

**Proceedings of the First 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
Thursday, the 28th March 1946

P R E S E N T

The Hon'ble Mr. Debeswar Sarmah, Speaker, in the Chair, six Hon'ble
Ministers and 82 Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given.)

Agencies for procurement and distribution of rice and paddy

†Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked :

*19. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The names of the Agencies in their employ for procurement and distribution of rice and paddy showing their respective areas of operation and functions ?
- (b) The capital outlay, if any, they are to make themselves in due discharge of their functions and for how long ?
- (c) What are the terms and conditions on which they are employed ?
- (d) Whether there are complaints against any of them ?
- (e) If so, what are these complaints and what action has been taken by Government or proposed to be taken on them ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE replied :

19. (a)—(i) Messrs. Steel Brothers & Company, Limited—Procurement of rice and paddy in the Assam Valley.

(ii) Messrs. Assam Valley Supply Syndicate—Distribution of rice in the Dibrugarh subdivision.

(b)—All capital outlay other than working expenses is made by Government, but the Agents provide their own working expenses.

(c)—Copies of the Agreements with both Agencies are laid on the Library table.

(d)—Yes, in regard to Messrs. Steel Brothers.

(e)—Complaints have from time to time been received against Messrs. Steel Brothers to the effect that they operate through license-holders and do not buy direct from cultivators. In the months of November and December, 1945 when supply was greater than the demand there were also some complaints that they were not buying all quantities offered to them.

The system of procurement is under the consideration of Government with the present policy of maximum procurement, the Agents are now accepting all offers made to them, consistent with quality requirements.

† The Question was put by Srijut Mohendramohan Chaudhury on authorisation.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY : Are we to understand, Sir, that there is no agency at present in the Surma Valley ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : I think, Sir, the hon. Member has not studied the question, because the question is "to state the names of the Agencies in their employ". In the Surma Valley there are agencies for procurement under the direct supervision of Government Officers.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR : Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has stated that the system of procurement is under the consideration of Government. May I know whether the question of distribution is also under the consideration of Government ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : So far as the question of distribution of rice and paddy in the Dibrugarh Subdivision is concerned, the Assam Valley Supply Syndicate distributes rice and paddy. I do not understand whether the hon. Members want to know if this operation of distribution is also under the consideration of Government or not.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR : I want to know, Sir, whether Government undertakes to consider the entire question of procurement and distribution throughout the whole Province, as this is a very important matter.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : If there be any difficulty in regard to distribution of rice and paddy and if it is brought to the notice of Government, certainly Government will consider about this question of distribution.

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY : Do Government propose to see that rice and paddy are purchased directly by Government ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : It is under the consideration of Government. At present it is being done under the direct supervision of Government officers in the Surma Valley. But the question whether it will be possible for Government to purchase direct from the cultivators without going through any agencies is under the consideration of Government.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI : Are Government aware that the distribution of rice and paddy from the surplus area to the deficit area is not normal ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : I could not exactly follow the question, Sir.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI : My question is that the distribution of rice and paddy from the surplus area to the deficit area is not regular and satisfactory, because some deficit areas are suffering very badly for want of rice and paddy.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : As soon as it is brought to the notice of Government that some particular area is suffering for want of rice and paddy, steps are taken immediately to despatch rice and paddy from the surplus area to the deficit area.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI : Are Government aware that Sunamganj Subdivision is still suffering for want of rice and paddy ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : It is a new question.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : I may say, Sir, for the information of the Hon'ble House that some parts of Sunamganj are really deficit areas and Government have taken necessary steps to supply rice and

paddy to those particular areas. But if it is said that some areas are still suffering in this respect, no such information has been received by Government as yet.

Babu PURNENDU KISHORE SEN GUPTA: Are these deficit places the bordering areas of the Province, Sir?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Most of them.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: May I know through which agency Government has taken up the task of the supply of rice and paddy to deficit areas.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Government have got their own stock and are supplying from that stock, Sir.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to question 19 (a), I think the intention of the hon. Questioner is to include the whole Province, but I do not know why Surma Valley has not been included in the answer.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Because there is no agency under the employ of Government in the Surma Valley. The word 'employ' has been very conveniently overlooked by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: But Government has put a restrictive interpretation on the word 'employment', Sir. I want to know what arrangement Government has made for procurement and distribution of rice and paddy in the Surma Valley?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I have already stated, Sir, that Government officers are purchasing rice and paddy in the Surma Valley. There is no separate agency employed by Government for this purpose. Government are purchasing direct through the license holders, under the supervision of their officers.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: May I know, Sir, through whom Government is purchasing in the Surma Valley—whether they are purchasing direct from the cultivators or through some other agency?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, I have already replied to this question that Government officers are purchasing through some intermediaries. Maulavi Mayeenud-Din Ahmed Chowdry asked whether Government were considering to purchase direct from the cultivators and I have replied to that question that it is under the consideration of Government. If the hon. Member does not care to hear my replies, I am afraid, I cannot help.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: The Hon'ble Minister says that they are purchasing through some intermediaries, but may I know, Sir, who are these intermediaries?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: They are license-holders.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: May I know, Sir, from what date Government started purchasing direct?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: From 1945, Sir.

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY: Are Government aware that a state of famine exists in Maulvibazar?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I want to inform the hon. Member that this sort of policies are not discussed by way of questions. For such questions separate Motions are to be moved and I hope that the hon. Members will please go through the Assembly rules which will greatly help them. I have not the slightest idea of checking the hon. Members of their privileges of making

any speech but I have to point out that we are to act under certain rules under which it is clearly stated, how we are to act in the matter of questions, in the matter of Motions and in the matter of making statements.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: The hon. Member put a question by which he wants to know whether the Government are aware that the Maulvi bazar Subdivision is in a state of famine.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I am afraid that is a new question. I feel that certain latitude is to be allowed in respect of hon. Members who are new but when the hon. Members who are veteran parliamentarians it will be my painful duty to point out the rules.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: May I respectfully submit, Sir, that there should not be any distinction between hon. Members who are new or hon. Members who are old, all of them should be presumed as equally equipped.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Mr. Das is perfectly correct but it may be stated that I myself had some difficulties when I was new to this House. Of course, I do not want to distinguish between the hon. Members who are old and who are new.

Survey of the Juri River

Mr. W. D. RUTHERFURD asked:

*20. Will Government be pleased to state when the promised survey of the Juri river will be carried out to investigate the causes of the river silting up, thereby causing serious obstruction to boating traffic each cold weather season?

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

20.—It is not possible to give a date. But Government will consider undertaking survey of this and other similar problems, as soon as the requisite staff is available.

Babu PURNENDU KISHORE SEN GUPTA: Are Government aware that almost all the other rivers in the Surma Valley are silting up like the Juri river?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: No such information has been received.

Mr. W. D. RUTHERFURD: A year ago I put the same question and the reply was that owing to the war there was no staff available for the purpose, but now that the war is over staff should be available.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: I am not aware of that, Sir, as at that time I was away in America. I may tell the hon. Member that we have advertised for officers and as soon as we get them we will take up the work.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: There should be continuity in administration and the Hon'ble Minister should see the answers which were given previously. The plea that he was away in America is not satisfactory.

Maulavi MD. IDRIS ALI: Are Government aware that owing to the silting up of the Juri river the Chakla Beel which is one of the biggest fishery is greatly affected as its water cannot be drained out?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: That is a new question, Sir, I want notice of it.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: The Hon'ble Minister said that as soon as staff is available the work will be taken up. May I know what kind of staff is going to be appointed?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Technical staff for survey of these rivers for embankment, drainage and other such works. At present we have not enough staff for that purpose.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether advertisement has been made for this staff?

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

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Where it was published?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: The hon. Member may refer to the *Assam Gazette*.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: May I know, Sir, whether this staff will also be available for the Assam Valley or they are meant only for Surma Valley?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: They will be available for both Assam Valley and Surma Valley.

Trunk Telephone Line from Comilla to Silchar and from Sylhet to Badarpur

Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED asked:

*21. (a) Will Government be pleased to refer to Starred question No. 241 asked by Maulavi Muhammad Maqbul Hussain Chaudhuri, M.L.A., during the sitting of the Assembly on the 24th March, 1945 regarding the Trunk telephone line from Comilla to Silchar and its supplementaries and state what action has been taken by Government on the various points stated therein?

(b) Is it a fact that the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj, has not yet paid the cost of erecting temporary fencing in the affected area for one year at the rate referred to in the Starred question No. 241(b)?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to take necessary steps to erect permanent fencing in the houses which have been affected by the removal of trees, etc., in connection with the construction of the Trunk telephone line from Sylhet to Badarpur?

(d) If not, why not?

(e) Are Government aware that the removal of trees, etc., for the construction of Trunk telephone line from Sylhet to Badarpur has made the people loser in many respects?

(f) Are Government aware of the resentment and hardship of the affected people owing to this treatment of the local officers in respect of payment of compensation in this connection?

(g) If so, what steps Government propose to take against these officers?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISNURAM MEDHI replied:

21. (a) & (b)—The Deputy Commissioner reported a year ago that such compensation was being paid and there has been no subsequent representation.

(c) & (d)—No, because the original protection was itself not permanent.

(e)—No.

(f)—No such representation has been received.

(g)—Does not arise.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: Will Government please state why the compensation has not as yet been paid?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISNURAM MEDHI: Government are not aware of any resentment. When the question No. 21 was answered the report was called for from the Deputy Commissioner and he reported that compensation was paid.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: Will Government take it from me that the compensation has not as yet been paid?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: In that case another enquiry shall have to be made.

†Maulvi ABDUR RASHEED: Are Government aware that in rural areas bamboos and *murtas* serve the purpose of permanent fencing? If not, will Government obtain the views of the hon. Members of this House?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I could not follow the question owing to its length.

†Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED: Are Government aware that bamboos and *murtas* serve the purposes of permanent fencing?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: That will be a valuable property to the cultivator.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: Compensation was not paid for these.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: My report is that compensation was paid. If there is any specific case of complaint that compensation was not paid, that will be enquired into.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: My point is first, that no compensation has been paid and secondly, no regard has been paid to the fact that bamboos and *murtas* serve the purpose of permanent fencing.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: In all places there were no bamboo and *murta* fencing. There was artificial fencing erected.

Number of Lower Primary, Middle Vernacular and Middle English Schools in the Gauhati Subdivision

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR asked:

*22. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of Lower Primary, Middle Vernacular and Middle English Schools in the Gauhati Subdivision (giving also the number of Venture Schools of all the three classes) in existence on the 31st January, 1946?

(b) The number of Middle Vernacular and Middle English Schools in the Barpeta and Mangaldai Subdivisions respectively as it stood on the said date?

*23. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Deputy Inspectors are responsible for inspecting Middle Vernacular and Middle English Schools?

(b) Are Government aware that the total number of Middle Vernacular and Middle English Schools in the Gauhati Subdivision is about 100 and that a single Deputy Inspector of Schools finds it extremely difficult to inspect the Schools properly?

(c) Are Government aware that most of the Middle Vernacular and Middle English Schools of the Gauhati Subdivision go without inspection?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the number of Middle Vernacular Schools and Middle English Schools of the Gauhati Subdivision inspected by the Deputy Inspector of Schools during the years 1944 and 1945 (giving the names of Schools inspected)?

(e) Is it a fact that the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Gauhati Subdivision, is repeatedly requesting the authorities to appoint an Assistant Deputy Inspector of Schools to assist him?

(f) Do Government propose to create a separate Deputy Inspector's Subdivision comprising of the Nalbari and Rangia Sub-Inspector's circles with headquarters at Nalbari?

†The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied :

*22. (a) & (b)—The figures have been called for.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR : Will Government let me have the figures when they get them ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS : The admitted copies of these questions were received by Government on the 12th of March and immediately the figures were called for, but they have not yet been received. Government will try their best to secure the figures as early as possible and if the hon. Member wants, these figures may be supplied to him.

In the absence of the Hon'ble Srijut Gopinath Bardoloi, the Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS replied :

23. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The total number of Middle English and Middle Vernacular Schools on 31st March, 1945 in the Gauhati Subdivision was 89. The rules require that with the help of his Sub-Inspector, the Deputy Inspector must secure at least one visit annually to each School.

(c) & (d)—Government have no information which has been called for.

(e) & (f)—The proposal for a post of Deputy Inspector for Nalbari is under consideration of Government.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM : May I know whether the Government is willing to authorise the Sub-Inspectors of Schools to inspect middle vernacular and Middle English Schools ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS : If it be the desire of the hon. Member it may be considered.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table.)

Government Grant to Barpeta Local Board

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked :

80. (a) Are Government aware that the Government grant to Barpeta Local Board for communication is insufficient for the up-keep of the existing roads ?

(b) Do Government propose to consider as a special case to increase the communication grant to the Barpeta Local Board ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

80. (a)—Government are aware that the cost of maintaining Local Board roads has greatly increased since the present rate of communications grants to the Boards was fixed.

(b)—Government are considering the question of a proportionate increase, if funds permit, to all Local Boards. It is not proposed to make a special case of any one Board.

*Srijut MAHENDRAMOHON CHAUDHURY : Will Government be pleased to state the criteria followed by the Government at the time of allotment of communications grant to Local Boards ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : I think the question does not arise in view of the replies to these questions.

*Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURI : May I know when the present rate of communications grant was fixed ?

†In the absence of the Hon'ble Srijut Gopinath Bardoloi, the Hon'ble Mr. Basanta Kumar Das replied.

*Speech not corrected

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : It was fixed some years ago. It is difficult to give the exact time.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Regarding the question put by hon. Srijut Mohendramohan Chaudhury, I think that question is quite relevant.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : The underlying principle is to make a substantial grant to those local bodies whose expenditure is heavy in comparison with their income. This practice has been followed for a long time. The peculiar circumstances and conditions obtaining in local bodies are taken into consideration.

*Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHAUDHURY : May I take it from the Hon'ble Minister that the grant allotted by the Government is proportionate to the cost and expenditure incurred by the Boards ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : That is not possible without calculation.

*Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHAUDHURY : Is the condition of the Board considered ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : It is considered

*Khan Sahib Maulavi NURUL HOSSAIN KHAN : Will the Hon'ble Minister take it into consideration that the price of material and labour has increased ten times and will the Government increase the communications grant to the Local Boards because they cannot work for want of money.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : The answer (b) will be sufficient, I think.

*Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY : Do not the Government think that it is absolutely necessary to find out money for the purpose ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : That will be taken into consideration.

*Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY : The answer is : Government are considering the question of a proportionate increase. May I know, proportionate to what ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : According as each local body got the grant previously. Proportionate to the needs of local bodies.

*Maulavi ABDUL HAMID : Is it proportionate increase in the cost of the maintenance of the road.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUDMDAR : Each Local Body has been receiving a grant for communications for a long time, and this will mean increase in proportion of that grant in relation to other Local Bodies.

Khan Sahib NURUL HOSSAIN KHAN : The words "if funds permit" are very vague and evasive. Will the Hon'ble Minister let the House know whether Government are in a position to increase the grant to some extent, at least ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : I have already said, Sir, "if funds permit", and that is sufficient.

*Khan Bahadur MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE : The Hon'ble Minister has stated that grants will be increased according to the needs of the Boards. May I know whether he has taken any steps to ascertain the needs of the different Boards ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : Yes, Sir, enquiries are being made.

Leases granted to the Assam Oil Company

Srijut KAMESWAR DAS asked :

81. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The different leases granted to the Assam Oil Company (i) before, (ii) after, the 1st April, 1937, showing their dates of commencement and expiry ?
- (b) Whether the rates of royalty levied by Assam Government were prescribed in the cases of leases granted prior to 1st April, 1937 by the Government of India and in the cases of leases granted subsequently, by the Government of Assam ?
- (c) If so, what are the rates prescribed by the Government of India and by the Assam Government on each of the different leases ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

81. (a)—Digboi lease No.1 } Issued 1892, renewed 1917
 " " " 2 } and 1942.

Makum lease ... Issued 1901 renewed 1926.
 In Lakhimpur Frontier Tract. } Hansapung lease Issued 1907 renewed 1942.
 " " " } Kharjan " Issued 1938.

The first four leases are all for periods of 25 years, both on issue and renewal. The last-named lease is for *thirty* years.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The rate prescribed in 1892 and 1901 was annas 8 per hundred gallons of crude oil. The rate prescribed in 1917 was annas 8 per 40 gallons or 5 per cent. *ad valorem* on gross value of oil at the option of the lessee.

The rate prescribed in 1926, 1938 and 1942 was annas 8 per 40 gallons or 5 per cent. *ad valorem* on gross value of oil whichever is greater.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BAROOAH: With regard to (c), will the Hon'ble Revenue Minister please state on what basis the present royalty has been assessed, whether at 8 annas per 40 gallons or 5 per cent. *ad valorem* ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Every year calculations are made both at annas 8 per 40 gallons and 5 per cent *ad valorem* and whichever is found greater, at the option of the lessee.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BAROOAH: Is it not a fact that under the Rules framed by the Government of India it lies with the Provincial Government to vary the rates even during the continuance of the lease ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: It is very difficult to say, without consulting legal opinion, whether any variation of the terms of the lease can be made. This is a very difficult question to answer.

Srijut LAKSHESVAR BAROOAH: Will the Hon'ble Minister please examine the matter ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Yes, Sir, I will.

Babu PURNENDU KISHORE SEN GUPTA: Will Government be pleased to state the reason for giving the last-named lease for 30 years instead of 25 years, as previously ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: That was done by the last Government, and it is difficult to ascertain the reason from the materials in our possession now.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: As regards (a), may I know whether renewal is optional or is it a mere formality ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Government has the option either to renew the lease or not. It all depends on the attitude Government take.

Post of Head Master, Sibsagar Government High School

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA asked:

82. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether Maulavi Azizur Rahman, Ex-Head Master of Nazira Government Aided High School, was appointed Head Master, Sibsagar Government High School in Class I of the Assam School Service?

(b) Is it a fact that Maulavi Azizur Rahman resigned his post of Head Master in the Nazira Government Aided High School to join the Sibsagar Government High School?

(c) Is it a fact that it was a condition in Maulavi Azizur Rahman's application that he was to be given a minimum salary of Rs. 300 and usual pension on retirement?

(d) Is it a fact that while giving him the appointment Government remained silent about his salary and pension?

(e) Is it a fact that after elapse of many months and submission of many reminders and telegrams the question of his pay was opened and he was first offered an initial pay of Rs. 150, then Rs. 175 and finally Rs. 200 per month?

(f) Is it a fact that Maulavi Azizur Rahman resigned his post on account of this?

(g) Do Government propose to reconsider his case?

*The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied:

82. (a)—Yes, on the 1st February, 1945.

(b)—It was not reported that he resigned from his former post.

(c)—Maulavi Azizur Rahman applied for the post as advertised. Government was not bound by conditions proposed by the applicant.

(d)—He was appointed on probation. Government did not accept his proposed terms.

(e)—A proposal was made by the Director of Public Instruction to fix his pay at a higher stage than the bottom of the scale within 2 months of the appointment. His initial pay was first allowed at Rs. 175 and later raised to Rs. 200.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—No

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA: With regard to (d), does not the silence with regard to the terms at the time of his appointment presume that the said candidate's terms were accepted?

The Hon'ble Srijut BASANTA KUMAR DAS: I don't think that inference can be made. Now, this gentleman was appointed by the late Government, and as far as we could ascertain from the files Government were not prepared to accept his terms. Government fixed a scale for the gentleman and enhanced it some months after.

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA: In view of the fact that the said Maulavi Azizur Rahman was an efficient teacher and is now without any employment for no fault of his own, why should Government not propose to consider his case?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: I do not think, Sir, that his resignation was for no fault of his own. Government fixed a special pay to him and enhanced it some months after. He was not satisfied and

*Replied to by Hon'ble Mr. Basanta Kumar Das in the absence of Hon'ble Mr. Gopinath Bardoloi.

Government could not grant the increments; so he resigned. How does the question of retaining him anyhow arise, Sir?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA: But he resigned as a protest.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: It may be so, Sir, but a special case was made for him on account of his old age. The scale of pay of a headmaster is from Rs.150-12½-250-12½-350. But he was appointed on Rs.175 and some months after that pay was raised to Rs. 200. Beyond that I think the late Government could not do anything else.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I hear that he resigned on protest. May I know on what point he protested?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The points are enumerated in the question.

Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI (from the last bench): Is Government prepared to take into consideration his case again?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, order. Chair is not supposed to see any hon. Member except in his own seat.

Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: I thought, Sir, you allowed us discretion in regard to our seating within our party block.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: No, that was so only for initial arrangement of seats at the commencement of the session. I can allow the hon. Member to come to his seat and put his question.

Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI (coming to his seat): Is Government prepared to reconsider his case in view of the suggestions that are forthcoming from different quarters of the House?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Can the hon. Member put such a question? He is to elicit information. He is asking Government whether they are prepared to take action on a certain matter.

Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: I wanted to elicit a fact which is in the mind of Government. The question, therefore, is in order.

(No reply.)

Establishment of Veterinary Laboratory in Surma Valley

Dr. C. G. TERRELL asked:

83. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether arrangements have been made to establish a proper Veterinary Laboratory in the Surma Valley such as the one at Gauhati?

(b) If not, whether Government propose to take necessary steps to have it done at an early date?

(c) Whether Government propose to take necessary steps for the cold storage arrangements for storing essential serums and vaccines for emergency cattle epidemic diseases in the Surma Valley?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied:

83. (a)—No.

(b) & (c)—Government will view the suggestions as of imperative necessity and will try to implement them.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: With regard to (b) & (c), the answer is "Government will view the suggestions as of imperative necessity and will try to implement them". Are we to understand that this includes the establishment of a veterinary laboratory in the Surma Valley?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : The question was "whether Government propose to take necessary steps to have it done at an early date ? The answer is "Government will view the suggestions as of imperative necessary and will try to implement them", and this answer relates to Surma Valley.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY : Am I to understand that the answer of the Hon'ble Minister is "Yes."

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : The answer is sufficiently clear, Sir.

Dr. C. G. TERRELL : Will the Hon'ble Minister inform the House what centre or place in the Surma Valley he considers most suitable for setting up this Laboratory and also for cold storage ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : The Government has not decided as yet.

Improvement in the Cloth Distribution of the Province

Mr. G. KYDD asked :

84. Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge give information as to what Government propose to do to improve the present cloth distribution in the Province ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE replied :

84.—Government propose to form committees consisting of officials and non-officials which will look after the equitable distribution of cloth both in urban and rural areas.

Mr. G. KYDD : Will the Hon'ble Minister please say how soon Government propose setting up these committees for the equitable distribution of cloth ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Sir, we have taken steps so that the committees may be formed at the earliest opportunity. So I cannot give a definite time. After approval by Government of the personnel of the committees those committees will begin functioning.

Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA : May I know, Sir, from the Hon'ble Minister in-charge how cloth is distributed at present in the rural areas ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Through retail sellers, Sir.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID : Are Government aware, Sir, that in many of the rural areas Government could not supply sufficient cloth for distribution ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Such complaints have been received, Sir.

*Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM : May I know, Sir, what power or function the committees that are proposed to be formed by Government will have ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : They will carry out the policy of Government, so far as distribution of cloth is concerned, *i. e.*, they will see that the distribution is equally and fairly made and at the same time they will also see that there be no black-marketing and profiteering.

*Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN : Sir, do we understand that those committees will work out the details of equal distribution of the cloth ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Yes, Sir.

*RAJA AJIT NARAYAN DEV : Sir, how the committees will be formed—whether they will be elected or nominated ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : The local well-known organisations will be requested to send their nominees ; and men of confidence will also be nominated for such committees.

*Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY : Sir, may I know what the Hon'ble Minister means by "local organisation" ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Like Congress, Muslim League, Jamiat-ul-Ulema, etc.

*Khan Sahib Maulavi NURUL HOSSAIN KHAN : Sir, in rural areas the people have to come from a distance of about 15 miles to the towns to get their quota of cloth and if they do not get on that day they cannot come on the next day. Now, are Government prepared to remove these difficulties and make arrangements for the supply of cloth from suitable mufassil areas ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Government is considering that.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN : May we know, Sir, what will be the relationship of the local officers with those committees that are suggested ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : There will be two kinds of committees, Sir. In the villages the name of the committees comprising a number of villages will be 'Vigilance Committees', and so far as the Subdivisional and District headquarters are concerned, they will be known as the 'Liaison Committees' and they will also have relation with the Vigilance Committees. In the 'Liaison Committees' there will be local officers also.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN : Sir, will the decision of the Committees be binding on Subdivisional or District Officers ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : As far as possible, Sir. But if there is any disagreement between them Government will have to be informed about that and they will then take necessary steps. There will be provision for that.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN : Sir, do we understand that in case of difference of opinion the matter will be referred to the Local Government for final decision ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Yes, Sir.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID : May I take it, Sir, that members of the committees will not have any power ? They will merely be advisory ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Not in all cases, Sir. If there is any difference of opinion Government will interfere in the matter. Otherwise the committees will have full power to make their own arrangement for equitable distribution according to the policy laid down by Government.

*Mr. P. M. SARWAN : May we know, Sir, the procedure Government will follow in forming those committees in the villages ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : We have asked the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers to form those committees directing that every *thana* will have to be taken as a unit and according to the population of the villages the *thana* will be divided into several committees.

*Mr. P. M. SARWAN : Are Government aware that in many committees there are representatives from one or two communities only, and not from other communities ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : In forming committees I do not think it will be quite possible to take representatives from all communities.

*Mr. P. M. SARWAN : Then it is clear, Sir, that Government do not want to do justice to all communities.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Government will try to do justice to all communities as much as possible.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the members of the committees will themselves be able to detect corruption or will merely suggest that corruption should be detected through Government officers.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: There is no bar in detecting corruption. The hon. Members of the House can detect corruption even now.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: By detection I meant "arrest of the corrupt persons".

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: Does the hon. Deputy Leader of the Opposition think that because he has no power to arrest a person, he failed in his attempts to detect cases of corruption?

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I understand that there will be two parallel bodies and the Government will be the arbitrator. I do not understand how that will work.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Everybody is quite at liberty to devote his time to detect corruption, and it is the duty of every citizen, if he is a citizen in the real sense of the term, to report cases of corruption to the proper authority. Who can stop him?

Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: So, they are to report but not to arrest corrupt persons. (*Laughter.*)

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: Does the Government contemplate to include the hon. Members of this House among the members of the committees, or only the Subdivisional Officers, Deputy Commissioners and other Government officers?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Certainly the hon. Members of this House will be put on the committees and it will be their duty to work on them so that they cannot put any question to us regarding cloth distribution but we can put questions to them. That is the intention.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Is the Hon'ble Minister of the opinion that the establishment of the committees will solve the problem of cloth distribution among the public?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I cannot say that the establishment of the committees will solve the problem, but if the committees work properly and if the members realise the responsibility entrusted on them, at least 75 per cent. of the problem will be solved.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Government consider proposals of the non-official members serving on the Committees?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Yes.

Detailing of Extra Police in Habiganj subdivision

Shri ABALA KANTA GUPTA asked:

85. Do Government propose to consider the suggestion of detailing extra Police to deal with cases of general lawlessness in Habiganj?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS replied:

85 — Government are not clear what the hon. Member means by "cases of general lawlessness". They will have no hesitation in arranging for the provision of extra Police on any occasion when they consider it necessary for the preservation of public order. At present they have no reason to expect affairs to go out of hand in this Subdivision, though they already have their eye on certain aspects of the situation.

Shri ABALA KANTA GUPTA: In this respect may I draw the attention of the Government to consider about the recent occurrences of forcibly stopping the Sankirtan at Rahrishal, Chunarughat, Nalmukh, Akhrah, Gochapara, Tongeswar and Bhadikhira and also regarding a public statement made by the Subdivisional Officer of Habiganj that although the Hindus are entitled to pass with Kirtan before a Masjid outside the Namaj hours, still, in the present condition of the excitement of the Moslem crowd, rioting may result, to quell which he had not sufficient number of armed police under him and if the Hindus insist on their right then the Moslem may insist on killing cows before Hindu temples to stop which he, the Magistrate, had no power under the law.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: Is this a question, Sir?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: He is quoting from certain paper and drawing attention of the Government.

Shri ABALA KANTA GUPTA: And for proper action.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Government have no information about the statement which is alleged to have been made by the Subdivisional Officer. May I know from the hon. Member from which paper he is quoting?

Shri ABALA KANTA GUPTA: The paper is "Pallibani" published only recently.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Now, Sir, in consideration of the statement that has been made by the hon. Member, Government are quite alive to the situation that is developing in Habiganj. The last three lines of the answer given are that "At present they have no reason to expect affairs to go out of hand in this Subdivision, though they already have their eye on certain aspects of the situation." The matter about which the hon. Member has just now given information will be enquired into and, if necessary, Government will not refrain from taking proper action.

Shri ABALA KANTA GUPTA: Will Government please consult the Law Adviser whether the interpretation of the Subdivisional Officer is correct?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: The hon. Member is asking Government to take action in the matter, but I find there is nothing in his statement he has read out which requires any opinion of the Law Adviser. The statement can be considered even without the opinion of the Law Adviser.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: May we know, Sir, what interest the hon. Member has in Habiganj? (Laughter.) May we know, Sir, in which Subdivisions the *Pallibani* is published, from which the hon. Member has quoted?

Shri ABALA KANTA GUPTA: I assume all the hon. Members of this House know it.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: May we know from the Hon'ble Minister what 'certain aspects of the situation' means, as used in the reply?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Hon. Members know that recently there was a disturbance at Habiganj and from reports received it seems that it is anticipated that there may be some more disturbances like that.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: May we know, Sir, what is the source of his information?

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: Has the Hon'ble Minister received a report like that from the Subdivisional Officer?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Not from the Subdivisional Officer but from newspapers and other sources we have got reports of the nature I have given indication of.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: Have the Police or Government officers reported that they apprehend further disturbance?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DĀS: Some time ago I had been to Sylhet and there I had discussion with the Police officers. And from what I ascertained from them I felt that it would be well not to disregard any apprehension of such disturbances in future.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, order, we come to the next item.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: May I draw your attention for a moment, Sir? Some supplementaries are necessary to these questions and may I request you to please allow us to put our supplementary questions tomorrow, when these questions would be taken up again.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes.

Adjournment Motion *re* Police pickets at Dubibasti area in Laluk Mauza at North Lakhimpur

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move one Adjournment Motion of which I have given notice, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance and of recent occurrence, namely, that of placing Police pickets at Dubibasti area in Laluk Mauza, North Lakhimpur, and thereby unlawfully preventing the *ex-tea* garden labour community from enjoying their lawful rights in the adjacent area and also in causing panic among the same community.

I would request you, Sir, to allow me to move the Adjournment Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: When did the hon. Member hear about this?

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: I heard about this only yesterday, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: How?

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: A reliable person has been sent up to me from that Subdivision by the people concerned.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: When that reliable person reached Shillong?

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: Probably day before yesterday and he handed over to me a written statement regarding this.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: On a point of information, Sir? At what time did the hon. Member receive this statement?

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: Yesterday at about noon.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: That is all right. What is the nature of interference?

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: The interference is of the Police pickets who had been sent there.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Why?

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: To prevent the *ex-tea* garden labour people from enjoying their lawful rights. May I read out the message which I have received, Sir?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: The letter has been addressed to Professor P. M. Sarwan, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Shillong, dated 27th March 1946. It runs as follows:—
“Sir,

I beg to inform you that 6 Constables with one Sub-Inspector of Police have been posted at Dubibasti area in Laluk Mouza of North Lakhimpur under the order of Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur. The above Police under the Subdivisional Officer's orders have become an object of terror to the ignorant and law abiding and docile tea labourers settled in Laluk Mouza. The local people are not allowed to move into the adjacent jungle and thereby their rights have been curtailed by the Subdivisional Officer's order which has been promulgated under section 144 in indecent haste.”

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will the hon. Member please explain why these people want to move into the jungle?

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: Because that jungle is as much theirs as it is anybody else's. They get fire-wood from that jungle and other necessities of life.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: That will do. What does the Hon'ble Minister say?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Adjournment Motion, as it is worded, does not show that there has been anything of very recent occurrence and of very urgent nature. From the message that has been read out by the hon. Member who has asked for leave to move the Motion, it appears that the facts stated in the message are rather vague. The sum and substance of the message is that some Police pickets have been posted and they have become an object of terror. How they have become an object of terror, is not explained. The hon. Member says that he infers or guesses that these Police people would interfere with the exercise of the lawful rights of the *ex-tea* garden people. I do not think, Sir, that the lawful right of the labourers to go into the jungle is an admitted right. I do not know whether the hon. House admit that the *ex-tea* garden coolies have got an established right to go into the jungle? And what is that right, is not explained. So, if this Adjournment Motion is allowed, then the House would be asked to discuss this question on certain assumptions which are being placed by the hon. Member, who has asked for leave to move this Motion. Is it permissible, Sir, that the House should proceed in this way to discuss an Adjournment Motion to censure Government? Furthermore, it appears, the Subdivisional Officer who is in charge of the Subdivision and who knows everything about the Subdivision, has thought it fit to place the Police pickets at the place mentioned in the Motion; but Government have not as yet got any information of any Police picket having been posted as alleged. The hon. Member further says that Section 144 has been promulgated, but we do not know as yet why promulgation of an order under Section 144 of Criminal Procedure Code has been necessitated. Then, Sir, we find that the Subdivisional Officer has taken certain legal steps; then there is remedy open to the affected party to go to a superior court of law to ventilate their grievances and have the order of Subdivisional Officer vacated. I think, Sir, the hon. Member is not at all justified in bringing a Motion like this. It is a matter which appears from what has been said to be *subjudice*. The Subdivisional Officer on certain grounds has thought it necessary to promulgate an order under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code and if we discuss this matter now on the floor of the House then we will be discussing certain facts which are under investigation by a law court.

So, Sir, these are the grounds on which I object to this Motion being admitted and discussed in the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This Adjournment Motion is indefinite and vague. It does not state what was the unlawful interference and how lawful rights were interfered with when an officer of the Crown performs certain acts in due discharge of his duties. Until and unless the contrary is shown these acts are presumed to be lawful acts. The position of course alters when the contrary is established, but in this Adjournment Motion no such thing has been done and as was stated by me on a similar occasion on an earlier day of this Session, when officers of the Government perform acts in course of their duties there is the legal remedy and persons aggrieved are to seek the legal remedies available to them in law, rather than run to the Legislature with Adjournment Motions.

I therefore hold this Adjournment Motion out of order.

Discussion on the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure charged upon the revenues of the Province during the year 1945-46

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We now come to the next item, *viz.*, discussion, if any, on Supplementary Statement of Expenditure charged upon the revenues of the Province during the year 1945-46. *

Will any hon. Member take part in the discussion ?

(After a pause.)

I take it that no hon. Member is going to take part on this item of business.

Voting on Demands for Supplementary Grants for 1945-46

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I now come to the item—voting on Demands for Supplementary Grants for 1945-46.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 1

4—TAXES ON INCOME OTHER THAN CORPORATION TAX.

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. 13,760 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 1946 for the administration of the head "4.—Taxes on Income other than Corporation tax".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	44,000
II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
	Rs.
Collection of taxes on Agricultural Income	13,760

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The excess is due to the following reasons :—

(1) Due to the creation of a post of Special Officer from 19th November 1945 to 17th January 1946 when Mr. N. N. Chakravarty was on training before he took over charge as Assistant Commissioner of Agricultural Income-tax, and to the fact that Mr. Saleh, the late Assistant Commissioner who was in the scale of Rs. 850—1,100 was allowed to draw pay in the senior scale of the Indian Civil Service in view of his seniority.

(2) Due to the entertainment of 1 Upper Division and 1 Sub-Grade Assistants from 1st April 1945 owing to increase in work in the office of the Assistant Commissioner.

(3) Due to the increased rate of dearness allowance and introduction of war allowance and also due to travelling allowance of officers and establishment in connection with taxation measures.

(4) Increase in law charges due to two pending cases before the High Court and 2 cases before the Privy Council for which the balance available will be insufficient to cover the pending bill of the Advocates in Calcutta.

(5) Contract contingencies due to large increase of 2,193 new assessment cases entailing greater expenditure in service stamps, etc., during the last four months of 1944-45.

These are some of the reasons why this excess amount had to be spent. I submit, Sir, that the Hon. House will accept this Supplementary Demand.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Question moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 13,760 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, 1946, for the administration of the head '4.—Taxes on Income other than Corporation tax'."

In this Supplementary Demand there are two Cut Motions.

In this connection I have to invite the attention of the hon. Members that Cut Motions are permissible only in so far as they relate to the estimate under each Supplementary Grant, other question or questions of policy cannot be dealt with. Judging from that standpoint I find many of the Cut Motions are out of order. Only two Cut Motions are allowed.

Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury may move his Cut Motion No. 1.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHUDHURY: I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 13,760 under Supplementary Demand No. 1, Major head—4.—Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax, Sub-head—Collection of taxes on Agricultural Income, at page 1 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46 be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 13,760 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

My object in moving this Cut Motion is to raise a discussion regarding cases pending before the High Court and Privy Council, referred to in the Explanatory Notes.

From the Explanatory Notes we find that the increase in the law charges is due to pending of two cases before the High Court and two cases before the Privy Council. I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister the details regarding these cases which are pending before the High Court and the Privy Council. The hon. Members would like to know under what circumstances these cases were instigated and the total cost incurred both now and in the past.

Another point I would like to know is, who are the Advocates employed in the Calcutta High Court and what amount was paid to them by way of fees? Only for elucidating these informations, Sir, I have tabled this Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

"That the provision of Rs 13,760 under Supplementary Demand No.1. Major head—4.—Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax, Sub-head—Collection of taxes on Agricultural Income, at page 1 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46 be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 13,760 do stand reduced by Re. 1."

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, the two cases pending before the High Court are, (1) The Maharaja of Tripura *versus* the Province of Assam, and (2) The Maharaja of Tripura *versus* the Province of Assam. These two cases are regarding assessment of Agricultural Income-tax. The Maharaja states that he being the ruling prince of a Feudatory State is not liable for his Zamindary Estate at Sylhet to pay Agricultural Income-tax under the Assam Agricultural Income-tax Act. This case is going on in the High Court and from Calcutta the bill has been sent to this Government for payment which is incurred in connection with the cases and that is why this supplementary grant is sought.

The other two cases pending before the Privy Council are (1) Jatindra Narayan Sinha Chaudhury *versus* Province of Assam. In this case the subject matter for decision is whether the Salami realised by the zamindar is assessable to Agricultural Income-tax or not. This question is at issue before the Privy Council. The second case is between English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited *versus* the Provincial Government. Here the plea is their income on tea estates in Assam is not assessable to agricultural income-tax as the company is a joint Co-operative Society. The payment is made through the High Commissioner. These are the four cases about which my hon. Friend wanted information. (*Voices*—who were the advocates engaged?) At this stage it is difficult for me to name the Advocates. In complicated cases we send our Advocate General to the High Court. In the Privy Council they are engaged through the High Commissioner.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: What was the result of the two cases pending in the Privy Council now, at the High Court?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: We won, and the other parties appealed against the order to the Privy Council.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member press his Cut Motion ?
Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: No Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw his Cut Motion ?

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY: I beg Sir, to move that the provision of Rs. 13,760 under Supplementary Demand No. 1, Major head—4.—Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax, Sub-head—Collection of taxes on Agricultural Income, at page 1 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46 be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 13,760 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

By this, I want to raise a discussion about the heavy Supplementary Demand.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This is out of order. In a Cut Motion not more than one item can be raised, but this includes as many as five items.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: May I point out, Sir, that he wants to discuss the whole demand it seems ? When a Supplementary Demand is placed, the hon. Member is entitled to discuss the whole demand.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Of course he is. Does the hon. Member want to discuss the whole demand ?

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY: I wanted to draw the attention of the House to a particular demand under the head 4—Taxes on Income other than Corporation tax.

(Voice—that means the whole demand)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: That may be discussed. The hon. Member may speak on the original demand.

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY: Sir we find in the list of Supplementary Demands for grants for 1945-46, that a sum of Rs. 13,760 has to be provided for. The grant originally voted by the Assembly is Rs. 44,000. Now in the Supplementary Demand for grant the Government proposes to have a grant of Rs. 13,760. A supplementary grant is always supplementary, it is only to supplement the original grant the expenditure of which could not be foreseen at the time of preparation of the annual Budget. So, Sir we find no justification on the part of the Government to bring one-third of the original grant before this House as Supplementary Demand. My intention in moving this Cut Motion is Sir, to show that the Government by bringing a Supplementary Demand for not less an amount than Rs. 13,760, about one-third of the original grant, have betrayed their inefficiency to prepare a budget. I would request the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge to see that such extraordinary Demands are not brought before this hon. House as Supplementary Demands in future.

With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion for the consideration of the House.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the Hon. Deputy Leader of the other party has said there must be some sort of continuity of Government, and this Demand is here to keep the continuity with last Government. The last Government incurred certain expenditure, and we had to carry on and obtain approval of the House. The sums were already spent and in order to keep the continuity of the Government we are to carry on this Demand for approval of this hon. House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 13,760 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, 1946, for the administration of the head '4.— Taxes on Income other than Corporation tax."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.2

No. 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. 24,080 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 1946 for the administration of the head "7.—Land Revenue".

					Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	...	...	22,25,100
II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for—					
Charges of Administration—					
A. General Establishment—					
(i) Pay of officers—Deduct recoveries from the Defence Department	...	...	...	...	—35,000
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	38,800
				Total	3,800
F.—Survey, Settlement and Record operations—					
(a) Assam Surveys—					Rs.
(I)—General and Controlling Section	...	...	...	...	2,030
(II)—Traverse Section	...	...	...	...	12,720
(III)—Survey Schools	...	...	...	...	5,530
				Total	20,280
				Grand Total	24,080

The explanatory note* will clearly indicate how the expenses were incurred. These are the reasons which will clearly indicate how the expenditure had to be incurred, and I beg to move that this House will accept this Demand.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI: On a point of order, Sir. So far as I remember previously it was the practice in this House simply to move the Supplementary Demands, adding that the necessity for the Demands have been explained in the explanatory notes. In order to economise time, I think we may follow that practice.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: May I suggest one thing, Sir? The explanatory note printed under each of the Supplementary Demand fully gives the reasons for the expenditure the Demand represents. These reasons should, therefore, appear in the printed proceedings of the House. So, in order to economise the time of the House I would request you, Sir, to direct that these explanatory notes under each of the Demands may be taken as read

*EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. (i)—Represents additional recoveries from the Defence Department on account of services rendered by Assam officers in connection with the requisitioning of land on behalf of the Central Government.

A. (ii)—Due to grant of increased rate of dearness and war allowances.

F. (a) (I)—The excess is due to the leave salary of the establishment going on leave on reversion from the Civil Porter Corps and due to grant of extra dearness and war allowance.

(II)—Excess due to full compliment of the Survey programme, entertainment of temporary staff and grant of dearness allowance at increased rates as well as purchase of tents.

(III)—The excess is due to entertainment of a large number of temporary Khalasis beyond anticipation in connection with the Officers' Survey and Settlement training class, enhanced rate of dearness allowance and war allowances as well as to the purchase of tents, etc.

and should be printed in the proceedings as part of the speech of the Hon'ble Minister moving it.

(The Hon'ble the Speaker consented to this procedure after obtaining the sense of the House.)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 24,080 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 1946 for the administration of the head—'7.—Land Revenue'."

There are two Cut Motions. Motion No. 1 stands in the name of Maulavi Mayeenud-din Ahmed Chowdry.

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, by my Motion* I wanted to raise a discussion about speedy derequisitioning of the lands and houses which were requisitioned during the war.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: On a point of order, Sir. This Cut Motion does not arise. The hon. Member wanted to raise a discussion about speedy requisition. Now, he says he wanted to discuss about derequisition. He cannot do it at this stage.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Even if the word is "derequisition", Sir, this Motion is not in order. The expenditure relates to additional recoveries from the Defence Department on account of services rendered by Assam officers in connection with requisitioning of land and houses on behalf of the Central Government. Now, this Government is to ask the Central Government to make payments for the compensation to be paid to the persons whose lands or houses were requisitioned.

Derequisition is something else apart from requisition, and for that as a matter of fact some expenditure will be necessary. But this represents the payments made to our officers on behalf of the Central Government and we must have the verdict of the House whether this payment may be made now and the Central Government asked later to recoup the amount.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think the amount comes in the ordinary course from the Central Government. That amount falls short of the total amount shown.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Sir, even if that be so, a discussion on the question of derequisition will complicate the matter, because there are numerous properties requisitioned.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I can see the point of the Hon'ble Minister. There is one difficulty, and it comes in like this: A (i) represents additional recoveries from the Defence Department on account of services rendered by Assam officers in connection with the requisitioning of land on behalf of the Central Government. I do not know, nor do I want to anticipate, whether the hon. Member wants to raise a discussion in connection with the services that the Assam Government's officers rendered in the matter of requisition or derequisition. If he puts it in that way, I think the Cut Motion is admissible.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Another point is this, Sir: the policy of requisition is one thing, and the policy with regard to derequisition is another thing. You yourself just ruled that in Cut Motions on Supplementary Demand no question of general policy should be discussed. The policy may be discussed with regard to a particular point; that point is requisition, but derequisition relates to another policy.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: But the gordian knot is cut. The word unfortunately used in the original Motion is 'requisition'. I think the hon. Member is now satisfied that his Motion is not in order.

