



Proceedings of the Sixth Session of the Second Assam Legislative
Assembly assembled under the provisions of the Government of
India Act, 1935, as adapted

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 1-30 P.M. on
Friday, the 18th March, 1949.

P R E S E N T

The Hon'ble Mr. Lakshesvar Borooah, Speaker, in the Chair, the eight
Hon'ble Ministers and forty-seven Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Increased production of *Endi*, *Muga* and *Pat* in the Province

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR asked :

10. Will Government be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred
Question No.86(g) asked by the questioner on the 19th March 1948 during the
Budget Session, 1948 (at page 354 of the Assembly Proceedings) and state—

(a) What steps, if any, have been taken in furtherance of scheme
proposed to be undertaken for increased production of *Endi*
Muga and *Pat* in the Province ?

(b) Whether there has been any increase in production of these commodi-
ties on account of this scheme (the increase, if any, to be shown
Subdivision by Subdivision) ?

(c) Whether any of the proposed *Endi* Silk Farms have been established ?

(d) If so, in which district ?

(e) If not, why not ?

(f) How many, if any, private Sericulturists have been subsidised as
proposed (giving the names of the individuals, the amount of
money paid to each and the district to which they belong) ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary)
replied :

10. (a)—Land for the opening of a Sericultural Farm has been acquired
at North Lakhimpur and work has already started. Two Eri Seed Grainages
are being established one at Haflong in Cachar District and the other at
Amaguri in the Nowgong District. One Demonstration Farm is being opened
at Besseria, Tezpur. The work of laying out and construction of two new farms,
one at Jowai and the other at Mangaldai, is in progress. Several new
Demonstration Centres have been opened at Sadiya, in the Cachar District,
Khasi and Jaintia Hills District, etc., where Sericulture is expected to thrive.
Subsidies to the extent of Rs. 5,962 have been sanctioned to mulberry growers
during 1948-49. Twelve Science Graduates are now undergoing advanced
Sericultural Training, six at Mysore and six at Kollegal, Madras.

(b)—As the scheme has started recently no appreciable increase in
production can be expected until it has been in operation for a few years.

(c)—Two Eri Seed Grainages are being established.

(d)—One at Haflong in North Cachar and the other at Amaguri in the Mikir Hills area, two main centres of Eri Cocoon production.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—A list has been placed on the Library table.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Are Government aware that the Baska group of Mauzas in North Kamrup inhabited mostly by tribal people are famous for Endi production ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): It may be so, Sir.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Will Government please consider the question of establishing a centre in that locality ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): That will be considered, Sir.

Srijut BELIRAM DAS: Will Government open different centres in different places in the South Bank of the Kamrup district ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): As a matter of fact there was contemplation to have centres in different places, but on account of financial stringency many centres had to be curtailed. I fully appreciate the view that there are places besides those already selected where such centres are necessary. Subject to availability of finance and of trained personnel the question of opening more centres will be considered.

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: With regard to the reply to 10 (a), will the hon. Parliamentary Secretary kindly explain the meaning of the term 'Grainage' stated therein ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): This is for storage of disease-free seeds of Eri silk for distribution to rearers.

Alleged interference by Congress Workers in the day-to-day duties of Government servants at Hailakandi

Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA asked :

11. Will Government be pleased to state whether they have received report to the effect that some persons alleged to be Congress workers generally interfere with the day-to-day duties of Government servants at Hailakandi ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

11.—Government have received no such report.

Fixation of quota for C. I. Sheets

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB of Sidli asked :

12. (i) Are Government aware that the quota of C. I. sheets are fixed not by bundles, but by weight for the C. I. Sheet Dealers ?

(ii) That the authorities concerned in Assam distribute C. I. sheets to the consumers by bundles and not by weight ?

(iii) That the dealers import lightest quality of C. I. sheets at cheap rate and earn undue profit by selling highest number of bundles at highest rate ?

(iv) Do Government propose to make enquiry and put a stop to this practice ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

12. (i)—Yes.

(ii)—Yes.

(iii)—The dealers import C. I. sheets of different gauges (light and thick). The price of different varieties of C. I. sheets have been fixed according to quality. Hence no consumers can be cheated by the dealers for this reason.

(iv)—Does not arise.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA : With regard to (i), may I know when the quota of C.I. sheet is fixed not by bundles but by weight, why it cannot be distributed by weight ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary) : Distribution by weight will bring more complication. Of course, we get it by weight and the districts also allotted by weight, but I think retail distribution is made easy if taking into account the number of C.I. sheets, and it is done in bundles. Generally there are two gauges of C.I. sheets one of 24 gauge and the other 26 gauge. Ten bundles of 24 gauge C.I. sheets make a ton and 13 bundles of 26 gauge C.I. sheets make a ton. I think, it will be difficult on the part of the consumers to buy it by weight, so the permits are issued in bundles.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA : With regard to (iii), may I know who fixes the price ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary) : The price is actually fixed by the Government of India, I mean the base price. To this the expenses of transport, etc. have to be added. There is a general directive to the District Officers and the District Officers fix the prices in accordance to that directive.

Srijut BELIRAM DAS : Is it not a fact that for different gauges of C.I. sheets different prices are fixed ?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary) : Yes, Sir.

Condition of people of certain villages in Narpuh and Rymbai Doloiships

Mr. LARSINGH KHYRIEM asked :

13. Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) Whether Government are aware that the people of Shiahruphi, Umlawan, Musianglamare of Narpuh and Rymbai Doloiships are living now in jungle roots ?

(b) Whether any action has been taken by Government to relieve the sufferings of these poor people ?

(c) If so, what are those ?

(d) If not, whether Government propose to give them a gratuitous relief immediately ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

13. (a)—Local officers report that only a few families of Umlawan, Shiah Ruphi and Musiang Lamare villages require some help due to failure of crops from early rains and partial destruction of crops by wild elephants.

(b)—Yes, as recommended by the local officers.

(c)—The following relief has been sanctioned by Government:—

(i) Agricultural loan of Rs.210 for Umlawan village and Rs.20 for Shiah Ruphi village, and

(ii) Remission of house-tax for 6 houses in Shiah Ruphi village and 17 houses in Musiang Lamare village at Rs.2 each.

(d)—Does not arise.

Mr. LARSING KHYRIEM: With regard to the reply to 13(a), may I know from the Hon'ble Minister the rank of the officer who went to enquire this?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: The report is submitted to Government by the Subdivisional Officer. It is difficult to say as to who was deputed to make this enquiry. Generally the Subdivisional Officer or an officer deputed by him makes such enquiry, but the report is submitted by the Subdivisional Officer to Government.

Mr. LARSING KHYRIEM: How many houses are there in Umlawan and Shiahruphy?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I want notice of this Question. It is a new Question, Sir.

Eviction Work in Owguri Professional Grazing Reserve

Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA asked :

14. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the eviction work in Owguri Mouza has been completed?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the encroachers have re-entered the Kowaimari grazing reserve?

(c) If so, what action they propose to take to stop re-entry by the encroachers?

(d) Whether Government have lately received any resolution from Teok Mouza Rashtriya Sanmilian regarding No.I Kowaimari Grazing Reserve to start eviction work there immediately?

(e) If so, what action Government propose to take in this respect?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied :

14. (a)—There is no Mouza Owguri by name. If the hon. Member refers to Owguri Professional Grazing Reserves, within the Simaluguri Mouza, the reply is in the affirmative.

(b)—No report has been received so far to this effect.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—No such resolution appears to have been received.

(e)—Does not arise.

Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA: Question 14(b) Sir, গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে মোৰ কথাত বিশ্বাস কৰি লবনে যে কিছুমান কমিউনিষ্টৰ প্ৰবোচনাত পৰি বে-দখলকাৰী বিলাকে পুনৰায় এই গ্ৰেজিং বিজাৰ্ত্ত বে-দখল কাৰ্য্য আৰম্ভ কৰিছে ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: সেই সম্বন্ধে সঠিক আমাক জনালে আকৌ আমি enquiry কৰিবলৈ পঠাব লাগিব।

Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA: Question 14(d) Sir, গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে এইটো বিশ্বাস কৰি লবনে যে ১নং কাৱৈমাৰি গ্ৰেজিং বিজাৰ্ত্ত উচ্ছেদ কাৰ্য্য নকৰাৰ কাৰণে ৰাইজৰ মাজত যোৰ অসন্তোষৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে আৰু সেই বিষয়ে স্থানীয় ডিপুটী কমিচনাৰৰ ওচৰত ৰাইজে বহুত আবেদন কৰিছে ?

The Hon'ble The SPEAKER: সেইটো নতুন প্ৰশ্ন নহল জানো ? প্ৰশ্নটো হৈছে “ Whether Government have lately received any resolutions from Teok Mauza Rashtriya Sanmilian regarding No.1 Kowaimari Grazing Reserve to start eviction work there immediately ? ” আৰু উত্তৰত কৈছে “ No such resolution appears to have been received ”.

আপুনি শুধিছে—“ resolution পাইছেনে নাই ” আৰু তেখেতে কৈছে—“ নাই পোৱা ”। ইয়াৰ ওপৰতহে আপোনাৰ supplementary প্ৰশ্ন হব লাগে। ইয়াৰ ওপৰত আপোনাৰ কি প্ৰশ্ন আছে শোধক।

Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA: এই প্ৰশ্নটোৰ লগত মই কৰা প্ৰশ্নটোৰ যথেষ্ট সম্পৰ্ক আছে।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: মোৰ বিবেচনাত নাই হব পায়।

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS: I want to rise on a point of personal explanation, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Finance Minister will now present the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure. And then item No.3 will be taken up.

Presentation of the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for 1948-49

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I beg to present the *Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the consideration of the House. As the time is short, I do not propose to make any speech.

Regarding curtailment of days of the Budget Session of the Assembly, 1949

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: As desired by several hon. Members of the House, as it is also found from the agenda before the House that we can shorten the Session by finishing the Government business earlier. So the Assembly agenda may be prepared accordingly. I have consulted several hon. Members of the Opposition and they all agree that the Session might be shortened.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: So I would request the Leaders of the various Parties to meet me, if possible, to-day after the close of the day's business.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: On behalf of this side of the House I would state that the hon. Chief Whip of the Government Party sounded me yesterday as to whether we had any objection to the shortening of the Session. I consulted my Friends and they said that subject to there being no gagging of the speeches by Opposition Members they would agree to a curtailment of the Session, by re-arranging the programme.

*** Mr. C. W. MORLEY:** We think the business can be easily got over by a week; we have no objection.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: So the Session may be finished by 31st of March.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: There would be some difficulties as regards the Assam Management of Estates Bill. I have called the meeting of the Select Committee on the 23rd. If the Report is ready, it is proposed to be presented to the House on the 30th or 31st March. If the question of presenting the Bill 7 days before consideration is waived then it may be possible to shorten the Session. This matter is very urgent and it should be finished in this Session.

***Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** The question of notice will not be insisted on.

***Mr. C. W. MORLEY:** We can finish on the 31st.

***Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** I shall try to finish it on the 23rd. I have fixed 9 A.M. for the meeting of the Select Committee. Meantime if the question of notice is waived, I have no objection.

***Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** I think the best way to shorten the Session will be for you to call a conference of Leaders of all Parties in your room. Then we can see how best we can do it.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Do you want to sit to-day after the close of the business of the day?

***Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** I have got an engagement with my optician at 3-30 p.m. If I can get leave before quarter to four then we can agree.

***Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** To-day the time is so short that it may be necessary to extend the sitting by a few minutes to give my reply. That factor should be taken into consideration.

***Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Then we can sit tomorrow in the morning.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Very well, then we can sit at 9-30 a.m. tomorrow.

Personal explanation by the Hon'ble Srijut Omeo Kumar Das in connection with certain statements made by the Leader of the Opposition.

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to rise on a point of personal explanation. Yesterday during the discussion on the Budget, hon. Leader of the Opposition while criticising the Budget provision for political sufferers was mentioning slightly about the martyrs of 1942, he was interrupted by a Member from this side and the hon. Leader of the Opposition stated that he could give a crushing reply to him but he did not want to take the time of the House and I from this side requested him to do it. Sir, it was unfortunate that the hon. Leader of the Opposition should mention slightly the martyrs of 1942 for whose sacrifices India is free to-day. Sir, the House will remember the days of December 1941 when Mr. Saiyid Muhammad Saadulla's Cabinet was thrown out by a vote of no-confidence by the House and the Constitution had to be suspended till August 1942 and how on the 25th August after having clapped into jail not less than 16 members of the House, he was brought to Ministry by the back door. I was surprised to find him trying to justify the repressive policy he had to take in 1942.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Is it a personal explanation or a reply to my speech, Sir ?

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS: Dhekiajuli and Gohpur incidents were subjected to trial in the court and what were the findings of the trying Judge ? He could not justify the firing. Kanak Lata, Makunda Kakoty, Manbar Nath, Mahi Koch, Sarunath, Tileswar and many others were shot dead for the offence of hoisting the national flag. Maniram Kachari's death was even more tragic. His dead body was discovered on the roadside 2 miles away from the Dhekiajuli Police Station. The country remembers how Captain Fienz behaved in those days ostensibly under the orders of the then Government. I as member of the Enquiry Committee set up by the Assam Provincial Congress Committee found evidence, which go to show that he wanted to hasten the death of a dying man who was wounded and was being attended to by a Doctor, pointing a revolver at him and saying—"He is a Congress man, let me finish him."

Lastly while criticising Supply affairs he brought into the debate a mis-report about my so-called fast which was published in the papers and afterward corrected ; I do not know what connection it has to the debate. Sir, he referred to the recent appointments in the Supply Department of Pakistani Hindus. I do not want to emulate him in his tactics to appeal to the communal sentiments. The country knows thoroughly well the tragic events consequent on the partition of India and creation of Pakistan and will treat the hint he has given with the contempt it deserves.

Once being a champion of partition of India and a staunch supporter for Pakistan he was objecting only to the Pakistani Hindus who opted for the Indian Union. I fail to find what connection it has to the debate. He mentioned bungling in the Supply Department. Well, Sir, I do not want to rake up the past when Supply the was portfolio of the hon. Leader of the Opposition and I was only a legatee.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: I wish, Sir, that you would have allowed my objections to the Hon'ble Minister making a statement....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: He was giving his personal explanation. You mentioned about his fast, but he said that he did not fast.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : But it was mentioned in the papers, Sir, and it was not contradicted. Whatever that may be, I bow to your ruling, Sir, but I would only like to point out that he as a Member of the Cabinet in the ordinary course knows that he has no right to speak according to the conventions that this House has been observing, that is, in general discussion of the Budget after the private Members and the Leader of the Opposition's speeches it is the Hon'ble Finance Minister alone who speaks on behalf of Government. But you have allowed the Hon'ble Mr. Omeo Kumar Das to make a long statement, and not a "personal explanation" accordingly.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : He is making a personal explanation and I cannot deny him the chance of explanation.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : If he is explaining about the conduct of the Supply Department, then the previous portion of his speech ought to go out of the record. I criticised his administration of the Supply Department—that he was a member of the Congress Enquiry Committee set up in 1942 is neither here nor there, but you have allowed him to make a political statement. In all fairness, Sir, you should have given me a chance to refute his statement.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The hon. the Leader of the Opposition invited the trouble to himself. He had no business to cast an aspersion on the Hon'ble the Supply Minister the other day.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Then you won't give me a chance to make a reply ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I am sorry. No.

Reply by the Hon'ble Finance Minister on the general criticisms of the Budget

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I convey my thanks to all hon. Members of this House for the way in which they have received the Budget and for appreciating my difficulties in preparing it and for the words of sympathy and cheer that the hon. Members from all sides have been pleased to send to me in this difficult task of preparing the Budget at a time when the country is passing through a financial crisis. It will not be possible for me, Sir, to reply to all the questions that have been raised on the floor of the House and the valuable suggestions that have been made by the hon. Members within such a short time. I, however, assure the hon. Members generally that all the suggestions will be taken into consideration and the Government will try to remove all reasonable grievances of different constituencies brought to our notice in their Budget discussion provided funds permit.

Before going into the general debate on the Budget I would like to reply to the points raised by Babu Bidyapati Singha. He has raised the question that on account of the rise in the house rent ejection has been going on in Silchar and Hailakandi. In this connection I would like to draw his attention to the Rent Control Order which is in force now, under which there is ample provision for redress of his grievances. I want to draw his attention to Section 4 in which it is provided that the Court can fix a fair rent of a house and the house-rent cannot be increased without the sanction of the Court provided that house-rent is the same as was realised between 1st January 1943 and September 1943. Then I would also draw his attention to Section 6 which says—"No order or decree for the recovery of possession of any house shall be made or executed so long as the tenant pays rent to the full extent allowable under this Act and performs the conditions of the tenancy".

