 of the centres and for the collection of materials.

(Scheme No. 3)

As part of a scheme for a rapid industrial survey of the Province, Government have recently obtained a report on the economic mineral resources of Assam from Sir Cyril Fox, ex-Director of the Geological Survey of India. The provision is required for the payment of an honorarium to him.

(Scheme No. 4)

This is to meet the cost of a Special Officer and clerical staff sanctioned to deal with Post-War Reconstruction work.

(Scheme No. 5)

The Government of India initiated a scheme for the Technical and Vocational Training of ex-service personnel. As such Training is a provincial concern, this Government along with other Provincial Governments have accepted liability, with respect to the training of ex-service men belonging to this Province, to the extent of 40 per cent. of the cost. Accordingly the estimated share of this Government for 1946-47 comes to Rs. 65,500 (Rupees sixty-five thousand and five hundred). The Central Government's share will be outside their overall development grant,

Civil Works

Civil works and Ordinary Roads.—The provision of Rs. 1,05,000 made under "Ordinary Roads—Post-War Planning" in the current year's Budget has proved inadequate as the "Interim Scheme" which were taken up after the Budget had been framed could not be provided for in the Budget. The actual requirement for each of the projects during the current year both under "Civil Works" and "Ordinary Roads" is noted against each below :—

Name of works		Requirement
		Rs.
(1)	Construction of Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer's residence at Silchar.	9,000
(2)	Construction of Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer's office at Silchar.	7,000
(3)	Construction of an Overseer's quarters at Silchar	5,000
(4)	Construction of a Machine shed at Silchar	3,000
(5)	Construction of Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer's residence at Sylhet.	9,000
(6)	Construction of Overseer's quarters at Sylhet No. 1	6,000
(7)	Ditto ditto No. 2	5,000
(8)	Construction of Overseer's quarters at Gauhati No. 1	5,000
(9)	Ditto ditto No. 2	4,000
(10)	Construction of a Clerk quarters (Single) at Gauhati	2,500
(11)	Construction of an Sub-Overseer's quarters at Dhubri	2,300
(12)	Construction of an Sub-Overseer's quarters at Dhubri	2,350
(13)	Construction of an Sub-Overseer's quarters at Dhubri	2,350
(14)	Construction of Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer's residence at Nowgong.	2,000
(15)	Construction of Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer's office at Sonari.	1,000
(16)	Construction of a Clerks' quarters (married) at Sonari	300
(17)	Construction of Clerks' quarters (single) at Sonari	200
(18)	Construction of a Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer's residence at Sonari.	1,000
(19)	Construction of an Overseer's quarters' at Sonari	500
(20)	Construction of Sub-Overseer's godown at Sonari	500
(21)	Construction of quarters for Chowkidar at Sonari	500
(22)	Construction of a Superintending Engineer's residence at Gauhati	10,000
(23)	Construction of a Superintending Engineer's Office at Gauhati ..	100
Total ..		78,600

(b) Communications—Ordinary Roads—

Name of work	Amount required
Rs.	
1. Rasidpur-Biswanath-Jagannathpur via Kaliganj and a feeder road to Habra-bazar.	12,000
2. Some major bridges on Sylhet Sunamgaj road	16,500
3. S. T. Road East	46,599
4. Govindaganj-Chattak	49,500
5. Brahmanbazar-Maulvibazar Road	11,000
6. S. T. Road East	50,000
7. Kalain-Katigora	20,000
8. Sreekona-Mohanpur	5,000
9. Golakganj to Soulmari	10,000
10. Basbari via Joldoba to D. K. Road	10,000
11. Salkocha village road to Lakhiganj	10,000
12. Paikan Bojendoba	2,000
13. Borbari road	20,000
14. Bamuni Bridge on Barbari road	14,000
15. Gauhati-Sonapur	27,000
16. Katharali via Baghmara to Anchali	20,000
17. Surfacing on North Trunk Road on Dikrong, Gabru and Dhansiri bridge.	12,761
18. Marigaon Bhakatgaon	25,000
19. Nowgong-Bharogaon Road	20,000
20. Puranigudam Railway Station Road	5,000
21. Nowgong-Laokhowa-Bhurbhanga Road	10,000
22. Nakhola-Bhatgaon-Manoha-Rajamayang Road	30,000
23. Sarupathar-Jamunamukh Road	7,000
24. Samaguri-Ambagan Road	10,000
25. Bokakhat-Dhansirimukh Road	2,500
26. Cinamara-Titabar Road	6,000
27. Dhodarali from Dissai to Jhanji river	3,000
28. Nagora Ali	2,000
29. Dhodar Ali from Jhanji river to Nazira	35,000
30. Dhodarali from Bonfera to Dillighat	21,000
31. Improvement of Charigaon Road	1,000
32. Improvement of Jogduar Ali	5,000
33. Athgaon Ali	16,000
34. A road from 96th mile of Dhodar Ali to Ladaigarh through Lelera and Haloagaon.	700
35. A road from Dhodar Ali (86th mile) to Nahore Ali across Railway line through Hatipukhuri and Langpatiagaon.	700
36. Netai Ali from Demau Dehing Road	20,000
37. A road from Netai Ali near Rajbaribam to Dhai Ali near Dhaibari.	500
38. Sologuri to Moran	13,000
39. Jaipur road connecting Lahoal-Bordubi Road	9,000
40. Portion of Chaldhoa-Sonarigaon Road	5,000
41. Chabua-Tengakhat	24,000

Name of work	Amount required Rs.
42. Trial boring for 7 R. C. bridges on the Sylhet-Sunamganj Road.	3,795
43. Public Works Road Development Scheme-Shillong-Jowai Road (1st Section).	4,00,000
44. Azra Rani Road	25,000
45. North Trunk Road Gravelling	70,000
46. North Gauhati-Amingaon-Hajo-Nalbari Road	60,000
47. Sarupeta Feeder Road	20,000
48. Tihu Feeder Road	30,000
49. Damara-Dolgoma Road	16,000
50. Dhubri-Patamari Road	30,000
51. Rangajuli-Simultala Road	10,000
52. Nibari to Assam Trunk Road	2,000
53. Katnibari Steamerghat Road	35,000
54. Kharupetia Steamerghat Road	18,000
55. Surfacing North Trunk Road	2,22,390
56. Reconstruction of higher loading of bridge No. 19/1 on the South Trunk Road.	17,045
57. Survey work on Bhagabazar-Kolosib Road (N. E. A).	2,000
58. Kabuganj-Bhagabazar Road	2,399
59. Dharamtul-Dandua Road	15,000
60. Kampur-Baithalangaon Road	15,000
Total	16,01,989
Grand Total	16,80,589