*Speech not corrected.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Now, with regard to the second Motion† tabled by Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury, the hon. Member wants to raise a discussion about the indifferent treatment meted out to the technical hands whose services were transferred to the Defence Services in 1942 and reverted in 1945. I do not think this is pertinent to the Demand. Will the hon. Member kindly explain how this is relevant?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: My Motion relates to F.—Survey Settlement and Record operations, at page 2. My submission is that the services of some technical hands belonging to the Survey Department of Assam.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: But F is explained thus: "the excess is due to the leave salary of the establishment going on leave on reversion from the Civil Porter Corps and due to grant of extra dearness and war allowance". Certainly, the latter portion does not come in; the excess is due to leave salary of the establishment going on leave.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: There is the question of reversion also, Sir. I was going to submit that services of these officers were lent to the Defence Department and they have reverted now. As they have reverted it has been necessary to provide for their pay.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Under which item does that come in?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: If you rule the Motion out of order, Sir, I may speak on the main grant.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Sir, in the year 1942 some officers belonging to the Survey Department of the Government of Assam were transferred to the Defence Services. Those persons were taken there under compulsion and had to do work at danger zones like Ledo, Palel, Kumbhirgram and other places. At the time of bombing they were also at those danger spots. They have been released from the Defence Services, only by the later part of 1945. My submission is that during this period when they were in the Military Department for the Defence Services they were not paid any special allowance in the shape of deputation or war allowance. Even after their reversion to their original jobs no special consideration has been shown to them. Sir, officers who rendered similar services in other provinces were amply compensated. But the Government of Assam did not care to move the Military authorities, for raising their pay or give special allowances for the service they had to render in those danger zones. I want to bring this matter to the notice of the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge so that it might receive his consideration.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Friend the Mover has not probably got the information correctly. So I may tell him that there was no compulsion on the part of Government, but there was an offer made by the Central Government whether those persons, were available for such services. They were of course kept not exactly in the danger zones but near-by them in their civil employment but they were given the initial pay enjoyed of their pay in addition to their salary received previously, *plus* free ration, free clothing, free quarters. Besides that they could have other amenities for enjoyment as other regular Military personnel could do. There was therefore no complaint whatsoever from those people.

† 2. Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY to move:

That the provision of Rs. 24,280 under Supplementary Demand No. 2, Major head—7.—Land Revenue, Minor head—F.—Survey, Settlement and Record operations (a) Assam Surveys (total), at page 2 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46 be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 24,080 do stand reduced by Re. 1

(To raise a discussion about the indifferent treatment meted out to the technical hands whose services were transferred to the Defence Services in 1942 and reverted in 1945.)

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: 'Sir, may I point out that they were not allowed 50 per cent. extra in addition to their pay.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: They were paid. If in any specific case extra 50 per cent. was not paid the matter will be enquired in to. The hon. Member's information is not correct.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.24,080 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 1946 for the administration of the head '7.—Land Revenue'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 3.

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 a sum of Rs.23,000 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 1946 for the administration of the head '8.—Provincial Excise'.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	4,44,500
II.—Sub heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	

B.—District Executive Establishment—

	Rs.
Allowances and Honoraria	7,000
C.—Distilleries—	
Contingencies (Non-contract)	16,000
Total	23,000

The reasons for which the grant is necessary has been explained in the explanatory note †

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum of Rs.23,000 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 1946 for the administration of the head '8.—Provincial Excise'."

The two Cut Motions under this Demand are out of order. I take it that the hon. Members who tabled Cut Motions under this Demand are not going to speak on the main Demand. I am therefore putting the question.

The question is:

"That a sum of Rs.23,000 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 1946 for the administration of the head '8.—Provincial Excise'."

The question was adopted.

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess under B.—District Executive Establishment—Allowances and Honoraria is mainly due to payment of rewards to Government servants necessitated by detection of a large number of important opium smuggling cases.

The excess under "C.—Distilleries—Contingencies—Non-contract" is due to the imposition by the Government of Bihar of Export fees on country spirit from that Province into Assam.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 4.

10.—FORESTS

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.4,56,475 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 1946 for administration of the head "10.—Forests".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	25,13,400
II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—	

B.—Establishment—

	Rs.
B.5.—Grant-in-aid, Contribution, etc.	4,56,475

The explanatory note *explains the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs.4,56,475 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 1946 for administration of the head '10.—Forests'."

The only Cut Motion under this Demand is out of order.

Does any one intend to speak on the main Demand?

(After a pause.)

I am then putting the question. The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 4,56,475 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 1946 for administration of the head '10.—Forests'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 5

11.—REGISTRATION

The Hon'ble Srijut BASANTA KUMAR DAS: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 4,500 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 1946 for the administration of the head "11.—Registration".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	1,96,900
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
A—District charges—	
3. Allowances and Honoraria	3,800
4. Contingencies	601
B—Works—	
1. Repairs	99
Total	4,500

* EXPLANATORY NOTE

The sum demanded represents the net result after adjustment of the value of stone removed by military formations for war purposes. There is of course a correspondingly increased revenue on the other side of the account; the cost of stone so removed and paid for being shown only in order to bring out the true results of the year's work.

In the explanatory note* the reasons for which this Demand is necessary have been given.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 4,500 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 1946 for the administration of the head '11.—Registration."

As there is no Cut Motion under this Demand, I am putting the question. The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 4,500 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 1946 for the administration of the head '11.—Registration."

The question was adopted:

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 6

12.—CHARGES ON ACCOUNT OF THE MOTOR VEHICLES TAXATION ACT

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional sum of Rs. 91,540 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 1946 for the administration of the head "12.—Charges on account of of the Motor Vehicle Taxation Act."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	2,97,200
II.—Sub-head under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
(1) A—Charges for collection	7,430
(2) B—Inspection of motor vehicles	1,074
(3) C—Compensation to local bodies, etc.	83,036
Total	91,540

*EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.—3—Due to (1) deputation of officers to election works, (2) due to revision in the rates of dearness and war allowance and (3) to meet the bills of section writers.

A.—4—Due to (1) higher rents paid to some Sub-Registry Office buildings, (2) due to purchase of boats for two Sub-Registry Offices for which there was no budget provision and (3) due to opening of two Sub-Registry Offices and increase in correspondence.

B —Due to repairs made to the Katigora and Dhubri Sub-Registry Officers' buildings.

The reason for bringing this Demand has been explained fully in the Explanatory Note*.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam an additional sum of Rs. 91,540 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 1946 for the administration of the head '12.—Charges on account of the Motor Vehicle Taxation Act'."

There are two Cut Motions. Hon. Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury may move No. 1†.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: No. 2 is also on the same subject. Let it be moved, Sir.

Dr. EMRAN HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 83,036 under Supplementary Demand No. 6 Major head—12.—Charges on account of the Motor Vehicle Taxation Act, Minor head—C—Compensation to Local Bodies, etc., at page 4 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 91,540 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

*EXPLANATORY NOTE

An additional appropriation of Rs. 91,540 is required during the current financial year for the following reasons:—

(1) An excess of Rs. 3,430 under 'Allowances' is due to the grant of dearness allowance at the enhanced rate sanctioned during the year and increase of tours by Inspectors of Motor Vehicles.

An excess of Rs. 4,000 under 'Contingencies' is due to the rise in prices of contingency articles.

(2) The excess of Rs. 1,074 under the sub-head 'Inspection of motor vehicles' is due to the grant of war allowance and increased touring by Motor Vehicles Inspectors.

(3) Compensation to local bodies, etc.—

(a) It was decided after protracted negotiations between the Province and the Crown Representative that compensation of Rs. 7,500 must be paid to the Khyrim State during the current financial year on account of a fall in State revenues in the shape of *bazar* tolls, etc., due to the construction of the Sylhet-Shillong Motor Road through the Khyrim State whereas the control of motor traffic on the Road and resultant revenues were appropriated by the Province. No provision had been made for the purpose in the current year's budget.

(b) The Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company, Limited, the Shillong Transport and Trading Company, Limited, and The Carriers, Limited obtained a decree against Government for Rs. 25,000 as damages in M. S. No. $\frac{19 \text{ of } 1940}{1 \text{ of } 1942}$ in the Court of the 2nd Sub-Judge, Sylhet, with costs amounting to Rs. 536-3-9. The plaintiffs appealed to the High Court and Government filed a cross-appeal. Meanwhile, the Companies filed another suit before the 2nd Sub-Judge, Sylhet, against Government claiming Rs. 1 lakh for loss of mesne profits. While the appeals were pending before the High Court and the Companies' suit was pending before the 2nd Sub-Judge, Sylhet, a compromise was achieved on the following terms:—

- (i) That the appeal by the Companies and the cross-appeal by Government in the High Court be both withdrawn, the Sub-Judge's decree for Rs. 25,000 and proportionate costs amounting to Rs. 536-3-9 thereby remaining in force;
- (ii) that the pending suit before the Sub-Judge be decreed, on compromise for Rs. 50,000, both parties bearing their own costs.

The High Court has allowed the withdrawal of the appeals and dismissed them on the petition of compromise.

The Sub-Judge has also decreed the sum of Rs. 50,000 in M. S. No. 1 of 1944.

Thus a total sum of Rs. 75,536-3-9 has to be paid to the Companies for which no provision exists in the current year's budget.

†Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY to move:—

That the provision of Rs. 83,036 under Supplementary Demand No. 6, Major head—12.—Charges on account of the Motor Vehicle Taxation Act, Minor head—C.—Compensation to local bodies, etc., at page 4 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46 be reduced by Re. 1 i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 91,540 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

(To raise a discussion about compromising the cases by and against Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company Ltd., etc.)

Sir, on the termination of the contract between the Government and the Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company, Limited, the Assam Government gave the license to the United Motor Transport Company, Ltd. and the Carriers, Limited. This led the Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company to file a suit against the Government for compensation of Rs. 1 lakh. The suit was decreed in favour of the Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company but the amount was brought down to Rs. 25,000. Both the parties preferred an appeal to the High Court of course on different grounds, Government for the injustice done to them and the Company for the reduction of the amount claimed. While the case was pending, another case was filed by the Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company and during the pendency of these two cases before the High Court, both Government and the Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company thought it desirable to come to terms and both the cases were compromised as has been explained in the Explanatory Note. I beg to read out, Sir, from page 4 of the List of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46.

“(b) The Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company, Limited, the Shillong Transport and Trading Company, Limited, and the Carriers, Limited, obtained a decree against Government for Rs. 25,000 as damages in M. S. $\frac{19 \text{ of } 1940}{1 \text{ of } 1942}$ in the

Court of the 2nd Sub-Judge, Sylhet, with costs amounting to Rs. 536-3-9. The plaintiffs appealed to the High Court and Government filed a cross-appeal. Meanwhile, the companies filed another suit before the 2nd Sub-Judge, Sylhet, against Government claiming Rs. 1 lakh for loss of mesne profits. While the appeals were pending before the High Court and the Companies' suit was pending before the 2nd Sub-Judge, Sylhet, a compromise was achieved on the following terms:—

- (i) That the appeal by the Companies and the cross-appeal by Government in the High Court be both withdrawn, the Sub-judges' decree for Rs. 25,000 and proportionate costs amounting to Rs. 536-3-9 thereby remaining in force ;
- (ii) that the pending suit before the Sub-Judge be decreed, on compromise for Rs. 50,000, both parties bearing their own costs.”

Now, Sir, the question before the House is when Government knew they were handling a lost cause, what led Government to prefer an appeal and then compromise the cases ? Why did they thus waste huge sums of public money. With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion to the serious consideration of the hon. Members of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Cut Motion moved :

“That the provision of Rs. 83,036 under Supplementary Demand No. 6, Major head—12.—Charges on account of the Motor Vehicle Taxation Act, Minor head—C—Compensation to Local Bodies, etc., at page 4 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 91,540 do stand reduced by Re. 1.”

—Maulavi NASIR-UD-DIN AHMED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would extend my whole-hearted support to the Motion moved by my hon. Friend Dr. Chaudhury. In this connection, I beg to submit, Sir, that in this particular case Government handled it in such a bad way that a competent Court gave a decree of Rs. 25,000 against the Government and in the next case when Government went to compromise the case, they were obliged to accept the liability of Rs. 50,000, and for this huge sum what was the corresponding benefit that the public derived ? In the Explanatory Note we do not find anything that the public or the Province got any benefit for this huge sum. So, Sir, it appears that the hon gentlemen who were entrusted with the public money handled it in such a way that the huge amount of poor tax-payers' money was lost for no fault of their own.

Next, I put a question to the Hon'ble Minister in-charge whether he had any connection with the Sree Lakshmi Motor Transport Company Limited, and if he had, I hope he will not deny it in this House. With these words, Sir, I support the Motion.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I like to say that the hon. Mover of the Motion has not given me very much light as to what he wants to know, but so far as his supporter is concerned, he has given me some light, as to what kind of reply he wants from me. Sir, the hon. supporter of the Motion has expressed his own views, and I would request other hon. Members of this House not to think as he does.

(Interruption from some hon. Members of the Opposition.) I am going to explain the whole matter and I would ask the hon. Members to have patience.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: It seems that the Hon'ble Minister is excited.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Certainly, every man has got the right to be excited, when meanness is displayed. (*Laughter*).

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, order.

I think every hon. Member desires that the debate in this august House should be of a high level. When personal insinuations are made, counter-insinuations are not unnatural, nor unexpected. Therefore, I would request hon. Members of the House to refrain from using such terms or expression of views as would tend not to raise the level of the debate but to lower it.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Thank you, Sir, I hope in future the hon. Member who initiated this discussion will take your advice and will not display a mentality which is not befitting. (At this stage there was some uproar from the Opposition Benches.) If there is any challenge, certainly I will accept that. Now, the fact is this, Sir, that the previous Government acted in such a way that they were put into a tight corner for various reasons. So far as the case in question is concerned, it was decreed by the Subordinate Judge of Sylhet and the Company appealed to the High Court and Government also filed cross-appeal to the High Court.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: When was that case decreed, Sir?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: It was decreed not during the time of the last Ministry but during the time of the Ministry previous to the last one.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: For what amount the Company first filed the suit, Sir?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: The first suit was for Rupees three lakhs and the second suit was filed for Rupees one lakh and that was due to mishandling of the affairs of the then Provincial Transport Authority. It was known to Government, though permit was given to them on a temporary basis, that according to the existing law it could not be less than 3 years, and for this explanation was given. But ultimately some favourite persons were given the permit and the Company, being aggrieved by the decision of the then Government, filed a suit before the law Court. Legal opinion was also taken by the then Minister in-charge of this Department and both the Legal Remembrancer and the Government Pleader of Sylhet, who came here, decided that if Government wanted to get rid of the trouble at a lesser cost—that being the only course open to them at that time—they should come to a compromise. Sir, though their former act was most improper and illegal but so far as this act is concerned, I can say that they have acted properly and wisely and according to legal advice given to them by the Legal Remembrancer and the Government Pleader of Sylhet.

Now, Sir, as regards the point raised by one of our hon. Friends as to whether I have any connection with this Company, it is quite evident that according to law I cannot have any connection with any Transport Company, as I am the Chairman of the Provincial Transport Authority. It is not possible legally for me to have any connection not only with this Company but with any other Motor Transport Company.

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY: We are not speaking about the present position but may we know whether the Hon'ble Minister was one of the partners of the Sri Lakshmi Company?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, I am not going to reply to this nonsense question.

Maulavi MAYEENUD-DIN AHMED CHOWDRY: I take serious objection to this word, Sir.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I repeat it, Sir, nonsense is a paliametary word, and it has been used in this House before.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The word 'nonsense' may be parliamentary when it is used in the sense "without any sense". The question was asked whether the Hon'ble Minister had any connection with the Company at that time and the Hon'ble Minister has also replied that to start with he had some connection but the whole matter was settled not by him nor by any Government in which he was a Minister but by previous Government.

Now, does the hon. Member press his Motion?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I was not a share-holder at the time when the matter was settled.

*Dr. EMRAN HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: In view of the assurance given by the Hon'ble Minister that he was not connected with the Company, I beg to withdraw my Cut Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw his Cut Motion?

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.91,540 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 1946 for the administration of the head '12.—Charges on account of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act."

The question was adopted.

MOTION RE. PROVISION OF MORE ACCOMMODATION IN THE MEMBERS HOSTEL

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think I will detain the House for another few minutes to take the sense of the House in two other important matters. The other day the hon. Members learnt that the House Committee sat and drafted certain Motion unanimously and the Committee was assisted by the Hon'ble Mr. Basanta Kumar Das with his advice and it was decided in the Committee that the Motion would be brought before the House by the hon. the Deputy Speaker. I, therefore, propose that the Motion be taken up on the 30th after the business of the House for that day is finished. This matter will not take more than 5 minutes and I think we can possibly take it up after 4 P.M. on the 30th.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: May I know, Sir, what is the Motion for?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It is regarding provision of more accommodation for the hon. Members in the Members' Hostel.

There are 3 Motions on that day and another new Motion has come up since. Since the Hon'ble Mr. Mookerjee will be attending the Upper House I want to mention this fact to-day before the House.

Our Assembly Department received a letter yesterday from the Government and it is in connection with a Motion for the extension of the term of the Agricultural Marketing Scheme till the end of the year 1946-47, to be moved by the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture in this session of the Assam Legislative Assembly and it has been sent for favour of necessary action. To be precise, the hon. Maulavi Abdul Matlib Mazumdar will move:

"That this House approves that the term of the Agricultural Marketing Scheme, which will expire on the 31st March, 1946, be extended till the end of the year 1946-47".

Now, we have Demands for Grants to-day and tomorrow. Day after tomorrow, i.e. on the 30th we can take up this Motion as well as the Motion regarding the Members' Hostel after the business of the House is finished, i.e., after 4 P.M.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: On that day, Sir, there are 3 Motions and also some Resolutions and we doubt if there will be any time to take up this.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: After 4 P.M. if the House agrees.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this Motion is moved, I think we should be given opportunity to table amendments and in that case, where will be the time?

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, will it not be possible to take it up tomorrow and fix some time for tabling amendments, if there be any?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: After 4 P.M. it can be taken up.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: If the hon. Members agree, Sir, the statutory time can be relaxed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I have no objection to relax the Rule as a special case if the hon. Members agree.

*Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Sorry, Sir, we cannot agree to that.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This is a matter in which the sense of the House is required. It is a Motion from the Government; therefore, I think, Members belonging to other parties than to Government are required to give their opinion.

*The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Sir, if you permit, the amendments can be moved on the floor of the House. Government will not have any objection.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I can gladly permit that if desired by hon. Members. The amendment may be submitted in course of to-day or tomorrow.

*Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: May I submit, Sir, that tomorrow should be fixed for Grants and no other Motions?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: If the hon. Members so desire the time may be extended. I have no objection to sitting after 4.

*Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: It seems Mr. Abdul Bari Chaudhury is superseding the claim of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the absence of the Leader of the Opposition.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: May I have the opinion of the hon. Deputy Leader of the Opposition?

*Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: Personally I do not like to interfere in the matter. I think, the Chair is the proper authority to fix the time. I do not want to put any hon. Member opposite in difficulty. We can agree to discuss the Motion on any suitable occasion. Tomorrow is not suitable but day after-tomorrow will be suitable.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think, all are agreed to have it day after-tomorrow?

(Voices—Yes).

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY: The Motion may be taken up day after tomorrow after 4 P.M.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Such being the sense of the House, the Motion will be taken up day after tomorrow. The hon. Members who want to table amendments will please do so before 4 P.M. tomorrow.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 2-15 P.M.

After lunch

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.7

13.—OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES

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. 3,486 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 1946 for the administration of the head "13.—Other Taxes and duties".

I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	Rs. 9,500
II. Sub-head under which the Supplementary Grant will be accounted for—			
A.—Charges for collection—			Rs.
(1) Pay of Officers	...	...	1,960
(2) Pay of Establishment	...	...	83
(3) Allowances and honoraria	...	...	1,443
Total	...	...	3,486

The reasons for this Supplementary Demand have been given in the explanatory note.*

I would request the hon. Members of this House to accept and adopt this Supplementary Demand.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 3,486 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 1946 for the administration of the head—13.—Other Taxes and duties".

We have two Cut Motions under this Demand.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: No. 2 may be taken up, Sir.

Maulavi MD. ABDULLAH: I beg to move, Sir, that the total provision of Rs. 3,486 under Supplementary Demand No. 7, Major head —13.—Other Taxes and Duties, at page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re 1, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 3,486 do stand reduced by Re. 1. I take my stand to raise a discussion about the creation of the post of Special Officer.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I cannot hear him, Sir.

*EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. (1), (2) and (3)—The additional amounts are required to meet the requirements of the Special Officer in connection with new Taxation measures in Assam and his office staff. This post has been newly created and is held by Mr. Saleh who has been engaged in the preparation of the various Taxation measures with effect from 18th January 1946. This was in pursuance of Government's decision to explore possible sources of revenue.

Maulavi MD. ABDULLAH: Very well, Sir, I shall speak loudly. During the war emergency period there was no Special Officer in this department. These things were done by the officers dealing with the Excise Department. I am at a loss to understand why this post of Special Officer was at all created. I am of opinion that it is surely a wasteful extravagance. There is no necessity of taking any Special Officer and thereby making the province poorer and poorer. It is surely a luxury. When there was war we were tired of Special Officers springing up over night and now that the war is over there is no necessity of having another Special Officer. I would urge upon Government to abolish this post and I think this money can better be utilised for some other useful purpose.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

"That the total provision of Rs. 3,486 under Supplementary Demand No. 7, Major head —13.—Other Taxes and Duties, at page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 3,486 do stand reduced by Re. 1".

The Hon'ble Sriji BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it appears that the main argument advanced is that the Special Officer should not be continued after April 1st. That grant has already been passed. There was a Cut Motion which we discussed. In connection with this item the Supplementary expenditure has already been incurred and we expect the House to accept it. This expenditure, as it may be remembered by the hon. Members of this House, had to be incurred due to appointment made in November last in connection with certain enquiries regarding the working of the Sales Tax that was in force in Bengal, Madras, and Bihar. This was done by the last Government. We had to make the necessary payment to this officer. In view of this, I hope the hon. Members will adopt this Supplementary Demand.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Mover press his Motion?

Maulavi MD. ABDULLAH: No, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Mover the leave of the House to withdraw his Motion?

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 3,486 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 1946 for the administration of the head '13.—Other Taxes and duties'".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.8

18-B.—NAVIGATION, EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE WORKS

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

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rupee 1 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, 1946, for the administration of the head "18-B—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	8,09,900
II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Grant will be accounted for—	
	Re.
A.—Works	1
	—
Total	1
	—

The Explanatory note* explains the position.

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 1946, for the administration of the head '18-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works'."

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Re. 1 under Supplementary Demand No. 8, Major head—18-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works, Minor head—A.—Works, at page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be refused.