In view of this, there need be no anxiety that people have been ejected on account of exorbitant rent realised by the landlords. Here is the remedy, the people can go to the Court to avail of the salutary provision of Rent Control Act.

Then, Sir, I share the anxiety of my hon. Friend, Maulavi Abul Kashem, when he raised the question of prevention and also treatment of T.B. patients. I can assure him that with our present financial limitations we are making our utmost for expansion of accommodation for treatment of patients suffering from this disease. We have given a subsidy to the Jorhat Missionaries to construct a house to accommodate T.B. patients there. We have increased the number of seats in the T.B. Hospital at Shillong to 26. We have also accepted the donation from Mr. Gupta of Silchar on condition of his agreeing construction of a separate ward in the Civil Hospital there for T.B. patients so that the management could be done by the staff of the Civil Hospital. All these are being done in this respect. But I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that mere treatment or mere prevention of this malady will not solve this very acute problem. To solve it we have to fight from all sides. We must have a balanced diet, a protective diet for both the young and old persons who live in our province. For this reason I readily agreed with the proposal put forward by my hon. Friend, Srijut Bijoy Bhagavati, when he urged increased production of milk and fish which are the two very important protective foods which can give our system the resisting power against this deadly disease. There are so many T.B. cases in our country that it is not possible to accommodate them all in our hospitals. For its prevention we must teach our people how to prevent the spread of the disease and show to them the method of such prevention: one of which is to burn all sputum that comes out of a T.B. patient. So, Sir, I hope with the co-operation of the House and the public outside we could fight this fell disease from all sides and find out ways and means to solve this acute problem.

As regards other diseases, the Medical Department and the Public Health Department are trying their utmost to combat. I had been recently to Garo Hills and I found a lot of *Kala-azar* patients there. It is really heart-rending sight to see such misery in our country, but we have got no magic wand by which we can produce miracle and remove all the diseases and sufferings in the country. These are all the legacy of last 150 years' foreign rule. In case I omit to reply to any definite suggestions from any hon. Members for want of time I would request those hon. Members not to take it that those suggestions would not be taken into consideration. My Colleagues in-charge of different Departments always take them into consideration, and will try to remove the reasonable grievances of all the constituencies as far as our funds permit. I convey our thanks on behalf of Government to Mr. Morley for giving valuable constructive suggestions and the way in which he criticised the Budget. The Hon'ble the Premier is prepared to make a statement regarding the Industrial policy and other matter connected with big industries and in case the House wants to get detailed information regarding the big industries proposed to be taken up by the Government.

I am also glad that my hon. Friend Mr. Morley, is in general agreement with our policy for surrendering the surplus land not required for Tea industry. I assure him that sufficient land if required by the Industry for new plantation, will be allowed to be retained by the Industry. I have therefore given the Industry the option of surrendering such portion of the land as they consider surplus to requirement. I hope he will persuade his constituents to surrender such portion as is not required for Tea industry. In case, however, they fail to do so, Government will be forced to introduce legislation for the purpose. I can inform the Tea industry through Mr. Morley that the Government will consult the Industry and thse representative of the holders

of grant at concession rate before introducing any such legislation. I may remind him that the Assam Assessment of Revenue Free Waste Land Grants Act was also drafted in the line of our agreed decision arrived at between Government, Tea Industry and other representatives in an informal conference.

General income-tax is levied on manufactured portion of income of tea at the rate of 5 annas in the rupee and we propose to raise the rate from annas 0-2-6 to annas 4 annually for the agriculture portion of net income of tea (with a concession at the original rate to small Tea companies earning not more than Rs.25,000 for which the original rate has been retained). He should not grudge to pay annas 4 per rupee of net income to the province while he is paying annas 5 for other portion of the income-tax to the Government of India. In case of loss, however, no company will be liable to pay agricultural income-tax.

As regards the question of Prohibition I quite agree with him and in this connection I want to give him certain information which I have just collected in order to show what steps have been taken by Government for Prohibition. As an experimental measure, we have settled the Margherita and Ledo liquor shops on condition that those shops remain closed on pay day and the day following and we have not allowed them to sell to anyone more than one bottle at a time in place of 3 bottles allowed in other places and we have raised the duty also from Rs.15 to Rs.17-4-0. Further, we are not supplying only 60 U. P. liquor to each shop. As regards the question as to the increased revenue from excise, I may inform that it is due to higher rate of duty imposed on liquor in furtherance of the policy of of ultimate Prohibition and also of preventing illicit distillation to a great extent. We have stopped liquor shops in certain subdivisions such as Barpeta where it has proved to be a great success. We have also ordered to remove such shops from unsuitable places to suitable places. These are the steps taken by Government from time to time and this will continue until total Prohibition is taken up after we eradicate the opium evil from the province.

Lastly, Sir, I convey my thanks also to the hon. Leader of the Opposition for congratulating me in taking a bold stand against the iniquitous award at the end of his speech in order to cover his criticism with a coat of sugar.

I was, however, surprised to find that the learned Leader of the Opposition instead of joining me in paying respectful homage to the known and unknown martyrs who had sacrificed their lives and in sending greetings to those comrades who sacrificed their property and were permanently disabled and incapacitated due to violent action on the part of the Government in connection with the non-violent struggle for attainment of independence under the able leadership of the Father of the Nation and of expressing his grateful admiration for bringing 'Independence' to us by their heroic sacrifices goes out of his way to speak not only disparagingly but also to dub our heroic comrades as saboteurs and persons engaged in arsons, etc.

I am, however, gratified to say that at least two of his ardent followers on the first day of discussion joined with me in paying homage to them and associated with my proposal of giving relief to the political sufferers.

I had no alternative but to raise my humble protest against such uncalled for and outrageous attitude of the Leader of the Opposition. I hope, he will pardon me. If in doing so, I had to place some unpalatable truth before this House and leave the hon. Members and the public outside to judge his acts of omission and commission as agent of his Imperial Master and have their own inference.

As the followers of Mahatmaji, we want to forgive and forget as to what happened during our struggle for independence—specially after the attainment of independence. In view, however, of the uncalled for remark I have been forced

to show the other side of the shield and the part that had been played by the Leader of the Opposition in this grim life and death struggle only by way of defending my honoured comrades who suffered and sacrificed their lives and are all absent and unable to give an appropriate reply to this uncalled for remark dubbing them as saboteurs.

I need not narrate here in detail how the country was forced by circumstances to adopt the famous "Quit India" Resolution on the 8th August, 1942, extending the hand of fellowship on equal terms and how instead of responding to the appeal of Mahatmaji the entire nation was subjected to an orgy of violence and repression, throughout the length and breadth of the country, after arresting the leaders, with the help of the subservient agents of the Imperial Masters.

Soon after the adoption of the Resolution at Bombay, demanding transfer of power to the peoples representatives and before people of Assam could have heard the contents of the Resolution, all the important Leaders and M. L. As in Assam including my humble self were arrested on the morning of the 9th August, 1942.

Soon after our arrest, the Leader of the Opposition came by the back door during our absence in jail and assumed charge of the responsibility of Government probably under a secret pact with his British Masters to carry out a policy of repression and to unleash the orgy of violence throughout the length and breadth of Assam. In pursuance of that secret pact the Leader of the Opposition sent out Military and Armed Forces to carry on their depredation and the so-called peaceful mission of killing and shooting at sight innocent girls and young men and men engaged in guarding houses at night or when assembled for a feast. I may mention a few instances only and give the names of those martyrs who were shot and killed. They were not carrying on any secret movement but were engaged in their peaceful non-violent activities.

Goalpara

Nidhan Rajbongshi	Killed by bayonet charging while sleeping in his dwelling house at night while a police party went there on the plea of realising punitive fine.
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Barpeta

Madan Chandra Burman	of	} Killed by police firing while returning from a public meeting.
Bhogpur.		
Rowta Kachari of Barsadari	...	
Pame	...	... Invalidated by police firing.

Tezpur

Kanaklata of Gohpur	...	} Killed by police firing while proceeding peacefully towards Thana for hoisting the national flag
Mukunda Das of Gohpur	...	
Mahibar Manbar of Dhekiajuli	...	} Killed by police firing while assembled in a meeting.
Tileswari of Dhekiajuli	...	
Mother of Golaknath of Dhekiajuli	...	
Sarunath Chutia of Dhekiajuli	...	
Dayal Panika of Dhekiajuli	...	
Mangal Kurku of Dhekiajuli	...	
Maniram Kachari of Dhekiajuli	...	

Nowgong

Kalai Koch of Senchoa-Bebejia...	}	Killed by police firing.	
Hemkanta Bora of Hatigarh ...			
Tilak Deka of Barapujia ...		Killed by revolver shot while on sentry duty on his refusal to stop the blowing of the horn.	
Gunabhi Bardoloi of Bhakatgaon		Killed by police firing.	
Hemkanta Patar of Barapujia ...		Killed by police firing.	
Bhogeswari Phukanani of Barham- pur.	}	Killed by police firing while assembled for a feast at Barhampur.	
Balo Sut of Barhampur...			...
Thangi Sut of Barhampur			...
Lakhikanta Hazarika of Barham- pur.			...

All these persons, both men and women, and young girls were not engaged in any secret movement, they were doing everything openly in a non-violent way. These are few of the names of those who were actually murdered and shot at sight. There was no question of sabotage at all. No follower of Mahatma Gandhi indulged in the act of sabotage. These men and women sacrificed their lives and property not for their own sake but for the sake of the country's freedom. Instead of getting admiration from the Leader of the Opposition they are being dubbed as saboteurs.

Had not the Leader of the Opposition and men of his ways of thinking sided with their Imperial Masters and refused to carry out their behest to organise mass killing of innocent persons, the country could have been saved from the travails of this organised mass killing and orgy of violence and the history of this struggle for independence could have been written differently. Does it now lie in the mouth of such a person who as head of Government was responsible for shooting and killing so many unarmed innocent persons, making still a large number permanently invalid and disabled due to the use of violence by the Police and Military under him, to say that those very martyrs and political sufferers were saboteurs? These comrades of ours who bravely exposed their chest and faced the bullets drew the admiration even of those persons who shot at them. Has the Leader of the Opposition found any evidence to connect any one of these valiant comrades whom I have described as political sufferers with any act of alleged arson or violence? Who knows that the agent-provocateurs and other miscreants took advantage of chaos and disorder created by lionel violence of Government headed by the Leader of the Opposition and their agents, to meet their own ends, set fire to the houses and did something against the accepted principle of non-violence?

The pampered Police and Military who were mainly engaged in pursuing the peaceful open activities of the non-violent Congressmen abandoned their ordinary duty of tracing the real offender connected with arson and other crimes, some of them might have taken advantage of looting that took place in the name of collecting collective fine without fear of being punished. To cover their own inefficiency of tracing out the real culprits they might have submitted false reports sometimes on the statement of those who themselves committed the crimes and which was readily swallowed by the then Government who at their pleasure issued a fiat imposing collective fines on the innocent people and thereby giving a fresh handle to Police and Military to oppress them. Under

these circumstances our Government was convinced that the collective fine was realised from innocent persons and decided to refund the same. The amount is only 2 lakhs and 85 thousand. It may appear just a little sum in comparison with what other sums have been squandared by the Leader of the Opposition.

The Leader of the Opposition takes great pride for his long association in the Executive Government of Assam and his being the head of the Assam Administration for more than a decade. Let me place the balance sheet of his doing during this period for the consideration of the Members of this House as well as the public outside. During the whole tenure of administration we have not seen any action on his part for improvement of the finance of the Province. But he was found to add and substract like an accountant the income and expenditure in his attempt to balance the Budget without any policy or plan for development of the province as a whole. He had not the courage to launch any taxation measure lest it might offend his master, the friend of the capitalist, and was carrying out the old policy of appeasing his master and the British captlalist, and was earning his salary without much trouble. His yesterday's pleading not to increase the Agricultural Income-Tax will give some indication as to the direction his mind is still working even under the new set-up of things.

The Congress Coalition Government introduced :—

- (1) The Assam Agricultural Income-Tax,
- (2) The Assam Amusement and Betting Tax,
- (3) The Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation Act,
- (4) The Assam Taxes on the Sale of Motor Spirit and Lubricant.

All these taxation measures were carried in the House in spite of vehement opposition of the Leader of the Opposition and the European Group. These four taxation measures brought on an aggregate of more than Rs.4,18,00,000 (four crores, 18 lakhs) to the depleted provincial Exchequer up to the time when he relinquished office in February, 1946. The entire 4 crores of rupees was frittered away by him during this period without establishment of a High Court, a University, a Medical College, a Veterinary College, an Agricultural College, Ayurvedic Collage, Engineering School or College, Police Training School or any other important technical institutions for training of personnel.

During this period he encouraged mass immigration of the Muslims with the able assistance of his underlings—Maulvi Munawwar Ali and Maulvi Abdul Matin Chaudhury—under a plan to convert Assam into a Muslim majority province to include it in his dream land of Pakistan.

Even before this period his endeavours all along was to support any one who would bring Muslims into the Province and he has himself admitted that he has been doing so since 1924.

His figures and dream that 18 million acres of land which he said could be under cultivation has no basis on facts and he himself admits that the figure is exaggerated and arbitrarily reduced the same to 9 million acres. In this connection he has forgotten to take into consideration 13 million acres of land which is included in the Hills.

Regarding his claim for land—that there are sufficient waste land for cultivation in the province—I would ask him to go to Nowgong and Lakhimpur and to see for himself what is the condition of the Assamese Muslims there. We have not been able to provide land to them. Of course, Sir, it is very fine to give

lecture here. I have been moving from district to district and I know the condition of the people. In spite of our best effort, we have not been able to provide any land to the landless people or those without an economic holding. In order to make it clear I should like to show from the latest available figures that he is in the dream land.

Assam with an area of about 50,000 sq. miles contains as much as 6,659 sq. miles under forest and still a larger area of about 30,000 sq. miles included in the Hills. The Brahmaputra Valley which is about 400 miles in length and 50 miles in breadth except at its western end hemmed in all sides by the mighty mountains right through the Valley courses Brahmaputra throwing numerous 'chars'.

1. The riverain area,
2. Rupit Mahals,
3. Submontane areas.

The Rupit Mahal is thickly populated by indigenous people who previous to the advent of the Muslim immigrants from East Bengal had utilised the riverain area for *pan* cultivation for the purpose of growing the deficit winter crops and as pasturing grounds for buffaloes and cattle which give milk and its product. In between the two World Wars an unrestricted, ill-regulated and unplanned immigration was unleashed and the riverain and the Rupit Mahal areas were invaded till at last even the tribal areas of the submontane areas were being overrun under a plan to convert Assam into Pakistan under the leadership of the Leader of the Opposition while we were all kept in Jail. The submontane areas are the habitat of 20 lakhs of plains tribal and backward people including ex-tea garden labourers. They were all incapable of protecting themselves against the aggressive elements from outside specially the East Bengal Muslims who were constantly encroaching upon their cultivation either by actual force or by threat of violence under the connivance and some times under encouragement of the Ministry including the Leader of the Opposition. The popular conscience was roused to such an extent at this policy pursued by the Leader of the Opposition as Premier to convert Assam into a Muslim majority Province. Even the Leader of the Opposition, to make his position secure in his Gadi was forced to agree to the formation of a tribal belt, and to transfer the portfolio of Revenue to Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhury, if I remember aright.

The number of landless cultivators with uneconomic holding will run to several lakhs, and result of the economic survey of the rural areas, as I have already indicated, show that there is not sufficient land to provide economic holdings even to the landless flood-affected people outside the tribal belt.

In a recent sifting Departmental enquiry it was found that about 2,21,000 acres only (in all villages having more than 200 bighas) were available before the recent influx began under the Muslim League propaganda to invade Assam. Perhaps by now even this amount of land is not available as indicated by the inability of the local officers during the recent months to accommodate the flood-affected people of Majuli, Nowgong, Kamrup, Darrang and Lakhimpur and elsewhere in any waste land. The repeated representation from the flood-affected people from every part of the province to open village grazing grounds, professional grazing reserves and forest reserves also indicates absence of suitable cultivable waste land.

In Assam 96 per cent. of the people are cultivators. We have no industries yet. We have to develop the industries. Before the industries are developed we must provide sufficient land to the people of the province. We cannot provide land to the outsiders before providing economic holdings to our own men. I am surprised that he is shedding crocodile tears for the lot of the refugees, but he does not shed tears for the lot of the Assamese Muslims of Nowgong and North-Lakhimpur.

Incidentally, Sir, I now come to the handling of the Supply Department. The handling of the Supply Department during the War only went to fill the pockets of the rich merchants and capitalists whom the Leader of the Opposition used to oblige by raising the rate of commission from annas two to annas three, even sometimes without consulting the Finance Department. The effect of such transactions sometime swells the pockets of these rich merchants to the tune of several lakhs of rupees. I only point out this fact as an instance how the Leader of the Opposition subordinated the interest of the consumers to please his capitalist friends.