57.—Miscellaneous

K.—Purchase of Military Lands, Buildings and Stores (Scheme No. 1)

With a view to taking advantage of the large quantity of Military stores lying in the Province, funds were allotted to Heads of Departments to purchase such stores for their Post-War Scheme. The Interim Scheme on the subject was classified as a "C" category schemes by the Government of India with the direction that purchases made for approved "A" category schemes would be debited to such schemes and that in respect of purchases made for other schemes the Government of India's sanction should be obtained to meet the amount from their advance grants. The following purchases have been made by the Department:—

Public Works Department:—Orders have been placed with the Military for stores, the value of which is estimated to be Rs. 4,00,000 (Rupees four lakhs). The Government of India will be approached to make this available from advance grants.

Agriculture.—The materials at the Barapani Camp have been purchased by the Department. The price of the stores has not yet been fixed, but their removal to store them is absolutely necessary which will cost Rs. 14,000 (Rupees fourteen thousand). The Government of India will be approached to make advance grants available for this.

Forest.—Stores worth Rs. 1,81,000 have been purchased by the Department. The Government of India will be approached to make advance grants available for this.

(Scheme No. 2.)

This represents the cost of travelling of students sent abroad up to the port of embarkation and of their passage to the countries where they will be trained.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is: "That a sum of Rs. 59,25,379 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1947, for the administration of the head '63-B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes'."

The question was adopted.

Election of Members to the Assam Road Communications Board in place of Mr. Mody Marak.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We pass on to item No. 4 of the agenda paper.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instruction contained in the voting paper one member of this Assembly to the Assam Road Communications Board in place of Mr. Mody Marak.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instruction contained in the voting paper one member of this Assembly to the Assam Road Communications Board in place of Mr. Mody Marak".

(After a pause.)

Now I am putting it as a question.

The question is:

"That this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instruction contained in the voting paper one member of this Assembly to the Assam Road Communications Board in place of Mr. Mody Marak".

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Under the Rules, I hereby fix Tuesday, the 1st April 1947, as the date for holding the bye-election to the Assam Road Communications Board. Voting will be held between the hours 2 P.M. and 4 P.M. in the Committee Room No. 1 or as soon as the business of the day is finished, whichever is earlier.

The Assam Sales Tax Bill, 1947

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We pass on to item No. 5.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Assam Sales Tax Bill, 1947, and to move that the Bill, as amended by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.

The Select Committee came to unanimous decisions in regard to all the Amendments made to the original Bill and they did not consider that the Bill had been so altered as to require further circulation. I draw the attention of the hon. Members to a few important changes that have been introduced by the Select Committee. The first is with regard to clause 2, sub-clause (a). By the addition of the words "preparation" and "any movable property", the transactions regarding movable property have been brought under the purview of this clause. Then, in sub-clause (16), the "financial year" that formed part of the original Bill has been amended by the addition of the words "or, in relation to any particular dealer, at his option, the year for which the accounts of that dealer are ordinarily maintained in his books". This has been done for the convenience of the parties who keep accounts at different parts of the year.

Then, one other important item is clause 15, where a new sub-clause (3) has been added with a view to exempt from the tax sales of articles needed by public utility companies such as electric concerns. The new sub-clause reads thus; "his turn-over during that period on the sale to any undertaking supplying electrical energy to the public under a licence or sanction granted or deemed to have been granted under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, of goods for use by it in the generation or distribution of such energy;" and the other Amendment is in sub-clause (4) that in place of two per cent. deduction three and one-eight per cent. has been substituted with a view to bring the percentage into line with the actual rate of the tax on the great majority of goods.

Then in clause 24, the Members of the Select Committee wanted to see that the liability is fixed jointly on the transferor and the transferee, and with this end in view they made provision that "the liability to pay any tax payable in respect of such business and remaining unpaid at the time of the transfer shall be jointly and severally on the transferor and the transferee shall, within thirty days of the transfer, apply for registration under section 9".

Then, with regard to clause 28, the Committee thought it fair and safe to exclude companies from the operation of this clause so that their share holders may not have joint and several liability for the tax due from a Company incorpor

rated under the Indian Companies' Act with that object in view the following words were added "other than a company as defined in the Indian Company's Act, 1913".

Then, Sir, with regard to clause 29 dealing with liability of certain unregistered dealers, the Committee has rearranged the two liabilities referred to in this clause in the more appropriate order and has added a proviso to make it clear that the liability to tax cannot be put further back than the beginning of the year on which the Commissioner first makes the requisition. The Committee therefore inserted the following "he shall, when so required by the Commissioner, be liable to registration, and, after such registration, he shall also be liable to be taxed on all sales as if he were a registered dealer; provided that such dealer shall not be liable to be taxed on sales which occurred prior to the year during which he becomes liable to registration." Then, in proviso to sub-clause (1) of clause 30, the words "or for any other sufficient cause" have been inserted so as to widen the power and discretion of the appellate authority. In sub-clause (1) of clause 32, in place of the words "may either" the words "shall" has been substituted and in place of "or invest the Commissioner with the powers under this section" the words "and until such Board is constituted, the Commissioner shall exercise its powers" have been substituted.

Then in clause 37 as regards the refund the dealer is given option of either getting the refund in cash or as a set off against any sum due from him and the words "at the option of the dealer" have been added.

Originally the Commissioner was given the power of search. In sub-clause (4) of clause 44, the Select Committee had added the words "on the authority of a search warrant issued by a Magistrate". The object of this Amendment is not to authorise Commissioner to search any premises without a search warrant.

Then as regards the Schedule other items have been added. In the original Bill there was no separate schedule for luxury goods. Now it has been specified as Schedule I and three things have been specified, namely,

1. Motor vehicles
2. Motor bicycles
3. Wireless sets

and the Provincial Government is authorised to include such other goods as may be notified from time to time.