Sir, in the Explanatory Note we find: The work 'construction of an embankment near Dhaipur on the left bank of the Kushiya was undertaken in order to keep the river Kushiya; which was silting up navigable, and also to improve the drainage in the adjacent area'. The work was first estimated to cost Rs. 1,00,760 of which the Government of India agreed to contribute 50 per cent. While the work was in progress the bund under construction was damaged by floods and it was found that certain extra items of work were necessary to the bund being safeguarded against future floods. As a result of the addition of these items the estimate had to be revised for Rs. 1,48,659 of which the Government of India have agreed to pay Rs. 66,935 and Rs. 1,17,000 is required for expenditure during the year. Of this a sum of Rs. 1,16,999 will be met by reappropriation within the Budget Grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a Supplementary Grant of Re. 1 to meet the balance.

Sir, from the explanatory note that I have just read out it will appear that the Supplementary Demand is not really for Re. 1 but it is for Rs. 1,17,000 because of the fact that the whole amount *minus* Re. 1 could be appropriated from other heads, and therefore Government is coming forward with a token Demand for Re. 1.

Sir, this is a big project, but at the time of framing the Budget for 1945-46 this project was unfortunately not included in the list of new schemes. Evidently some other projects were shelved and the money diverted to this scheme, which was, I should say, most unfair.

* EXPLANATORY NOTE

The work "Construction of an embankment near Dhaipur on the left bank of the Kushiya" was undertaken in order to keep the river Kushiya, which was silting up, navigable, and also to improve the drainage in the adjacent area. The work was first estimated to cost Rs. 1,00,760 of which the Government of India agreed to contribute 50 per cent. While the work was in progress the bund under construction was damaged by floods and it was found that certain extra items of work were necessary to the bund being safeguarded against future floods. As a result of the addition of these items the estimate had to be revised for Rs. 1,48,659 of which the Government of India have agreed to pay Rs. 66,935 and a sum of Rs. 1,17,000 is required for expenditure during the year. Of this, a sum of Rs. 1,16,999 will be met by reappropriation within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a Supplementary Grant of Re. 1 to meet the balance.

The net liability of the Provincial Government will therefore be only Rs. 81,724 but in the first instance the entire expenditure becomes a provincial charge.

Then, again, the working out of this project leaves much to be said against it. The execution of the work was most clumsy. The note itself says that the bund was damaged by flood before it could even be completed. During the current year also, so far as my information goes, the bund could not be completed and we have our apprehensions that during the ensuing rains it may again give way. If it so happens this huge amount of money will be wasted. My point in moving this Cut Motion is that proper care should be taken and that any such project undertaken should be finished in good time before the rains set in. Otherwise public money will only be squandered away and no real good will accrue from it. With these few words, I stick to my Motion that the Grant be refused.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

"That the provision of Re. 1 under Supplementary Demand No. 8, Major head—18-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works, Minor head—A.—Works, at page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be refused."

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Sir, it is already stated in the explanatory note that this bund is necessary and the amount that is to be spent will be appropriated from the Budget Grant. This is only a taken Motion to ask the Legislature to sanction what had already been estimated to be spent. The hon. Member has pointed out that the project was not included in the Budget for 1945-46, but a Supplementary Demand has been made. That, Sir, is the history of the past. Then, the hon. Member has also stated that the bund that has been constructed has been washed away, in certain parts probably, by the flood. If that be the case it is more necessary that the bund should be taken care of. Then, with regard to his suggestion that any project undertaken should be completed before the rains so that public money may not be wasted, I thank him for this suggestion and we shall do what we can regarding this. In view of this, Sir, I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his objection to this Demand being passed by the Assembly.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: May we be enlightened from which head or heads the Hon'ble Minister is reappropriating money, so that we may know about the other schemes that have suffered?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Reappropriation will be made from the head "Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works".

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I wanted to know the sub-heads.

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: There will be many sub-heads. I think, in the Public Works Department Budget from which money will be appropriated. I don't have a list of these sub-heads with me now.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Does the hon. Mover press his Motion?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: In view of the assurance given by the Hon'ble Minister that in future due care will be taken in constructing this bund, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Mover the leave of the House to withdraw his Motion?

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rupee 1 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 1946 for the administration of the head '18-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 9

25.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

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. 9,98,127 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 1946 for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration."

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs.	29,35,000
II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary Grant will be accounted for—		
L.—Elections for Legislatures	3,51,427	
M(a).—Civil Secretariat—		
(i) Pay of officers	24,900	
(ii) Pay of Establishment	49,000	
(iii) Allowances and honoraria	58,100	
Total	1,32,000	
(b)—Publicity Department	73,400	
Q.—Examiner of Local Accounts—		
(i) Allowances and honoraria...	5,946	
(ii) Contingencies	828	
Total	6,774	
S. I.—General Establishment—		
(i) Pay of officers	1,27,600	
(ii) Pay of Establishment	40,800	
(iii) Allowances and honoraria	1,17,300	
(iv) Contingencies	1,41,600	
Total	4,27,300	
Y.—Charges in England—High Commissioner for India	7,226	
Grand Total	9,98,127	

The reasons are explained in the explanatory note* and I request you, Sir, to have this explanatory note* published in the proceedings as part of my speech.

*EXPLANATORY NOTE

L.—The excess of Rs. 3,51,427 includes (1) Rs. 5,075 under 'pay' of officers (2) Rs. 14,943 under 'pay' of Establishment (3) Rs. 41,651 under allowances and honoraria and (4) Rs. 2,89,758 under 'Contingencies'. This huge expenditure of Rs. 3,51,427 was incurred in connection with the General Elections to the Provincial and Central Legislatures. A claim for the recovery of Rs. 14,026 from the Central Government has already been made on account of expenditure incurred in connection with the election to the Central Legislature. In the original Budget for 1945-46 a provision of Rs. 2,000 only was made for this purpose and hence a large Supplementary Grant is necessary.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 9,98,127 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 1946 for the administration of the head '25.—General Administration."

There is one Cut Motion standing in the name of Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY : I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 73,400 under Supplementary Demand No. 9, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head—M(b).—Publicity Department, at page 6 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1 i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 9,98,127 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

By this Cut Motion I want to raise a discussion about the working of the Publicity Department.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS : I wish to know what does the hon. Member mean by "working of the Publicity Department".

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY : Sir, Rs. 73,400 is required for a certain item of expenditure. With regard to that what explanation the Minister can offer ? I want to raise a discussion about the policy with regard to the Publicity Department.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI : Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister in charge please enlighten about the item "Y". On what account the expenditure was incurred ?

M.—(a) (i)—Due to the appointment of Special Officers, an Assistant Secretary and inclusion of the post of Under-Secretary, Supply Department in the Secretariat for 9 months during the year.

(ii)—Due to additional temporary staff to cope with the increased work.

(iii)—Mainly due to increased rate of dearness allowance and war allowance.

M. (b)—Hon'ble Members will have received a printed report on the Publicity and Rural Development Department, which describes how the whole scope of the Department was changed with effect from the 1st June 1945 by the acceptance of the Government of India's Field Publicity Scheme. This scheme has been fully explained in Chapter 2 of the printed report. The position at present is that the capital equipment of publicity vans, projectors, generators, etc., is in the process of being supplied by the Government of India. Most of it has either arrived already or is in transit, but the full cost incurred by the Government of India, a portion of which will be borne by the Government of Assam, and to be paid for in the current financial year cannot be known accurately yet. A sum of Rs. 73,490 is demanded on the best estimate that can be made of Assam's share of the costs.

Q. (i)—The excess is due to grant of daily allowance at enhanced rate and to meet the actual requirements of dearness and war allowance.

(ii)—Due to higher incidental charges of carrying office trunks by outside Audit Staff on tour and to supply of liveries to peons.

S. (i)—Due to appointment of temporary officers and continuance of the posts of temporary Extra Assistant Commissioners and Sub-Deputy Collectors to cope with increase of work specially supply work and appointment of a Provincial Service Officer to officiate in a listed post.

(i)—Due to additional temporary staff entertained to cope with the increase in work and promotion to higher posts.

(iii)—The excess is due to grant of increased rate of dearness allowance and war allowance and higher expenditure on travelling allowance owing to increased touring in connection with election work.

(iv)—The excess is due to higher outlay on postage and telegram charges as a result of increased correspondence, grant of a higher rate of dearness allowance and the expenses in connection with "Pooled Transport". As touring of District Officers and the expenses in connection with the war on account of the difficulty in obtaining spare parts and the high cost of maintenance of vehicles, Government allotted twenty 15 cwt. Trucks to the District Officers for touring purposes and asked the Provincial Motor Transport Controller to supply the Trucks directly to the officers vided in that year. The vehicles have, however, been supplied during the current financial year approximately for this purpose.

Y.—Excess due to increase in leave salary and share cost for the maintenance of the High Commissioner's establishment.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS : The proportionate cost of salary and other expenditure in connection with the maintenance of the establishment of the High Commissioner.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY : I may now come to the relevant point, Sir. Under item M(b)—Publicity Department, there is no sub-head. Under the main head a sum of Rs. 73,400 has been provided for this Department. Sir, in the Explanatory Note it is stated "the whole scope of the Department was changed with effect from the 1st June 1945 by the acceptance of the Government of India's Field Publicity Scheme. This scheme has been fully explained in Chapter 2 of the printed report. The position at present is that the capital equipment of publicity vans, projectors, generators, etc., is in the process of being supplied by the Government of India." As a matter of fact a very big sum is going to be spent in this Department as the share of the cost by the Government of Assam. From the Budget it will appear that the amount for the Publicity Department is increasing day by day. In the revised Budget for the year 1945-46 the amount is Rs. 5,92,090 and for the next year, i.e., for the year 1946-47 a big sum of Rs. 6,43,600 has been provided. Of course, out of this sum a big percentage will be recovered from the Government of India. But still the whole amount is spent under the head 'Publicity Department' in Assam. The hon. Members should consider whether we are getting any adequate return for this annual expenditure of our provincial Budget. Sir, I may be excused if I compare this with some major heads of expenditure. For the whole Industry Department a sum of Rs. 3,56,300 has been provided and for the Co-operative Department a sum of Rs. 3,39,500 has been provided. But under the head 'Publicity Department' we are going to spend Rs. 6,43,600.....

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, on a point of information. Are we not discussing Supplementary Demands for Grants?

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: My submission is that this Budget should not be increased any more, and should be kept under control.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Sir, that is a pertinent question with regard to the main Budget.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: I am only comparing the figures, Sir. When the Publicity Department was started we had high hopes about its activities, and we must admit that our hopes have not been materialised. The work this Department has done is mostly scrappy, and I should say its programmes do not aim at the real benefit of the masses. Sir, from the scheme of the Department of Publicity and Rural Development, Assam, Past and Future, I find a very pertinent question. In their own words "We have to consider two major questions before we can estimate the special value of the propaganda which is to be done by the Publicity and Rural Development Department of Assam. These questions are, (a) what is the policy behind the Department's propaganda and who controls it? (b) Do the activities of the Department have any beneficial effect upon the work of other Government Departments?" Sir, reading between the lines I still ask these questions. Unfortunately there is no adequate reply in the pages that follow. The Publicity Officer informs us that "It is the conviction that propaganda can play a major part in raising the villagers of Assam from poverty to plenty, from semi-starvation to self-sufficiency, that has prompted this introduction. Sir, I do not know how alone publicity can turn this poor province of Assam from poverty to plenty, from semi-starvation to self-sufficiency of all individuals. Up till now the whole literature that has been published is worse than worthless. They supply us with some figures which we already know. We do not know of anything they have done by way of propaganda to better the condition of our masses. If no real good is done to the people at large it is useless to maintain a big Department like this. I will urge upon the new Government to initiate a new policy so that the Publicity

Department can be of real value and service to the people of Assam. With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

"That the provision of Rs.73,400 under Supplementary Demand No.9, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head—M(b).—Publicity Department, at page 6 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re.1. i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.9,98,127 do stand reduced by Re.1."

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: Sir, it has been questioned whether discussion about the working of the Publicity Department can now be raised when the Demand for Supplementary Grant is before the House. Of course, this House has a right to raise a discussion about an expenditure incurred when that comes before the House in the form of a Supplementary Demand. So the House has the right to criticise the Department which incurred the expenditure though the discussion will have the appearance of *post mortem* discussion.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: My impression is that when the main grant for the Publicity Department came up before the House all matters and points about the working of the Department were raised and discussed. There should be a finality of discussions about questions that are raised and discussed. That was done in connection with the main Budget Demand and these points which are now wanted to be raised cannot come up for discussion again in connection with the Supplementary Demand put before the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: If the hon. Members want to raise a discussion on every item of the expenditure for the Publicity Department, they can do it, as far as rules permit, and at any stage when such item of expenditure comes before the House. That cannot be stopped.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: I said that there should be a finality of the discussion. The points they have raised now, should have been raised and, I think, they were actually raised with regard to matters relating to the Budget demand. I think the discussion of them was already finished and they cannot raise them again.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Supposing some hon. Members want to raise certain points on a particular matter and the discussion is to be confined to matters relating to the Budget estimates only. If those points do not fall within the general discussion, how can the hon. Members be stopped from raising them?

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: The Rule says that matters once discussed in the House should not be discussed again.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I am thankful to you, Sir. But I think whenever a Motion comes before the House for the grant of money, every hon. Member has the right to criticise the purpose for which the money is wanted or spent. That the matter has already been discussed cannot stop hon. Members from criticising a Demand for Grant.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The point that was raised by the Hon'ble Minister is in relation to discussion. Discussion is one thing and decision is another. Rule 43(1) reads thus:—"A Motion shall not raise a question substantially identical with one on which the Assembly has given a decision in the same session. The Speaker's decision on the point whether the question is substantially identical with the previous one shall be final."

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Sir, I respectfully submit that the question raised under this Cut Motion is identical with what was once discussed while criticising the Budget Estimates and decision obtained.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: If that view is taken, then all discussion is stifled, because all the different items which come under the Supplementary Demand come also under the respective heads in the Budget.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: A discussion can now be confined only to the propriety of the item—whether the expenditure the item represents was rightly or wrongly made.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I am afraid that is not the point. If the Supplementary Demands can be discussed at all, then the logic is that the items discussed at the time of discussion of the Budget can also be discussed under the Supplementary Demands also.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: But the question, Sir, is whether a discussion with regard to policy is permissible on a Supplementary Demand.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We are at the moment not concerned with the question whether policy can be discussed on a Supplementary Demand. When it is a question of discussion of a particular item, I think it is permissible.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I am thankful to you, Sir. Every opportunity should be given for discussion of matters in this House. After all, a Supplementary Demand supplements shortage of the whole Budget. Therefore, the matter can be re-opened and discussed.

I like to say that the Publicity Department is meant to give publicity to all parts of the country but actually such messages do not reach distant places in time. I have seen the Publicity vans moving about the road and the loud speakers here and there in the towns, but whether their activities actually reach the villagers is a point which can be very plausibly questioned. I found, Sir, some bulletins of the Publicity Department purported to have been issued on the 2nd February did reach the Assembly Office on the 8th March. Another bulletin issued on the 12th February reached the Assembly office on the 8th March. The funniest thing is, Sir, that one of the bulletins was giving the information about the last date of submitting the return of election expenses (on the 5th February). If this be the way how the Department is distributing news, then, Sir, there is hardly any justification for it to exist. I do not like to pull on the discussion because I have noticed that in the Central Assembly the Demand for this Department has been turned down and the India Government have declared that they don't want to run it against the wishes of the Central Assembly. But if the Publicity Department is to continue in any form, then it should not give much attention to the urban areas, because there are newspapers and other instruments for getting information, but it should formulate a scheme so as to enable the villagers, who are starving for information, to get information promptly. With these words, Sir, I commend the Motion of my hon. Friend Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister may reply.

The Hon'ble Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have given their views in the way of helping the Government by drawing their attention to this particular Department. I may inform them that if it is found that any Department does not function properly and does not serve the purpose for which it is run and the desired effect is not received, in that case, the necessity of maintaining that particular Department ceases. Sir, this is the policy of the Government and they will see that the purpose for which this Department was made permanent by this Hon'ble House is served properly and the real benefit is derived by the public. Otherwise, this Department will not be in existence in future, and I am at one with the hon. Members on this point. But as regards the particular Demand in question, I think it is out of place to discuss the question of policy. But as ruled by you, Sir, that there is no harm in discussing the general policy, I think so far as the general policy is concerned, my previous answers will satisfy the hon. Members. But I think it my duty to make the present position clear. Though it has been explained in the explanatory note, I think the amount which

will be paid by the Central Government should be known to the hon. Members of the House. *So far as the recurring expenditure is concerned, 2/3rd will be paid by the Central Government and 1/3rd by the Provincial Government. So far as the non-recurring expenditure is concerned, 1/2 will be borne by the Central Government and 1/2 by the Provincial Government. Now, Sir, the aims and objects of the Field Publicity Department have been very fully explained in the Publicity Department booklet,—Rural Development in Assam, Past and Future. I hope all the hon. Members have received a copy of that booklet. Chapter 2 of that booklet clearly states the utility of Field Publicity Department and this Government have given their serious consideration and they have not as yet arrived at any final decision. They collected data and information as to how best this particular branch can be utilised and be of real help to the general public of the Province, not only to the urban people but also to the rural people as well. The suggestions given by the hon. Members will be borne in mind and I am glad to find that the hon. Members also think in the same line as the present Government do. I hope, Sir, with this assurance, the hon. Member will withdraw his Motion.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: After hearing the Hon'ble Minister. I beg, Sir, to withdraw my Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw his Motion?

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this connection I would like to say a few words regarding the election to Legislature. Sir, it is essential in order to get a clear verdict of the electorates that election should be held in a free atmosphere and under free conditions. But, Sir, during the last election it has been our painful experience that in the case of candidates, particularly from the Muslim Constituencies, many of the officers, particularly some Muslim Officers, were up against all Muslim candidates other than those from the Muslim League. That has been a particular feature in several subdivisions in the District of Sylhet. We have got complaints from many candidates themselves that all sorts of handicaps were put against those who did not like to vote for the Muslim League candidates. (At this stage there was an uproar from the Opposition Benches). Some of the officers pulled their full weight in favour of the Muslim League candidates to get them elected and we have found, Sir, that wherever any officer has not found it possible to act in the interest of the Muslim League candidate, that particular officer was at once put under orders of transfer. Even in the subdivision from which I come, viz., Karimganj, there are numerous complaints against some of the presiding officers in the polling stations. I have got some of these complaints and I can read only one or two of them just to show how the polling officers acted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member need not give the details because the aggrieved party may seek for remedy in proper way.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: Yes, Sir, but I invite the attention of the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge to the general grievance and independently of other remedies, Government have a duty to see that the conduct of the officers are fair. I can read out one such complaint and I hope that would serve my purpose.

“গত ১৬ই জানুয়ারী আমি জমিয়তের প্রার্থী মোঃ আবদুছ ছত্ভার সাহেবের এজেন্ট হইয়া জলচুপ পোলিং ষ্টেশনে গিয়াছিলাম। কাজ শেষ হওয়ার পর আমি আপন বাক্সে seal দিলাম ও বাক্সের সঙ্গে বিয়ানি বাজার থানা পন্যস্ত যাইতে চাইলাম। তখন Presiding Officer আমাকে বলিলেন—‘আমি বাক্স লইয়া থানায় যাইতেছি, আপনি আমাকে বিশ্বাস করিয়া চলিয়া

যান। তখন আমি তিনির কথায় বিশ্বাস করিয়া চলিয়া গেলাম। পরে তিনি বিয়ানিবাজার থানার কিছুদূর নিদনপুরের নিকট দিয়া এক প্রাইভেট রাস্তা দিয়া বাহাদুরপুর চৌধুরী বাড়ীতে যান। ঐ বাড়ীর ও গ্রামের সব লোক লিগের পক্ষপাতী; তাই আমাদের সন্দেহ হওয়াতে আমরা তৎক্ষণাত শিলং, শ্রীহট্ট ও করিমগঞ্জে টেলিগ্রাম করিলাম, কিন্তু কোন ও ফল পাইলাম না। পরে গণনার দিন আমাদের বাক্সের seal পাইলাম না। ইহার প্রমাণ আছে।”

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: Does the hon. Member undertake responsibility for the correctness of the letter, Sir?

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: Another letter reads as follows:

“গত ১৬ই জানুয়ারী তিলপানা পোলিং ষ্টেশনে আমি জমিয়েত প্রার্থী মোঃ আব্দুছ হুত্বার সাহেবের এজেন্ট হইয়া গিয়াছিলাম। এখানকার Presiding Officer লোকদিগকে ছাতি মার্ক। বাক্সে ভোট দিবার জন্য ঘরে বসিয়া বার বার canvass করিয়াছেন। এ সম্বন্ধে তিনিকে সতর্ক করাতেও তিনি বিরত হন নাই।”

Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: To whom this letter was addressed, Sir?

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: That was addressed to the Secretary, Jamiat-ul-Ulema, Karimganj, and complaints were also submitted to the Subdivisional Officer of Karimganj, Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet and to Government also. The then Government did not care to make any enquiry into the matter. I am quite sure, Sir, had there been a proper election the verdict of the Muslim Constituencies would have been quite different.

Then, again, Sir, there are certain loopholes in the rules of election also. For example, if a candidate want to put his seal on the ballot box there is no provision for directing the presiding officer to give him any receipt for the same, with the result that even if there be seal and if somebody wants to obliterate it then there is no evidence that any person had ever put any seal in the ballot box. So, Sir, there must be some provision made for obtaining receipts from the presiding officers about the seals (with specimens thereof) actually put on the ballot box. I think there should also be a provision that a candidate should be allowed to examine the box to see whether the seal is in tact before a sealed box is opened.

In the North Sylhet Subdivision, Sir, there are allegations against some of the responsible officers of Government who interfered with the election of some of the Jamiat-ul-Ulema candidates. If Government be pleased to hold an enquiry into those allegations, these instances of interferences by some of the officers would be easily proved. I would, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister in-charge to hold an enquiry as to whether the last election was impartially held, especially in respect of the Jamiat-ul-Ulema candidates in the Muslim constituencies of the Province.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: I want to enlighten the Hon'ble House with some of the facts which I gathered during the last election. I hope, Sir, you will allow me some time to speak.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I shall allow the hon. Member to speak but I want to point out that he should keep in mind that we are now in the midst of the Supplementary Demand No. 9 and 15 more Demands are still to be gone through and the time at our disposal is about 55 minutes.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: Sir, I want to inform the hon. Member who brought the allegations against Muslim officers that during my life I have seen more of such occurrence than what he has described.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: The hon. Member opposite spoke about some of the big officers interfering in the election. But I want to say from my personal experience that non-Muslim Chairmen of Local Boards not only took part in such harassment but also other non-Muslim officers used their influence and interfered. Some of the Chairmen went to the length of saying to the constituents that they were going to withdraw the grant of education to certain institutions. Some others were threatening the people with disastrous consequences. Such acts were

persecuted by some of the Congressmen in my Constituency. (*Voice:—Nothing of the sort was done by Congressmen*). This is my own experience in my Constituency in which one Congress Muslim was set up against me. (*Loud uproar.*)

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, it is no good to make personal attacks against a gentleman who is not here.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: Sir, I have said all this as my Friend read out a letter and when latitude has been given to him to speak to the House so we have got every right to speak. Not only officers and the Chairmen of the Local Boards but the non-Muslim Mauzadars of my Constituency threatened the electorates with a view to vote for the Congress nominee and said that if they did not they would issue parwanas for attachment of their properties. Now, my Friend, has levelled criticism against Muslim officers only but he should carefully see that this happens amongst the non-Muslims also.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I am extremely sorry, Sir, that allegations were recklessly made in discussing Supplementary Demand. Sir, we have got our experience extending over longer period than my hon. Friend opposite. We have seen Hindu officers.....(*Loud uproar*).