In the last Budget Session I have shown to the hon. Members of this House how the Leader of the Opposition who was a Member of the Drafting Committee failed to indicate by submitting a note of dissent supporting the financial stand taken by this Government for a statutory share of the Export Duty on Tea, Excise Duty on Petrol and Kerosene, and also for deletion of the clause of the Draft Constitution now proposing to levy Income-Tax on State enterprises.

We on behalf of the Government in support of our claim prepared the Memorandum by an economist of repute here as well as one of the Delhi University and submitted the Memorandum to the Government of India and to the Expert Committee, and have also submitted amendments to the relevant clauses of the Draft Constitution for improvement of the financial position of the province, as indicated in my Budget speech. We have also sent copies of those amendments to the Government of India as well as to the Assam Members of the Constituent Assembly with the reasons in support of the proposed amendments to the relevant clauses. I have made it clear in my Budget speech the grounds on which we stand and claim these shares, because I know that in May or June these matters would come before the Constituent Assembly so that people as well as the Members of the Constituent Assembly may be fully apprised of the situation that confronts Assam, and may see their way to accept the reasonable proposal that we have sent to the Constituent Assembly for their consideration.

Now, Sir, a few important questions were raised during the first day's debate and I would like to answer them. Maulavi Abdul Hai and Professor Sarwan, who had so long got themselves accustomed to the old approach of constantly criticising the bureaucratic Government, which had so long retarded the country's progress, are still moving in the old rut and had carried on the general discussion of the Budget even after two years of independence on the assumption that the present National Government, formed at the Centre by peoples' accredited representatives after the transfer of power, are also as irresponsible and irresponsible as they were in the bureaucratic days. They have not been able to realise the change that has overtaken us. This old approach has to be changed when the old state of affairs had undergone a complete change and power had been transferred completely to the popular and accredited leaders, who are the ablest sons of India.

Professor Sarwan thinks that the present National Government, like the old Government, would also turn down even reasonable proposal for financial help for meeting the basic needs of the province. He forgets that the Members of the Central Cabinet, specially the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, are fairly acquainted with the special problems and needs of Assam and are anxious to help Assam in the solution of her problems and meeting her basic needs for all-round development, so that she may form a strong bulwark at the North-Eastern Frontier of India. As has been stated by the Hon'ble Premier that according to the population basis our share of Post-War grants amounts to about Rs.86 lakhs only, but we were allotted Rs. 1,15 lakhs and Rs. 1,25 lakhs for the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 respectively. In allotting Post-War grants we were not only given weightage in recognition of our special needs and difficulties but were also exempted from contributing 50 per cent. out of the provincial revenue

towards the Post-War expenditure and on the persistent representation of the Government the amount of allotment has been raised to Rs.1,60 lakhs in spite of the financial difficulties with which the Central Government have been confronted. I have indicated in my Budget speech the financial difficulties that confronted the Central Government. Instead of conveying our thanks on behalf of all sections of the House and pressing for more help either in the shape of subvention or Post-War grant to meet our basic needs Professor Sarwan took up an attitude of non-co-operation and assumed that however reasonable our claim may be, it will be turned down by the Central Government and that no useful purpose would be served by approaching the Central Government for further Post-War grant for implementation of our Post-War schemes of development. He suggested that all the new schemes under the Post-War schemes should be abandoned at once and by way of retrenchment he advocated that the concessions in the shape of free rations, dearness allowance, etc., involving an expenditure of more than 80 lakhs should be withdrawn. He as a physician prescribed a general election as the panacea of all ills, including the financial difficulties of the Province. He thinks that all the problems and difficulties will be automatically solved, and will vanish, as soon as there is a general election. I am quite sure his views in this matter is not shared either by any hon. Member of this House or any one outside. As a matter of fact another doctor, Dr. Emran Husain Chaudhury, has controverted him by saying that dearness allowance etc. should not be withdrawn, as otherwise low-paid public servants would be hard-hit. Professor Sarwan should take a lesson from Dr. Emran Husain Chaudhury in this respect. I have indicated my reasons that due to high price of foodstuffs and other essential commodities, to avoid hardship to public servants, specially in the lower scale of pay, free-ration, rice concession and dearness allowance, etc., have been allowed to continue till the price level comes down to a reasonable figure. Some hon. Members used the catch words accusing the Government of maintaining a top-heavy administration without caring to go into the root of the matter and also accusing the Government for raising the rates of taxes. I am dealing first with the first accusation. It has always been the effort of the present Government to give the minimum living wage to the lowest grade of Government servants and raise their pay scales, as far as possible, consistent with the provincial finance. I have already stated that in order to give relief to the public servants in the lower grades of scale, the pay scale fixed on the basis of the recommendation of the Pay Committee involved a heavy burden on the public exchequer. The Government in order to reduce the burden, as far as possible, have accepted a proposal for making adjustment in the salaries of the more highly-paid posts and have accepted the recommendation that the maximum salary should not ordinarily exceed Rs. 1,500 (instead of Rs. 3,000 now). The hon. Members will, however, see that this will produce no immediate saving, as all Government servants, including the Secretary of State Services, will retain their existing scales of pay till they retire. They should be given option either to retain their existing scales or to come to the new scales. So, no actual saving will result in the higher ranks of Government service immediately.

The need and possibilities of reorganisation of existing services with a view to improvement in efficiency without adding to the cost appreciably was felt by the Government, and the matter was referred to the Pay Committee, who, however, in their anxiety to give immediate relief to the low-paid public servants could not go into this matter in detail for want of time. The Government have therefore appointed a Reorganisation Committee with the following terms of reference:—

(1) To scrutinise the existing structure of various services both provincial and subordinate, including the ministerial and others, with the object of increasing efficiency by avoiding duplication of work and to devise ways and means for utilising the services to the best interest of the State without waste of man-power.

(2) The hon. Members will find the idea of retrenchment there. We do not want to waste any man-power. Every Government servant should now strive to give his best, as it is their Government now. They should exert themselves and be competent to shoulder their responsibilities and increase the efficiency of their work.

(3) To examine what proportion of the different provincial and subordinate services could in the interests of efficiency be filled by promotion from lower ranks.

(4) To examine the feasibility of making Heads of Departments, Secretaries to Government in their Departments and the repercussion of such a step on the Secretariat and adjustments needed in the latter.

(5) To suggest ways and means to improve the despatch of public business in offices and to curtail expenditure and eliminate waste where possible.

(6) And any other items which may be specifically recorded by the Committee.

If we succeed in increasing the efficiency of the officers and save wastage of man-power, it may be possible to save some amount of money that is now paid in the shape of salaries and the Government propose to examine all these matters on receipt of the report of the Re-organisation Committee.

My claim for help from the Centre was based on immediate needs for which I suggested a short-term arrangement claiming a grant of at least Rs. 70,58,000 to wipe out the deficit to enable the province to start with a clean slate and also sufficient Post-War grant to meet our basic needs to enable the province to develop in all respects essential for attainment of full stature of an autonomous province and for that purpose I have suggested for creation of a special Post-War Fund for helping the provinces like Assam, or, in the alternative, to grant us an annual subvention for implementation of the various Post-War schemes, pending a final and equitable financial settlement between the Centre and the Provinces. As a long term arrangement, I have explained the claim why there should be a statutory provision for adequate finance either in the shape of grant or as a share of Export Duty on Tea and Jute, and Excise Duty on Petrol and Kerosene, along with a substantial share of other Central taxes for the proper development of the province and for meeting the recurring expenditure of the various development projects.

I made my position absolutely clear in this regard. Perhaps my hon. Friend, Prof. P. M. Sarwan repeated few lines from the *Hindustan Standard* to say that even a nationalist paper like the *Hindustan Standard* does not support our claim. I can however say that not only the *Hindustan Standard*, but the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* as well fully supported our claims and needs for contribution by the Central Government. They have drawn the attention of the Government of India regarding Assam's special claim for better financial aid.

The Members of the Constituent Assembly and the Government of India should be acquainted with the needs of the province, and with that object in view, I have indicated the necessary safeguard that should be provided in the Draft Constitution.

With these remarks, I would like to say a few words in reply to what the hon. Leader of the Opposition said regarding the purchase of motor-cars and aeroplanes by this Government.

***Prof: P. M. SARWAN:** On a point of correction, Sir. I should like to point out in regard to cutting down of expenditure on Government Servants' pay bill. In my speech I did not mean to cut down the expenditure on dearness allowance and on salaries of low paid Government Servants and expenditure on rations for the employees of Government. I was not properly heard by the Hon'ble Minister.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I am afraid, he is afraid of his Constituency. (Laughter).

Now, under what circumstances the Government had to purchase the aeroplanes, I think, hon. Members are aware of it (*Voices—Yes, yes*). We were placed in a peculiar situation after the division of the country with the result that the travelling became very very difficult and we had to purchase aeroplanes in order that our Officers and Ministers could reach Delhi speedily to discuss and place Assam's hard case before the Government of India and at a time when it was difficult to get aeroplane, as only chartered' planes were available. It was at times difficult to get chartered' planes as well, our representatives had to go to Delhi sometime in two days' notice owing to holding up of our daks in Santahar for days together and the urgency which required their presence in Delhi forced us to place orders for two' planes. As a matter of fact, this Province was fortunate, as the Government of India sent us a proposal that if we purchase another aeroplane for His Excellency the Governor they would provide the Provincial Government with half of the price of one aeroplane. Herein, I may mention incidentally that if our Hon'ble Premier could not have travelled by air to Delhi to put our case before the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Deputy Prime Minister and the Hon'ble Finance Minister of the Government of India, it would not have been possible for our province to have got the increased allotment of Rs. 35 lakhs for next year and 45 lakhs for the present year. However, some 6 months ago, we had decided to dispose of one and are on the look out for a purchaser who is willing to pay fair price for it. In this business deal, we must act in a manner which may give us highest price possible. We do not want to lose a single farthing for it. (*Laughter*).

Maulavi Abdul Hai also raised about expenditure of Rs.10 lakhs, but I am sorry, he is not in the House. This 10 lakhs includes about 3 lakhs being the price of two aeroplanes and cost of maintenance. I hope, the hon. Leader of the Opposition will appreciate the circumstances under which we had to purchase the aeroplanes.

Of course, we are finding difficulty in providing accommodation of the aeroplane in Assam, but arrangement is being made for starting a Flying Club at Mohanbari in Dibrugarh and when it is established and for which we will get a contribution from the Centre, we will be able to keep our aeroplane at Mohanbari.

Then another point. It has been said that we had to take a loan from the Imperial Bank. Well, Sir, this is not a long term loan. We had to take this loan because we had to change our policy. Many obstacles were put in our way by unscrupulous traders and merchants who are ruling the market and selling things in the black market. For meeting this difficult situation we had to procure this short term loan known under cash-credit system just like the hypothecation of crops that is in vogue in tea garden areas.

Then there is the transport difficulty. Recently 30 thousand bales of textile goods were lying in Calcutta for sometimes for want of transport and we had to charter two steamers to bring them to Assam. Again there is the threat of strike by railwaymen who were instigated to create all sorts of disorder and chaos in the country at the behest of persons living outside Assam. I have never said that our financial position is very bright. In fact I have made it absolutely clear in my Budget speech that we are passing through a financial crisis. To avert this crisis we have tried to reduce our expenditure by 25 per cent. in contingencies, travelling allowance and honoraria. In this connection I had already appealed to all Heads of Departments as well as the Hon'ble Ministers who are responsible to the Government to show by example how we can reduce our expenditure. If we can reduce our expenditure of the amount to this extent, the amount may come up to Rs. 34 lakhs. Then again the enhanced rate of tax on Agricultural Income is expected to bring 18 to 20 lakhs.

I quite agree with Mr. Morley when he says that we should tighten the Sales Tax Administration. This will henceforth be managed by one Department. So long the Department was temporary, but I have made it permanent now and we expect with their help we shall be able to tighten the administration of the Sales Tax Act. Now, there will of course be considerable discussion on this matter at the time of discussing the Finance Bill, but I will only incidentally say that the ordinary people are not affected by this increased rate. How many people will be affected by the Agricultural Income Tax Act? I will give you the figures. Out of a total population of about 74 lakhs of people there are only 610 assesses. I do not see how the cry that the masses have been affected by this measure can stand a moments scrutiny.

Then with regard to luxury goods, there was a suggestion to accept the enhanced rate not at nine pies but at ten pies; since there is no exchange for ten pies who will suffer? The dealer will certainly realise one anna from the consumer and profit the balance for his benefit. I want to get the benefit of this increased rate to wipe out the deficit. With regard to the suggestion of Dr. Emran Hussain Choudhury about fountainpens, I ask how many persons are literate enough to be able to use fountainpens. We know that very few excepting those who live in towns, could afford to purchase and use fountainpens at the rate of 50 to 60 rupees each. The villagers generally do not purchase fountainpens. The cry that this taxation measure for levying increased rate for luxury goods will affect the poor masses, has no legs to stand at all.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister's time is limited.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: With your permission, Sir, I am coming to a close of my statement. As I cannot go into all the details of the Budget, for want of time I hope to be excused by those Members whom I could not reply specifically.

Srijut BELIRAM DAS: We would like to hear about the State Transport

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Thank you for reminding me. Now, Sir, regarding State Transport, the Balance Sheet has not yet been prepared. As a matter of fact Finance Department have already issued direction and, Transport Department has agreed to have a Balance Sheet prepared every half-year either by the Comptroller or by a Chartered Accountant. We have issued instructions in this connection. The House will no doubt appreciate my difficulty why I cannot give them a Profit and Loss Account at this state, but I can only supply the information from recent figures and receipt and expenditure for 1948-49 that I have just received.

I am giving some figures up to 1948-49. These are recent figures.

	Capital expenditure	Number of vehicles	Loss on permit fees	Receipt 1-4-48 to 31-12-48	Expenditure
	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gauhati-Nowgong-Jorhat Route.	1,30,055	Buses 9 Trucks 4	30,000	3,02,954	1,07,366
Gauhati-Shillong Route	6,36,862	Cars 8, Station wagons 2, Buses 22, Trucks 68, Luggage vans 12	4,75,000	1-1-49 16-3-49 5,21,030	2,25,000

and Budget for 1949-50

Gauhati-Nowgong ..	21,000	..	..	2,72,400	1,92,300
Nowgong-Jorhat ..	37,000	..	..	2,66,600	1,90,500
hillong-Gauhati ..	4,04,000	..	..	28,17,000	20,73,300

These figures are given in Budget Estimates, at pages 26, 262 and 279. All hon. Members perhaps know that the accounts are audited at the end of the year by the Comptroller and the Balance Sheet is appended to the Appropriation Accounts. It was agreed on all hands that this utility service should be nationalised. It will be realised that this is all for the benefit of the people and the money so derived as profit comes to the public exchequer and utilised for the benefit of the public.

***Mr. C. W. MORLEY:** On a point of information, Sir, may I raise some points with regards to Barak river scheme ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: If the Hon'ble Prime Minister makes a statement in this regard he will make it clear. As far as my information goes, the Central Government is anxious to develop coal mining in the Garo Hills where probably about 4 million tons of coal can be raised in a year and thus a great need of the railway could be met. Other fields on new business are entirely under consideration of the Government. In regard to Monas river and Dehing river projects survey work is going on and this is being done under the supervision of Mr. R. L. Varma who has just come here from Delhi to take over charge. On account of some difficulties the work could not be immediately taken up by the Central Government.

***Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY:** Sir, if I have offended the Hon'ble Minister in any way I hope to be pardoned, but I have, in doing so, placed only certain facts before the House.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: We are trying to do justice to the people as a whole by developing the country, but the difficulties that had to be overcome in doing so will probably be appreciated by the House as well as by the public in general.

With these observations, Sir, I resume my seat, with the permission of the House.

***Maulavi Md. NAZAMAL HAQUE:** Sir, I want some reply regarding opening of a railway line connecting Garo Hills with Goalpara District. I want to hear about it from the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge.

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: Sir, as the Hon'ble Finance Minister has suggested, I want to make a statement regarding all the Post-War Development projects undertaken by this Government relating to Industries and I hope this will be the better way to answer to all such questions from across the floor of the House. It is in this way that the whole position in this regard will be placed before the House. For this some curtailment of the existing business of the House on some day might be necessary. So we would like to know if it is the desire of the hon. Members in the Opposition as well as of other Parties whether Government is to make such a statement on all these important development projects. If so, I am quite prepared to do it.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: On what date ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI: That has got to be decided by you or by the House and I am to follow accordingly.

The Assam Finance Bill, 1949

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Now let us take up item No. 5.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration. I do not want to take the time of the House by making any statement on it.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That the Assam Finance Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration.”