Then in the Schedule III of exempted list under section 7 "Subject to the conditions and exceptions, if any, set out in Schedule III attached to this Act, the sale of goods specified therein shall be exempt from taxation under this Act." And this Schedule has been increased and some more goods have been added, *e.g.*, books and newspapers, coal gas, electrical energy, Ghee (but not vegetable ghee), Dahi, Butter, Cream, casein, fresh fruits, medicines, sago, water, but not aerated or mineral waters when sold in bottles or sealed containers. In the original Bill only quinine and cinchona febrifuge were exempted but it was considered unanimously by the Members of the Select Committee that all medicines should be exempted and also books and periodicals should be exempted and so these were added in the list. With these Amendments, Sir, I hope, my Motion will be accepted by the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Assam Sales Tax Bill, 1947, as amended by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

As there is none to speak I put the question.

The question is:

"That the Assam Sales Tax Bill, 1947, as amended by Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

The question was adopted.

**Election of Member to the Textile Control Board of the
Government of India**

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, I beg to move that a representative be elected by the hon. Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly to the Textile Control Board of the Government of India to represent the consumers of Assam in that Board.

Sir, I have already told the hon. Members about the letter which we have received from the Government of India. We have been requested therein to elect a member to represent the consumers of this Province in the Textile Control Board which will be newly formed by the Central Government. We have further been requested, Sir,—I will read the relevant portion of the letter—"As the next meeting of the Textile Control Board can only be held after the names of the representatives have been received and notified in the Gazette of India, I shall be most grateful if the name of your nominee can be submitted at an early date."

Sir, as regards the constitution of the Board, I think, it would be better if I mention here that from the Industry there will be 15 members, from the consumers 15, from labour 2 members, from cotton 2 members, from hand-loom weavers 2 representatives, altogether 36 members. Of the 15 consumers representatives 11 will be from the British India, each Province nominating a member elected by the Lower House of its Legislature. Therefore, Sir, I hoped that the hon. Members of the House will agree with me and they will accept my Motion. I would request you, Sir, to fix a date for submitting nomination paper as well as for fixing a date for election.

Babu JATINDRANATH BHADRA: Should this member be a member from this Assembly or can he be from outside?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, I will read again. "Of the 15 consumers representatives, 11 will be from the British India, each Province nominating a member elected by the Lower House of its Legislature who will represent the consumers of your Province on the Textile Board."

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a representative be elected by the hon. Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly to the Textile Control Board of the Government of India to represent the consumers of Assam in that Board."

(After a pause)

Then I am putting the question.

The question is:

"That a representative be elected by the hon. Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly to the Textile Control Board of the Government of India to represent the consumers of Assam in that Board."

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The time is very short. The nomination of candidates will have to be submitted to the office at or before 1 P.M. tomorrow, the 1st April, 1947 and thereupon I shall fix the time for election.

Result of Election to the Public Accounts Committee

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I now announce the result of election to the Public Accounts Committee held on the 28th March 1947. The following hon. Members are declared elected to the said committee:—

- (1) Srijut Dandeswar Hazarika,
- (2) Srijut Siddhi Nath Sarma,
- (3) Srijut Kameswar Das,
- (4) Mr. W. E. Mitchell-Innes,
- (5) Babu Kamini Kumar Sen,
- (6) Srijut Bhadra Kanta Gogoi,
- (7) Mr. Binode Kumar J. Sarwan.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 11 A.M., on Tuesday, the 1st April, 1947.

SHILLONG:

The 20th June, 1947.

A. K. BARUA,

Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly,

**Supplementary Statement of expenditure charged on the
revenues of the Province during 1946-47 laid before
the Assembly under section 81 of the Govern-
ment of India Act**

(To be discussed by the Assembly on the 31st March, 1947)

No. 1

3.—Provincial Excise—Charged—(Non-Excluded Areas)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 25,100
I.—Additional amount now required	8,370
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary appropriation will be accounted for:—	

A.—Superintendence—

1. Pay of officers	Rs. 7,300
2. Allowances and Honoraria	1,070
Total	<u>8,370</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The reasons for excess under "Pay of Officers" are the grant of leave for four months to Khan Bahadur Abdul Hye Chaudhuri, the then Commissioner of Excise, and payment to him of a compensation (equivalent to half the amount of his pay and allowances for a month) for fifteen days from 16th June 1946 to 30th June 1946, because of earlier determination of the period of his re-employment.

2. Excess under "Allowances and Honoraria" is mainly due to grant of arrear war allowance for the period from 1st July 1944 to 31st December 1944.

No. 2

8.—Provincial Excise —Charged—(Excluded Areas)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 18,800
Additional amount now required	2,810
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary appropriation will be accounted for:—	

B.—District Executive Establishment—

1. Allowances and Honoraria	Rs. 770
2. Contingencies	210
E.—Cost of opium supplied to the Provincial Excise Department	1,830
Total	<u>2,810</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(1) The reasons for the excess under "B.—District Executive Establishment—Allowances and Honoraria" are (1) more expenditure on travelling allowance of the Establishment on account of more touring undertaken by the officers for the prevention and detection of offences in the interest of Provincial revenues and (2) grant of arrear dearness allowance with retrospective effect from 1st July 1944.

(2) The reason for the excess under "Contingencies" is unforeseen expenditure on account of secret service work.

(3) The excess under "Cost of Opium supplied to the Provincial Excise Department" is due to increase in the rate of cost price of opium from Rs.22-13-0 to Rs.31-12-0 per seer for 1946-47.

No. 3

10.—Forests—Excluded Areas (Charged) —

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 2,68,600
Additional amount now required	79,136

II.—Sub-heads under which additional grants will be accounted for:—

A.—Conservancy and Works—

A.I.—Timber and other produce removed by Government Agency	Rs. 75
A.II.—Timber and other produce removed from Forests by consumers and purchasers	2,025
A.III.—Drift timber	15
A.V.—Live-stocks, Stores, Tools and Plant	1,985
A.VI.—Communication and building	20,195
A.VII.—Organisation, improvement and extension of Forests	14,240
A.VIII.—Miscellaneous	6,458
A.IX.—Suspense	15,000
Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes	98,300
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	—98,300

Total	59,993
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B.—Establishment—

B. 2.—Pay of Establishment	4,614
B. 3.—Allowances and Honoraria	10,157
B. 4.—Contingencies	4,372

Total	19,143
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Grand total	79,136
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.—Conservancy and Works—

A. I.—The excess is due to payment of rewards to the finders of elephant tusks.

A. II.—The extra provision is necessary for the following reasons:—

(i) Timber marking in the Balipara Frontier Tract.