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, order. It is not desirable that heat be generated into this discussion.

The Hon'ble Mr. BA'DYANATH MOOKERJEE: The hon. Member has already spoken on this subject.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I was speaking on the Cut Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This is not a general discussion of the Budget. Some pertinent observations were made by some of the hon. Members. I do not wish that the time of the House be wasted by repeating what were already said during the general discussion of the Budget.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I did not say that Muslim officers are free from blame. There may be cases of lapse but the Hindu Officers did this equally well.

Babu RABINDRA NATH ADITYA: I did not speak about Muslim officers only.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: I know the case of a Muslim Presiding Officer removing the ballot box from its position and bringing it near the *purdah* and one lady who was standing by the box, pointed to the voters to put their votes there though it was not the League box. This was done not only in my presence but in the presence of the Deputy Magistrate. Yet I have not brought this matter to the notice of this House.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: What steps he had taken?

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID: It was not a fact that all the Muslim officers worked for the League and the Hindu officers worked against the League. There might be occasion of human lapses. It cannot be a fact that one side was wrong and the other side was not. I think, it is best that such matters should be left behind in the polling booths and should not come to this hon. House. (*Hear, hear*).

With these words, Sir, I would advise my hon. Friend not to bring up such matters before the House, matters which might have been published in newspapers or by defeated candidates or by some interested persons. It will not be quite dignified for this House to discuss such matters; every effort should be made to make our officers absolutely fair. (*Applause*).

Maulavi MUNAWWAR ALI: The hon. Chief Whip of the Congress Party has inflicted innumerable flings on Muslim officers without any foundation to support any. Our experience is that Muslim officers always do justice to Muslims as well as to non-Muslims (Ironical laughter from the Congress Benches) and even then they are accused on account of their just treatment to all alike; but I shall not be generalising like my hon. Friend there. Contrary has been proved to me and before my eyes in cases of several Hindu officers. I sent telegrams to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and to the Deputy Commissioner about things

deliberately done by Hindu officers against Muslim League candidates in the Sunamganj Subdivision. But no relief was forth coming from any of those quarters, but still, Sir, we did not bring such things before this august House.

The hon. gentleman advocated that a committee should be appointed to enquire into official injustices and interferences in the last elections. Let there be an impartial enquiry and let things come out to broad day light. That is what we demand. What did I see on the 21st of January last at Jaintia? I saw six wounded persons in pools of blood at the polling booth site. These six wounded by heavy *lathi* blows were bleeding profusely in consequence of *Jamiat goondaism* there, whose brief the hon. Chief Whip has held. (Beliram Das—not League *goondaism*). No! These things I witnessed myself and yet I left the matter to waste itself at the polling station. We did not take these things seriously to law court. Nor have we challenged the election of Maulana Chatuli by an Election Petition. All this *goondaism* was done and the Assistant Police Superintendent hurried there. He said to me: use your influence in favour of appeasing them. I did all I could: the Leagues did not break the law as they never did. They all dispersed leaving these six wounded persons to the care of the first-aid givers.

Maulavi ABDUR RASHEED: Maulana Chatuli is there. He does not know English. So I think, the hon. Member taking advantage of the Maulana's being unacquainted with English is making a quite contradictory statement before the House regarding the alleged riot in Jaintia. If the hon. Member kindly translate his speech either in Bengali or in Hindusthani, the hon. Maulana might come forward with a reply to the false accusation advanced by the hon. Member against the Jamia people of Jaintia.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister will please reply.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I regret very much the debate should have taken such a turn. Now the elections are all over and the elected Members have all met on the floor of the House to carry on the most responsible duties as Members of the Legislature. I thought, Sir, that the excitement of the last election is all over and whatever might have happened during the time of the election on account of the election fever which was on all of us at that time, will be allowed to fall into oblivion. But, Sir, my hon. Friend Babu Rabindranath Aditya thought it necessary to bring to the notice of Government some instances of improper conduct on the part of the Government officers who were entrusted with the conduct of elections. Of course he has stated some instances not so very definite though, and I as Minister-in charge of the Legislative Department have got some petitions sent by some persons also conveying similar complaints. I do not know, Sir how to proceed with those petitions. There are allegations made against certain officers. A defeated candidate has got his remedy by the Election Petition against the successful candidate and if the conduct of the officers who are entrusted with the task of election prevented a fair election to be held, he can get his remedy. (*Hear, hear*). But on such allegations against some Government officers we can only proceed to take any action against certain officers against whom allegations are made. But that would require an elaborate enquiry. However, Sir, Government will seriously consider the matter. Of course the Government officers who are entrusted with the conduct of election have to maintain strict impartiality. If he does not do so his conduct becomes reprehensible. If instances alleged are numerous then Government will feel certainly unhappy at the thought that the conduct of some of their officers gave the impression to a large number of people that they were not doing their duty properly and were showing favour towards a particular candidate or candidates and were acting against any candidate for whom they had no predilection. This becomes a very serious matter. As I have said, if there be any definite allegation against any particular officer named, then Government will have no other alternative than to enquire into those allegations; and as I listened to the speeches of the hon. Members

opposite, I think from what they have said, I shall get all co-operation from them in this matter of holding an enquiry into such allegations. Of course reckless allegations will not be entertained. If there be any definite allegation against a particular officer this must be enquired into. Beyond this I do not like to say anything more.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 9,98,127 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 1946 for the administration of the head 25.—General administration."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND NO. 10.

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. 1,62,975 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 1946 for the administration of the head "27—Administration of Justice".

I.—Grant originally vote by the Assembly	Rs.	10,10,800
II —Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—		
B Law officers—		
(b) <i>Legal Remembrancer—</i>		
	Rs.	250
(i) Contingencies	...	...
(c) <i>Muffassil establishment—</i>		
(i) Allowances and Honoraria	...	4,600
(ii) Contingencies	...	7,325
Total	...	11,925
D. District and Sessions Judges—		
(i) Allowances and Honoraria	...	41,900
I. Criminal Courts—		
(i) Allowances and Honoraria	...	31,900
(ii) Contingencies	...	77,000
Total	...	1,08,900
Grand Total	...	1,62,975

The reason for which this Demand has been brought has been explained in the explanatory note†.

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

- B. (b) (i)—Due to purchase of copies of Butterworths Emergency Legislations.
 (c) (i) and (ii)—Due to increase in the number of cases in many districts for which fees were paid to Government pleaders and other pleaders.
 D. (i)—The excess is due to the grant of increased rate of "Dearness Allowances" and "War Allowances".
 I. (i)—Due to longer expenditure on "Remuneration to Copyists" owing to higher demand for copies and grant of increased rate of "Dearness Allowances".
 (ii)—Due to higher expenditure under "Diet and Road money to Witnesses", "Hospital expenses of wounded persons" and "Other Non-contract contingencies" owing to the increase in the number of criminal cases.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,62,975 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 1946 for the administration of the head '27—Administration of Justice'".

We have one Cut Motion under this Demand.

Maulavi Dewan ABDUL BASITH: I do not wish to move it†

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then I am putting the question. The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,62,975 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 1946 for the administration of the head '27.—Administration of Justice'".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND NO. 11.

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 sum of Rs. 12,72,094 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 1946 for the administration of the head—"29.—Police".

I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... Rs. 38,53,900

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

B. D. E. F.—District Police—

	Rs.
(1) Pay of officers	1,348
(2) Pay of Establishment	85,022
(3) Allowances, etc.	2,42,457
(4) Contingencies	5,95,294
(5) Hospital charges	1,800

River Police—

(1) Allowances	2,600
(2) S. L. Establishment	22,950

E.—Special Police—

(1) Additional Police for War functions	22,100*
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F.—Railway Police—

(1) Supervising staff	15,700
(2) Crime and Order Police	44,000

G.—C. I. D.—

(1) Pay of Officers	3,660
(2) Pay of establishment	90,800
(3) Allowances, etc.	62,700
(4) Contingencies	3,600

†1. Maulavi Dewan ABDUL BASITH to move:—

That the provision of Rs. 1,08,900 under Supplementary Demand No. 10, Major head—27.—Administration of Justice, Minor head—I.—Criminal Courts (total), at page 8 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 1,62,975 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

(To raise a discussion about the diet money paid to the witnesses.)

*Recoverable from the Central Government.

K.—Works—

Rs.

(1) Petty constructions	20,800
(2) Repairs	57,700
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to the deposit accounts of the Khasi States. (—)	3,517

M.—Charges in England—Expenditure of the High Commissioner. 3,080

Total ... 12,72,094

†Explanatory note explains the position.

†EXPLANATORY NOTE

B. D. E. F.—District Police—

(1) The excess is due to the arrangement made against the vacancies in the I. P. cadre by posting officers of the Provincial cadre.

(2) The excess is due to less provision in the Budget than was estimated. Inspector General of Police's demand of Trs. 29,24 for pay of establishment was reduced by Government on the progress of 1944-45 actuals but this has proved short.

(3) The excess is partly due to the grant of dearness allowance at enhanced rates and partly due to the grant of war allowance and increased rates of daily allowances.

(4) The excess is due to the rise in prices of the articles of clothing and other miscellaneous articles, purchase of articles of clothing in advance, use of more stamps due to increase of correspondence, etc.

(5) The excess is mainly due to the entertainment of whole time Sub-Assistant Surgeons for some police hospitals and increase in prices of medicines and other hospital equipments.

River Police—

(1) The excess is due to grant of war allowance and the increased rates of dearness allowance.

(2) The excess is due to grant of dearness allowance at an enhanced rate and repairs to Steam Lunches.

E. Special Police—

(1) The excess is due to less provision in the Budget than was estimated. Inspector General of Police's demand of Trs. 92 was reduced by Government to Trs. 43 but this has proved short to meet the needs. The entire expenditure is, however, recoverable from the Government of India.

F. Railway Police—

(1) The excess is due to grant of war allowance, increased rates of dearness allowance, posting of officers of the Provincial cadre and purchase of a new saloon.

(2) The excess is due to the increase in the rates of dearness allowance and cash allowances and the cost of clothing for four years supplied during this year and due to increase of force.

G. C. I. D.—

(1) The excess is due to the creation of the post of one Deputy Superintendent of Police for Sylhet District Intelligence Branch.

(2) The excess is due to the increase of staff.

(3) The excess is due to the increase of staff, increase of travelling allowance, grant of war allowances and dearness allowances at an enhanced rate.

(4) The excess is due to rise in prices of clothing materials, hiring of houses and purchase of furniture for the increased staff.

K. Works—

(1) The excess is due to the transfer of some Air Raid Precaution buildings to this Department whose costs are debited to Police and constructions of some new buildings urgently required for which no provision was made in the Budget.

(2) The excess is due to the repairs of the temporary rail force buildings, extensive repairs to a large number of Police buildings to make them habitable and increased cost of building materials and labour.

Deduct—Amount transferred to the deposit accounts of the Khasi States—

The excess is due to increase of staff and abnormal increase in the prices of clothing and other contingent material.

M.—Due to larger expenditure on Stores purchased from the United Kingdom.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs.12,72,094 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 1946 for the administration of the head '29.—Police'."

Khan Sahib Maulavi NURUL HUSSAIN KHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion. Rupees 12,72,094 is a very big sum, and it is unfortunate that such a big sum should have been provided in the Supplementary Budget. It was the duty of Government to foresee this and manage things accordingly. This shows that the controlling officers could not foresee the matter and did not pay proper attention to it. This sort of bad budgeting should certainly be discouraged. In this connection, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the remarks made in the Report of the Public Accounts Committee, viz., "that the Government Departments should try as far as possible not to bring in huge Supplementary Demands which in effect force the Legislature to give sanction to expenditure incurred without its prior sanction." When such big sums are to be provided Government should take steps to make provision in the original Budget and should not come up for such a big amount in the Supplementary Budget. This is a thing which the public certainly do not encourage, and I would urge on the Government to see that in future this practice is abandoned.

With these few words, Sir, I oppose the Grant.

Mr. PRABHUDAYAL HIMATSINGKA: Sir, I just want to draw the attention of Government to a small matter which affects a large number of wage-earners. There is a Notification No.HPL.540/42/224, dated the 4th February 1943 which provides that iron tyred carts drawn by big bullocks shall not carry more than 16 maunds

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: How does the hon. Member bring bullock carts here? Under which head does it come?

Mr. PRABHUDAYAL HIMATSINGKA: Under this head, Sir. If you will allow me one minute more I shall explain.

Now, Sir, this notification is a handle in the hands of the Police to squeeze money from the poor wage-earners who earn their livelihood by plying bullock carts. If the bullock carts are fitted with iron tyres and are drawn by big bullocks they are supposed to carry not more than 16 maunds including the driver. 'n terms of bags, it will be 5 bags of sugar, 6 bags of wheat and 7 bags of salt in a cart. But I think it must be the experience of every one of us here that carts are loaded generally between 20 to 26 maunds, and therefore this notification enables the Police to squeeze out some money from these poor cart drivers, as in fact and practice, the cart drivers cannot obey the rule. I would therefore request the Hon'ble Minister to look into this notification, which provides a direction which cannot be observed and can be called a dead letter in the sense that it is not observed by any one, and see whether this should not be withdrawn.

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: I am sorry, Sir, I cannot agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Himatsingka because if this notification is withdrawn, the bullock carts will be heavily loaded and this will damage the roads. This notification was issued for the purpose of protection of the roads.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: But what are roads for?

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN: Sir, this is with regard to bullock carts fitted with iron tyres.

Mr. PRABHUDAYAL HIMATSINGKA: Almost all bullock carts are fitted with iron tyres. I do not think any bullock cart driver can afford to buy pneumatic tyres. Only the big concerns, like the Tea Companies, can afford pneumatic tyres, but not these poor cartmen.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really thankful to the hon. Khan Sahib Maulavi Nurul Hussain Khan for supplying

Government with his ideas about Budget-making. Sir, all these points will be considered whenever this Government will have to come up with any Supplementary Demands to be passed by the House. In this case, Sir, this Supplementary Demand has been brought before the House by the present Government as successors of the late Government. Now, Sir, why this excess expenditure was required on the different items detailed in the list of Supplementary Demand has been sufficiently explained in the explanatory note, and it appears, Sir, that the last Budget was framed on the actuals of 1944-45 and on account of certain abnormal conditions this excess expenditure was incurred on certain heads. That is all the explanation that has been given in the explanatory note. Beyond that, Sir, I think at this stage it is not necessary for me to say anything.

Then, with regard to the grievance made about a certain notification prescribing a certain limit to the load that can be carried by bullock carts, I do not know what the position really is. But I shall look into the matter and see why that notification was issued, whether there were any valid reasons for issuing the notification and how it has affected the poor cart owners. All these things will be looked into. My hon. Friend Mr. Himatsingka has made a grievance that this notification has given a handle to some of our police officers to extort something from the bullock cart owners. That is of course a matter of which Government will take serious note and see whether this is a fact. I hope, Sir, this will satisfy the hon. Members of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 12,72,094 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 1946, for the administration of the head—'29.—Police.'"

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 12

37.—EDUCATION—EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN EDUCATION

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. 9,450 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 1946, 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:—	62,300
A. Government Secondary Schools—	

1. Allowances and honoraria	Rs.
2. Ditto—Contingencies (Non-contract)	1,000
3. Ditto—Contingencies (Contract)...	6,500
	1,950
Total	9,450

†The explanatory notes explain the position.

†EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The sum of Rs.1,000 is required to meet the cost of war, extra dearness and cash allowances of officers and clerks.
2. Due to the re-opening of the Boarding establishment of the Pinemount School an additional sum of Rs. 6,500 is required to meet the extra expenditure for the purpose.
3. A sum of Rs. 1,950 is required due to entertainment of contingency menials for re-opening the Boarding establishment and granting of dearness and cash allowances to them.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 9,450 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 1946, for the administration of the head '37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian Education'."

There is no Cut Motion. So I am putting the question.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs.9,450 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 1946, for the administration of the head '37.—Education—European and Anglo-Indian Education'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS No. 13

37.—EDUCATION (OTHER THAN EUROPEAN)

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. 5,74,187 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 1946, for the administration of the head "37.—Education (other than European)".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	Rs. 59,60,800
II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Grant will be accounted for—			

SECONDARY EDUCATION—

(a)—Government Secondary Schools for boys—			
Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	4,200(i)
G.—Grants to Local Bodies for Secondary Schools	...	...	68,300(ii)
H.—Works (Secondary)—Original Works...	...	...	14,640(iii)

PRIMARY EDUCATION—

I.—Government Primary Schools—			
2.—Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	15,000(iv)
J.—Grants to Local Bodies for Primary Education...	...	...	3,70,580(v)
K.—Direct grants to Non-Government Primary Schools	...	...	16,000(vi)

SPECIAL EDUCATION—

N.—Direct grants to Non-Government Special Schools	34,000(vii)
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GENERAL CHARGES—

Q.—Direction—			
1. Pay of officers	4,300(viii)
2. Pay of Establishment	1,000(ix)
3. Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	15,000(x)
4. Contingencies	...	...	3,000(xi)

R.—Inspection—

2. Pay of Establishment	...	...	5,000(xii)
3. Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	17,500(xiii)

T.—Miscellaneous—

(d) Other Miscellaneous charges—

Grants for Mass Literacy Campaign	...	...	Rs. 2,000(xiv)
V.—Charges in England	...	...	3,667(xv)

Total ... 5,74,187

*The explanatory notes explain the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 5,74,187 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 1946, for the administration of the head '37.—Education (other than European)'."

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

(i) A sum of Rs. 4,200 is needed to meet the cost of war allowance, enhanced rates of dearness and cash allowances granted to Government servants for which there was no budget provision.

(ii) The amount of Rs. 68,300 is required to meet the cost of dearness allowance granted to teachers, clerks and menials of Medical Schools under Local Bodies.

(iii) This sum of Rs. 14,640 is required to meet the cost of the A. R. P. buildings at Dibrugarh taken over for the accommodation of the Girls' High School there.

(iv) An extra sum of Rs. 15,000 is required to meet the cost of dearness and cash allowances granted to Government Primary School teachers as the existing provision has proved inadequate.

(v) An additional amount of Rs. 3,70,580 is required to meet the expenditure in regard to the grant of dearness allowance at increased rates to Primary School teachers under Local Bodies. The budget provision of Rs. 5,50,000 has fallen short of actual requirements.

(vi) An additional sum of Rs. 16,000 is necessary for meeting the expenditure of dearness allowance at increased rates to teachers of Aided Primary Schools and also of those teachers of the new schools taken over this year to the aided list.

(vii) Rupees 34,000 is required to meet the expenditure on account of dearness allowance to teachers of aided special schools for which no budget provision was made in the current year.

(viii) Rupees 4,300 is required partly to meet the cost on account of leave of Mr. A. Lais, Director of Public Instruction, Assam and partly the pay of the Special Officer for Primary Education.

(ix) A sum of Rs. 1,000 is necessary to meet the pay of the staff of the Special Officer for Primary Education.

(x) A sum of Rs. 15,000 is required to meet the cost of war allowance, enhanced rates of dearness and cash allowances granted to Government servants.

(xi) The amount of Rs. 3,000 is needed to meet the cost of new designed tables for the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Assam.

(xii) An additional sum of Rs. 5,000 is required to meet the cost of pay of establishments as less provision for the purpose was made in the current year's budget.

(xiii) An additional amount of Rs. 17,500 is necessary for war, dearness and cash allowances granted to Government servants as the existing budget provision for the purpose has proved inadequate.

(xiv) A sum of Rs. 2,000 is required to meet the cost of war, dearness and cash allowances granted to Mass Literacy staff. The total requirements on this account amounted to Rs. 8,000 of which Rs. 6,000 will be met by re-appropriation. No provision for this purpose was made in the current year's budget.

(xv) To meet the leave salaries of Officers of the Education Department sent for training in the United Kingdom for which no provision was made in the original budget.

We have three Cut Motions, but all the subjects were discussed in connection with the Budget.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Sir, Cut Motion No. 2 is very important. Though the expenditure has already been incurred we want to criticise Government for not making provision in the Supplementary Budget to implement the Assembly Resolution for giving the Lower Primary teachers a minimum pay of Rs. 40 per mensem. It is mainly for omission and not for commission by Government.

Khan Sahib Maulavi NURUL HUSSAIN KHAN: Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the House a certain matter about primary education.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: When the Hon'ble Prime Minister is not here to give his reply, will the hon. Member feel it justified to take the time of the House particularly when we have 13 more Motions to be moved?

Khan Sahib Maulavi NURUL HUSSAIN KHAN: Sir, the point is that in the reply given by the Hon'ble Prime Minister nothing was stated definitely whether he was going to introduce compulsory primary education. If Government is not going to take this question up now, at least some provision may be made for some particular areas of which Baniyachong may be one, as schemes for introducing compulsory and free Primary Education at Baniyachong were twice submitted by the Habiganj Local Board, but Government made no response whatsoever.

Maulavi ABDUL KHALEQUE AHMED: Sir, I shall take only one minute to say my say. In the speech of the Hon'ble Prime Minister it was stated that a Special Officer was appointed to formulate a scheme for compulsory primary education for Assam. Now this officer has been working for the last few months. May we urge upon the Government to publish the Report of the said Special Officer so that all the hon. Members of this House may know the position and then give their suggestions in due course of time. Sir, copies of the Report may kindly be sent to all the hon. Members of this House as soon as it is prepared.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: The Special Officer could not submit his Report before the 31st March on account of various pre-occupations. First the last general election greatly interfered with his work and secondly the reports from some of the subdivisions which he wanted on some very important matters came very late. Therefore he could not submit his Report earlier. But I can assure the hon. Members that when the Report will be submitted Government will take steps to get the Report published for the information of the hon. Members.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 5,74,187 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 1946, for the administration of the head '37.—Education (other than European)'".

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 14

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. 1,63,777 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 1946, for the administration of the head "38.—Medical".