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the eloquence of my hon. colleague, Mr. Morley, has fallen on deaf ears. The arguments which he adduced and which, in my opinion, are conclusive arguments, have not received the consideration which we hoped they would receive from the Hon'ble Finance Minister. His reply, to our mind, has been disappointing in the extreme. He has not met our main argument that further taxation on the Tea Industry, which he admits is the main payer of the agricultural income-tax, would be contrary to the best economic interest of the province. It was not our intention, Sir, to urge that this would affect the masses of Assam directly. We know as well as the Hon'ble Finance Minister how many persons pay agricultural income tax and we know the amounts which are paid by the Tea Industry. We feel, however, that by killing, as the hon. Leader of the Opposition said, the goose which lays the golden egg, the Hon'ble Finance Minister is doing a disservice to the people and to the economy of the province. There is in Assam little industry beyond the Tea Industry and hon. Members who are acquainted with the fortunes of the Tea Industry over the past 20 years will be aware that in the years after the first world war the Industry had to face a severe depression and in that severe depression they were partnered by the Government of Assam. The Hon'ble Finance Minister may look up the statistics in his Finance Department to find how the fortunes of the Tea Industry were reflected in the fortunes of the finances of this province. Memories will be clearer in regard to the situation which followed 1931. Then a large number of companies went to the wall. A great deal of distress occurred and to remove this public distress Government assistance became necessary. Now I notice in looking through the papers which have just been placed on our tables the Government are investing in the Tea Industry by advancing a loan to a certain encumbered estate. It will be as well if Government consider just what the fate of the Tea Industry will be if this increased taxation is to be imposed. It is probable that today if we have to face a depression in Assam many companies will be able to meet that depression and survive as they did in 1931—but conditions of trade then are very different from those which we find today. We have had experience in this province of banks refusing to pay and causing a great deal of distress. In view of this present commercial situation, is it likely that banks will come forward to advance the large sums of money which will be necessary if the Industry in this province is to carry on? It was mentioned yesterday that the Calcutta Tea market has dropped by 5½ annas in the pound. Possibly this does not mean a very great deal to many hon. Members of this House, but I am aware that even on the Treasury Benches there are hon. Members who are well acquainted with the affairs of the Tea Industry. The drop of 5½ annas a pound means precisely the difference between making a profit and making a loss. In many cases companies will be very well satisfied if they can make a profit of 2 annas a pound and therefore when we are faced with this inexplicable drop in the price of tea, is it opportune to burden the Industry with additional taxation? Would it not be wiser to pause and to see whether it is desirable to put added millstones round the neck of the Industry?

We are proposing as an industry to meet Government to discuss the measures which it will be necessary to adopt when gardens are unable to carry on. The Industry is at present supporting about one-eighth of the population of this province. In Cachar particularly there are a large number of gardens which have not worked in the past at a profit and cannot expect in the future to avoid very heavy losses and whatever hon. Members may believe, it is not the practice of private industries to carry on when profit is no longer obtainable. There is a very serious risk that gardens will be closed down and the benefits which the Tea Industry bring to the province and to the economy of India will be lost. We recognise that taxation is always unpleasant, but we feel in this case there should be weightier consideration of the economic position of this province before pressing ahead ruthlessly with this present proposal. Government is aware that the Tea Industry will find themselves faced with such a financial crisis as they have never experienced before. When this crisis comes it will be impossible for Government to maintain even the present scale of the services at their present level and reductions will have to be faced and very drastic reductions.

Though, Sir, I have opposed most strenuously this taxation, it should not be interpreted as any weakness in my case when I am making suggestions in the method by which the taxation may be altered. Our case is that the taxation is inequitable and is not in the interest of the province. But, Sir, we command very little support in this House. It is therefore with some reluctance that I make certain suggestions for the modification of this taxation which, I repeat, I regard as unjustified. The agricultural income-tax is to be imposed in the case of smaller companies on a slab of Rs. 25,000 at the rate of annas $\frac{2}{6}$ in the rupee. In the case of larger companies, however, the intention is that it should be imposed on the first Rs. 10,000 at annas $\frac{2}{6}$ in the rupee and on the balance annas $\frac{4}{}$ in the rupee. This, Sir, is quite unusual in the history of Income-Tax and Agricultural Income-Tax. If you examine the present Income-Tax Act you will find that a person who reaches the top of the slab goes through the same steps which a lower-paid person must know. There are not different slabs for different assesseees. We, therefore, would ask if the Hon'ble Finance Minister is not disposed to consider our main request, that we should at least be given the same treatment which is given to the assesseees under the Income-Tax. Though, Sir, we are not disputing the right of this House to impose new taxation we would remind the hon. Members of this House that when the Agricultural Income-Tax was first placed on the Statute Book it was accepted that the rate of Agricultural Income-Tax would not exceed the ordinary rate of Income-Tax. At that time, Sir, ordinary Income-Tax was separate and a surcharge on remaining Income-Tax was imposed. This surcharge, I believe, was imposed until the year 1945. By 1946, the surcharge was amalgamated in the ordinary Income-Tax. The last rate which was imposed in the case of the companies was annas two and pies six only in the rupee and annas two and pies three was the surcharge. We consider that by amalgamation of this surcharge an opportunity has been given to impose far greater taxation than was intended originally.

In conclusion, we would request that the question of taxation on the Tea Industry should be nationalised. The Tea Industry is being subjected to taxation from the Centre and from the Province. The Hon'ble Finance Minister is aware that we pay Central taxes amounting to a sum of over 6 crores of rupees which is more than the whole amount that the Hon'ble Finance Minister is realising in direct taxation. The addition under consideration is the relatively small amount of Rs. 18 lakhs, which the Hon'ble Finance Minister proposes to obtain from the enhancement of Agricultural Income-Tax, but this is the straw which will break the camel's back. We feel there is no other industry in the world which is so exposed to so many forms of taxation as the Tea Industry. If the Tea Industry is to remain prosperous in this province it will be necessary for more consideration to be given.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, may I enquire from Mr. Hardman what is the rate of income-tax in England ?

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: The standard rate of income-tax is 9 shillings in the pound.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think it is known to Mr. Hardman that this Finance Bill will remain in force for one year only. If after assessment at this enhanced rate for one year it is found that the Tea Industry as a whole is passing through a crisis and is unable to bear the burden of this increased rate, the Government will, as usual, consider in the light of the prevailing circumstances next year the rate to be fixed on the Finance Bill. Unlike the Agricultural Income-tax Act in force in other provinces, the Assam Agricultural Income-tax Act leaves the rate of tax to be fixed annually by the Finance Bill according to necessity and urgency of the situation. Under our Act there is enough scope for reviewing the rate annually.

Sir, I have already stated in my budget speech that we have been passing through a financial crisis. It appears that the Tea Industry is levied general income-tax at the rate of annas 5 for their share of income-tax. There is no lower rate of income even for Rs. 10,000. We have made a slab to give the same concession to the Tea Industry by levying a lower rate of tax on income for the first Rs. 10,000 and also the same rate to small companies whose income does not exceed Rs. 25,000 so that such companies may grow in the province for the purpose of carrying out improved agricultural method by mechanised implements. With that object in view we have provided in this Bill that those companies which do not earn more than Rs. 25,000 as profit are not liable to pay at the increased rate. I submit, Sir, that the Tea Industry as a whole need not be apprehensive. I appeal to them that they can afford to come to the rescue of the province and help the province at this juncture. If they can gladly pay some crores of rupees to the Central Government at the rate of annas 5 per rupee, I do not understand why they should grudge to pay the same rate on their profit. The camel is quite fit and strong to carry this light burden. I think there are some uneconomic gardens which do not earn more than Rs. 25,000 ; they will be liable only to the original rates. If any company do not earn any profit it will not be liable to pay anything under this Act. In case there be any crisis as apprehended by Mr. Hardman, we will sit together and see how this Tea Industry can be saved from the difficulties. I quite appreciate that in bringing foreign exchange the Tea is next to Jute. I am quite sure the Central Government is fully aware of this fact and will certainly come to the rescue of the Industry in case of difficulty. We have not increased the rate as high as has been fixed in the Central Finance Bill. I will read out the relevant section of Assam Agricultural Income-tax that has been brought to the notice of the House by Mr. Hardman. Mr. Hardman wants to create an impression that the rate of Agricultural Income-tax should be the same as the rate when this Agricultural Income-tax Bill was first introduced. In order to remove that impression I would like to read out the relevant section:—

“Agricultural Income-tax shall be payable by persons whose total agricultural income of the previous agricultural year exceeds Rs. 3,000 at such rate as may be laid down from year to year in the annual Assam Finance Acts :

Provided that such rates shall not be greater than the Central Government Income-tax rates from time to time and that they shall not be subject to, or include, any surcharge”.

Accordingly on the basis of the Finance Act of 1948 of the Government of India a lower rate is fixed in this Finance Bill for 1949 in the case of every company the total income of which does not exceed Rs. 25,000. The rate is 2½ annas in the rupee.

In view of the difficulties, I appeal to the Tea Industry not to press any amendment but help the province to wipe out a portion of the apprehended deficit.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Finance Bill 1949, be taken into consideration.

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Bill, 1949 be taken into consideration clause by clause.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Such a Motion is not necessary. There are some amendments to this Bill. The first amendment stands in the name of Maulavi Abul Kashem.

✓ **Maulavi MD ABUL KASHEM:** I beg to move that for items (d) and (e) of sub-clause B of clause 2, the following be substituted:—

“(d) On the balance of total income—two annas and six pies in the rupee”.

My intention in moving this amendment is to see whether the Industry will be in a position to pay such rates of Agricultural Income-tax. This is of course a paying concern no doubt, now we are getting Rs. 40 to 45 lakhs a year from this taxation.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I want to know if there are very few individual tea companies who come under clauses (d) and (e).

Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM: I am not in favour of raising the rates of agricultural income-tax where it will exceed Rs. 15,000.

Everybody would desire that the richer section of the population should pay some amount for the upliftment of the country as a whole, but at the same time we must not retard the growth of the Tea Industry. If we now fix the rate of tax at the rate of annas four, it will rather discourage the Tea Industry to expand.

Srijut BELIRAM DAS: Will they uproot their trees?

✓ **Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM:** There will be no growth; there will be no chance of expansion.

My point is, whether we should consider the Tea Industry as *Kamdhenu*? If this Industry can continue forever then we will be receiving this income-tax for years to come. But if we continue the increase of taxation, this Industry may fail, and our province as a whole will be loser.

As suggested by the hon. Leader of the Opposition yesterday, if the Central income-tax that is paid by the Industry in Calcutta is paid in this province, 30 per cent. of the total income neighbouring on 2 crores of rupees will come to Assam. This will remove the deficit of the province.

I would therefore suggest that my amendment be accepted. If we show sympathy to the Tea Industry and if we ask them to pay their income-tax in the province, they will gladly do so. So I would request the House to accept my amendment.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved:

“That for items (d) and (e) of sub-clause B of clause 2, the following be substituted:—

“(d) On the balance of total income—two annas and six pies in the rupee”.

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever my hon. Friends on the other side may say, I must try to look after the poor people. As far as I can see, I think the tea industry is making at present a good job of it in looking after the labourers. I think taxing the Industry is not the way we should proceed. I think this Bill will not be in the interest of the labourer. The Tea Industry should not be imposed tax after tax in the interest of the labourers. Therefore I would request the Government to reconsider the matter more seriously and to drop this increased provision.

Srijut BELIRAM DAS: My hon. Friends have been arguing in a different way. Our Government is not going to tax the Industry if they cannot make any profit. If they really make some profit, they should not object to this taxation. If they do not make any profit at all they will not be required to pay anything.

As regards the realisation of income-tax in Assam, this is the work of the Central Government. Our Government cannot do that. Therefore, I do not understand why my Friends are opposing this Bill presented by the Government of Assam.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: It appears my Friends are shedding crocodile tears. To my knowledge there are very few tea concerns which pay Agricultural Income-tax under this sub-section.

Can any of my Friends say that any one of the tea gardens are assessed under these clauses? Those tea gardens which are assessed to Agricultural Income-tax are managed by Companies either registered in India or in England and are not assessed under those clauses registered either in India or in London. So, these are crocodile tears. I am giving some figures, Sir.

Two hundred and twelve persons come within the income group of Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,000 for purpose of assessment; their rate has not been increased so far as this Bill is concerned. Fifty persons come within the range of Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000; they are also not affected. Only 21 persons are involved in the slab from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000. Why should not these 21 persons pay something from the huge profit they make? The increase in their case is only 1-3 pies, as against the Central In-come tax scale of 1-9 pies. I therefore see no justification for the deletion of these clauses. I hope my hon Friend will see his way to withdraw his amendment.

Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM: Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

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

The Hon'ble The SPEAKER: We come to amendment No. 2.

Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM: I do not like to move this amendment, Sir.

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: I also do not propose to move Nos. 2 and 3 in view of the discouraging reply which has been received at an earlier stage. I request that I may be permitted to urge Nos. 4, 5 and 6, which are all connected.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in item (a) of sub-clause D of clause 2, for the figure "10,000" the figure "25,000" be substituted.

That in the last line of item (ii) of proviso to sub-clause D of clause 2, a "full-stop" be inserted after the figure "3,000", and the "comma" and the word "and" be deleted.

That item "(iii)" of proviso to sub-clause D of clause 2 be deleted.

If hon. Members will turn to the printed text of the Bill they will find that there is discrimination in the treatment of the small company and of the larger company. We do not object in principle to the differential treatment to the smaller earner, but a new principle is being introduced, *i.e.*, one slab above Rs.10,000 for those who do not earn more than Rs.25,000 and another slab for those whose income exceeds Rs.25,000.

There has been a tendency to regard the big company as undeserving of any consideration at all. I would invite the attention of the hon. Members to the fact that a company's, even large company's, interests are divided. There is the well known system of share-holding whereby a member may hold a share of as low a value as Rs.10. It is therefore quite unjustified to regard the small company as only deserving of sympathy and the large company as being the big capitalist. In many cases the holdings of the large company may be those of widows and orphans, people who are living almost on the subsistence level. We appeal to the Hon'ble Finance Minister to introduce the same arrangement which applies in income-tax systems in India and elsewhere and give the same slab for companies in all cases. We have no objection to a higher rate being paid above Rs.25,000 on this assumption that our request for a lower rate of taxation is unobtainable.

The Hon'ble The SPEAKER: Let us take the amendments, one by one.
Amendment moved:

"That in item (a) of sub-clause D of clause 2, for the figure '10,000' the figure '25,000' be substituted."

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already given reasons why we have not increased the rate of tax for the 1st slab of Rs.10,000. As we have not increased the rate for individuals of that group we wanted to give the same benefit to the companies. That is why we have retained the existing rate for the 1st Rs.10,000 slab. Now, if this figure is to be raised to Rs.25,000 there will be no appreciable increase under the proposed Finance Bill.

Mr. Hardman says that there is no precedent for such a thing, in any Income-tax Act. I would draw his attention to the Government of India's Finance Act of 1948. There it is stated:

"In the case of every company the total income of which does not exceed Rs.25,000—

On the whole of the total income ... Two and a half annas in the rupee."

This provision is just like the provision in our Bill.

As regards other companies the rate is five annas.

We have introduced this slab of Rs.10,000 only in order to give them the same concession as we are giving to the individuals.

In view of this I request Mr. Hardman to withdraw his amendment.

Mr. J. S. HARDMAN: I beg leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Amendment Nos. 5 and 6 fall through.

The question is:

"That clauses 1 and 2 of the Assam Finance Bill, 1949, stand part of the Bill."

The question was adopted.

1949.] THE ASSAM LOCAL BOARD ELECTIONS (EMERGENCY PROVISIONS) BILL, 1949 221

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the title and preamble of the Assam Finance Bill, 1949, stand part of the Bill.”

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Bill, 1949, be passed and in moving this Motion, I appeal to the tea industry to lend their support in passing this Bill as we are always anxious to see to the interest of the tea industry and if there is any difficulty in future we will sit together to find out ways and means for solving such difficulty.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved: “That the Assam Finance Bill, 1949, be passed.”

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: As no hon. Member is taking part, I am putting the question:—

The question is:

“That the Assam Finance Bill, 1949, be passed.”

The question was adopted.

The Assam Local Board Elections (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1949

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Next item of business is the consideration of the Assam Local Board Elections (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1949, clause by clause. Shall we sit upto 4 P.M. to finish the Assam Local Board Elections Bill?

(Voices—Yes).

There is an amendment in the name of Maulavi Md. Abul Kashem. Will he move?

Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in the proviso to clause 2, for the words and figures “31st March 1950” the words and figures “30th April, 1949” be substituted.