(ii) Payment of arrear increased pay of temporary establishment, construction of camp huts in working centres and repairs of motor boats in the Sadiya Division.

A. V.—The extra grant is required for the purchase as well as repairs of certain mathematical instruments in Sadiya Division which was not anticipated before and also for meeting the expenditure in connection with the feed and upkeep of departmental elephants since transferred.

A. VI.—The extra money is mainly required for (1) extension of Testsam Road and earth work on the Derakmukh-Legang portion of the Hakati-Legang Road and flood damage repairs to other roads; (2) for construction of some temporary quarters to accommodate new extra hand at different centres of work and (3) extensive repairs to family fencing and well in the Sadiya Division and extensive repairs to certain buildings in the Lakhimpur Frontier Tract. In addition to the above some provision is necessary for construction of quarters for temporary establishment and repairs to the existing quarters.

A. VII.—The extra expenditure is mainly required for subsidiary cultural operations in certain coupes in the Lakhimpur Frontier Tract and original operations in the Sadiya Division under the prescriptions of the Working Plan which has come into force after submission of the budget for 1946-47.

A. VIII.—The extra money is required to meet the cost of free ration to the worked-charged establishment engaged in the Rangapahar Sleeper Operation, arrear dearness allowance of all such establishment and also to make payment of compensation to the dependants of one of the departmental labours who died while on duty (this has sanction of Government).

A. IX.—Additional grant is required in connection with the opening of a suspense account. It has been sanctioned by Government in connection with sleeper operation.

Post-War Development Schemes—For details please see demand No. 27.

B.—Establishment—

B. 2.—Due to increase of establishment both permanent and temporary, and the cost of interim relief granted by Government.

B. 3.—The extra money is required for the following reasons:—

- (1) Travelling allowance of the increased staff and also arrear dearness allowance and war allowance (now cost of living allowance) sanctioned by Government.
- (2) Compensatory allowance of the Assistant Foresters in Sadiya.
- (3) Travelling allowance and other allowances of Forest Subordinates since transferred from Non-Excluded area to the Excluded area.
- (4) Additional grant is necessary to meet the cost of arrear dearness allowances of contingency menials and also for maintenance of increased number of Motor Vehicles.

No. 4

12 —Charges on Motor Vehicles Taxation Act (Excluded areas)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule...	Rs.
Additional amount now required ...	20
II.—Sub-head under which the additional amount will be accounted for:—	1,000
E.—Other Charges—	
Grant to local bodies ...	1,000

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This represents a non-recurring grant to the Haflong Town fund out of the Motor Tax fund for improvement of communications.

No. 5

25.—General Administration—Non-Excluded Areas (Charged)

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs.
Additional amount now required ...	12,71,600
...	67,001

II.—Sub-heads under which the additional amount will be accounted for:—

F.—Secretariat staff of Governor—

	Rs.
(1) Pay of officers	1,650
(2) Pay of Establishment	6,847
(3) Allowances and Honoraria	6,790
	<hr/>
	15,287

N.—Public Service Commission 6,207

T.—Charges in England—

(a) Expenditure by the High Commissioner	40,067
(b) Expenditure by the Secretary of States	5,440

Total 67,001

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(1) Excess is due to increased grant of special pay (Rs.300) to Mr. Godfrey, Governor's Secretary, with effect from 1st April 1946 for which no provision was made in the original budget estimate.

(2) Excess is partly due to the grant of interim relief to the Government servants and partly due to the creation of one temporary Upper Division post to hold charge of a section of Governor's Secretariat and grant of special pay to the seniormost Upper Division Assistant for holding it.

(3) Excess is due to the grant of arrear war allowance (now cost of living allowance) and arrear dearness allowance to the Government servants.

N.—Due to interim relief, arrear dearness and war allowances and increased contingent expenditure owing to greater advertisement charges.

T.—Due to the increase in leave salary of officers going on leave.

No. 6

25.—General Administration—Excluded Areas (Charged)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.	4,68,500
Additional amount now required	54,604

II.—Sub-heads under which additional grants will be accounted for:—

	Rs.
E.—Tour Expenses	4,774

S.—General Establishment—

1. Pay of Establishment	13,000
2. Allowances and Honoraria	6,300
3. Contingencies	12,900

Total 32,200

T.—Subdivisional Establishment—

1. Pay of Establishment	1,590
2. Allowances and Honoraria	10,000

Total 11,590

U.—Other Establishment—				Rs.
(a) Process serving establishments—				
(1) Allowances and Honoraria	..	...		700
(e) Launch establishment—				
(1) Pay of establishment	...	...	...	30
(2) Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	420
(3) Contingencies	...	...	...	2,000
(d) Staging bungalow establishment—				
(1) Contingencies	...	...	...	1,580
		Total	...	4,730
X.—Works—				
(a) Original Works—				
District Administration	..	...	...	180
(b) Repairs—				
District Administration	...	...	...	1,300
		Total	...	1,400
		Grand total	...	54,694

EXPLANATORY NOTE

E.—Increased expenditure incurred in connection with changes of Governor and frequent tourings.

S. (1)—Due partly to the grant of interim relief to the Government servants and partly to increased expenditure for temporary establishment.

S. (2)—Due to grant of arrear dearness allowance and war allowance (now cost of living allowance).

S. (3)—Due to grant of arrear dearness allowance and interim relief to the contingency menials. It is also due to increased expenditure for miscellaneous contingencies such as telephone charges, repairs to staff car of Political Officer, Tirap, increased expenditure for the Khimiyang outpost, etc.

T. (1)—Due to grant of interim relief and also due to the creation of Political Jamadar's post in the establishment of Subdivisional Officer, North Cachar Hills. (It has the concurrence of Secretary, Finance.)

T. (2)—Due partly to more touring and partly to the drawal of arrear dearness allowance sanctioned by Government.

U. (a) 1.—Due to drawal of arrear dearness allowance.

U. (e) 2.—No remarks.

U. (e) 3.—Due to purchase of three out board engines by the Political Officer, Sadiya. (It has the concurrence of Secretary, Finance.)