	Rs
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	15,23,000
II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary Grant will be accounted for—	
A. Medical Establishment—	
(a) <i>Superintendence—</i>	
1. Pay of officer	3,000
2. Pay of establishment	7,342
3. Allowances and honoraria	3,332
4. Contingencies (Non-contract)	10,049
Miscellaneous contract-contingencies	457
(b) <i>District Medical Officers—</i>	
1. Pay of officers	3,112
B. Hospitals and Dispensaries—	
(a) <i>Ordinary Dispensaries—</i>	
3. Allowances and honoraria	22,404
4. Contingencies (Non-contract)	61,609
(f) <i>Travelling dispensaries—Contingencies (Non-contract)</i>	3,728
(i) <i>Grant for Leprosy work</i>	5,000
C.—Grant for Medical purposes—	
Contribution to the Municipal Boards	420
Ditto Tinsukia Hospital	1,836
D.—Medical Colleges and Schools—	
(a) <i>Medical Colleges—</i>	
Contributions and grants-in-aid—Examination fees and maintenance charges of the Calcutta Medical College.	20,519
(b) <i>Medical Schools—</i>	
5. Contingencies (Contract)	10,969
G.—Works—	
Original works	10,000
Total	1,63,777

*The explanatory notes explain the position.

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. (a) The excess expenditure is required on account of the inclusion of the pay of the Blood Transfusion Officer, entertainment of extra staff, payment of dearness allowance at increased rates to increased staff, inclusion of the allowances of the Blood Transfusion Officer and his staff, rent of office building and building of the body of Inspector General of Civil Hospitals' truck and repairs to the truck and due to heavy expenditure on postage stamps during the year.

(b) The excess expenditure is required due to grant of leave to Indian Medical Service Officers and transfer of Indian Medical Service Officers from this province and entertainment in their places of officers whose pay is debitable to the voted head.

B. (a) The excess expenditure involved is due to the grant of dearness allowances at increased rates and other war allowances to the staff employed in Hospitals and Dispensaries, purchase of quinine dihydrochloride, Penicillin, medical instruments and A. R. P. Stores, increased scale of diet and increased number of patients, and purchase of special drugs which are now available.

(f) The extra expenditure is required due to purchase of a mobile first aid truck for a travelling dispensary in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,63,777 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 1946, for the administration of the head—'38.—Medical'."

There is one Cut Motion in the name of Maulavi Md. Mafiz Chowdhury.

Maulavi Md. MAFIZ CHOWDHURY: Sir, I do not want to move my Motion.*

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,63,777 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 1946, for the administration of the head—'38.—Medical'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 15

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 Rs. 5,32,000, 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 1946, for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	Rs. 16,69,100
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—	

A.—Public Health Establishment—

(a) Superintendence and other Establishment—

Pay of officers ...	3,600
Allowances and Honoraria ...	42,000
Contingencies—Non-contract ...	3,700

(i) The additional grant required in this connection is required due to a non-recurring grant for the Santipara Leper Colony for the maintenance and upkeep of the said colony.

C. The excess expenditure is required due to the grant to the Dhubri Municipal Board for the Dhubri Leper Ward and also a grant to the Surajmall Jalan Hospital at Tinsukia.

D. (a) This additional grant is required to meet last year's debit raised by the Government of Bengal for the purpose which was adjusted during the current financial year and further debit of Rs. 10,863 raised by Bengal Government during this year.

(b) The extra grant involved is required due to the entertainment of more contingency menials and grant of dearness allowances at increased rates to them.

G. This additional grant is required due to taking over of the A. R. P. building at Digboi for the Charali Dispensary.

*1. Maulavi MD. MAFIZ CHOWDHURY to move:—

That the provision of Rs. 2,256 under Supplementary Demand No. 14, Major head—38.—Medical, Minor head—C.—Grant for Medical Purposes (total), at page 13 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs. 1,63,777 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

(To raise a discussion about the small grants to the local bodies.)

C.—Epidemic diseases—				Rs.
(a) Malaria—				
Non-contract contingencies	...	...	...	3,98,000
E.—Pasteur Institute—				
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	4,600
Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	9,000
Contingencies	...	...	...	48,600
F.—Works—				
Public Health—Original Works	...	...	...	16,800
Repairs	...	...	...	5,700
Total				5,32,000

*The explanatory notes explain the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs.5,32,000, 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 1946, for the administration of the head '39.—Public Health'."

There are two Cut Motions under this head. Are the hon. Members going to move them?

Maulavi Md. MAFIZ CHOWDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 4,600 under Supplementary Demand No.15, Major head—39.—Public Health, Minor head—E.—Pasteur Institute, Sub-head—Pay of Establishment, at page 14 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.5,32,000 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Public Health Establishment.—The extra amount required under "Pay of Officers" is due to the reversion from military duty of one officer drawing higher pay, under "Allowances and honoraria" due to increased rates of travelling, dearness and house rent allowances and grant of house rent allowance to Rural Health Inspectors, and under "Contingencies" due to increased demand of vaccine lymph owing to the prevalence of small-pox and supply to the military authorities, which is made on payment.

C.—Epidemic disease.—The extra amount required under "Non-contract contingencies" is due to the allotment by the Government of India of an additional quantity of ten million mepacrine tablets and increased quantity of quinine for the Tea Industry and also due to the increased prices of quinine and cinchona. Supply to the tea industry is made on payment.

E.—Pasteur Institute.—The extra amount required under "Pay of Establishment" is to meet the pay of a temporary establishment entertained to cope with the abnormal increase of work in connection with the preparation of vaccine, bacteriophage, etc., in the Pasteur Institute which were in high demand by the military authorities to whom supplies were made on payment; under "Allowances and Honoraria" due to the sanction of war allowance, increased rate of dearness allowance and a larger amount of travelling allowance being necessary for the Director of Pasteur Institute who was deputed to New Delhi to attend the meetings of the Central Advisory Board of Health, and under "Contingencies" due to the abnormal demand of vaccines, bacteriophage, etc., from the military authorities to whom supplies are made on payment and also due to the payment of the previous year's bills which were received too late for payment and also due to besides prices of equipment, sheep, glass-ware, etc., had not come down.

F.—Works.—The extra amount required under "Original Works" is due to (1) the construction of a Leprosy Dispensary with Sub-Assistant Surgeon's quarters and a pucca ring well at a cost of Rs. 8,000 at Singimari in the Nowgong District, (2) certain items of construction in connection with the sanitary arrangement in the Darrang Mela at a cost of Rs. 3,682 and (3) payment of a sum of Rs. 5,150 to the Civil Defence Department on account of the cost of an A. R. P. building at Dibrugarh, which has been taken over by the Public Health Department for accommodation of the office of the District Medical Officer of Health, Lakhimpur, and under "Repairs" due mainly to the repair of certain dispensaries damaged by storm and also due to the payment of certain bill for repair work carried out in the previous year, which were received too late for payment in that year.

My intention is to raise a discussion on the supply of vaccine and Bacteriophage by the Pasteur Institute at Shillong. For the last few years, the supply has been very meagre and inadequate. It could not meet the requirements of the mufassil areas. The Local Boards though they paid the price of these essential articles could no get them up to their demand. We know, Sir, that during the war period the attention of the Institute was diverted to the Military and their requirements had precedence over the civil needs. Fortunately the war has ended, but still our supply has not been adequate and regular. In this connection, I beg to point out that the financial condition of the Boards are so bad that they can ill afford to procure their requirements on payment. Public Health is the foremost important item to be taken up by Government. May we not hope that Government will see their way to supply the vaccine and Bacteriophage to the Local Boards free of cost?

The second thing that I will urge is about the potency of the vaccine. It is so short-lived that when it reaches the rural areas, after several days in transit, it becomes absolutely useless. So, immediate arrangement must be made for cold storage in every Subdivision. Otherwise, no useful purpose will be served by manufacturing this vaccine. It will mean only waste of public money. With these remarks, Sir, I commend my Motion for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Cut Motion moved :

"That the provision of Rs. 4,600 under Supplementary Demand No.15, Major head—39.—Public Health, Minor head—E.—Pasteur Institute, Sub-head—Pay of Establishment, at page 14 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 5,32,000 do stand reduced by Re. 1."

Dr. C. G. TERRELL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I say a few words in support of the hon. Member's Motion on the subject of vaccine lymph? In the last session of the Assembly I mentioned this particular point, but no attempt, so far as I know, was made to rectify it. It is perfectly true that by the time the lymph issued by the vaccine Depot reaches a distant place in the Province, it actually becomes out of date according to the date recorded on the box. The boxes are stamped stating certain dates and every one is informed that it is out of date after that time and cannot be used. So, what is the use of sending the vaccine if it cannot be made to reach the place before the fixed date? I would like to take this opportunity of supporting what has been said by the hon. Mover of the Motion and asking the Hon'ble Minister concerned if he would go into the matter with the officer in-charge of Vaccine Depot with a view to preparation of a vaccine with more longevity, or alternately cold storage arrangements for storing vaccines in Depots in every part of the Province. With these few words, Sir, I support the Motion.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present there is no shortage of vaccine and bacteriophage and these are being supplied according to the demand. But as regards the suggestions made for their preparation and protection of efficacy, I will certainly carry them in my mind and try to do whatever is possible in this respect.

Khan Sahib Maulavi MUDABBIR HUSSAIN CHAUDHURI : What about the cold storage and preservation of vaccine?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS : That will be examined, Sir.

Maulavi MD. MAFIZ CHOWDHURY : In view of the assurance given by the Hon'ble Minister, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Has the hon. Mover of the House to withdraw his Motion?

The Motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 5,32,000 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 1946, for the administration of the head '39.—Public Health'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 16.

40.—AGRICULTURE

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional sum of Rs. 6,000 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 1946, for the administration of the head "40.—Agriculture".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... Rs. 48,46,800.

II.—Sub-head under which the additional grant will be accounted for—
Expenditure on Post-War Planning and development ... Rs. 6,000.

† The Explanatory Notes will clear the matter.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 6,000 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 1946, for the administration of the head '40.—Agriculture'."

There are two Cut Motions.

Maulavi ABDUL BARI CHAUDHURY: Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 6,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 16, Major head—40.—Agriculture, Minor head—Expenditure on Post-War Planning and Development, at page 15 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs. 6,000 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the object of my Cut Motion is to say that Government is wasting public money.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The policy of Government cannot be discussed.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: It will be found in the Explanatory Notes that the Government of India have made an initial grant of Rs. 2,500 and have undertaken to make a recurring grant of Rs. 3,500 per annum to the Demonstration plot. This Government have agreed to make similar grant so that the total cost may be shared equally by the two Governments.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Hon. Maulavi M. Idris Ali to move his Motion.

Maulavi M. IDRIS ALI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 6,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 16, Major head—40.—

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Government of India—Welfare and Resettlement Directorate, General Headquarters have initiated a scheme for pre-release agricultural training of service personnel and have opened a demonstration plot at the Assam Regimental Centre, Shillong, for army personnel belonging to this Province. The Government of India have made an initial grant of Rs. 2,500 and have undertaken to make a recurring grant of Rs. 3,500 per annum to the Demonstration plot. This Government have agreed to make similar grants so that the total cost may be shared equally by the two Governments.

Agriculture, Minor head—Expenditure on Post-War Planning and Development, at page 15 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs. 6,000 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Sir, the object of my moving this Cut Motion is to raise a discussion about the policy of wasting public money which in no way will be beneficial to the poor inhabitants of the Province. On perusal of the Explanatory Note we find that the Government of India with a view to give training to the service personnel before their dismissal from the existing war services have opened a demonstration plot at Shillong, Assam Regimental Centre, for which the money is to be spent. Sir, I do not think any useful purpose will be served by opening such a Centre. I would ask what is the number of the Army Personnel who belongs to this Province and how many amongst them would prefer to undertake the agricultural career after discharge? To my mind their number would be negligible which will not justify the spending of any public money after it. In this connection, Sir, one is naturally led to the question as to what the Government have provided for giving proper training to the agriculturists of this Province who are wasting their energy in pursuing antiquated methods of cultivation. What the Government have done in combating the water-hyacinth menace which is devastating our country side? May I ask, Sir, how the Government would combat this foremost enemy of cultivation—in other words the people of this Province?

With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion for the acceptance of, the House.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved:

“That the provision of Rs. 6,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 16, Major head—40.—Agriculture, Minor head—Expenditure on Post-War Planning and Development, at page 15 of the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1945-46, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs. 6,000 do stand reduced by Re. 1.”

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Sir, it will appear from the Explanatory Notes that this expenditure was incurred at the instance and initiative of the Government of India who wanted to give agricultural and other training to the Army Personnel before their demobilisation. This scheme is a good one; it aims at making the Army Personnel better and useful citizens; it aims at teaching them agriculture and other vocational subjects. It is a beneficial scheme, it will make them self-sufficient and on the other hand it will go to the benefit of the general public by creating a healthy atmosphere in the locality where the soldiers will return and settle down. The money was spent for the Army Personnel belonging to the Province of Assam and apparently it benefits the Army Personnel as well as the general public. So, it cannot be said that the money was wasted. The effect is rather very good on the general public and the Explanatory Note shows, Sir, that the money was very well spent.

I hope the hon. Member will be satisfied with what I have stated and he will see his way to withdraw his Cut Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: What does the hon. Member propose to do? Maulavi M IDRIS ALI: After hearing the Hon'ble Minister, I beg to withdraw my Cut Motion, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw his Cut Motion?

The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Now, I would put the Supplementary Demand as a question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 6,000 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, 1946, for the administration of the head '40.—Agriculture'."

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble Mr. BASANTA KUMAR DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is 4 p.m., and I think the Chair should apply guillotine in respect of the other Motions.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.17

42.—CO-OPERATION

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Government of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 42,405 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1946, for the administration of the head "42.—Co-operatoin".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	Rs.	3,39,200
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary demand will be accounted for—			
A.—Direction—			
1. Pay of officers	...	...	1,305
2. Pay of Establishment	...	...	3,150
3. Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	1,600
4. Contingencies	...	...	2,100
B.—Superintendence—			
1. Pay of officers	...	...	2,400
2. Pay of Establishment	...	...	5,300
3. Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	19,600
4. Contingencies	...	...	6,950
Total	...	...	42,405

The explanatory note* explains the position.

*EXPLANATORY NOTES

A—1. No provision was made in the budget for the leave salary of Srijut G. C. Sarma, Assistant Director of Industries, Assam, as it could not be foreseen that he would go on leave from the 16th December, 1945. Hence the amount of Rs. 1,305 is to be provided by a supplementary grant.

A—2. No provision was included in the budget for temporary establishments sanctioned for the office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and Director of Industries for increased work in his office. Hence the amount of Rs. 3,150 is to be met by a supplementary grant.

A—3. The provision made in the budget for war and dearness allowances and travelling allowance proved inadequate, due mainly to the enhanced rates sanctioned from time to time. So a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,600 is indispensable.

A—4. The registration of the abbreviated telegraphic addresses, telephone connection to the Director of Industries and Registrar of Co-operative Societies' bungalow, cost of stamps stationery locally and shifting of records to the new building of the office of Director of Industries and Registrar of Co-operative Societies are mainly responsible for the heavy expenditure under this head. The excess expenditure of Rs. 2,100 thus incurred is to be met by a supplementary grant.

B—1. No provision was made in the budget for the leave salary of Babu K. B. Shome, Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies. The excess expenditure incurred on that account

(Continued as foot-note in the next page)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 42,405 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1946, for the administration of the head '42.—Co-operation'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.18

43.—INDUSTRIES

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. 45,267 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, 1946, for the administration of the head "43.—Industries".

					Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	...	...	3,71,900
II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary demand will be accounted for—					
A.—Industrial Development—					
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	10,700
D.—Works—					
Original works	...	...	...	...	34,567
				Total	45,267

The explanatory note† explains the position.

is to be met by a supplementary grant. Appointment of a Special Officer for the Co-operative Department in November, 1945, is also partially responsible for the excess.

B—2. Government sanctioned the entertainment of one Chief Auditor, three Auditors, thirty-five Assistant Auditors and their clerks and peons for a period of one year with effect from 1st April, 1945, for the audit of the Co-operative Societies.

An additional staff of 10 Inspectors of Co-operative Societies together with their clerks and peons was also sanctioned temporarily for one year for supervision of Consumers' Co-operative Societies. Besides a clerk and a peon were also sanctioned for the Special Officer sanctioned for the Co-operative Department. No provision exists in the current year's budget for the excess expenditure involved on the establishment mentioned above. A supplementary grant of Rs. 5,300 is therefore necessary.

B—3. No provision was made in the budget for the travelling allowance, fixed travelling allowance, dearness and war allowances of the temporary establishment mentioned against B—2 and provision made for some other temporary establishment proved inadequate. To meet the expenditure for these establishments a supplementary grant of Rs. 19,600 is necessary.

B—4. The existing provision in the budget proved inadequate to meet the requirements of the temporary establishment referred to above as no provision was included for them in the budget. So a supplementary grant of Rs. 6,950 for this purpose is necessary.

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Government sanctioned the continuance of the appointments made in connection with the war supplies and it is estimated that the expenditure during the current year will amount to Rs. 10,700. No provision was made in the current year's budget for this as the expenditure could not be foreseen.

D.—The amount was provided for in the budget for 1944-45 for construction of buildings for the Sericultural Farm at Senchoa. As however, the works could not be executed during the year the amount was surrendered but sanctioned afresh in the current financial year. No provision was however included in the current year's budget for this expenditure. So a supplementary grant of Rs. 34,567 is indispensable.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 45, 267 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 1946 for the administration of the head '43.—Industries'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 19

47.—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS

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. 51,401 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 1946 for the administration of the head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	1,35,400
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
(1) B.—Labour	4,080
(2) C.—Inspector of Steam Boilers	5,000
(3) Post-War Reconstruction—Electrical Adviser (Development)	40,100
E.—Provincial Statistics—	
(a) Raingauge charges... ..	210
H.—Works—	
(a) Original works—	
2. Raingauge and Jute Statistics	157
(b) Repairs—	
2. Raingauge and Jute Statistics	60
F.—Preservation and Translation of ancient manuscripts.	1,794
Total	51,401

The explanatory note† explains the position

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

(1) B.—The increase is due to various causes—enhancement of the special pay granted to the Assistant Labour Commissioner and the dearness allowance at the increased rates of the additional staff sanctioned for the Labour Commissioner's office. Expenditure in connection with advance travelling allowance, outfit allowance and passage money granted to an officer deputed to United Kingdom for training in Labour subject also contributed to the increase.

(2) C.—The increase is due to the purchase of a motor truck for the conveyance of Inspectors of Boilers.

(3) Government decided, after the budget was passed, and in view of the end of the War, to take initial measures to investigate prospects of Hydro-electric Development in the province. A temporary post of Electrical Adviser, Development, was therefore created during the year and a new sub-head "Electrical Adviser (Development)" was opened under the head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments", in the accounts for 1945-46. The services of Mr. W. Allsup, who retired from the post of Electrical Adviser in March 1945, and who had made a considerable study of this subject in his spare time during service, were retained in the first instance for a year for the purpose. The expenditure is necessary for defraying the expenses in connection with the pay of the officer, pay of his establishment, allowances, honoraria and contingencies including the purchase of a touring vehicle for the survey of sites.

E. (a) The additional amount is necessary for purchase of 5 raingauges to replace the old ones which became unserviceable.

H. (a) The additional amount is required for fixing the new raingauges.

(b) The additional amount is required for repairing fencings round raingauges. The original grant of Rs. 40 is quite inadequate for 130 raingauges.

F.—This amount is required by the Department of Historical and Antiquarian studies to enable it to carry on research works.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 51,401 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 1946 for the administration of the head '47.—Miscellaneous Departments'."

The question was adopted.

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.58,72,904 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 1946, for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment charges)".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs.46,70,700

II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for—

A.—Original Works—

(a) Buildings—

	Rs.
1. General Administration	19,224
2. Jails and Convict Settlements	384
3. Police other than Assam Rifles	50
4. Education other than European	62
5. Civil Works	220
	<hr/>
	19,940

(b) Communications—

1. Ordinary Roads	1,00,300
2. Tea Rates Works	83,500
3. Boat, Bridges and Ferries	16,050
4. Petrol Tax Projects Ordinary	70,000
	<hr/>
	2,69,850

B.—Repairs—

1. Buildings	1,57,370
2. Communications	53,11,642
3. Miscellaneous	457
4. Tea Rates Works	1,12,520
	<hr/>
	55,81,989

D.—Grants-in-aid for communication

... .. 1,125

Grand total 58,72,904

The explanatory note† explains the position.

† EXPLANATORY NOTES

General Administration

(a) The accommodation in the Deputy Commissioner's Court building at Shillong was inadequate due to expansion of office staff. It has become necessary in the interest of public service to extend the court building at a cost of Rs.9,224 which is required for expenditure during the current year.

(b) Due to opening of new offices and expansion of the various existing Departments it became urgently necessary to provide accommodation by constructing new office buildings at Shillong at an estimated cost of Rs.2,78,236. As the work could not be completed during the last year and as no specific provision could be made in the current year's budget a sum of Rs.48,000 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.38,000 will be met from the savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.10,000 to meet the balance.

JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENT

Certain departmental buildings in the Jorhat Jail were severely damaged by earthquake. As the Jail Department were unable to carry out the repairs to these pucca buildings departmentally, Public Works Department have been requested to take over the buildings on to their books. The work is estimated to cost Rs.8,384 which is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.8,000 will be met from the savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.384 to meet the balance.

POLICE OTHER THAN ASSAM RIFLES

Due to the revision of estimate which was originally prepared at a time when prices of materials and labour were low the work "Construction of quarters for an Assistant Sub-Inspector and the extension to the existing constables' barracks at Ajmiriganj Police Station" has become a major work in the course of execution. The work is now estimated to cost Rs.10,295 and a sum of Rs.7,000 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.6,950 will be met from savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.50 to meet the balance.

EDUCATION OTHER THAN EUROPEANS

(1) The tiled roof of the Moslem Hostel attached to the Government High School at Habiganj was severely damaged by storm and was beyond repairs. So it has become essentially necessary to replace the tiled roof of the building by asbestos roof at a cost of Rs.5,112 which is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.5,100 will be met by reappropriation within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.12 to meet the balance.

(2) The permanent buildings of the Cotton College, Gauhati, were occupied by the Military. As no accommodation was available elsewhere it became essentially necessary to construct temporary new buildings for the College. The project, estimated to cost Rs.46,407 was sanctioned at the end of last year but no expenditure was incurred and no specific provision could be made for it in the budget for the current year. In view, however, of the recent release of the permanent College buildings by the Military such items of work as are not considered necessary for present needs are not being executed. A sum of Rs.20,500 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.20,450 will be met by reappropriation within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote for a supplementary grant of Rs.50 to meet the balance.

CIVIL WORKS

(1) Due to increased activities in the Public Works Department there has been an increase in the number of tools and machinery with a corresponding increase in the demand for manufacturing parts of machinery of the Department. It has become therefore essentially necessary to extend the Mechanical Engineer's Workshop at Jorhat to make accommodation for increased manufacturing works of the Department.

The project estimated to cost Rs.13,450 has been sanctioned and taken up. A sum of Rs.1,000 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.950 will be met from the savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.50 to meet the balance.