Sir, I will not take much time of the House. Sir, on the whole I am opposing the idea of postponement of the election of Local Boards. The Hon'ble Minister has explained that only due to the system of joint-electorate, arrangement cannot be made now for fresh election. But, Sir, he knows personally that for the Legislative Assembly two bye-elections took place on joint electorate system and that there was bye-election on joint electorate system for filling up some seats for the Nowgong Local Board. If that could be allowed, then there is no reason why this election should be postponed for unlimited period. The extension of postponement upto March, 1950 will not hold any good. This means that the general election of the Legislatures under the new Constitution will take place after a year, but there is no certainty about that and in which case he will have again to come to the Assembly for postponement for longer periods. He knows quite well that many of the Local Boards are not functioning properly and he had to take the earliest

opportunity to supersede some of them. By my amendment I want that the election should take place after the 30th April, 1949, which is a month from now. My idea is that there should be election which can be done after a month with the present electoral rolls without making any corrections, when bye-elections could be held for the Legislature and the Nowgong Local Board, there should not be any objection to have general elections of the Local Boards. I request him specially to consider the question of having fresh election owing to failure on the part of many Boards to run their administration properly.

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

The Honble the SPEAKER: Amendment moved:

"That in the proviso to clause 2, for the words and figures "31st March, 1950" the words and figures "30th April, 1949" be substituted".

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have much pleasure in supporting my Friend, Maulavi Muhammad Abul Kashem's amendment to the Assam Local Board Elections (Emergency Provision) Bill, 1949. By this Bill the Congress Government of Assam again seek to postpone Local Board elections which are scheduled to take place this year. By the present amendment it is proposed that for the words and figures "31st March, 1950" the words and figures "30th April, 1949" be substituted. I thank, my hon. Friend, Maulavi Muhammad Abul Kashem, for pointing to the Government the democratic way, and I am sure the people outside the Legislature will appreciate it.

Year after year the Congress Government of Assam have postponed the Local Board General Elections and I am led to think, and many people outside this House do think likewise, that the Congress Government of Assam and their supporters, the Assam Congress Party, are shy of facing the general electorate, which goes counter to what the great leaders, namely, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Patel have been advising people to do. It seems that Congressmen in Assam are by their present action of avoiding the electorate and facing free and fair election, are going to sabotage the plans of their own great Leaders. (*Taunting voices from the Ministerialist Party—Yes, yes and hear, hear*).

In all representative democratic institutions elections are the very life-centre and source of authority, and avoidance of elections is nothing short of usurpation of the inherent right of the people to choose their instrument and executive. I am sure, the Congress Government and the Assam Congress Party are not desirous that Fascist tendencies should creep into public institutions in Assam, more especially in the Local Boards and in the Government itself. Seen from this angle, and in this light, I am sure the Government of Assam will reconsider and not ask again to postpone elections to next year.

I remind the hon. Members of this House and more especially the hon. Congress Members, that pledges during the last general election were made that burden of taxation etc., would be lightened. The present Local Boards, on account, may be, of changed circumstances, have been encouraged by the Congress Government of Assam to heavily tax poor cycle-riders and bullock-cart owners and so on and so forth. When solemn pledges given at general elections are later found incapable of fulfilment on account of changed circumstances, the democratic practice is to order an immediate

election, and the undemocratic practice is to delay general elections. Under the present set-up on account of changed circumstances in the Province, general elections have become *sine-qua-non* of democratic administration. I request the Congress supporters of the Government not to take cover behind the Constitution making delays, in order to postpone the Local Board elections this year. Delay in general elections always leads the Government to adopt undemocratic methods to gag the press and the voice of the people. The Congress, I hope, does not want to be dubbed Fascist, but undemocratic actions, by the unerring gravitation of destiny lead to undemocratic character which is Fascism all but in name.

I plead, therefore, with all the earnestness that I am capable of, that the Assam Government who could order a bye-election under the new joint electorate system in Dibrugarh, whereby a Congressite, Halim Saheb—excuse me for naming my hon. Friend—was elected to the Assam Assembly and Maulavi Islam Khan another Congressite Muslim was elected to the Nowgong Local Board, could also now order a general election for the Local Boards in Assam without the least inconvenience. Let not the Government be suspected to be running with the hares and hunting with the hounds.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have already explained, this amending Bill has been introduced because Government is trying to postpone elections with the best of motives and intentions. Mr. Sarwan is not correct in his guess when he says that the Congress Government is fighting shy of holding elections. In the recent elections, of course in one there was no rival, but in the other there was a hard contest; but we have seen that the Congress candidate emerged victorious with a very large majority of votes. So, I do not think he is correct in his guess that the Congress Government is shy to fight the elections. These are not the reasons for postponement of Local Board elections. We have as a matter of fact two alternatives which we are to consider in this connection. One is, we can hold Local Board elections on the present arrangement of constituency on separate electoral basis. But, Sir, it is apprehended that this will embitter the feelings between community and community. It will bring a great set-back to the solidarity of our population which is in the making and will tend to a recrudescence of the much hated two nations theory which is inconsistent with the ideal of the Indian Dominion.

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: We can run the elections on a joint system of voting.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Under the present arrangement of constituencies a large percentage of our population will not be able to take part in the elections as the voters' list on the new ideology of qualifications has not yet been prepared. So, Sir, these two alternatives cannot be taken up as preliminaries for a full-fledged election are not ready. It is with a view to giving our population opportunities and facilities to take part in the elections after having fresh electoral rolls prepared Government have been trying postponement.

It is for the best of motives, Sir, that this Bill was introduced, and I think there will be no injustice to the public. My hon. Friend, Mr. Kashem, has pointed out that Local Bodies have not been functioning properly. It is an exception with the Dhubri Local Board, but others have been carrying on fairly well. Sir, the case of the two bye-elections are not in point here. It is only in emergency that we have proposed to take this course. We have seen the last Assembly continued for 9 years. All of us remember that because it was not found

suitable to hold an election, the Assembly could continue for a longer period. No harm could be done if we postpone Local Board elections in the best interests of the public.

With these words, Sir, I would request the hon Member, Mr. Kashem, to withdraw his amendment.

Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM : May I have a guarantee from the Hon'ble Minister that he will not bring in further Bills for postponement of elections ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : That will depend on the exigency of circumstances.

Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM : Although I cannot agree with the Hon'ble Minister, and with the request to him to consider not to bring in any further Bill for postponement of elections, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

(The Amendment was, by the leave of the House, withdrawn).

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is : "That clauses 1 and 2 of the Assam Local Board Elections (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1949, stand part of the Bill."

The question was adopted.

The question is :

"That the title and preamble of the Assam Local Board Elections (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1949, stand part of the Bill."

The question was adopted.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Local Board Elections (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1949, be passed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Assam Local Board Elections (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1949, be passed".

The question was adopted.

The Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1949.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The next item of business is the consideration of the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1949, clause by clause. There is an amendment in the name of Maulavi Md. Abul Kashem.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : With regard to this amendment, Sir, I have made a request to the hon. Member to withdraw the same. If he does so, I can move the next Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : He has withdrawn it.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : Then I beg to move that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is : "That the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1949 be passed."

The question was adopted.

Then we have finished the whole business.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Saturday, the 19th March, 1949.

SHILLONG :

R. N. BARUA,

The 20th May, 1949.

Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Assam.

APPENDIX A

List of Supplementary Demand for Grants for 1948-49

(To be discussed by the Assembly on the 28th March 1949)

No. 1

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.2,347 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 1949, for the administration of the head "4.—Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	Rs.	50,300
II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for:—			
Charges in England	... ..		2,347

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is based on requirements reported by the High Commissioner for India.

No. 2

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. 1,41,953 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain expenditure which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1949, for the administration of the head "7.—Land Revenue".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	... ..	Rs.	22,69,100
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary demand will be accounted for	... ..		1,41,953
Charges of administration—			
A.—General establishment—			
4.—Contingencies—Cost of land	... ..		11,748
F.—Survey, Settlement and Record operations—			
(a) Assam Surveys—			
(i) General and Controlling Section	... ..		4,335
(ii) Reproduction Section	... ..		1,760
(iii) Traverse Section	... ..		3,090
(c) Survey Schools	... ..		2,520
G.—Land Records—			
(b) District Charges—Kanungo Establishment—			
1. Pay of Establishment (Non-excluded area)	... ..		1,12,200
2. Allowance and Honoraria (Non-excluded area)	... ..		2,200
K.—Charges in England	... ..		4,100
Total	... ..		1,41,953

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—The details may be seen at Appendix (a).

F.(a)(i).—*General Section*.—The excess is due to Deputy Director of Surveys officiating as Director of Surveys and Assistant Director of Surveys as Deputy Director of Surveys and implementation of the recommendation of the Pay Committee.

(ii) and (iii).—*Reproduction and Traverse Section*.—Excess is due to increased pay and allowances and winter allowance and increased prices.

(c) *Survey School*.—Excess is due to revision of pay, entertainment of more temporary establishment and promotion of Principal to Assam Civil Service.

G.—The excess is due to the increase in the pay and allowances, etc., of officers and menials due to the revision of their scales of pay on the recommendations of the Assam Pay Committee.

K.—The excess is based on demand by the High Commissioner.

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No. 3

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. 12,623 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, 1949, for the administration of the head "9.—Stamps."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	49,000
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for	12,623
C—Superintendence—	
1. Pay of Establishment	48
2. Allowances and honoraria	27
3. Contingencies	428
D—Value of Stamps supplied from Central Stores	12,180
Total	<u>12,623</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

C. and D.—Due to the revision of the scales of pay, etc., the increase in the conveyance charges and the unusual delay in transit of the consignments of judicial and non-judicial stamps supplied from Central Stores resulting in frequent emergent indents of the Treasuries to meet their immediate demands.

No. 4

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.2,60,822 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, 1949, for the administration of the head "10.—Forests."

	Rs.
Original grant voted by the Assembly	24,75,000
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for	2,60,822
10.—Forests	
<i>A—Conservancy and Works—</i>	
A. I.—Timber and other produce removed by Government Agency.	1,961
A. II.—Timber and other produce removed from Forests by Consumers and Purchasers.	19,797
A. IV.—Rent of leased Forest and payment to Share Holders in Forests managed by Government.	37,452
A. VI.—Communication and Buildings	1,03,117
A. VII.—Organisation, improvement and extension of Forests.	34,605
A. VIII.—Miscellaneous	1,945
<i>B.—Establishment (Voted)—</i>	
B. I.—Salary of Officers	22,051
B. II.—Pay of Establishment	31,174
D. Charges in England	8,720
Total	2,60,822

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- A. I.—The extra money is required to meet the cost of capturing 2 Rhinos required to be supplied to the Cairo Zoo and for payment of rewards to finders of Elephant Tusks.
- A. II.—The extra money is required for entertainment of more temporary guards, etc., for patrolling in Patharia Reserve in the Cachar Division, marking more trees, making Camp huts and demarcating coupes in Lakhimpur and Nowgong Divisions, repairing a bridge over the approach road to a depôt in the Goalpara East Division badly damaged by sudden flood, local printing of 900 Trade Permit and Transit Pass Books, increase of pay of temporary staff as a result of revised scales of pay.
- A. IV.—The extra money is required for payment of Zaminder's Share of revenue for the larger amount of Revenue having been collected from Zaminder's Forests (Koroibari State Forest).
- A. VI.—The extra money is required for the construction of a portion of two strategic roads leading to the Patharia Reserve at a cost of over Rs. 40,000, extensive repairs to the flood damaged roads and bridges in Lakhimpur, Goalpara East and West and Khasi and Jaintia Hills Divisions, increased cost due to rise of daily wages of labour consequent on the decontrol of rice, purchase of A. R. P Quarters at Digboi, reconstruction of certain old buildings in Nowgong and Khasi and Jaintia Hills Divisions, repairs and extension of Working Plan Officer and Forest Utilisation Officer's Staff quarters in Shillong, anticipated expenditure on special repairs to Jamuguri Inspection Bungalow and out-houses; payment of arrear price of coal supplied to Tramway by B. A. Railway; urgent provision for collection of gravel for road work in Sibsagar Division, entertainment of additional Temporary Chowkidars, improvement of compounds of Divisional Forest Officer and Subordinates quarters, etc.
- A. VII.—The extra money is required for increase in the rates of wages of local labours in some Divisions, and in others higher payments of rice consequent on the decontrol which was supplied to imported labour at a fixed price according to agreement, increased cost of up-keep of plantation and Taungyas created under Post-War Reconstruction Schemes in all Divisions, increased cost of Teak seeds brought from Burma, erroneous omission of expenditure by Divisional Forest Officer, Sibsagar, on items of natural regeneration, construction of some concrete pillars for demarcation, urgent plantation works, etc.
- A. VIII.—The extra amount is required mainly for meeting the expenditure in connection with the Film Wild Life in the Game Sanctuaries of Assam by the Bombay Natural History Society, cost of sending log-specimens to Dehra Dun, cost of participation in the exhibitions in North Lakhimpur, Darrang, etc.
- B—Establishment (Voted).—*
- B. 1.—The extra amount is required for payment of salaries of 6 Forest Rangers promoted to Superior Forest Service from 1st June 1948, Working Plan allowance of one more officer, introduction of the revised scale of pay and leave salary of some officers.
- B. 2.—The extra money is required for introduction of the Revised Scales of Pay, entertainment of temporary staff mainly executive, to cope with the increased works in the Patharia Hills, appointment of an Accountant for the Goalpara West Division, retention of the temporary staff and the Accountant of the Comptroller's Office in the office of Forest Utilisation Officer.
- D. *Charges in England.*—The excess amount of Rs. 7,941 is due to leave salary and overseas pay of Mr. J. B. Rowntree, I.F.S.

No. 5

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.5,801 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, 1949 for, the administration of the head "11.—Registration".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	1,17,900
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary demand will be accounted for by the Registration Department	5,801
B.—Works—	
(a) "Original works"	5,446
(b) "Repairs"	355
Total	5,801

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(a) As the Katigora Sub-Registry Office building was in a dilapidated condition, Government sanctioned its reconstruction in the current year at an estimated cost of Rs.5,446. As there was no provision in the current year's budget for the purpose the supplementary grant of Rs.5,446 is necessary.

(b) Thorough repairs had to be made to the Dhubri Sub-Registry office building. The supplementary grant of Rs.355 is necessary to meet the expenditure incurred in excess of the budget provision under the head.

No. 6

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.10,360 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, 1949, for the administration of the head "12.—Charges on Account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	5,59,900
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for	10,360
A.—Charges for Collection—	
1. Pay of Establishment	5,531
2. Allowances and Honoraria	911
3. Contingencies	3,918
Total	10,360

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—Charges for collection :—

1. *Pay of Establishment*.—Excess is due to the drawal of pay and allowances according to newly introduced scales of pay.
2. *Allowances and Honoraria*.—The extra amount is required due to the drawal of allowances according to the newly introduced scale of pay and allowances.
3. *Contingencies*.—The extra amount required under 'contingencies' is due to the rise in prices of contingent articles.

 No. 7

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.4,265 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, 1949, for the administration of the head "13.—Other Taxes and duties".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly... ..	95,400
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for	4,265
A.—Collection charges for—	
Entertainment tax	4,265

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is due to the heavy and unexpected increase in sale of the Entertainment tax stamps owing to increase in the number of Cinema houses which could not be foreseen.

 No. 8

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.11,85,445 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, 1949, for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly... ..	39,85,600
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for	11,85,445
H.—Ministers	1,41,727

					Rs.
L.—Elections for Legislature	...	...	...	...	1,62,000
M.—(a) Civil Secretariat :—					
(1) Pay of Officers	...	...	...	...	5,496
(2) Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	1,19,536
(3) Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	63,273
(4) Contingencies	...	...	...	...	42,222
(5) Cost of maintaining the accounts of the charitable endowment funds and miscellaneous Trust funds.					400
M. (b) Publicity Department :—					
1. Pay of establishment	...	...	...	...	8,353
2. Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	7,801
3. Contingencies	...	...	...	...	8,572
Q.—Revenue Tribunal	...	...	...	...	4,555
Q. Local Fund Audit Establishment—					
1. Pay of establishment	...	...	...	...	6,988
2. Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	7,829
3. Contingencies	...	...	...	...	3,198
S.—General Establishment :—					
1. Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	8,965
2. Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	1,12,232
3. Allowances, etc.	...	...	...	...	55,350
4. Contingencies	...	...	...	...	1,44,117
T.—Subdivisional Establishment	...	...	...	...	45,828
U.—(a)—Process Serving Establishment	...	...	...	...	71,417
(d)—Staging Bungalow Establishment	...	...	...	...	3,799
Y.—Charges in England	...	...	...	...	1,61,787
Total	...	...	...	...	11,85,445

EXPLANATORY NOTE

H.—*Ministers*.—Due mainly to revised scale of pay, sanction of winter allowance, increase in tour and maintenance of Aeroplane and purchase of Motor Cars.

L.—Due to entertainment of a large number of Enumerators and Supervisors in each district in connection with the preparation of Electoral Rolls under the new Constitution.

M.—(a)—(1) Due to increase in the number of officers.