U. (d) 1.—Due to grant of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance to the contingency menials.

X. (a)—Due to increased expenditure for Khimiyang outpost.

X. (b)—Due to the retention of the Namdang Commanding Officer's bungalow for the residence of Political Officer, Tirap, and also due to repairs to clerk's quarters at Margherita.

No. 7

27.—Administration of Justice—Non-Excluded Areas (Charged)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs.
Additional amount now required	Rs.
II. Sub-heads under which the additional grant will be accounted for :—	2,59,900
B.—Law Officers—	
(b) Legal Remembrancer	8,348
M.—Charges in England	
...	Rs.
...	641
...	7,707
Total	8,348

EXPLANATORY NOTES

B. (b)—Due to increased expenditure under travelling allowance of officers and war allowance owing to the change of officers.

M.—To meet the increased leave salary of officers going on leave.

No. 8

27.—Administration of Justice—Excluded Areas (Charged)—		Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.		1,300
Additional amount now required		775
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grant will be accounted for :—		
1. Criminal Courts—		Rs.
Contingencies		700
B.—Law officers—		
(c) Mufassil Establishment—allowances, etc.		75
Total		775

EXPLANATORY NOTE

I.—Excess is partly due to larger outlay on road and diet money to witnesses and partly due to the fact that no provision was made for the North Cachar Hills when the budget was framed.

B.—Due to increased expenditure under allowances and honoraria owing to increased number of cases conducted by Government Pleaders.

No. 9

28.—Jails and Convict Settlements (Excluded Areas)—		Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule		15,400
Additional amount now required		5,550
II.—Sub-head under which additional grants will be accounted for :—		
A.—District jails —		
(1) Allowances and Honoraria		2,020
(2) Contingencies		280
B.—Charges for Police Custody—Contingencies—		3,250
Non-contract.		
Total		5,550

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. (1)—Due to arrear dearness allowance sanctioned by the Government and also high expenditure on travelling allowance.

(2)—Due to high cost of miscellaneous articles.

B.—Excess is partly due to rise in the prices of food-stuffs and increase in the number of prisoners and partly due to the fact that no provision was made for the North Cachar Hills in the original budget estimate.

No. 10

29.—Police (Charged)—Non-Excluded Areas—		Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.		4,16,400
I.—Additional amount now required		38,635

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

	Rs.
B.—District Executive Force—District Police	
Allowances and honoraria	8,536
G.—Criminal Investigation Department—	
Pay of officers	2,736
Allowances and honoraria	1,483
M.—Charges in England—	
(a) Expenditure by the High Commissioner ...	25,160
(b) Expenditure by the Secretary of States ...	720
Total ...	<u>38,635</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

B.—District Executive Force—District Police—

(1) Allowances and honoraria—The excess is due to the payment of increased war allowance.

G.—Criminal Investigation Department—

(1) Pay of officers—The excess is due to the posting of a senior officer of higher pay.

(2) Allowances and honoraria—The excess is due to the grant of war allowance at enhanced rate.

L.—Charge in England—Excess represents the leave salary of Indian Police Officers going on leave than was anticipated when the original budget was framed.

No.11

29.—Police—Excluded Areas (Charged)—

The amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.

Additional amount now required

	Rs.
Additional amount now required	1,04,100
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for —	42,489

B.—District Executive Force—

(a) District Police—

	Rs.
1. Pay of officers	3,366
2. Pay of Establishment	10,679
3. Allowances and Honoraria	16,192
4. Contingencies	2,313
5. K.—Works—	
Original works	5,939
6. M.—Charges in England—	
Expenditure by the High Commissioner ...	4,000
Total ...	<u>42,489</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. Due to Assam Government's half share of the cost of the temporary post of Assistant Superintendent of Police as an Assistant to the Superintendent of Police, Manipur and Naga Hills sanctioned for the period from 31st January to 1st November, 1945.

2. Due to grant of interim relief to Government servants.

3. Due partly to the drawal of arrear dearness allowance and partly to increased expenditure for travelling allowance owing to district transfer. It also includes Rs.689 for half share of the Government of Assam in connection with compensatory allowance and travelling allowance of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, *vide* Explanatory Note, item 1.

4. Due partly to the increase in the prices of articles of clothing and partly to the grant of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance to the contingency menials and also due to the increase of prices of contingent articles.

5. Due to construction of temporary quarters for the accommodation of the temporary staff of the Superintendent of Railway Police's office at Hallong.

6. Due to overseas pay of Police officers serving in Excluded areas for whom no provision was made in the original budget.

No. 12

37.—Education—Other than European and Anglo-Indian (Excluded Areas)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	2,12,800
Additional appropriation obtained in the September Session	66,403
Additional amount now required	42,740

II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for:—

1. E.—Government Secondary Schools

	Rs.
(a) Secondary Schools for boys	6,000
2. F.—Direct Grant to non-Government Secondary Schools.	2,100
3. I.—Government Primary Schools	21,000
4. J.—Direct Grant to non-Government Primary Schools	6,500
5. L.—Works (Primary)—Original works	7,140
Total	42,740

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. Due to drawal of arrear dearness allowance by teachers.

2. Additional grant is required for the grant of dearness allowance to teachers of aided secondary schools.

3. Due to drawal of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance by teachers.

4. As in the case of item 2 above.

5. Additional grant is required for the reconstruction of the building of the Mulangaon Government Primary School in Balipara. The project has been sanctioned with the concurrence of Secretary, Finance.

No. 13

38.—Medical (Non-Excluded areas)—Charged—

	Rs.
Amount included in the authenticated schedule ...	1,28,600
Additional amount now required ...	53,410
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for :—	

A.—Medical Establishment—

(a) Allowances and Honoraria ...	Rs. 20,090
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H.—Charges in England—

(a) Leave salaries and overseas pay ...	33,320
Total ...	53,410

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.—Due to grant of war allowance and travelling allowance to increased number of I. M. S. officers reverted from Military duties and passage contribution to I. M. S. officers on leave.

H.—Due to leave salaries and overseas pay of I. M. S. officers.