(2) There is no suitable accommodation to house the large number of highly valuable plant and machinery which were ordered for road maintenance and construction. As these machines are arriving at Gauhati, it has become essentially necessary to construct a machine shed and tools godown at Gauhati at an estimated cost of Rs.35,342 and a sum of Rs.32,000 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.31,950 will be met by reappropriation within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.50 to meet the balance.

(3) Due to increased number of officers and staff in the Public Works Department Secretariat to cope with the increased work in the Department, the existing accommodation in the Public Works Department Secretariat building proved quite insufficient and certain additions and alterations to the existing buildings were sanctioned last year at an estimated cost of Rs. 15,000. Subsequently in preparing the detailed estimates it became necessary to make further extension to accommodate the Reinforced Concrete Specialist and Officers and staff connected with Post-War

Planning and to shift Moslem prayer hall to a new site and therefore a revised estimate had to be framed at a cost of Rs.30,549. As the work could not be finished last year a sum of Rs.25,000 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.24,980 will be met by reappropriation within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.20 to meet the balance.

(4) With a large number of machines now in hand to be further augmented by other machines now on order from abroad, it is experienced that the Workshop at Jorhat cannot meet the demands for repairs to and manufacturing parts for machines and hence it has become imperatively necessary to open a Workshop at Sylhet. An estimate for Rs.62,458 has been framed and sanctioned for the construction of buildings for Public Works Department Workshop at Sylhet and a sum of Rs.50,000 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.49,900 will be met by reappropriation within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.100 to meet the balance.

(b) COMMUNICATIONS

1. Ordinary Road—(i) The original proposal was to construct the bridge over the river Daipang at Galendi in the Dalgaoon Colonisation areas by this Department charging the cost to the head "7.—Land Revenue". But as it was found later that this procedure will lead to complication in respect of levy of departmental charges it has been decided to carry out the works by this Department charging the cost to "50.—Civil Works—Provincial." The work is estimated to cost Rs. 15,740 and a sum of Rs. 8,000 is required for expenditure during the year. Of this a sum of Rs. 7,900 will be met by reappropriation within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs.100 to meet the balance.

(ii) The Ghatak-Govindganj Road was taken over by the Public Works Department for improvement. The work is estimated to cost Rs. 13,182 and a sum of Rs.5,200 is required for expenditure during the current financial year. Of this, a sum of Rs.5,000 will be met by reappropriation within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs. 200 to meet the balance.

(iii) The Shari bridge was damaged by flood and it is to be remodelled. A sum of Rs.1,20,000 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.20,000 will be met from savings within the budget grant. The Assembly is, therefore, asked to vote a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,00,000 to meet the balance.

2. Tea Rates Works—

The bridges on the Tea Rates Road Fund Roads are to be maintained to 6 ton standard. The provision of Rs. 10,000 proved inadequate and a sum of Rs.83,500 is required for expenditure during the current year.

3. Boat, Bridges and Ferries—

Three single boats, three mar boats and two engines at Colderghat in the Central Assam Division were acquired from the Supply of Civil Movements (Population) Departments, Assam at a cost of Rs. 16,050 for use of this Department. Therefore, a sum of Rs. 16,050 is required to make the necessary payment during the year.

4. Petrol-Tax Projects—Ordinary—

Due to resumption of works held in abeyance during the War time, the budget provision of Trs. 1,45 under the head proved inadequate. An additional sum of Trs. 70 is therefore required for expenditure during the year on the following works—

	Rs.
(i) Improving Hojai-Doboka Road in the Nowgong Division	10,000
(ii) Improvement of the North Trunk Road West from mile 76 to Garubhassa	60,000
Section 11-A.	
Total	70,000

B.—Repairs—

1. Buildings.
2. Communications.
3. Miscellaneous.
4. Tea Rates Works.

An additional sum of Rs.55,81,989 is required to meet demands for repairs as the original budget provision has proved inadequate.

With the increase in the cost of wages and the prices of materials the maintenance expenditure on communications also increased. At the same time as prices increased, the wear on the roads become abnormal due to heavy Military traffic. During the first years of the war, with no sufficient increase in funds for repairs, the road crusts were subjected to greater wear than could be made good, and this too at a time when the traffic became heavier than hitherto experienced. As the war progressed, the Military constructed roads which were handed to the Public Works Department for maintenance, and a considerable mileage of other roads some belonging to the Local Board and some improved out of the Tea Rates Road Fund were handed over to the Public Works Department.

A statement placed below shows the mileages under different categories maintained during the years 1938-39, 1944-45 and 1945-46.

1938-39 Figures—

The expenditure, approximately 20 lakhs represents the normal pre-war cost of maintenance, on approximately 2,000 miles. This gives an average figure of Rs.1,000 per mile. All the road surfaces at that time were 10 feet wide whether tarred, metalled or gravelled.

1944-45 figures—

Assuming no change in the pre-war mileage, the maintenance charges alone due to increased prices would amount to Rs.50 lakhs as a minimum. The expenditure on maintenance was however only just over 34 lakhs which meant that the roads did not receive the attention requisite to keep them in good order.

For 1945-46 the budget grant amounted to some 28 lakhs, which was quite insufficient for roads where the mileage was increasing and road surfaces steadily deteriorating.

From the 1st April 1945 the maintenance of all roads improved out of "Defence" became a provincial responsibility. This resulted in some 419 miles of 20 feet wide surfaced road, equivalent to some 800 miles of single width surfaced road coming on the Public Works Department books for maintenance. At the same time some 75 miles of double width Shingled road equivalent to 150 miles of single width shingled road were also taken over for maintenance. These were heavy responsibilities particularly when materials were difficult to get and prices soaring.

The Government of India became live to the high cost of maintenance and had become aware of the delays that occurred due to shortage of supply, lack of funds and delay in commencement of work because of the time taken in reaching a settlement between the Government of India and Provincial Governments.

The Government of India addressed all Provincial Governments in November 1944 stating the Policy governing construction and Maintenance of Strategic Roads.

The cost of Construction of Strategic Roads is not for consideration here. The Maintenance of Strategic Roads in a suitable condition for Military Traffic was however of the utmost importance and it was expressly stated in their letter that "a different basis of apportionment of costs is required to ensure that there should be no such delays as have occurred in the past."

For maintenance the Government of India pointed out that the Provincial Government should bear expenditure up to twice the average maintenance cost during the last three pre-war years, viz., 1938-39, 1937-38, 1936-37, the balance being provided by the Government of India.

In these circumstances the Public Works Department incurred expenditure on maintenance throughout the year. As the result of the wet season of the year 1945 and on account of the heavy military traffic during the wet season there was further steady deterioration of the road surfaces. Urgent repairs were called for as soon as the rains were over. Whilst these repairs were being put in hand Public Works Department prepared a supplementary demand to meet the cost as the Provincial Repair Grant had already been depleted.

The deterioration of the roads generally, due to insufficient repairs and lack of materials throughout the war years had become so great that if further deterioration was not checked there would have been a general break-up of all the surfaces, with a consequent breakdown of communication, which result the Government of India desired to avoid.

In Assam practically all the roads in the charge of the Public Works Department were strategic roads as they were used by heavy military traffic. The Government of India have not yet given a complete list of "Strategic Roads". We have in the execution of repairs to roads included all District or Major Roads where heavy Military Traffic was run. It was for the adequate maintenance of these roads that the Supplementary Demand is made.

The execution of the repairs was delayed until the Supplementary Demand was furnished. It was necessary in view of the Government of India Orders and in view of the necessity to avoid delay to anticipate the grant.

Recovery from Government of India—

The total expenditure on Maintenance for 1945-46 amounts to approximately 81 lakhs. Pre-war expenditure approximates 19 lakhs (average of 3 years). By deducting twice the pre-war expenditure or some 38 lakhs, the recovery from the Government of India amounts to some 43 lakhs.

The sum of 38 lakhs or twice the pre-war expenditure assumed as the Provincial responsibility for 1945-46 is only 4 lakhs in excess of the expenditure incurred in the year 1944-45.

Repairs 1945-46.—

The 81 lakhs expended in 1945-46 were spent throughout the year. Use was first made of the Provincial grant of 28 lakhs and maintenance carried on in anticipation of additional funds being forthcoming. This procedure was essential for continuity and to ensure the supply of materials for use during the working season. Tar for surfacing during the dry weather amounted to some 3,000 tons had to be arranged well in advance on account of permits and transport difficulties. Materials for use with this tar had also to be obtained in great quantities and broken by hand. Collection of shingle for road surfaces had to be carried out throughout the year. In the Surma Valley collection has to be made

(Continued as foot note in the next page)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 58,72,904 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 1946 for the administration of the head '50.—Civil Works (excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment charges)'."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.21.

50.—CIVIL WORKS (ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT 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.69,800 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, 1946, for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works (Establishment and Tools and Plant charges)".

	Rs.
I—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	13,76,200
II—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
A—Direction charges—	
(a) Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department—	
(i) Pay of Officers ...	2,300
(ii) Pay of Establishment ...	8,000
(iii) Allowances and Honoraria ...	7,500
(iv) Contingencies ...	15,000
(b) Superintending Engineers—	
(v) Allowances and Honoraria ...	100
B.—Charges on construction—	
(vi) Pay of Establishment ...	21,900
(vii) Allowances and Honoraria ...	19,500
(viii) Contingencies ...	9,000
Total ...	69,800

during the wet season for use during the cold weather and during the ensuing wet season. Without full and comprehensive forward arrangements road work cannot be carried out timely.

The additional sum of Rs. 55,81,989 required for expenditure during the current year is made up of the following :—

Repairs—	Rs.
Buildings ..	1,57,370
Communications ..	53,11,642
Miscellaneous ..	457
Tea Rates Works ..	1,12,520
Total ..	55,81,989

D. The additional amount is required for grant to the Garo Hills District Fund Committee for repairing Mahendraganj-Bahadurkata Public Works Department Road transferred to the above committee which was badly damaged during the high flood of August 1945. The excess expenditure is due to the high cost of repair charges in these days.

The explanatory note* explains the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 69,800 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, 1946 for the administration of the head '50.—Civil Works (Establishment and Tools and Plant charges).'"

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.22

55 —SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS AND 83.—PAYMENT OF COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS, 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. 1,57,080 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, 1946, for the administration of the head "55.—Superannuation allowances and pensions" and "83.—Payment of commuted value of pensions, etc."

			Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	18,50,000
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant			
will be accounted for—			
A. Superannuation and retired allowance...	...	...	1,50,000
C. Compassionate allowance	...	...	4,500
D. Gratuities—			
(1) Ordinary Gratuity	...	...	2,000
G. Donations to Provident Fund	...	...	500
H. Charges in England	...	...	80
	Total	...	<hr/> 1,57,080

The explanatory note † explains the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,57,080 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment

* EXPLANATORY NOTE

- (i) Due to the re-employment of a retired I.S.E. Officer as an additional Chief Engineer and as a "Voted" Officer.
- (ii) Due mainly to the entertainment of a Special Officer with non-gazetted rank for the revision of service rules and other special works in the Public Works Department Secretariat.
- (iii) Due to extension of the grant of war allowances to higher-paid officers and increase in the rates of dearness allowance.
- (iv) Due to repair and purchase of extra furniture. The budget grant proved insufficient to meet the actual requirements.
- (v) Due to increase in the rates of dearness allowance.
- (vi) Due to entertainment of extra staff to cope with increased works.
- (vii) As in (iii) above.
- (viii) Due mainly to purchase of new type-writers, rent of office buildings and consumption of more stationery due to increase in staff.

† EXPLANATORY NOTE

- A. The excess is due to grant of temporary increase in small pensions and due to more retirements.
- C. This represents family pensions granted to the families of deceased Government servants who died in the execution of their duties. The increase is due to greater expenditure than could be anticipated.
- D. (1) Due to grant of gratuities to discharged temporary personnel.
- G. Due to more people joining the Contributory Provident Fund.
- H. Due to grant of Compassionate Allowance.

during the year ending 31st March 1946 for the administration of the head "55.—Superannuation allowances and pensions" and "83.—Payment of commuted value of pensions."

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 23

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. 74,291 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 1946 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	30,98,900
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for :	
F.—Irrecoverable temporary loans written off ...	6,000
I.—Contributions—	
(b) Grant to Local Bodies for general purposes ...	3,500
K.—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—	
(a) Compensation for loss due to political disturbances.	3,000
(b) Expenditure in connection with purchase and distribution of photographic films.	4,400
(c) Expenditure connected with the control and distribution of cloth and yarn.	46,210
P.—Expenditure on Post-War Planning ...	8,931
Deduct—Recoveries from the Central Government ...	—3,750
H.—Charges in England ...	6,000
Total ...	74,291
Explanatory note* explains the position.	

* EXPLANATORY NOTE

F. It has been found necessary to remit some old agricultural loans in different districts. The total estimated expenditure comes to Rs.17,060 against the budget grant of Rs. 10,000 resulting in a net excess of Rs.7,060. Supplementary grant for Rs.6,000 is only asked for as the balance can be met by reappropriation.

I.(b) The excess is due to (a) grant of Rs. 1,500 to the Nalbari Town Committee (b) grant of Rs.1,000 each to the Palasbari and Gauripur Town Committees for general purposes.

K.(a) Due to grant of compensation to the Madhab Choudhury College at Barpeta for loss of property.

(b) Due to purchase of photographic films for distribution among dealers for sale to the public at controlled rates.

(c) The Director of Industries, Assam took an advance of Rs. 1,37,000 for purchase of yarn through the Government Emporium, Karimganj. The decision to take the advance was made too late to make any provision in the current year's budget. It was, however, stipulated that the advance would be repaid within six months. The advance was drawn in July last and upto 10th January 1946 a sum of Rs. 90,790 has been repaid leaving a balance of Rs. 46,210 only and hence the additional appropriation is necessary.

P. The expenditure is due to payment of passage fare and miscellaneous charges paid to Government stipendiaries sent abroad for advanced studies. The total amount comes to Rs. 8,931 of which Rs. 3,750 will be paid by the Central Government and adjusted later in the course of the year, thus bringing down the share of the Provincial Government to Rs. 5,181.

H. To meet the requirements of the Government stipendiaries sent abroad.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 74,291 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, 1946, for the administration of the head '57.—Miscellaneous.'"

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 24

63.—EXTRAORDINARY CHARGES

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.10,288 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, 1946 for the administration of the head, "63.—Extraordinary Charges".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs. 2,000
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
A—Charges in India—	
Paper Control Order	10,288
The explanatory note* explains the position.	

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 10,288 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, 1946, for the administration of the head, '63.—Extraordinary Charges' "

The question was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 25

64A.—TRANSFER TO REVENUE RESERVE FUND.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI to move—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.35,00,000 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 1946 for the administration of the head "64A.—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs. Nil
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*EXPLANATORY NOTE

It has been decided to debit this expenditure under this head and as there was no provision in the original Budget for this purpose a supplementary grant of Rs.10,288 is required to meet the actual requirements in pay, allowances and contingencies.

The staff of the paper Control Order, consisting of 1 Superintendent, 2 Inspectors, 2 clerks and 3 peons were entertained in 1945 to control the allotment and distribution of paper to different dealers and sub-dealers in Assam during the emergent period. A small expenditure was incurred during 1944-45 and was debited to the head "57—Miscellaneous".

Rs.

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

64A—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund ... 35,00,000

The explanatory note* explains the position.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

“That an additional sum of Rs. 35,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1946 for the administration of the head ‘64A.—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund’ ”.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: We have finished all the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

Privileges Committee

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I think, the hon. Members will remember the number of members for the Privileges Committee. It has been fixed at seven. Roughly speaking, the Congress Party will give four of their nominees, the Muslim League Party two and the European Group one. The respective hon. Leaders or in their absence hon. Deputy Leaders will please submit the names to the Secretary by 1 P.M. to morrow.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 2 P.M. on Friday, the 29th March, 1946.

SHILLONG:

The 23rd May 1946.

A. K. BARUA,

Secretary Legislative Assembly, Assam.

*EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the original budget for the current year no provision was made for a transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund for Post-War Reconstruction.

In view of a large revenue surplus anticipated in the current year's revised it is proposed to transfer a sum of Rs. 35,00,000 to the Fund during this year and the Assembly is asked to vote the amount. The amount in the fund is being invested and will be available when the need arises.

APPENDIX F

Supplementary statement of Expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province during 1945-46 laid before the Assembly, under Section 81 of the Government of India Act

(CHARGED—NON-EXCLUDED AREAS)**No. 1****8.—PROVINCIAL EXCISE—**

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.	Rs. 21,900
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Additional amount now required	4,730
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II.—Sub-head under which the additional grant will be accounted for—	
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A.—Superintendence—

Allowances and Honoraria	4,730
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is mainly due to tours undertaken by the Excise Commissioner, Assam, outside the Province, to attend the Inter-Provincial Co-operation Meeting of Excise Officers at Lahore and the Consumer Goods Conference at Delhi and drawal of war allowance at increased rates.

No. 2**25.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—**

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 13,22,600
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Additional amount now required	64,420
II.—Sub-heads under which this additional amount will be accounted for—	

HEAD OF PROVINCE, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND MINISTERS—**E.—Tour expenses—**

Purchase and upkeep of Motor Car and Lorries	12,000
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F.—Secretariat Staff of Governor—

(i) Pay of officers	711
(ii) Pay of Establishment	1,465
(iii) Allowances	8,700
(iv) Contingencies (Contract Rs. 410 + Non-contract Rs. 1,776)	

N.—Public Service Commission	2,186
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X.—Charges in England—	12,611
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Expenditure of the High Commissioner	26,747
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Total	64,420
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

E.—A sum of Rs.12,000 is required to purchase a new car for His Excellency the Governor of Assam for which there was no provision in the original budget.

F. (i) There will be an excess expenditure of Rs.945 under "Pay of officers—Pay of Assistant Secretary". This is due to grant of increase in his pay from Rs.725 to Rs.800 per mensem after the submission of the budget estimate. This excess expenditure is partly counterbalanced by the saving under "Pay of Secretary" which is due to appointment of Mr. P. F. Adams on lower scale of pay.

(ii) Excess expenditure is under "Leave salary" for which there was no provision in the original budget.

(iii) Due to (i) grant of war and dearness allowances at enhanced rates and (ii) cost of passage for Secretary who returned from England after the expiry of his leave.

(iv) Due to (i) payment of the rental of His Excellency's Secraphone for which there was no provision in the original budget and (ii) replacement of new furniture for office.

N.—The excess occurs mainly under (1) Leave allowance of officers, (2) Pay of establishment, (3) allowances and honoraria and (4) other contract contingencies and is due to (1) grant of leave allowance to Rai Bahadur H. P. Barua, Member and to the Superintendent of the Public Service Commission and due to the drawal of the leave salary in the month of May 1945 by Khan Bahadur A. Rahman, late Member, Public Service Commission and (2) due to entertainment of clerks and revision of the scale of pay of Head clerk, (3) due to touring of the members to various centres for selection of candidates for new posts and drawing of travelling allowance by the Chairman, Bengal Public Service Commission who was appointed a part-time Chairman of the Assam Public Service Commission, moreover dearness and war allowances were granted at enhanced rates to officers and clerks, (4) due to increased number of advertisements and frequent touring charges, etc.

X.—Due to larger demand for leave salaries of officers than was anticipated.

No. 3

27.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—

	Rs.
I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.	2,05,300
Additional amount now required	66,547
II.—Sub-head under which this additional appropriation will be accounted for—	
A.—Share cost for the maintenance of the Calcutta High Court.	20,000
B.—Law officers—Advocate General—Charged ...	6,000
D. District and Sessions Judges :—	
(i) Pay of officers	16,980
(ii) Allowances and Honoraria	4,020
Total	21,000
M.—Charges in England... ..	19,547
Total	66,547

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. A sum of Rs. 1,10,000 was provided in the current year's budget on account of the share cost for the maintenance of the Calcutta High Court on the basis of demands made in the previous years. The Government of Bengal have now reported that a sum of Rs. 1,30,000 is estimated to be payable to that Government for this purpose. An additional sum of Rs. 20,000 is therefore necessary to meet the expenditure.

B. The excess is due to raising of the retainer of the Advocate General from Rs. 700 to Rs. 1,000 with effect from July 1944, and the drawal of the increased amount during the current year for which no provision was made in the original budget.

D. (i) Due to the appointment of an officer whose pay is classified under "Charged" instead of under "Voted" as anticipated when the budget was framed.

(ii) The excess is due to the drawal of "war allowance" and transfer travelling allowances.

M. Excess due to meet the leave salaries of officers going on leave which could not be forecasted in the original budget.

No. 4
29.—POLICE

Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule.	Rs. 3,23,900
I.—Additional amount now required	1,46,186
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for:—	
A. Superintendence—	
Pay of officers	19,923
Allowances	3,740
B. D.E.F District Police—	
Pay of officers	74,562
Allowances	16,263
G. C. I. D.—	
Pay of officers	9,698
M. Charges in England—	
Expenditure of the High Commissioner	22,000
Total	1,46,186

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.—Superintendence—

Pay of officers.—The excess is due to the creation of a post of Deputy Inspector General, Administration, leave salary drawn by Mr. Bartley in India and posting of a senior officer, Mr. Alban Ali, as Assistant to the Inspector General of Police, vice Mr. G. W. J. Smith, and adjustment of pay of the Secretary, Regional Transport authorities.

Allowances.—The excess is due to the grant of war allowances, passage of Mr. R. C. R. Cumming drawn in India and transfer travelling allowance of Mr. A. Ali.

B. D.E.F.—District Police—

Pay of officers.—The excess is due to the creation of the posts of Assistant Commandants, Rail-force, and the additional force and clerks sanctioned for Kamrup and Sylhet.

Allowances, etc.—The excess is due to the grant of war allowance.

G.—Criminal Investigation Department—

Pay of officers.—The excess is due to the creation of the post of the Special Superintendent of Police.

M. To meet the leave salaries of officers going on leave which could not be forecasted in the original budget.

No. 5
38.—MEDICAL

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule	Rs. 1,17,100
Additional amount now required	10,024
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—	
A.—Medical Establishment—	
(a) Superintendence—	
(1) Pay of officers	Rs. 1,065
(2) Allowances and Honoraria	2,539
(b) District Medical Officers—	
(3) Allowances and Honoraria	6,420
Total	10,024

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(a) (1) Due to payment to Col. Taylor as Civil Surgeon, from the 1st March 1945 to 19th March 1945.

(2) Due to transfer travelling allowance of Col. S. L. Bhatia and Inspector General of Civil Hospitals' tour purposes.

(b) Due to war allowances and cost of passage to I. M. S. Officers.

No. 6

39.—PUBLIC HEALTH

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule	Rs. 27,100
Additional amount now required...	4,200
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—	

A—Public Health Establishment—

(a) Superintendence and other establishments—	
Allowances and Honoraria	4,200

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The extra amount required is due to the sanction of war allowance.