(a)—(2) Due to revised scales of pay and entertainment of additional temporary staff.

(a)—(3) Due to sanction of winter allowance and increase in tour.

(a)—(4) Due to increased contingent expenditure resulting from increase in the number of officers and staff and also due to increased expenditure for postage stamps.

(a)—(5) Due to increase in the volume of works.

M.—(b) Following imminent reorganisation of the department certain new schemes, *i. e.*, (1) Establishment of 9 Regional Publicity Centres at Gauhati, Nowgong, Rangiya, Goalpara, Bilasipara, Tezpur, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Silchar, (ii) Publication of two newspapers—Asom Batory and Assam Information, have been put into operation as a result of which there has been an excess expenditure under the various minor heads.

1. Pay of Establishment... The excess expenditure is due to entertainment of extra staff of the reorganised Department sanctioned later in the year but specific provision for which was not made.

2. Allowances and honoraria. The excess expenditure is in Travelling Allowance of Establishment, Dearness Allowance and Winter Allowance. As regards Winter Allowance this is a new item of expenditure sanctioned by Government on the recommendation of the Pay Committee. As regards the Travelling Allowance of establishment and Dearness Allowance though there were provisions for both, the excess expenditure is due to increase of staff.

3. Contingencies ... The excess is mainly for the purchase of two vehicles, purchase of newsprint for the publications of the two newspapers and increase of postage charges for the distribution of newspapers.

O.—No provision was made in the original budget due to establishment of the Assam High Court which took up the work of the Tribunal. Additional funds are necessary for the officers and staff retained upto 7th April, 1948.

Q.—1. *Pay of establishment.*—The excess is due partly to increase in the staff of the department by a new post of Superintendent, an auditor and one assistant auditor and partly to revised scales of pay.

2. *Allowances, etc.*—Due to increase in the staff of the department.

3. *Contingencies.*—The excess is due to the high charges for shifting of office from Shillong to Gauhati and for constant repairing charges of Motor Vehicles allotted to this department and other higher incidental charges.

- S. 1.—Due to increase in the number of officers,
 2.—Due mainly to introduction of revised scales of pay.
 3.—Due mainly to increased expenditure under “dearness allowance” and “Travelling allowance” of officers.
 4.—Contingencies—Due mainly to purchase and maintenance of Trucks and purchase of Typewriters, furniture and stationery.
- T.—Mainly due to introduction of revised scales of pay and increased expenditure under travelling allowances and dearness allowances.
- U.—(a).—Mainly due to revised scales of pay and increased expenditure under “dearness allowance” and Process serving charges.
 (d).—Due mainly to increased expenditure under contingencies.
- Y.—The excess is based on latest information received from the High Commissioner.

No.9

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.3,09,164 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 1949 for the administration of the head “27.—Administration of Justice”.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	6,45,500
II.—Major and Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for ...	3,09,164
(i) 27.—Administration of Justice — “Grand total”	2,63,400
B.—Law Officers—	
(b) Legal Remembrancer—	
Allowances and Honoraria	1,750
Contingencies	1,400
(c) Mufassil Establishment—	
Pay of Establishment	360
Allowances and Honoraria	6,600
Contingencies	2,700
H.—Criminal Courts—Contingencies	30,407
L.—Charges in England	2,547
Total	<u>3,09,164</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(1) In striking the grand total a sum of Rs. 2,63,480 was subtracted from the amount for "Voted" and added to that for "Charged". This is now being regularised. The Grand total against charged (Rs. 4,00,000) is being reduced by the Rs. 2,63,500 by surrender. The above modifications will not affect any sub-head but only the figures against "Grand Total". The figures for rounding are being altered by issuing necessary correction slip.

B.—(b) Due to—

(a) additional expenditure on travelling allowance, dearness allowance, winter allowance of establishment and cost of living allowance of Legal Remembrancer ;

(b) Grant of retaining fees to Government Pleader, Karimganj ;

(c) Increase in the number of cases in many districts.

H.—Due to increased expenditure under District and Road money to witnesses owing to increase in the number of cases.

L.—The excess is based on demand by the High Commissioner.

No.10

The Hon'ble Maulana MD. TAYYEBULLA to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 5,33,745 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 1949 for the administration of the head "28.—Jails and Convict Settlement".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	9,33,700
II. Sub-heads under which supplementary grants will be accounted for	5,33,745
A.—District Jails—	
1. Pay of Establishment	16,000
2. Allowances and honoraria	4,093
3. Contingencies (Non-contract)	3,91,071
4. Contingencies (contract)	13,394
5. Contribution to other Governments for maintenance of <i>ex-military</i> prisoners.	545
B.—Charges for Police Custody—	
4.—Contingencies	22,941
D.—Jail Manufacture—	
1. Pay of Establishment	450
2. Contingencies (Non-contract)	83,170
E.—Works—	
1. Repairs	2,000
Rates and Taxes	81
Total	5,33,745

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.—District Jails—

- 1 and 2. Excess is due to revision of the scales of pay.
3. Excess is mainly under ration which is due to increase of jail population and for abnormal rise in the prices of dietary articles.
4. Increase is due to increase of jail population and also for high prices of miscellaneous articles, service postage, etc.
5. Due to debits raised by other Governments for the maintenance of *ex-military* prisoners in their jails.

B.—4. Due mainly to increased expenditure under “Diet and conveyance of under-trial prisoners”.

D.—Jail manufacture—

1. Increase is due to the revision of pay of establishment and for the drawal of pay by the discharged Weaving Instructor of Sylhet Jail in the current financial year.
2. Due to high price in raw materials and the expenditure is increased for improvement of jail industries.

E.—Works—

1. Due to indispensable annual repairs of departmental buildings.

Rates and taxes—

Due to increase of taxes by municipalities.

No.11

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 2,33,013 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 1949 for the administration of the head—“29.—Police”.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	... 1,12,83,400
Supplementary grant voted at the September Session of the Assembly.	19,16,734

	Rs.
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for	2,33,013
E.—Special Police—	
Home Guards	2,27,133
M.—Charges in England—	
(b) Expenditure of the Secretary of State for India ...	5,880
Total ...	2,33,013

EXPLANATORY NOTE

E.—Special Police.—The previous grant was for 6 months only. The additional grant is necessary due to retention of Home Guards in all areas after the expiry of 6 months' active service up to 31st December 1948 and also for retention of a reduced force in the border districts from 1st January 1949.

M.—Charges in England.—The estimate is based on the latest informations received from the Common Wealth Relation Office in United Kingdom.

No.12

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 852 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949 for the administration of the head—"36.—Scientific Department".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs. 10,300
Supplementary grants voted in the September Session of the Assembly.	1,462
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for.	852
(b) Provincial Museums	852
Total ...	852

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The extra expenditure is required in connection with the revision in the scales of pay of the Clerical and Menial staff of the Museum in accordance with the Pay Committee's recommendation.

No.13

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 17,49,915 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 1949 for the administration of the head—"37.—Education" (Non-Excluded areas).

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Rs. 82,31,300
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for.	17,49,915
C.—Direct grants to Non-Government Arts Colleges—	
2. Non-recurring grants	65,000
E.—Works (College)—	
Original works—	
In charge of Civil Officers	12,300
G.—Direct grants to Non-Government secondary schools—	
2.—Non-recurring grants—	
1. Building grants and other purposes	1,60,000
2. Grants-in-aid to secondary schools for other purposes.	1,40,000
I.—Works (Secondary)—	
Original works—	
In charge of Civil Officers	7,000
L.—Direct grants to Non-Government Primary schools—	
2. Non-recurring grants for buildings	15,000
M.—Works (Primary)—	
Original Works—	
In charge of Civil Officers... ..	1,720
N.—Government Special schools and colleges—	
(b) Institute for Higher Sanskrit learning	15,000
(d) Technical School	63,870
Post-War Development Scheme	2,16,118
Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B	—2,16,118
O.—Direct grants to Non-Government Special schools—	
Non-recurring grants towards buildings	10,000
Grant-in-aid for other purposes	2,000

U.—Miscellaneous—	Rs.
(d) Other Miscellaneous Charges Grants—Expenditure on National Cadet Corps Scheme.	3,44,900
(e) Grants to Assam Primary Education Board ...	8,87,035
W.—Charges in England	26,090
Grand total ...	17,49,915

EXPLANATORY NOTE

C.—Rupees 50,000 is required for giving a non-recurring grant to Darrang College for re-construction of buildings damaged by storms, and Rs. 15,000 is required for giving non-recurring grants to other aided Colleges for repairs of their buildings damaged by storm.

E.—This additional amount of Rs.12,300 is required for construction of the Botany Laboratory, Cotton College, Gauhati.

G.—A sum of Rs.1,60,000 is required for giving grants to aided secondary schools for repairs of their buildings damaged by storm. Rupees 5,000 is required to compensate the loss of fee-income of aided secondary schools and the balance of Rs.1,35,000 is required for meeting additional cost of increased dearness allowance to teachers and menials of aided secondary schools.

I.—Rupees 7,000 is required for re-conditioning of North-West side of the Pine Mount School, Shillong, and restoration of the Hockey field.

L.—Rupees 15,000 is required as storm-damage-grant to aided Primary Schools.

M.—Rupees 1,720 is required for departmental construction of the building of the Government Primary School at Jowai.

N.—(b) Rupees 15,000 is required for meeting the cost of Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Sanskrit Education, his Office and of two Adhyapaks of Sylhet Sanskrit College now attached to the Nalbari Sanskrit College.

(d) Provision for the Technical School was originally made under "43.—Industries—D.—Industrial School". It has since been decided by Government to transfer this institution to the Education Department and accordingly provision for Technical School for the current financial year is required under "37.—Education". The original provision in the Industries Budget is being surrendered and necessary provision is being made in the Education Budget.

O.—Rupees 10,000 is required as storm damage grants to aided special schools, and Rs.2,000 is required for a non-recurring grant to the aided training centre at Kokrajhar.

U.—(d) Budget schedule is appended.

(e) Additional sum of Rs.8,87,035 is required for meeting the expenditure sanctioned as additional grant in-aid to the Provincial Primary Education Board for taking over control of Primary Education from the Local Bodies with a view to its expansion and improvement and introduction of compulsion in accordance with the provision of the Assam Primary Education Act, 1947.

W.—The estimate is based on latest report received from the High Commissioner for India.

No.14

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.2,85,289 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949 for the administration of the head—“38.—Medical”.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	19,08,100
Supplementary grant voted in the September Session of the Assembly.	8,063
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for.	2,85,289
<i>A. Medical Establishment—</i>	
<i>(a)—Superintendence—</i>	
(1) Pay of establishment	6,691
(2) Allowances and Honoraria	7,077
(3) Contingencies	3,850
<i>Enforcement of Drugs Act and Rules—</i>	
(1) Pay of establishment	264
<i>(b)—District Medical Officers—</i>	
(1) Pay of officers	20,053
(2) Pay of establishment	3,300
(3) Allowances and Honoraria	700
(4) Contingencies	3,361
<i>B.—Hospitals and Dispensaries—</i>	
<i>(a)—Ordinary dispensaries—</i>	
(1) Pay of establishment	3,727
(2) Allowances and Honoraria	1,478
(3) Contingencies	64,637
<i>(c)—Leper Hospital—</i>	
(1) Contingencies	2,988
<i>(e) Grants for Leprosy works</i>	5,400
<i>(f) Grants to hospitals and dispensaries</i>	2,000
C.—Grants for medical purposes	21,350

E.—Mental Hospital—

					Rs.
(a)—Mental Hospital, Tezpur—					
(1) Pay of establishment	...	...	...	...	1,470
(2) Contingencies	...	...	...	...	1,21,071

G.—Works—

(1) Original Works	...	...	...	...	712
(2) Repairs	...	...	...	...	260

H.—Charges in England 14,900

Total 2,85,289

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. Medical Establishment—(a) Superintendence.—(1) Increase is due for the introduction of revised pay under the Assam Pay Committee's Report.

(2) Due to the increased expenditure incurred for increased dearness allowance and for Winter allowance.

(3) Increase is due to increased number of Telephone Trunk call and for expenditure for the treatment of Government servants.

(4) Increase is due to purchase of furniture and repair of old furniture and for service postage stamps.

*Enforcement of Drugs Act and Rules.—*The extra amount required for the entertainment of one Chaprasi for the Drugs Inspector,

(b) *District Medical Officers.—*(1) Increase is due for posting of Senior Officers and also for inclusion of pay of Provincial Health Insurance Officer, and the pay of Medical Superintendent, Ganesh Das Women and Children Hospital, under this head.

(2) Increase is due for the drawal of pay on the recommendations of the Assam Pay Committee.

(3) Increase is due for drawal of dearness allowance at increased rate.

(4) Increase is due to increased number of Telephone Trunk call and for purchase of Medical Stores for medicolegal purposes, etc.

B. Hospitals and Dispensaries—(a).—Ordinary dispensaries.—(1) Increase is due for drawal of pay by certain staff under Pay Committee's Report.

(2) Increase is due for drawal of dearness allowance at increased rates and for drawal of house-rent and fixed allowances.

(3) Increase is due for the high price in dietary articles and also for rise in prices of some other commodities.

(4) Due to more expenditure in Service Stamps and also for increase in the dearness allowance allowed to the contingency menials.

(c) *Leper Hospital.—*(1) The extra amount required under this head is mainly due for the purchase of dietary articles at a high price.

(e) *Grant for Leprosy works.—*This amount is required for the upkeep of certain Leper Colonies in the Province.

(f) *Grants to Hospitals and Dispensaries.—*The extra amounts is required for the Dhubri Leper Ward.

C. *Grant for medical purposes.*—The extra amount is required for the additional grant sanctioned to the Ganesh Das Hospital.

E. *Mental Hospital.*—(a)—*Mental Hospital, Tezpur.*—(1) Due to drawal of pay at revised rates under Pay Committee's Report.

(2) Due to increased price on dietary articles and for increase in number of patients in the Hospital.

(3) Due to increase in price of miscellaneous articles and for postage stamps.

G. *Works.*—(1) Increase is due for the purchase of the Chowkidar's quarter at Nongpoh.

(2) Increase is due to indispensable annual repairs and departmental buildings.

H.—The estimate is based on latest report from the High Commissioner for India.

No.15

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 1,02,360 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the head—“39.—Public Health”.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	Rs.	20,57,900
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—			1,02,360
C.— <i>Epidemic diseases</i> —			
(b) Other Epidemics	...	...	59,500
F.— <i>Works</i> —			
Public Health—Original Works	...	...	35,500
H.—Charges in England	...	...	7,360
	Total	...	1,02,360

EXPLANATORY NOTES

C. *Epidemic diseases*—(b)—*Other Epidemics.*—The extra amount required is mainly due to the purchase of large quantities of Barley, Sago and tinned milk for free distribution to indigent patients in flood-affected areas and for purchase of additional quantities of medical stores required in connection with relief measures undertaken in flood-affected areas and owing to increase of *Kala-azar* patients as a result of recrudescence of *Kala-azar*. Out of the extra amount of Rs.59,500 under this head, a sum of Rs.4,500 is required to purchase equipment for the proposed *Kala-azar* wards at Nazira and Sibsagar Town.

F. *Works*—*Public Health—Original Works.*—The extra amount required under this head is due to the construction of the proposed *Kala-azar* wards at Nazira and Sibsagar Town. The details may be seen at Appendix (a).

H.—The excess is on the basis of the demand by the High Commissioner.

No.16

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDER to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.24,528 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 1949, for the administration of the head "40.—Agriculture".

	Rs.
T.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly—	10,63,000
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional amount will be accounted for:—	24,528
A. Direction—	
Other non-contract contingencies—	
Purchase of fertilizers	20,000
D. Agriculture—	
Experiments and Research—	
(K) Crop-cutting experiments	4,528

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—The amount is necessary for chemical fertilizers supplied to private individuals of the Province by Central Government from lease and land stock. Originally no provision was made in the budget as the expenditure is to be adjusted by deduction of the amounts realised from private individuals. But now it has been decided that the sale proceeds should be shown as receipts instead of adjusting towards expenditure.

D. (K).—Provision for this originally did not exist in the budget. The scheme for crop-cutting experiments has been taken up at the instance of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research who will bear the entire expenditure. The amount, when received, will be treated as Provincial receipts.

No.17

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDER to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.4,000 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 1949, for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly—	3,42,000
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional amount will be accounted for:—	4,000
A. Superintendence—	
3. Allowance and honoraria—	
Travelling allowance	1,000
4. Contingencies	1,500
B.—Subordinate Establishment—	
2. Allowance and honoraria	1,500
Establishment of a Veterinary Vaccine Depôt (Post-War Scheme).	56,600
Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B	—56,600
Total	4,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. 3.—The excess is due to extensive tour by the Veterinary Investigation Officer and for attending the Veterinary Investigation Officers' Conference in Mysore.