No. 14

33.—Medical—Excluded Areas —(Charged)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.	2,79,500
Additional appropriation obtained in the September Session	28,378
Additional amount now required ...	1,10,077
II.—Sub-heads under which additional grants will be accounted for :—	

1. A.—Medical Establishment—

(b) District Medical Officers—	
(a) Pay of officers ...	Rs. 25,000
(b) Allowances and Honoraria ...	15,696

2. B.—Hospital and Dispensaries—

(a) Ordinary Dispensaries—	
(a) Allowances and Honoraria ...	16,542
(b) Contingencies (Non-contract) ...	17,242
(c) Contingencies (Contract) ...	26,984

3.—Ditto. (f) travelling dispensaries—

(a) Allowances and Honoraria ...	3,533
H. Charges in England ...	5,080
Total ...	1,10,077

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. (a) Due to posting of I. M. S. officers.

(b) Due to grant of arrear war allowance (now cost of living allowance) and increased expenditure on house rent and other fixed allowances and also increased expenditure on travelling allowance.

2. (a) Due to drawal of arrear dearness allowance and ration compensation allowance at increased rates.

(b) Due to increased expenditure on diet on account of high prices of dietary articles and also increase in number of patients and also high expenditure on Medical Stores.

(c) Due to drawal of arrear dearness allowance by the contingency menials and grant of interim relief and also high prices of miscellaneous articles.

3. (a) Due to drawal of arrear dearness allowance and increased expenditure on house rent and other fixed allowances.

H.—To meet the sterling O. P. of I. M. S. officers.

No. 15

39.—Public Health—(Non-Excluded areas)—Charged—

Amount included in the authenticated schedule	...	Rs. 30,900
Additional amount now required	...	1,300

II.—Sub-head under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for :—

A.—Public Health Establishment—

(a) Superintendence and other establishments—	Rs.
Allowances and Honoraria	1,300

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The extra amount is required to meet anticipated excess expenditure due to sanction of war allowance to the Director of Public Health with retrospective effect. It is also due to increased touring as he was required to attend meetings of the Cholera and Malaria Advisory Committees of the Indian Research Fund Association held in Bombay and to visit Singur Health Unit in Bengal to gather practical experience for the purpose of adopting similar Units in Assam.

No.16

Rs.

39.—Public Health—(Excluded areas)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.	47,100
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Additional amount now required	19,695
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II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for :

Rs.

I. A.—Public Health establishment (a) Superintendence and other establishment—3.—Allowance and honoraria.	5,500
II. A.—Public Health establishment (b) Public Health Propaganda—Non-contract contingencies.	650
III. C.—Epidemic Diseases (a) Malaria—Contract contingencies.	5,600
IV. F.—Works—Maintenance by the Department—Repairs	5,805
(b) Ditto maintenance by Public Works Department	2,140

Total ... 19,695

EXPLANATORY NOTE

- I.—The excess is due to the sanction of ration compensation allowance to the staff irrespective of Lushais and non-Lushais stationed in the Lushai Hills. It is also due to sanction of arrear dearness allowance and increased expenditure on travelling allowance owing to prevalence of small-pox in Sadiya Frontier Tract.
- II.—The additional amount is required to purchase a magic lantern with slides required in connection with the entertainment of a magic lantern operator in Sadiya Frontier Tract.
- III.—The excess is due to drawal of arrear dearness allowance and interim relief by contingency menials engaged in anti-malaria works sanctioned during the year. It is also due to payment of extra hire charges for Malarial casks required for anti-malaria measures in Sadiya and Balipara Frontier Tracts as it was unavoidable owing to the fact that communication in these areas is very bad and speedy despatch is not possible.
- IV.—An additional grant of Rs.305 is required for Subdivisional Officer, North Cachar Hills, for maintenance of tanks and wells, etc., in the outside bazars at North Cachar Hills and a sum of Rs.5,500 is required for 12 Ring wells for the Sadiya Frontier which was sanctioned with the concurrence of Secretary, Finance.
- (b)—An additional sum of Rs.3,500 is required to meet the demands for repairs to the water works at Kohima and Aijal as the original budget provision has proved inadequate due to extra items of work found necessary during the course of execution. Of this, a sum of Rs.1,360 will be met from savings and an additional appropriation of Rs.2,140 is therefore, necessary to meet the balance.

No.17

40.—Agriculture—Excluded Areas—Charged—			Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.			1,82,500
Additional appropriation obtained in September Session.			1,600
Additional amount now required			12,210
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for:—			
B.—Superintendence—			Rs.
1. Pay of Establishment	...	...	330
2. Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	6,150
3. Contingencies (other Non-contract contingencies)	...	...	5,330
H.—Agricultural Demonstration and Propaganda			5,400
Total			12,210

EXPLANATORY NOTE

- B.—Superintendence—
- 1.—Due to the grant of interim relief to the Government servants.
- 2.—Due to the extensive tour of the Assistant Deputy Director of Agriculture, in the Hill districts and also due to drawal of arrear dearness allowance and war allowance (now cost of living allowance).
- 3.—Due to purchase of a typewriter. (Savings under Non-contract contingencies proved inadequate to cover this expenditure.)
- H.—Additional grant is necessary due to high price of seeds, manures and wages of labourers.

No.18

Rs.

41.—Veterinary—Excluded Areas—Charged—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule 13,900

I.—Additional amount now required 2,000

II.—Sub heads under which the additional grant will be accounted for :—

B. Subordinate Establishment—

Rs.

2. Allowances and Honoraria 2,000

EXPLANATORY NOTE

B.—The excess is due to the grant of dearness allowance and additional pay by the Government, for which no provision was previously made in the budget.

No.19

Rs

42.—Co-operation—Non-Excluded Areas—Charged—

Amount included in the authenticated schedule 24,300

Additional amount now required 9,450

II.—The sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for :—

Rs.

A.—Direction—

Pay of officer 9,450

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Due to change of officers, the provision made in the budget, proved inadequate.

No. 20

43.—Industries—Excluded Areas—(Charged)—

Rs.

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule. 5,100

Additional amount now required 817

II.—Sub-head-under which the additional grants will be accounted for :—

A.—Industrial Development—

Rs.

Pay of Establishment 94

Allowances and Honoraria 723

Total 817

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Due to drawal of interim relief and arrear dearness allowance.

No. 21

50.—Civil Works—(Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment)—
(Excluded Areas)—

Rs.