No. 7

42.—CO-OPERATION

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule	Rs. 25,400
Additional amount now required ...	2,362
II.—Sub-head under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for—	

A—Direction—

Allowances and Honoraria...	2,362
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

There is a saving of Rs.3,498 under "Pay of Officers—*Charged*" which is due to transfer of officers, while there is an excess of Rs.5,860 under "Allowances—*Charged*". Grant of war allowance and tours outside the province accounts for the excess. So there will be a shortage of Rs.2,362 after reappropriation which amount is to be provided for.

No. 8

55.—SUPERANNUATION AND PENSIONS

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 8,61,600
Additional amount now required ...	1,14,228
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional amount will be accounted for:—	
H. Charges in England	97,729
83.—Payment of commuted value of pensions—	
J. Payment of commuted value of pensions ...	16,499
Total ...	1,14,228

EXPLANATORY NOTE

H. The excess is due to more retirements than provided for. This is based on the information furnished by the High Commissioner and the Secretary of State for India.

J. Due to a debit passed on by the Accountant General, Central Revenues, on account of the share of the commuted value of pensions of two I. M. S. officers.

No. 9

57.—MISCELLANEOUS

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule ...	18,64,000
Additional amount now required	3,93,382
II. Sub-heads under which this additional appropriation will be accounted for :—	
I. Contribution—	
(i) Compensatory grants to local bodies in lieu of receipts credited to Provincial Revenues	1,79,382
(ii) Miscellaneous	2,14,000
Total ...	3,93,382

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(i)—Due to advance grants made to some Local Boards in anticipation of higher credits during the year.

(ii)—Due to payment of an arrear contribution to the Tangla-Belsiri Rangapara Railway subsequent to the award made by the Auditor General.

EXCLUDED AREAS—CHARGED

No. 10

10.—FORESTS

	Rs.
I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule ...	2,52,200
Additional amount now required	5,459
II.—Sub-head under which this additional grant will be accounted for :—	
B.—Establishment—	
Pay of Establishment	5,459

EXPLANATORY NOTE

B.—The extra amount is required for the transfer of subordinate staff from the non-excluded to the excluded areas and the introduction of the new time-scale of pay to the Forest Subordinates.

No. 11

25.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

	Rs.
I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.	4,44,800
Additional amount now required	88,167

II.—Sub-heads under which the additional amount will be accounted for—

	Rs.
S.—General Establishment—	
2. Pay of establishment	4,000
3. Allowances and honoraria	24,861
4. Contingencies	10,300
5. Contributions and grants-in-aid, etc.	—13,644
T.—Subdivisional Establishment	9,500
U.—Other Establishment—	
(c) Launch establishment	100
(d) Staging Bungalow establishment	113
W.—Works—	
(a) Original works	8,370
(b) Repairs	1,900
X.—Charges in England—	
Expenditure by the High Commissioner	42,667
Total	<u>88,167</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

S. 2.—The excess expenditure is due to the following:—

- (i) The provision made in the original budget was not adequate to meet the actual expenditure.
- (ii) Appointment of some clerks and menials in the Tirap Frontier Tract for which there was no budget provision.

3.—The excess expenditure is due to the following:—

- (i) grant of dearness and cash allowances at enhanced rates ;
- (ii) grant of separation allowance and ration compensation allowance in the Lushai Hills District ;
- (iii) drawal of Military allowances drawn by some officers deputed for civil posts ;
- (iv) rewards to some officers for passing in languages for which there was no budget provision ;
- (v) expenditure for medical treatment of members of superior and non-superior civil services. The original grant is quite inadequate ;
- (vi) cost of passages for Messrs. P. F. Adams (Special Officer, Excluded Areas) and G. E. D. Walker who has gone on leave. No provision was made under this head in the original budget ;

- (vii) grant of war allowance ;
- (viii) drawal of travelling allowance by some officers on account of transfer, leave and long tours in the hills necessitated by extension of control in the tribal area ;
- (ix) drawal of travelling allowance by some clerks on account of more touring in connection with live-stock census, soldiers' census and other general welfare of soldiers and their families ; and
- (x) travelling allowance drawn by *potdars* going to Calcutta frequently with remittances.

4.—The excess expenditure is due to—

- (i) high cost of articles,
- (ii) expenditure relating to the staff car, Tirap Frontier Tract ;
- (iii) increase in the rates of dearness and ration compensation allowances drawn by contingency menials ; and
- (iv) grant of compensation to the heir of two deceased boatmen in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

5.—Due to contribution payable by the Central Government on account of extra staff entertained in the Tirap Frontier Tract, *vide* Finance Department Memo. No.FG.121/42/118, dated the 7th February 1946.

T.—Due to grant of dearness allowance at enhanced rate and travelling allowance drawn on account of more touring in connection with live-stock census, soldiers' census, etc.

U. (c)—Due to (i) heavy consumption of petrol by the *Pauline* for increased use, (ii) excess expenditure relating to contingencies.

(d)—The original budget grant made on the basis of past actuals proved inadequate.

W. (a)—The excess expenditure is due to—(i) construction of a new *Namghar* in the Tirap Frontier Tract and (ii) construction of some clerks' and *chaprasis'* quarters in the Tirap Frontier Tract for which there was no provision in the original budget.

(b)—Due to—(i) repairs to the Political Officer's Bungalow at Margherita and (ii) repairs to the existing *Namghar* at Margherita. There was no provision in the original budget.

X. (d)—To meet the leave salaries of officers not forecasted for in the original budget.

No. 12

27.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs.
Additional amount now required	1,100
II.—Sub-heads under which additional amount is required—	500
I—Criminal Courts—Contingencies	500

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess expenditure is in the budgets of the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar and the Political Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract, under "Diet and road money to witnesses". This is due to increase in the number of cases relating to Excise and Defence of India Rules. Such expenditure could not be foreseen when the original budget estimate was prepared.

No. 13

28.—JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS

	Rs.
I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	15,900
Additional amount now required	2,100
II.—Sub-head under which the additional grant is required—	
“B—Charges for Police custody	2,100

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess expenditure is under “Contingencies—diet and conveyance of under-trial prisoners”. This is mainly due to arrests made under the Defence of India Rules and Sea Customs Act. Such expenditure could not be actually estimated when the original budget was prepared.

No. 14

29.—POLICE

	Rs.
I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule.	1,20,400
Additional amount now required	56,067
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grant will be accounted for—	

B.—District Executive Force—

(a)—District Police—

2. Pay of establishment	6,894
3. Allowances, etc.	21,886
4. Contingencies	13,720
5. Contribution, grant-in-aids, etc.	13,567
Total	56,067

EXPLANATORY NOTE

2.—The excess is due to the increase of the force.

3.—The excess is due to the increase of the force, grant of dearness allowance at enhanced rates and increase of rates of daily allowance.

4.—The excess is mainly due to the purchase of clothing in advance for the next year.

5.—The additional grant is required in connection with the re-imbursement to the Manipur State of half the cost of pay and allowances of the officers of the State for services rendered in the Naga Hills District for which there was no provision in the budget.

No. 15
37.—EDUCATION

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule.	Rs. 2,36,700
Additional amount now required	23,150
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II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grant will be accounted for—	
PRIMARY EDUCATION—	
I.—Government Primary Schools—	21,000
2. Allowances and honoraria.	
K.—Direct grants to Non-Government Primary Schools—	1,150
F.—Direct grants to Non-Government Secondary Schools.	1,000
<hr/>	
Total	23,150

EXPLANATORY NOTE

I.—This amount is inevitable in order to meet the cost of dearness and cash allowances granted to Government Primary School teachers in the Excluded Areas.

K.—This amount is needed to meet the expenditure on account of the grant of dearness allowance to teachers of Aided Primary Schools in the Excluded Areas with effect from 1st April, 1945.

F.—Due to grant of dearness allowance to teachers of Aided Secondary Schools. The total requirement for the purpose is Rs.1,499. Out of this amount, Rs.499 will be met by re-appropriation from the savings under other heads and the balance (Rs.1,000) is required to be met by supplementary grant.

No. 16
38.—MEDICAL

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 2,95,300
Additional amount now required	33,949
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II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for—	
1. District Medical Officer—	Rs.
(a) Allowances and Honoraria	4,123
2. Reserve Medical Subordinates—	
(a) Pay of Establishment	2,000
(b) Allowances and Honoraria	274
3. Hospitals and Dispensaries—Ordinary Dispensaries—	
(a) Pay of Establishment	2,681
(b) Allowances and honoraria	6,529
(c) Contingencies—Non-contract	14,581
4. Travelling Dispensaries—	
Contingencies—Contract	246
5. G.—Works—	
Repairs	3,515
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Total	33,949

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. (a) Due to the grant of dearness allowance at increased rates* and also grant of war allowance.
2. (a) Due to leave granted to Sub-Assistant Surgeons.
(b) Grant of travelling allowance of supernumerary Sub-Assistant Surgeons.
3. (a) Due to entertainment of a temporary compounder and a midwife and drawal of arrear pay by certain Sub-Assistant Surgeons.
(b) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rates and also grant of war allowance and high expenditure on house rent.
(c) Due to rent of buildings in which Kohima Civil Hospital is housed and also high expenditure on diet of patients and expenditure incurred for special Naga Ward, and also purchase of A. R. P. Stores.
4. Due to drawal of arrear pay and allowances by contingency menials and also grant of dearness allowance at increased rates.
5. Due to urgent repairs to departmental buildings at Pasighat, Saikhowaghat and in the Sadiya and Tirap Frontier Tracts.

No. 17

39.—PUBLIC HEALTH

	Rs.
I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	59,200
Additional amount now required	14,166
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional appropriation will be accounted for:—	
A.—Public Health Establishment—	
(a) Superintendence and other establishment—	
Allowances and honoraria	4,000
C.—Epidemic diseases—	
(a) Malaria—Non-contract contingencies	1,000
(b) Other epidemics—Non-contract contingencies	1,000
F.—Works—	
(a) Maintenance by Public Works Department—Repairs	7,711
(b) Ditto by Civil Department—Repairs	455
Total	14,166

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Allowances and Honoraria.—The excess is mainly due to the sanction of ration compensation allowance to the staff of this Department stationed in Lushai Hills, vide Government letter No.W/142/45/9-G.S., dated the 7th February 1945. It is also due to sanction of house-rent allowance to Rural Health Inspectors and further increase in the rates of dearness allowance.

C.—(a) Non-contract contingencies.—The additional amount is required to meet extra expenditure owing to increased demand of mepacrine tablets.

C.—(b) Non-contract contingencies.—The increase is mainly due to larger outlay on vaccines and bacteriophage owing to prevalence of epidemics in the excluded areas.

F. (a)—The additional appropriation of Rs. 7,711 is made up of—

(1) Rs. 6,800 for the water reservoir at Aijal which badly needs clearance as the vegetables and other foreign matter have fouled the water which has changed colour and is giving out bad smell.

(2) Rs. 50 for the maintenance of the two wells at Haflong as the budget provision for the purpose is found inadequate.

(3) Rs. 861 for maintenance of the water supply at Kohima which was heretofore maintained by the Military Engineering Service during the war period, but is now to be maintained by this Department.

F. (b)—A sum of Rs.455 is urgently needed by the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar for repairs. There was no provision in the original budget.

No. 18

43.—INDUSTRIES

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule	Rs. 4,800
Additional amount now required	705
II.—Sub-head under which the additional grant will be accounted for—	

A.—Industrial Development—

2.—Allowances and honoraria	705
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

Due to grant of ration compensation allowance at enhanced rates to all Government servants in the Lushai Hills. The provision made in the original budget is quite inadequate.

No. 19

47.—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 25
Additional amount now required	59
II. Sub-heads under which the additional grant will be accounted for—	

E.—Provincial Statistics—

(a) Raingauge charges	30
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H.—Works—

(a) Original works—	
2. Raingauge and Jute Statistics	29
Total	59

EXPLANATORY NOTES

E. (a) The additional amount is necessary for a new raingauge at Kohima.

H. (a) For construction of foundation and fixing the new raingauge at Kohima.

No. 20

50.—CIVIL WORKS—(EXCLUDING TOOLS AND PLANT AND ESTABLISHMENT)

	Rs.
I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule	4,54,000
Additional amount now required	3,25,024
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grant will be accounted for—	
A.—Original Works—	
(a) Buildings—	Rs.
General Administration	39,299
Police (other than Assam Rifles)	1,392
Medical	6,489
Civil Works	5,886
Miscellaneous Department	4,500
	<hr/> 57,566
(b) Communications—Ordinary Roads	9,163
B.—Repairs—	
1. Buildings	8,100
2. Communications	2,49,395
3. Miscellaneous	800
	<hr/> 2,58,295
Grand Total..	<hr/> 3,25,024 <hr/>

EXPLANATORY NOTES**A.—Original Works—(a) Buildings—****GENERAL ADMINISTRATION :—**

A sum of Rs 35,000 is required for expenditure during the current year in connection with the reconstruction of the Deputy Commissioner's Court and Treasury buildings at Kohima which were damaged by enemy action and which are now proposed to be re-constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.1,30,000.

(2) A sum of Rs.4,299 is required for expenditure during the current year for the improvement of the Lock-up at Haflong.

POLICE (OTHER THAN ASSAM RIFLES) :—

(1) It is essentially necessary to bring up the Police buildings at Dimapur up to the Public Works Department standard. The work is estimated to cost Rs.3,805 of which Rs.634 has already been allotted and the balance of Rs.3,171 is now required for expenditure during the current year. Of this amount a sum of Rs.1,788 will be met from the savings and an additional appropriation of Rs.1,383 is, therefore, necessary to meet the balance.

(2) Construction of certain temporary Police buildings at Kohima at an estimated cost of Rs.5,990 became unavoidably necessary to accommodate the Police staff stationed there.

A sum of Rs.1,169 is necessary for expenditure during the year. Of this, a sum of Rs.1,160 will be met from savings and an additional appropriation of Rs.9 is necessary to meet the balance.

MEDICAL :—

The permanent buildings of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon's quarters at Charduar are quite old and rotten and beyond repairs. It has become urgently necessary to re-construct the buildings before the rains and a sum of Rs.6,489 is required for expenditure during the current year.

CIVIL WORKS :—

Due to the appointment of new staff to take up the work of re-construction of Kohima it has become imperatively necessary to provide accommodation for the new Public Works Department staff by (1) constructing certain temporary buildings and (2) carrying out certain additions and alterations to the temporary buildings constructed by the Military Engineering Service formation in the Public Works Department area. Rs.886 and Rs.5,000 respectively are required for expenditure during the current year.

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT :—

It was considered essentially necessary to provide pucca floor and plinth to 3 P. L. C. Barracks at Charduar and a sum of Rs.4,500 is required for expenditure during the current year.

(b) Communications—Ordinary Roads :—

(1) In view of the increase in traffic it has become an urgent necessity to strengthen the bridges on the Saikhowa-Rongdoi Road in the Sadiya Frontier Tract. The work is estimated to cost Rs. 25,721 and a sum of Rs.8,000 is required for expenditure during the year.

(2) The proposal to take up the work "Strengthening the bridges on the Lohit Valley Road" to 6 tons capacity was decided upon late last year and hence provision could not be made in the current year's budget. A sum of Rs.20,163 is required for expenditure during the current year. Of this, a sum of Rs.19,000 will be met from the saving under the head and an additional appropriation of Rs.1,163 is therefore necessary to meet the balance.

B.—Repairs—

1. BUILDINGS.
2. COMMUNICATIONS.
3. MISCELLANEOUS.

An additional sum of Rs.2,58,295 is required to meet the demands for repairs as the original budget provision has proved inadequate on account of abnormal rise in prices of materials and labour. Moreover, as a result of intensive military movements many roads had to bear very heavy traffic causing excessive damages. Damages were also done in the Kohima area by enemy action to the roads and buildings.

It is, therefore, considered that buildings and roads should not be allowed to deteriorate further without repairs being undertaken on a substantial scale, to make good the ravages of the past and prevent further deterioration. An additional sum of Rs.2,58,295 is required during the current financial year as detailed below :—

Repairs—						Rs.
Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	8,100
Communications	...	...	...	...	...	2,49,395
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	800
						<hr/>
						2,58,295

No. 21**50.—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT CHARGES—**

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule.	Rs. 82,900
Additional amount now required	...
II—Sub-head under which the additional grant will be accounted for by the Public Works Department—	23,000
G.—Tools and Plant	...
	23,000
Total	<hr/> 23,000

EXPLANATORY NOTE

To meet the cost of three staff cars and a lorry:—two staff cars for the Executive Engineer, Kohima, and one for the Political Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract, and a lorry for the Political Officer, Tirap Frontier Tract.

No. 22

54-A.—FAMINE RELIEF

I.—Appropriation originally included in the authenticated Schedule	Rs. 3,000
Additional amount now required	2,925
II. Sub-head under which this additional grant will be accounted for—	
(b) Gratuitous Relief	2,925

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is due to supply of rice at concession rate to some villages in distress in the Lushai Hills. There was no provision for it in the original budget.

No. 23

57.—MISCELLANEOUS—

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule	Rs. 3,04,900
Additional amount now required	1,02,263
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for—	
C.—Donation for charitable purposes ...	Rs. 305
E.—Petty Establishment—	
(a) Circuit and Sessions houses	90
(b) Other Petty Establishment—	
(3) Transport and Commissariat establishment	56,400
(4) Market establishment	3,300
(6) Ledo area Improvement establishment ...	17,430
I.—Contributions—	
(b) Compensatory grants to local bodies, etc. ...	760
(c) Miscellaneous contributions	2,500
H.—Rates and taxes	1,614
J.—Miscellaneous Darbar charges	16,240
K.1—Expenditure connected with the control and distribution of cloth and yarn.	1,800
K.2—Expenditure on account of Victory celebrations.	1,200
K.5—Miscellaneous charges	624
Total	<u>1,02,263</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(c)—The excess expenditure is due to increase of non-criminal lunatics placed for observation.

E(a)—Due to grant of dearness allowance at enhanced rates.

E(b)(3)—Excess expenditure is mainly under "Contingencies" which is due to (1) high cost of articles of ration (2) increase of wages of porters and *sirdars* of the Permanent Labour Corps and (3) Transport organisation from Kohima to Manipur Road Station which was not contemplated in the original budget.

(4)—Due to grant of cash and dearness allowances at enhanced rates and compensatory allowance in the Lushai Hills district. There is no provision for these in the original budget.

(6)—This was not contemplated when the original budget estimate was prepared. This was at first temporarily established in connection with sanitation in Ledo areas near Military Camps.

I(b)—No provision was made in the original budget. This represents compensatory grant to the Sadiya Local Fund in lieu of receipts credited to Provincial revenues.

(e)—The original budget provision of Rs.3,500 is not adequate to meet the "charges in connection with guarantees to the Telegraph Department, etc." The actual expenditure for the year 1944-45 was about Rs.6,000 under this head.

H.—Due to payment of two bills for Rs.807 each on account of the taxes on unoccupied Government land within the Haflong Town Fund after allowing 50 per cent. remission for the years 1944-45 and 1945-46.

J.—Due to (1) high price of articles and red cloth purchased for presentation to Hill chiefs (2) payment of a bill for 500 yards of red cloth of the year 1944-45 and (3) purchase of 500 yards of red cloth for presentation by His Excellency to some Nagas for their exceptional war records.

K.1.—The Administrative Department provided Rs.3,414 in the budget estimate for 1945-46; but this was reduced to Rs.1,800. Besides, the pay of the Sub-Inspector at Sadiya has been raised to Rs.100 from Rs.80 with effect from 1st March 1945 after submitting the budget estimate for 1945-46 and hence the necessity for the above supplementary grant.

K.2.—Expenditure was incurred in some Hill districts, *viz.* Naga Hills, Lushai Hills, etc., in connection with 'Tunisia Victory day' during 1945.

K.5.—The excess expenditure is due to purchase of ammunitions for the Tirap Frontier Tract for which there is no provision in the original budget.

No. 24

63.—EXTRAORDINARY CHARGES

I.—Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule. Nil.

Additional amount now required Rs.
10,680

II.—Sub-head under which this additional grant will be accounted for—

A.—Charges in India—

Loss due to enemy action 10,680

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 10,680 to Government servants under their control who are paid from Provincial Revenues, for the loss of personal kit in enemy occupied territory in which they were on duty.

No provision was made as, at the time the budget was framed, it could not be anticipated to what extent such claims would have to be met.

Heads	Amount included in the authenticated Schedule			Additional amount now required			Amount as it will finally stand			Number of demand
	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total authenticated amount	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total amount	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total amount	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8. Provincial Excise ..	Rs. 21,900	Rs. ..	Rs. 21,900	Rs. 4,730	Rs. ..	Rs. 4,730	Rs. 26,630	Rs. ..	Rs. 26,630	1
10. Forests ..	..	2,52,000	2,52,000	..	5,459	5,459	..	2,57,659	2,57,659	10
25. General Administration ..	13,22,600	4,44,800	17,67,400	64,420	88,167	1,52,587	13,87,020	5,32,967	19,19,987	2 & 11
27. Administration of Justice ..	2,05,300	1,100	2,06,400	66,547	500	67,047	2,71,600	1,847	2,73,447	3 & 12
28. Jails and Convict Settlements ..	..	15,900	15,900	..	2,100	2,100	18,000	..	18,000	13
29. Police ..	2,23,900	1,20,400	3,44,300	1,46,186	56,067	2,02,253	3,70,086	1,76,467	5,46,553	4 & 14
37. Education (other than European) ..	..	2,36,700	2,36,700	..	23,150	23,150	..	2,59,850	2,59,850	15
38. Medical ..	1,17,100	2,95,300	4,12,400	10,024	33,949	43,973	1,27,124	3,29,249	4,56,373	5 & 16
39. Public Health ..	27,100	59,200	86,300	4,200	14,166	18,366	31,300	73,366	1,04,666	6 & 17
42. Co-operation ..	25,400	..	25,400	2,362	..	2,362	27,762	..	27,762	7
43. Industries ..	..	4,800	4,800	..	705	705	..	5,505	5,505	18
47. Miscellaneous Departments ..	8,61,600	25	8,61,600	..	59	59	..	84	84	19
50. Civil Works (Excluding Tools and Plants). (Establishment, Tools and Plants).	..	4,54,000	4,54,000	..	3,25,024	3,25,024	..	7,79,024	7,79,024	20
54-A. Famine Relief ..	..	3,000	3,000	..	23,000	23,000	..	1,05,900	1,05,900	21
55. Superannuation ..	..	..	..	..	2,925	2,925	..	5,925	5,925	22
57. Miscellaneous ..	18,64,000	3,04,900	21,68,900	1,14,228	1,02,263	1,14,228	9,75,228	4,07,163	9,75,228	23
63. Extraordinary charges ..	..	..	..	3,93,382	10,680	4,95,645	22,57,382	10,680	26,64,545	9 & 23
Total ..	46,68,900	22,75,225	69,43,525	8,05,079	6,88,214	14,94,293	54,92,732	29,45,686	84,37,818	24