

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

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1941

1942

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1950

THE END OF THE LINE

1951

RECORDED AT NATIONAL ARCHIVES COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

1951

1952

Proceedings of the Third Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled after the First General Election under the Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitution of India.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 a.m. on Saturday the 11th April, 1953.

PRESENT

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha, B. L., Speaker, in the Chair, the ten Ministers, the two Deputy Ministers, two Parliamentary Secretaries and seventy-five Members.

Short Notice Questions

Mr. SPEAKER : There is a Short Notice Question in the name of Shri Dandiram Dutta but it is unfortunate that the Member is absent.

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) : Sir, it was said yesterday that Ministers never agree to reply to Short Notice Questions, but from this it will appear that we have agreed to reply, but the Member is absent. This shows that we are generally agreeable to reply to Short Notice Questions.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Departmental Committee for selecting officers to the Posts of Registrars and Assistant Secretaries

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

- *206. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether the present Chief Engineer has been confirmed in his post and if not, why ?
 - (b) Whether it is a fact that Government have recently appointed a Selection Board with the present Chief Engineer as one of the members to select efficient officers, from the cadre of Superintendents to fill up the posts of Registrars and Assistant Secretaries?
 - (c) Whether it is a fact that the Board selected their candidates after scrutinising the Character Rolls of the Superintendents and if so, why the selection was not left to the Public Service Commission ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that two of the most junior Superintendents have been nominated to fill up the posts of Registrar and Assistant Secretary superseding the claims of a very large number of senior Superintendents with much better records of service ?

(e) The community to which these superseded Superintendents belong ?

(f) Whether Government propose to review the decision and reconstitute the Board with senior officials or leave the entire selection to the Public Service Commission ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

206. (a)—No, the matter is under consideration of Government.

(b) & (c)—The Departmental Committee of Selection constituted under Rule 7 of the Assam Secretariat Service Rules 1951, published *vide* Notification No.AAP.31/51/14, dated the 3rd August, 1951, a copy of which is laid on the table of the Assembly Library, made a preliminary selection as prescribed in the rule referred to. The list was forwarded to the Public Service Commission and their advice obtained as prescribed in the rule.

(d)—Two officers from the approved panels for Registrars and Assistant Secretaries respectively have been appointed to officiate temporarily as the officers who have secured higher position in the approved lists are not immediately available for posting as they were in other Department. The selection to the approved lists has been made strictly on merit under the provisions of the Assam Secretariat Service Rules and the question of superseding the claim of senior Superintendents with much better records of service, does not arise.

(e)—In selection strictly on merit, as the rules prescribe, the community of the officers is not taken into consideration.

(f)—Government do not propose to revise the Assam Secretariat Service Rules which lay down the principles and the procedure.

Dacoities at Lakhipur Thana

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

*207. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Inspector General of Police received a joint petition from Naimuddin and 35 others on 1st July, 1952 regarding constant dacoities at Lakhipur Thana of Goalpara district ?

(b) Is it a fact that a similar joint petition was addressed to the Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara, on or about the same date by Mokshed Ali Bepari and 20 others ?

(c) What steps have Government taken on these petitions ?

(d) Is it a fact that Police instead of taking action on the dacoits have harassed these petitioners ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

207. (a)—Yes. A joint petition was received from Naimuddin and 35 others on 5th July 1952.

(b)—Yes. A similar petition was received from Mokshed Ali and 20 others by Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara.

(c)—Both the petitions addressed to Inspector General of Police and Deputy Commissioner were enquired into by the Subdivisional Police Officer, Goalpara. The allegation of harassment by Police was found baseless.

(d)—No.

Eviction of Refugee families from Hojai

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

*208. (a) Is it a fact that about 200 refugee families have been evicted from Hojai recently ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for doing so ?

(c) Were they given alternative sites before being evicted ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

208. (a), (b), (c)—A report from the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong has been called for.

Deurijan Channel in Nagsankar Mauza

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

*209. Will Government be pleased to state :—

(a) Whether Government have dug a drain called Deurijan in Nagsankar Mauza of Tezpur Sub-division ?

- (b) If so, what was the cost for doing so ?
 (c) Whether it has proved useful for the crops ?
 (d) Whether Government have received any report about the drain from the local officers concerned regarding its utility ?
 (e) Whether Government have lately received any representation regarding the drain from the public of the locality ?
 (f) What is the up-to-date cost of repair of this drain ?
 (g) What action have Government taken on the representation stated in (e) above ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

209. (a)—Yes.
 (b)—The cost of digging the Deurijan channel is about Rs.13,000.
 (c)—Yes, it has proved beneficial to Nagsankar Mouza.
 (d)—Yes.
 (e)—Yes, for further improvement to the scheme for the benefit of the people of Sootea Mouza.
 (f)—The cost of maintenance, if any, may be taken as very little as the main work has not yet been closed.
 (g) Government propose to take up the works for improvement and extension of the scheme for which necessary provision has been made in the Budget for 1953-54.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Sir, with regard to question No. 209(a), is it a fact that the drain suffers from various defects with the result that the people of the locality have suffered ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) : Not to my information, Sir.

The question (a) is "Whether Government have dug a drain called Deurijan in Nagsankar Mauza of Tezpur Subdivision ?"

The reply is "Yes". The question (c) is, "Whether it has proved useful for the crops ?" the reply is, "Yes, it has proved beneficial to Nagsankar Mauza".