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule. 6,87,600

Additional appropriation obtained in September Session. 1,25,319

Additional amount now required 3,67,561

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

				Rs.
A.—Original Works—(b) Communications—Ordinary Roads.				1
2. Post War Development schemes	...	...	...	31,632
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B"	...	...	...	28,432
3. National Highways	...	...	...	360
B. Repairs—Communications	...	...	...	3,59,000
D.—Grants-in-aid for Communications—Grants to Municipal and Local Boards for Communications—				
3. Grants to other Funds—				
Non-recurring	...	...	...	5,000
Grand total				3,67,561

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Original Works—(b) Communications—Ordinary Roads—

1. The bridges Nos. 1/1 and 1/2 on the Charduar-Bhalukpung Road in the Balipara Frontier Tract constructed about 10 years ago badly need replacement of their beams and planks, etc. A sum of Rs. 6,000 is required for expenditure during the current financial year. Of this, a sum of Rs. 5,999 will be met by re-appropriation within the budget grant and an additional appropriation of Re. 1 is, therefore, necessary to meet the balance.

2. The Inspection bungalow and outhouses at Pfeetsero were completely destroyed by enemy action. It is proposed to construct the I. B. for which a sum of Rs. 3,200 is required for expenditure during the current financial year. For the balance of Rs. 28,432 please see details under Demand No. 27.

3. National Highways—A sum of Rs. 360 is required for expenditure during the current year for surveying the Route No 39—Assam-Burma Road-Dimapur-Imphal portion.

B.—Repairs—Communications—

An additional sum of Rs. 3,59,000 is required to meet the demands for repairs as the original budget provision has proved inadequate on account of heavy flood damage repairs and unanticipated extra expenditure on reconditioning the Dimapur-Mao Road on its transfer from the Military. Against this extra demand a sum of Rs. 1,64,000 will be contributed by the Government of India and credited to Provincial Revenues.

Unless timely repairs are carried out and roads are allowed to deteriorate a very heavy repairs programme involving excessive expenditure will be necessary in the following year to bring the roads to proper condition and as such the demand made will effect economy in the long run.

D.—Grants-in-aid for Communications—

Additional grant is required due to increased communication grant (Rs. 800) for the current year only to the Haflong Town Fund and also due to the sanction of special non-recurring grant of Rs. 4,200 to the same Fund for repairs to roads and drains damaged by floods

No. 22 50.—Civil Works (Provincial)—Establishment and Tools and Plant charges—(Charged)—Non-Excluded Areas—

I.—Amount originally included in the schedule.	Rs.
Additional amount now required	44,600
...	...
...	...
...	33,592

II.—Sub-heads to which the supplementary grant will be accounted for by the Public Works Department—

A.—Direction charges—

(a) Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department—

	Rs.
(i) Pay of officers (<i>Charged</i>)	11,500
(ii) Allowances (<i>Charged</i>)	6,300

(b) Superintending Engineers—

(iii) Pay of officers (<i>Charged</i>)	7,286
(iv) Allowances (<i>Charged</i>)	3,200

D.—Charges in England—

(v) Leave salaries (<i>Charged</i>)	5,306
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Total	33,592
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess anticipated is Rs.53,842. Of this, a sum of Rs.20,250 will be met from saving within the same grant and an additional sum of Rs.33,592 is therefore necessary to meet the balance.

- (i) Due to leave salary of retired I. S. E. Officers as sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
- (ii) Due to cost of passage of I. S. E. Officers and medical treatment of the families of I. S. E. Officers.
- (iii) Due mainly to the creation of the third post of Superintending Engineer.
- (iv) Due to arrear war allowance as sanctioned with retrospective effect.
- (v) Due to leave salaries of retired I. S. E. Officers of non-Asiatic Domicile as sanctioned by the Secretary of State.

No. 23

50.—Civil Works—(Provincial) Establishment and Tools and Plant (Charges)—Excluded Areas (*Charged*)—

	Rs.
I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	55,500
Additional sum now required	50,100

II.—Sub-heads to which the supplementary grant will be accounted for by the Public Works Department—

B.—Charges on Construction—

	Rs.
(i) Pay of Establishment	15,000
G.—Tools and Plant	35,100

Total	50,100
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The actual excess anticipated is Rs. 69,086. Of this, a sum of Rs. 54,086 will be met from saving within the same budget grant and an additional sum of Rs. 15,000 is, therefore, necessary to meet the balance.

(i)—Due to the Kohima Division for which provision was made under Post War Reconstruction and also due to the creation of a third Subdivision under Kohima Division.

G.—Tools and Plant.—The newly opened Kohima Division entrusted with a heavy building construction programme requires full supply of tools and plant needed. The Political Officer, Tirap and Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills, also require some additional tools and plant.

No.24

54-A.—Famine Relief—Excluded Areas (Charged)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 3,200
Additional amount now required	24,278

II.—Sub-head under which the additional grant will be accounted for :—

Gratuitous relief	Rs. 24,278
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

Due to grant of relief to the people of Tirap Frontier Tract and North Cachar Hills who have been affected by the flood. A sum of Rs. 15,478 is also required to meet the difference between the cost price and sale proceeds of the rice supplied at a concession rate to the distressed population in the Lushai Hills.

No.25

56.—Stationery and Printing—Excluded Areas—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 2,000.
Additional amount now required... ..	500
II.—Sub-head under which the additional amount will be accounted for :—	Rs. 500
Stationery supplied from Central Stores	

EXPLANATORY NOTE

To meet the additional demands of the year.

No. 26

57.—Miscellaneous—Excluded Areas (Charged)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.	Rs. 3,23,300
Additional appropriations obtained in the September Session.	21,482
Additional amount now required	1,18,278
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for :—	
A.—Expenditure on account of State prisoners and detenus	225
E.—Petty Establishment—	
(a) Circuit and Sessions houses	300
(b) Other Petty Establishments	...
(c) Miscellaneous	11,218
I.—Contributions	1,900
J.—Miscellaneous Darbar charges	250
M.—Works—	1,990
1. Original Works	...
2. Repairs	...
F.—Irrecoverable temporary loans and advances written off.	51,361
H.—Rates and taxes	800
...	16
...	2,421

	Rs.
K.—Miscellaneous and Unforeseen charges—	
(i) Expenditure in connection with control and distribution of cloth and yarn.	552
(ii) Expenditure in connection with Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance Order, 1943	705
(iii) Expenditure on issue of free ration to Government servants.	50,000
Recoveries	—4,700
	<hr/> 45,300
L.—Losses on supply of foodstuffs to Government servants and others at concessional prices	800
Grand total ...	<hr/> 1,18,278 <hr/>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—No provision exists for allowance granted to Gaidilieu Kabai Nagini—

E. (a)—Due to the grant of arrear dearness allowance and interim relief.

E. (b)—Due to the grant of arrear dearness allowance and interim relief. It is also due to increased expenditure for sanction in Ledo Area.