A. 4.—The excess amount is required to meet increased rate of pay of the contingency menials in the revised scales of pay and for money order commission in remitting the Travelling Allowance to Veterinary Assistant Surgeons.

B. 2.—The excess is due to extensive tours required to be taken by the Veterinary Officers.

Rupees 56,600 is required to meet the cost of construction of the Veterinary Vaccine Depôt building at Gauhati for which there was no provision in the budget.

No.18

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.2,86,935 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 1949, for the administration of the Head "42.—Co-operation—I.—Co-operative Societies".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly—

II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Grant will be accounted for :—

I.—Co-operative Societies—

DIRECTION—

A(A).—Provincial Organisation—

	Rs.
Pay of Officers	4,629
Pay of establishment	34,069
Allowance and Honoraria... ..	16,614
Contingencies	7,100

Total A(A).—Provincial Organisation...

62,412

A(B).—Provincial Organisation (Post-War)—

Pay of Officers	1,600
Pay of Establishment	3,131
Allowance and Honoraria... ..	2,413
Contingencies	12,600

Total A(B).—Provincial Organisation...

19,744

Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B

—19,744

Total A—Provincial Organisation

62,412

B(A) —Regional Organisation—

Rs.

Pay of Officers	...	...	...	...	5,190
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	8,916
Allowance and Honoraria	..	...	...	...	6,170
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	2,715

Total B(A)—Regional Organisation ... 22,991

B(B).—Regional Organisation (Post-War)—

Pay of Officers	...	...	...	...	7,987
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	5,765
Allowance and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	10,775
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	8,766

Total—B(B). Regional Organisation ... 33,293

Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B ... —33,293

Total—B.—Regional Organisation ... 22,991

C(A).—Subdivisional Organisation—

Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	1,18,142
Allowance and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	62,730
Contingencies	...	...	..	...	16,660

Total—C(A).—Subdivisional Organisation ... 1,97,532

C(B).—Subdivisional Organisation (Post-War)—

Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	4,106
Allowance and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	2,174
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	1,304

Total—C.(B).—Subdivisional Organisation ... 7,584

Deduct—Amount Transferred to 63-B ... —7,584

Total—C.—Subdivisional Organisation ... 1,97,532

E.(B).—Training Organisation (Post-War)—

	Rs.
Pay of Officers	8,962
Pay of Establishment	510
Allowance and Honoraria	6,274
Contingencies	11,375
	<hr/>
Total—E.(B).—Training Organisation ...	27,121
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63B	—27,121
	<hr/>
Total—E.—Training Organisation ... ..	...
	<hr/>
F(B).—Grants-in-aid (Post-War)	44,00,000
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63B	—44,00,000
	<hr/>
Total—F.—Grants-in-aid... ..	...
	<hr/>
Charges in England	4,000
	<hr/>
Total ...	2,86,935
	<hr/>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

For the purpose of administrative convenience and in order to avoid duplication, the revenue and expenditure under head XXXI and 42.—Co-operation, XXXII and 43.—Industries and Supplies, Post-War Development Schemes thereunder and the provisions under 25.—General Administration in the Post-War Rural Development have been split up and regrouped with effect from the current year into four receipt and four expenditure heads. This has necessitated the above supplementary demand. The entire amount provided for Co-operation under—42.—Co-operation (Ordinary and Post-War Budget) has been surrendered, to suit the classification of service heads, sub-heads and detailed heads.

The excess under charges in England is based on requirement reported by the High Commissioner for India.

No.19

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.50,245 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 1949 for the administration of the head "42.—Co-operation—II.—Rural Development".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly—Nil.

II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Grant will be accounted for :—

Rs.
50,245

Direction—

A.(A).—Provincial Organisation—

Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	4,534
Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	7,000
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	6,711
TOTAL A.(A).—Provincial Organisation					<u>18,245</u>

A.(B).—Provincial Organisation (Post-War)—

Pay of Officer	...	...	...	...	27,662
Pay of Establishment	...	...	...	...	24,429
Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	18,038
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	60,697
TOTAL A.(B).—Provincial Organisation					<u>1,30,876</u>

Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B —1,30,876

TOTAL A.—Provincial Organisation 18,245

B.(B).—Regional Organisation (Post-War)—

Pay of Officer	...	...	...	...	5,900
Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	...	1,400
TOTAL B.(B).—Regional Organisation					<u>7,300</u>

Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B —7,300

TOTAL—Regional Organisation ...

C.(B).—Subdivisional Organisation (Post-War)—						Rs.
Pay of officer	...	...	...	...	...	25,900
Pay of establishment	...	...	...	...	...	52,430
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	49,383
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	44,829
Works	...	...	...	...	...	12,871
TOTAL C.(B)—Subdivisional Organisation						1,85,413
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B						—1,85,413
TOTAL—Subdivisional Organisation						...
D.(B).—Rural Organisation (Post-War)—						
Pay of officer	...	...	...	...	...	1,044
Pay of establishment	...	...	...	...	...	17,746
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	9,754
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	1,57,862
Works	...	...	...	...	...	11,162
TOTAL—D.(B)—Rural Organisation						1,97,568
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B						—1,97,568
TOTAL—Rural Organisation						...
E.(B).—Training Organisation (Post-War)—						
I. Rural Development Institute—						
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	100
TOTAL—Rural Development Institute						100
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B						—100
TOTAL—Rural Development Institute						...
E.(B).—II. Rural Polytechnic (Post-War)—						
Pay of officer	...	...	...	...	...	6,188
Pay of establishment	...	...	...	...	...	3,564
Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	...	...	8,928
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	14,204
TOTAL—II.—Rural Polytechnic						32,884
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B						—32,884
TOTAL—Rural Polytechnic						...

	Rs.
F.(A).—Grants-in-aid	32,000
F.(B).—Grants-in-aid (Post-War)	37,500
	<hr/>
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B	—37,500
	<hr/>
TOTAL—F.—Grants-in-aid	32,000
	<hr/>
GRAND TOTAL	50,245
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

For the purpose of administrative convenience and in order to avoid duplication the revenue and expenditure under heads XXXI and 42.—Co-operation and XXXII and 43.—Industries and Supplies and Post-War Development Schemes thereunder and the provisions under 25.—General Administration for the Post-War Rural Development have been split up and regrouped with effect from the current year into four receipts and four expenditure heads. This has necessitated the above supplementary demand. The entire amount provided for Rural Development under 25.—General Administration—Post-War Budget has been surrendered (Rs.94,68,500). Similarly, necessary surrenders and reappropriation, are being made in the grants under 42.—Co-operation and 43.—Industries and Supplies, to suit the new classification of service head, sub-heads and detailed heads.

 No.20

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a supplementary demand of Rs. 3,08,786 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the head "43.—Industries and Supplies—I. Sericulture and Weaving".

I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Nil.
II. Sub-heads under which the supplementary grants will be accounted for :—	Rs. 3,08,786
A.(A).—Provincial Organisation—	
Pay of establishment	4,754
Allowances and honoraria	2,675
Contingencies	1,200
	<hr/>
TOTAL—A.(A)—Provincial Organisation	8,629
	<hr/>
A.(B).—Provincial Organisation (Post-War)—	
Pay of officer	6,780
Pay of establishment	10,827
Allowances and honoraria	7,160
Contingencies	5,678
	<hr/>
TOTAL—A.(B)—Provincial Organisation (Post-War)	30,445
	<hr/>
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B	—30,445
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TOTAL—A—Provincial Organisation	8,629
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B.—(A) Regional Organisation—					Rs.
Pay of officer					6,056
Pay of establishment					28,614
Allowances and honoraria					24,500
Contingencies					20,455
TOTAL—B.(A)—Regional Organisation ...					<u>79,625</u>
B.—(B) Regional Organisation (Post-War)—					
Pay of officer					2,913
Pay of establishment					5,416
Allowances and honoraria					8,515
Contingencies					2,393
TOTAL—B.(B)—Regional Organisation (Post-War)...					<u>19,237</u>
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B					<u>—19,237</u>
TOTAL—B.—Regional Organisation					<u>79,625</u>
C.—(B) Subdivisional Organisation (Post-War)—					
Pay of establishment					2,882
Allowances and honoraria					2,300
Contingencies					1,990
TOTAL—C.(B)—Subdivisional Organisation ..					<u>7,172</u>
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B					<u>—7,172</u>
TOTAL—C.—Subdivisional Organisation					<u>...</u>
D.—(A) Rural Organisation—					
Pay of establishment					48,331
Allowances and honoraria					27,615
Contingencies					3,300
TOTAL—D.(A). Rural Organisation					<u>79,246</u>
D.—(B) Rural Organisation (Post-War)—					
Pay of establishment					2,400
Allowances and honoraria					1,820
Contingencies					200
TOTAL—D.(B)—Rural Organisation (Post-War) ...					<u>4,420</u>
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B					<u>—4,420</u>
TOTAL—D.—Rural Organisation					<u>79,246</u>

E.--(A) Training Organisation—

I. Farm Organisation—

	Rs.
Pay of Establishment	15,526
Allowances and Honoraria	4,870
Contingencies	28,704
Works	37,890
Total E.—(A) I. Farm Organisation ...	<u>86,990</u>

E.—(B) Training Organisation (Post-War)—

I. Farm Organisation —

Allowances and Honoraria	1,000
Contingencies	6,480
Works	33,088
Total E.—(B) I. Farm Organisation (Post-War)...	<u>40,568</u>
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B	—40,568
Total E.—I. Farm Organisation	<u>86,990</u>

E.—(A) II. Weaving Institute—

Pay of Establishment	14,825
Allowances and Honoraria	10,730
Contingencies	22,193
Total E.—(A) II. Weaving Institute ...	<u>47,748</u>

E.—(B) II. Weaving Institute (Post-War).—

Contingencies	500
Works	3,500
Total E.—(B) II. Weaving Institute (Post-War) ...	<u>4,000</u>
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B	—4,000
Total E.—II. Weaving Institute	<u>47,748</u>

E.—(A) III Sericultural Institute—

	Rs
Pay of Establishment	1,118
Allowances and Honoraria	750
Contingencies	3,530
Works	1,000
Total E.—(A) III. Sericultural Institute ...	6,398

E.—(B) III. Sericultural Institute (Post-War).—

Pay of Establishment	1,802
Allowances and Honoraria	1,452
Contingencies	2,000
Works	11,193
Total E.—(B) III. Sericultural Institute ...	16,447
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B	—16,447
Total E.—III. Sericultural Institute	6,398

Grants-in-aid—

F.—(A) Grants-in-aid—

Contribution, Scholarship, etc.	150
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F.—(B) Grants-in-aid (Post-War)—

Contribution, Scholarship, etc.	22,762
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B	—22,762

Total F.—Grants-in-aid 150

Grand Total 3,08,786

EXPLANATORY NOTE

For the purpose of administrative convenience and to avoid duplication, the revenue and expenditure under the head XXXII and 43.—Industries and Supplies under Post-War and ordinary budgets have been split up and regrouped with effect from the current financial year.

The Department under 43 Industries and Supplies has been divided into two *i.e.* I. Sericulture and Weaving and II. Cottage Industries. As the entire budget allotment under 43.—Industries ordinary and post-war has been surrendered by the Cottage Industries Department the above supplementary demand is necessary for the new department of Sericulture and Weaving.

No. 21

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a Supplementary Demand of Rs. 37,618 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the head—"43.—Industries and Supplies—II.—Cottage Industries".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Nil.
II. Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grants will be accounted for	37,618
Cottage Industries—	
A.—(A) Provincial organisation—	
Pay of Officer	8,600
Pay of Establishment	7,380
Allowances and Honoraria	5,438
Contingencies	2,700
Total	<u>24,118</u>
A.—(B) Provincial organisation (Post-War)—	
Pay of Officers	11,226
Pay of Establishment	1,520
Allowances and Honoraria	2,050
Contingencies	12,228
Total	<u>26,556</u>
<i>Deduct</i> —Amount transferred to 63-B	—26,556
E.—(A) Training organisation—	
II. Training Classes—	
Pay of Establishment	5,309
Allowances and Honoraria	5,503
Contingencies	2,438
Total	<u>13,250</u>

E.—(B). Training Organisation (Post-War)—
I.—Cottage Industries Training Institute—

	Rs.
Pay of officer	726
Pay of establishment	44
Allowances and Honoraria	486
Total	1,256

Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B 1,256

E.—(B). Training Organisation (Post-War)—
II.—Training Classes—

Pay of establishment	2,477
Allowances and Honoraria	2,419
Contingencies	7,292
Total	12,188

Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B —12,188

F.—(A). Grants-in-aid—

Contribution to Institutes outside Assam	250
Total	37,618

EXPLANATORY NOTES

For the purpose of administrative convenience and in order to avoid duplication, the revenue and expenditure under heads XXXII and 43.—Industries and Supplies under Post-War and ordinary budgets have been split up and regrouped with effect from the current year. This has necessitated the above supplementary demand. The entire amount provided under 43.—Industries and Supplies, Ordinary and Post-War has been surrendered separately.

No. 22

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.28,691 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, 1949, for administration of the head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments."

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	2,46,500
II.—Sub-head under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for.	28,691
B.—Labour—	
3. Allowances and Honoraria	3,712
4. Contingencies	5,000
C.—Inspector of Steam Boilers (Voted)—	
(a) Pay of Officers... ..	1,446
(b) Pay of Establishment	502
(c) Allowances and Honoraria	4,231
(d) Contingencies	3,800
F.—Preservation and Translation of Ancient Manuscripts—	
4. Contingencies—Publication Fund... ..	10,000
Total	28,691

EXPLANATORY NOTE

B. 3.—Excess is due to increased rate of dearness allowance as a result of revision of pay and grant of winter allowance.

B. 4.—Excess is due to purchase of new typewriters, furniture, stationery, etc., for the two Labour Officers at Silchar and Jorhat.

C. (a) and (b)—Due to revision of scales of pay.

(c)—Due to grant of winter allowance and increase in dearness allowance and increased expenditure under Travelling Allowance.

(d)—Excess is due to higher cost of the Tensometre purchased and for repairing some instruments.

F. 4.—This provision is required for transfer to the Publication Fund which has been created under the Director of Historical and Antiquarian Studies, Assam.

No. 23

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAJUMDAR to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.83,595 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, 1949, for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	Rs.	1,00,83,300
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary demand will be accounted for.			83,595

D.—Grant-in-aid for communications—

2—Grants to Local Boards—

(i) Recurring	...	...	...	984
(ii) Non-Recurring	...	...	...	82,611
		Total	...	83,595

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(i) The Tezpur Local Board received Rs.615 and Rs.289 as recurring and additional recurring—communication grants during 1947-48 and the Golaghat Local Board received Rs.80 as additional recurring communication grant for 1947-48. Both the Local Boards allowed their grants to lapse by non-drawal and came up to Government for sanction to the drawal of these lapsed grants during the current financial year. The drawal of the grants by the Boards was sanctioned. Hence the excess.

(ii) Against a budget provision of Rs.2,04,894 the amount disbursed as grants was Rs.2,87,505. This excess was due to the giving of increased communication grants to meet the pressing need of improvement of communication.

No. 24

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.3,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1949, for the administration of the head "54-A.—Famine Relief".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	1,00,000
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for.	3,00,000
(b) Gratuitous Relief	3,00,000
Total	3,00,000

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This amount is necessary for an initial contribution to the Famine Relief Fund vide Clause 4 of the Famine Relief and Insurance Fund Act, 1948.

No. 25

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.80,500 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, 1949 for the administration of the head 55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, 83.—Payments of commuted value of pension and 85.—Payments to retrenched personnel.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	31,41,400
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for.	80,500
1. 55.—Superannuation allowances and pension—H.—Charges in England.	78,650
2. 85.—Payment to retrenched personnel—Charges in England.	1,850
Total	80,500

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is based on the latest information received from the High Commissioner and the Accountant General, Common Wealth Relations Office.

No. 26

The Hon'ble Maulana MD. TAYYEBULLA to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.98,775 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1949, for administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	5,30,800
Supplementary grant voted at the September, 1948 Session of the Assembly.	1,68,000
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for.	98,775
A.—Stationery supplied from the Central Stationery Stores— Voted.	22,520
B.—Discount on Plain paper used with stamps	153
C.—Purchase of plain paper used with stamps	15,618
III.—D—Government Press	60,484
Total	98,775

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—A large number of bye-laws and forms for the Trading Co-operative Societies is to be printed in the Government Press. The normal indent of paper of the Government Press is not sufficient to meet this printing particularly when the printing of forms, tickets, etc., of the State Transport Department has taken up a considerable portion of the paper indented and as such the allotment falls far short of the requirement, therefore a further sum of Rs.15,875 is required for the purchase of paper immediately without which it will not be possible for the Superintendent, Press to cope with the bulky nature of printing.