E. (c)—Due to expenditure incurred for the improvement of Kohima Town in the shape of planting ornamental trees, Coniferous groves in and around Kohima Station and for providing fencing.

I.—Due to the grant of additional subsidy for the maintenance of Sadiya, Saikhowa and Rongdoi Mail Motor Line.

J.—Due to increased expenditure for making presents to the Hill Tribes in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

M. 1.—Due to the purchase of two buildings for the purpose of using them as Coolie Corps barracks.

M. 2.—Due to increased expenditure for repairs to outside bazars in the North Cachar Hills.

F.—No remarks.

H.—Due to the payment of arrear taxes to the Haflong Town Fund for unoccupied Government land.

K. (i)—The amount provided in the budget is found to be inadequate to meet the cost of pay and dearness allowance to the Textile staff in the Sadiya Frontier Tract and hence the necessity for the above supplementary grant.

K. (ii)—Following the procedure in the past no provision in the original budget for this expenditure was made.

K. (iii) and L.—The excess expenditure under the item issue of free ration and savings under the item losses on supply of foodstuffs to Government servants and others at concessional prices are mainly due to option exercised by the Government servants in availing themselves of free ration in preference to rice at concession rate. The increase and decrease under the items of recovery against K (2) and L could not be anticipated correctly at the time of framing the original estimate.

No. 27

63-B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes (Excluded Areas)—

Original amount included in the Budget	...	...	Rs.
Additional amount now required	...	...	nil.
			1,26,732

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

10-A —Forests—**A.—Conservancy**

No provision could be made for these Interim Projects, when the budget was framed.

The Schemes taken are :—

1. Regeneration of Forests	...	...	Rs.
2. Buildings for Forest Department	...	...	26,975
3. Construction of Roads	...	...	36,810
4. Development of Forest Villages	...	...	22,871
5. Improvement of Sanitation	...	...	675
			10,969
Total	...	...	98,300

50.—Civil Works—(Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment)

A.—Original Works—(b) Communications—Ordinary Roads 28,432

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(b) *Communications—Ordinary Roads.*—No provision could be made for these Interim Projects when the budget for the current year was framed. The following projects have been taken up and the actual requirement is noted against each :—

	Amount required.
	Rs.
(1) Survey Work on Bhagabazar-Kolosib Road	22,000
(2) Improvement of Saikhowa-Diramukh Road	6,000
(3) Surveying for opening out a road from Rangdoi to Laikhajan—8 miles.	210
(4) Surveying the Saikhowa-Diramukh Road	90
(5) Surveying in connection with improving the Kobo-Morkongselek Road—10 miles.	66
(6) Surveying in connection with improving the Laika-jan-Morkongselek Road—4 miles.	66
Total	28,432

No. 28

57.—Miscellaneous Non-excluded areas (Charged)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs.
Additional amount now required	20,47,400
II.—Sub-head under which this additional appropriation will be accounted for :—	46,200

I. Contribution—

Compensatory grants to local bodies in lieu of receipts credited to Provincial Revenue. 46,200

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Due to change with effect from the current year in the method of contribution according to which actual receipts credited by local bodies to Provincial revenue during the previous year are paid back to them as contributions.

Heads	Amount included in the authenticated schedule		Amount authenticated in the September 1946 Session	Additional amount now required		Amount as it will finally stand		Number of demand
	Non-exclud- ed areas	Excluded areas		Non-exclud- ed areas	Excluded areas	Non-exclud- ed areas	Excluded areas	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
8. Provincial Excise ..	25,100	18,800	..	8,370	2,810	33,470	21,610	1 & 2
10. Forests ..	..	2,68,600	..	..	79,136	..	3,47,736	3
12. Motor Vehicles Tax Act ..	..	20	..	..	1,000	..	1,020	4
25. General Administration ..	12,71,600	4,68,500	..	67,001	54,694	13,38,601	5,23,194	5 & 6
27. Administration of Justice..	2,59,900	1,300	..	8,348	775	2,68,248	2,075	7 & 8
28. Jails ..	..	15,400	..	..	5,550	..	20,950	9
29. Police ..	4,16,400	1,04,100	..	38,635	42,489	4,55,035	1,46,589	10 & 11
37. Education (other than European).	..	2,12,800	66,403	..	42,740	..	3,21,943	12
38. Medical ..	1,28,600	2,79,500	28,378	53,410	1,10,077	1,82,010	4,17,955	13 & 14
39. Public Health ..	30,900	47,100	..	1,800	10,695	32,700	66,795	15 & 16
40. Agriculture ..	..	1,82,500	1,600	..	12,210	..	1,96,310	17
41. Veterinary ..	..	13,900	..	..	2,000	..	15,900	18
42. Co-operation ..	24,300	..	..	9,450	..	33,750	..	19
43. Industries ..	..	5,100	..	..	817	..	5,917	20
50. Civil works (Ex-Tools and Plant).	..	6,57,600	1,25,319	..	3,67,561	..	11,80,480	21
Civil works (Establishment, Tools and Plant).	44,600	55,500	..	33,592	50,100	78,182	1,05,600	22 & 23
54. Famine Relief ..	..	3,200	..	..	24,278	..	27,478	24
56. Stationery and Printing ..	..	2,000	..	..	500	..	2,500	25
57. Miscellaneous ..	20,47,400	3,23,300	21,432	16,200	1,18,278	20,93,600	4,63,000	26 & 28
63. B.—Expenditure on Forest War Development Schemes.	..	..	..	..	1,26,732	..	1,26,732	27
Total ..	42,48,800	26,89,220	2,43,182	2,66,506	10,61,442	45,15,606	39,93,844	

A. G. P. (L. A.) No 3 6--118+2--15-6-1947