Many new offices have been created in the districts, *e. g.*, Offices in Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Silchar and Gauhati under the Labour Commissioner, Assam and unit offices in the Plain Districts under the Commissioner of Taxes, Assam. Besides these, there is a considerable increase of work and staff in the existing offices, resulting in more demand for stationery.

B and C—Partly due to increased sale of plain paper and partly due to increase in the rate at 2 as. 2p. per lb. of the paper supplied and also for a debit of Rs.11,978 for supply of water-marked paper to this Province by the Deputy Controller of Stationery.

D.—Due to introduction of the revised scales of pay, winter allowance, payment of more over-time allowances for execution of more printing works and stipend to apprentices, purchase of some new machines and entertainment of various additional staff.

 No. 27

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDIH to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 13,42,040, 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, 1949 for the administration of the Head "57.—Miscellaneous".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	28,18,300
Supplementary grant voted in the September Session ...	3,06,940
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for.	13,42,040
A.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Detenus.	3,900
C.—Donations for charitable purposes	11,797
D.—Special Commission of Enquiry	400
E.—(a) Circuit and Sessions Houses	10,327
(b) Other Petty Establishment	926
G.—Rents	471
H.—Rates and Taxes	1,231
I.—Contributions—(b)—Grants to Local Bodies for general purposes—Grants to Municipal Boards for improvement to towns	7,651
K.—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—	
K.—(2) Expenditure on issue of free ration to Government servants.	8,11,830
K 5. Miscellaneous charges	
Post-War Development Schemes	1,78,944
Deduct—Amount transferred to 63-B	2,19,780
L. Transport Organisation	—2,19,780
M.—Losses on supply of foodstuffs to Government servants and others at concessional prices.	39,563
(a) Deduct—Recoveries from the Central Government.	2,79,000
	—4,000
Total	13,42,040

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. The expenditure is due to the payment of compensation to the Political Sufferers and their families on account of hardship and financial loss suffered by them during the period of detention in jail as Security Prisoners.

C.—Expenditure under this head is of uncertain nature and is dependent among other things on the number of dead paupers in Police cases and also due to contribution to the Orphanage of the St. Mary's Convent at Gauhati.

D.—Due to provision for travelling and halting allowance of the members of the Mikir Hills Boundary Committee.

E.—(a) Due to payment of arrear pay of contingency menials and cost of repairing and varnishing of furniture and other materials and also due to purchase of furniture and articles for circuit houses.

(b) Due to entertainment of additional contingency menials.

G.—Due to increase in rent of buildings

H.—Due to increase in municipal taxes and introduction of light taxes from 1st April 1948.

I.—The amount of Rs.7,651 was realised by the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta, as first instalment of premium on town lands settled in the Barpeta town in connexion with the Town Planning Scheme and credited into the Treasury. Government in the Revenue Department have subsequently sanctioned this amount as grant to the Barpeta Municipal Board for construction and improvement of roads in the Town Planning Scheme. The grant is sanctioned only for the year 1948-49 and it is therefore, necessary to provide this amount of Rs.7,651 in the current year's budget.

K. 2 and M.—Rise in the price of rice as well as other foodstuffs for free ration is mainly responsible for the increased demand.

K. 5(a).—For refund of collective fines realised in excess from some people in lieu of their properties which were seized and confiscated and cheaply sold during the 1942 Movement (Rs. 274).

(b) For payment of compensation for "Rockside" and "Green House" buildings acquired by Government for accommodation for Hon'ble Ministers (Rs. 1,39,286).

(c) For grant of passage money to United States of America to Srijut Bhobendra Nath Hazarika (Rs.4,500).

(d) For payment of a non-recurring grant of Rs. 500 to the Lady Hydari Pleasure Park Committee towards the construction of a stage in the Park.

(e) Due to increase in expenditure under destruction of wild animals and other unforeseen miscellaneous charges (Rs. 29,884).

Post-War Development Schemes :—

(a) For purchase of 19 T. S. Shed and some stores for the Prince of Wales Technical School, Jorhat (Rs. 1,36,140).

(b) For purchase of pumping sets for the Rural Development Department (Rs.22,700).

(c) For purchase of fencing and pipe lines at Barapani for the Agriculture Department (Rs.50,910).

(d) For payment of wages to labourers and Assam Transport in connection with these purchases.

These surplus military stores were purchased last year but payment could not be made in that year as negotiations with the Military in respect of prices could not be finalised.

L.—The additional amount is required for the Pool of Departmental staff vehicles at Shillong which was brought into operation under Provincial Motor Transport Controller with effect from 1st April 1948 after the budget for 1948-49 was passed by the Assembly and therefore the expenditure in this connection which is debitable to the same head—"57.—Miscellaneous—L—Transport Organisation—1.—Spare Parts Control Order," and to be borne by the Provincial Government exclusively, could not be included in the sanctioned budget provision.

(a)—An additional provision for recovery is required on account of some outstanding adjustment due from the Central Government Departments.

No. 28

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 400 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 1949, for the administration of the head—"64-B.—Civil Defence".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly—	...	Rs. Nil.
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for.		400
A.—Expenditure on A. R. P —Non-Excluded Areas (Voted). ...		400

EXPLANATORY NOTE

No provision was made in the original budget as it was anticipated that there would be no expenditure on Civil Defence. But certain expenditure had to be incurred during the year on account of staff retained upto 30th April 1948.

No. 29

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 Rs.2,50,000 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 1949 for the administration of the Head—"81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly—	...	Rs. Nil.
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for.		2,50,000
A.—Original Works—		
(a) Buildings—		

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The details may be seen at Appendix (a).

No.30

The Hon'ble Srijut OMEMO KUMAR DAS to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.22,59,021 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 1949 for the administration of the Head—'85-A.—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading—C.—Distribution of Cloth and Yarn.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	100
II.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for.	22,59,021
B.—Motor Transport Organisation—	
State Transport :—	
	Rs.
Section II—Gauhati-Nowgong route	1,95,803
Section III—Nowgong-Jorhat route	2,35,558
Section IV—Pandur-Gauhati-Shillong route	16,74,560
C.—Distribution of Cloth and Yarn	1,53,100
Total	22,59,021

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The additional amount required for the operation of State Transport is mainly due to the following reasons :—

(1) There was no provision for expenditure and receipts on operation of State Transport on the Nowgong-Jorhat and Pandur-Gauhati-Shillong routes in the budget for the year 1948-49 as the schemes were put into operation long after the budget was voted.

(2) Regarding the Gauhati-Nowgong route, the necessary expenditure was met from receipts of the Assam Transport Organisation in the first instance.

C.—Provision for the administration of the Textile Control Scheme for 1948-49 was originally made, as usual, under the Head—'63.—Extraordinary Charges—A.—Charges in India (V)—Expenditure connected with Control and Distribution of Cloth and Yarn.' With the adoption of the New Scheme of Procurement of textiles by Government and their distribution through Co-operative Societies it has since been decided that the entire charge is to be debited to the Head—'85-A.—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading—C.—Distribution of Cloth and Yarn'. The Expenditure already debited to the Head—'63.—Extraordinary Charges' is being accordingly written back to the Head—'85-A.—Capital Outlay, etc.' The provision of Rs.1,53,100 under the latter Head is therefore asked for to cover these charges. The entire provision under '63.—Extraordinary charges' is being surrendered.

No. 31

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.62,23,168 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 1949 for the Administration of the head—"Loans and Advances, etc."

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	14,87,000
II. Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—	62,23,168
B. Loans and Advances by the Provincial Government—	
(a) Loans to Local Bodies	6,168
(b) Loans to Land holders and other notabilities ...	5,00,000
(c) Advances to Cultivators	10,00,000
(d) Loans under the Land-Improvement Loans Act	35,000
(e) Loans to Co-operative Societies	44,00,000
Advances to Government Servants—	
(f) House building advance	1,22,700
(g) Advances for purchase of Motor Cars ...	1,58,200
(h) Advances for purchase of other conveyances ...	1,100
Total ...	62,23,168

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(a) Many loan applications were submitted by the local bodies to Government during 1948-49. Although all the applications could not be disposed of for want of funds, urgent and immediate proposals had to be entertained and sanctioned. Hence this additional sum of Rs.6,168

(b) The loan is necessary for redemption of the lease of Bidyanagar Tea Estate belonging to the Dewan Manikchand Estate of Cachar now under the management of the Assam Court of Wards. The lease terminates on 31st March, 1949. As the time is too short to raise the loan otherwise, it is proposed to meet the demand by Government loan.

(c) The excess is due to devastating floods in the Province for which loans and advances were granted to cultivators in the shape of Agricultural loans, seed loan, cattle loan, distribution of rice, and paddy at concessional rates, etc.

(d) The excess is due to fact that no such loans were anticipated at the time of framing the Budget but some such loans were granted ultimately to various districts for improvement and reclamation of land.

(e) The Budget for the current year provided Trs. 75, but the revival of the Co-operative Credit Movement has become all the more important and it is proposed to grant a loan of Trs. 44,00 during the current year.

(f), (g) & (h).—Due to abnormal rise in prices of land, building materials, Motor Cars and other conveyances Government had to grant increased advances in relaxation of the existing rules for grant of such advances to enable Government servants to meet their requirement.

LIST OF NEW SCHEMES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET OF 1948-49

Major, minor and sub-head under which provision should be made	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate cost		Estimate of expenditure in 1949-1950		Remarks		
		Non-recurring ring	Total	Non-recurring ring	Total			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.—Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—A—General Establishment—4—Contingencies—Cost of land.	Acquisition of land for shifting the Hatkhola at Nalbari.	11,748	..	11,748	11,748	..	11,748	Rs.

The existing Hatkhola at Nalbari which is small and is also not well situated is required to be shifted to a new site for which land is to be acquired. It has been decided that Government will acquire the new site and realise the cost of acquisition by selling the existing site which is expected to fetch an amount sufficient to cover the cost of acquisition of the new site. Provision for this purpose was made in the year 1946-47 through a schedule but the amount had to be surrendered as it could not be utilised. The provision was renewed last year but had to be surrendered again as it was then decided to reduce the area originally proposed by 2 bighas due to some objections filed. The area of the land after reduction is about 10 bighas and it is estimated that the cost of acquisition will be Rs. 11,748. It is, therefore, necessary to make this provision in the current year's budget.

APPENDIX (a)

Major and Sub-head under which provision should be made	Nature of Scheme	Estimates of ultimate cost				Estimates of expenditure in 1948-49.			Remarks
		Non-recurring		Recurring		Non-recurring		Total	
		ring	Total	ring	Total	ring	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
37.—Education—General Charges—Miscella- neous—Other Mice- laneous Charges— Grants—Expenditure on National Cadet Corps Scheme.	Implementation of National Cadet Corps Scheme in Assam.	..	3,44,900	3,44,900	..	3,44,900	3,44,900	Details of expenditure as per statement attached.	

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

Implementation of the National Cadet Corps Scheme in Assam

Serial No.	Items of Expenditure	1948-49
1. Cost of raising and equipping the National Cadet Corps in Assam as per letter of the Government of India, Ministry of Defence No.0010/48/N.C.C., dated 11th June 1948.		
		Rs.
(a)	Cost of equipment—Senior Division	1,18,000
	Junior Division	14,000
(b)	Cost of clothing—Senior Division	43,000
	Junior Division	54,000
(c)	Civilian Employees—Clerks, Laskars and Peons ...	9,000
(d)	Pay of Officers, Senior Division	3,000
(e)	Cost of messing for camps for Senior Division Cadets	21,500
(f)	Messing allowance in camps for officers of Senior Division.	1,750
(g)	Rail fares to and from Camps	6,000
(h)	Incidental expenditure for units of Senior Division	2,250
(i)	Incidental expenditure for units of Junior Division	300
(j)	Expenditure on Senior and Junior Division Officers to undergo training with Regular Army Units.	32,000
(k)	Travelling Allowance of Officers	1,000
(l)	Travelling Allowance of Establishment	500
(m)	Miscellaneous Contingencies	6,000
(n)	Washing Allowance	2,000
(o)	Kit Allowance (Senior Division)	4,000
(p)	Kit Allowance (Junior Division)	6,000
(q)	Maintenance of Trucks	9,500
(r)	Training grants for units of Senior Division ...	600
(t)	Ammenity Fund	500
(u)	Cost of Construction of Magazines	10,000
	Total	<u>3,44,900</u>

53,500 Simalguri and adjoining villages in the Sibsagar subdivision are heavily infected with *Kala-azar*. A Public Health Dispensary without accommodation for indoor patient is being run at Simalguri but in view of the increase in the incidence of *Kala-azar* in the locality it was decided to construct a Public Health Hospital at Mithapukri in the same locality. A sum of Rs. 60,492 is provided in the current year's budget under the "50.—Civil Works" for construction of buildings for the hospital. But as the provision is quite inadequate the proposal to construct a Public Health Hospital at Mithapukri has been dropped and the above provision is being surrendered separately. As it is urgently necessary to provide accommodation for bed-ridden cases, it is proposed to construct instead one ten-bedded *Kala-azar* Ward in the Nazira Local Board dispensary compound and another fifteen-bedded ward in the Sibsagar hospital compound. Hence a provision of Rs. 40,000 is made as detailed below.

35,500	..	35,500	..	35,500	..	53,500
35,500	..	35,500	..	4,500	..	4,500
40,000	..	40,000	..	40,000	..	40,000
<hr/>						
Total	..	40,000	..	40,000	..	40,000

Non-recurring

Rs.

Construction of buildings for the 10-bedded <i>Kala-azar</i> ward in the Nazira Local Board dispensary compound.	13,900
Construction of building for the 15-bedded <i>Kala-azar</i> ward in the Sibsagar hospital compound.	21,600
Cost of equipment for the above	4,500
Total	40,000

39.—Public Health—F.—Construction of buildings for *Kala-azar* wards at Nazira and Sibsagar town in the Sibsagar district.

39.—Public Health—C.—Cost of equipment for the Epidemic disease—(b) above wards.
—Other epidemic—Medical stores.

SCHEDULE FOR SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD "81.—CAPITAL ACCOUNT OF CIVIL WORKS
OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT"

Division	Name of Project	Estimated amount	Current year's requirement	Explanation
		Rs.	Rs.	
Medical College Buildings Construction Division, Barbari, Dibrugarh.	Construction of residential quarters for the Professors and Assistant Professors of the Medical College, Barbari, Dibrugarh.	24,38,320	2,50,000	This is a part of the Medical College Scheme and is to be financed out of the loan fund. In the absence of a decision at the time of framing the Budget, specific provision for the portion of the project could not be made. The Scheme is very urgent, hence the requirement of the additional demand. A sum of Rs. 3,00,000 for this purpose has been sanctioned by the Government of India as a loan to finance the scheme.

Statement showing by major heads the amounts of Supplementary Grants which the Assembly are asked to vote in the present Session—*contd.*

Heads	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
38. Medical	..	19,08,100	8,063	2,85,289	22,01,452	14
39. Public Health	..	20,57,900	..	1,02,360	21,60,260	15
40. Agriculture	..	10,63,000	..	24,528	10,87,528	16
41. Veterinary	..	3,42,000	..	4,000	3,46,000	17
42. Co-operation	..	3,12,500	14,743	..	3,27,243	..
I. Co-operative Societies	2,86,935	2,86,935	18
II. Rural Development	50,245	50,245	19
43. Industries	..	3,86,100	..	..	3,86,100	..
I. Sericulture and Weaving	3,08,766	3,08,786	20
II. Cottage Industries	37,618	37,618	21
47. Miscellaneous Department	..	2,46,500	..	28,691	2,75,191	22
50. Civil Works (Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment).	..	1,00,83,300	..	83,595	1,01,66,895	23
Civil Works (Excluding Tools and Plant Establishment).	..	14,75,800	..	..	14,75,800	..
54. A.—Famine Relief	..	1,00,000	..	3,00,000	4,00,000	24
55. Superannuation and 83.—Payment of commuted value of pensions.	..	31,41,400	..	80,500	32,21,900	25
56. Stationery and Printing	..	5,30,800	1,68,000	98,775	7,97,575	26
57. Miscellaneous	..	28,18,300	3,06,940	13,42,040	44,67,280	27
63. Extraordinary charges	..	4,48,800	..	..	4,48,800	..
63. B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes.	..	7,71,67,700	5,71,000	..	7,77,38,700	..
64. B.—Civil Defence	400	400	28
72. Capital outlay on Industrial Development	..	3,00,00,000	..	..	3,00,00,000	..
81. Capital account of civil works, etc.	2,50,000	2,50,000	29
85. A.—Capital outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading.	..	100	..	22,59,021	22,59,121	30
Loans and advances bearing and not bearing interest.	..	14,87,000	..	62,23,168	77,10,168	31
Grand total	..	16,60,83,000	29,86,942	1,62,16,256	18,52,86,198	..