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) : As a matter of fact this channel has improved facilities for cultivators of that area and the people of the locality are generally benefited for this. But some people who may be aggrieved for acquiring their lands for this purpose, may have complained.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Was any compensation paid to the people whose lands have been acquired ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) : Generally in the estimate the compensation is included and paid if land is not given free.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: May I know whether in this particular case compensation has been paid to the people ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): In some cases public give land free and voluntarily and in some cases compensation is given when there is a demand for it from people.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Has Government any information whether in this particular case any money was paid as compensation ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Sir, this is a new question, I want notice of it.

Landless indigenous families in Tihu and Nalbari Circles

****Shri PRABHAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI** asked :

*210. (a) Will Government be pleased to state Mouza-wise the number of landless indigenous families in the Tihu and Nalbari Circles ?

(b) Do Government propose to provide lands to those landless families in immediate future ?

(c) If so, where and under what condition ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) replied :

210. (a) —	Nalbari Circle			
1. Mouza Khata	340 families.
2. „ Bahjani	320 „
3. „ Upper Barbhag	183 „
4. „ Pokowa	100 „
5. „ Natun Dehar	120 „
6. „ Batahgila	200 „
7. „ Uttar Barkhetri	138 „
8. „ Madhyam Barkhetri	65 „
9. „ Pub Barkhetri	29 „
10. „ Pas Barkhetri	68 „
				1,563 „

****Questions were asked by Shri Mahendra Nath Deka on authorisation.**

Tihu Circle

1.	Mouza	Khetridharmapur	...	...	650 families.
2.	"	Dharmapur	...	...	2,500 "
3.	"	Numbarbhag	...	...	450 "
4.	"	Tihu	...	...	1,300 "
5.	"	Madhya Baska	...	...	550 "
6.	"	Namati	...	...	240 "
7.	"	Paschim Baska	...	...	231 "
8.	"	Dakshin Baska	...	...	189 "
9.	"	Uttar Baska	...	...	220 "
					6,330

(b) & (c)—It is being examined whether some P G. Rs. and V. G. Rs. of Rangiya Tihu and Nalbari Circles can conveniently be thrown open for settlement with the landless people of Tihu and Nalbari Circles. The proposal, which is still in its initial stage, is being examined and will be put up by the local L. S. A. Committee.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Will Government be pleased to state what they mean by landless, whether the term "landless" means having absolutely no land?

Mr. SPEAKER: Landless means landless. No definition is wanted.

Billeswar Temple

****Shri PRABHAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI** asked:

*211. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the original amount of land that was given by the Ahom Kings to the Billeswar Temple?

(b) What is the actual amount now available as temple land?

(c) Is it a fact that a good deal of the original land was transferred by some of the former Dolois, Bar-Deuris, or Paikes for their own use?

(d) If so, do Government propose to take such steps as to restore that land to the original position?

(e) Do Government propose to look into the administration of this temple and make provision for monthly recurring grant out of the revenue collected by Government from the temple land?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) replied :

211. (a)—Information is not available.

	B.	K.	L.
(b)—(i) Lakheraj	1,420	0	5
(ii) Nisp Lakheraj	2,798	1	4
(iii) Kheraj	603	4	3
Total	4,822	0	12

(c)—No record is available to show the transfer, if any. In Nalbari however some periodic Kheraj patta lands belonging to the temple were annulled and made Sarkari for non-payment of revenue. Subsequently these lands were settled with actual occupants or rayats on annual patta issued on receipt of the arrear revenues. The area of such land is given below :—

	B.	K.	L.
(i)—Chaplekuchi village in Natun Dehar mauza.	219	1	2
(ii) Burinagar Village in Natun Dehar mauza.	133	3	6
Total	352	4	8

(d)—No.

(e)—There is no such proposal under contemplation at present.

United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

*212. Will Government be pleased to state—

- Whether the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council have their own District Council buildings and other office accommodations ?
- If not, how much the said Council pay monthly as rent for the use of such buildings and office accommodations ?
- Whether the other District Councils possess their own buildings and office accommodation ?
- If not, what is the total amount spent up till now as rent for hire of such buildings ?
- Whether Government propose to grant any money for constructing such buildings to the Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council and if so, what is the amount ?
- How much money the Government grants as subvention to the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

212. (a)—No.

(b)—The United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District Council paid a sum of Rs.1,000 to the Siem of Myllicem as one year's rent for the building occupied by the Council. No rent was charged by Government for the use of the Cabinet room in the old Constitution Hall where the District Council holds its meetings.

(c)—No.

(d)—No rent was paid by the Garo Hills and the Mikir Hills District Councils for hire of buildings. The Lushai Hills District Council paid rent amounting to Rs.347-5-0 and the North Cachar Hills District Council paid a sum of Rs.400 for this purpose.

(e)—No grant has been made specifically for construction of building. The State Government have, however, granted advances to the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District Council to the extent of Rs.1,05,000 in order to enable the Council to meet its day-to-day financial commitments and to tide over the initial period of financial difficulty. The balance at the credit of the Khasi States Deposit Account when that account was merged in the State revenues after the commencement of the Constitution, amounting to Rs.4,3,242-9-8 has also been transferred to the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District Council. In addition, a non-recurring grant of Rs.3 lakhs has been allotted to the District Council. While this grant-in-aid is not specifically for buildings, Government take it that the District Council will assess its various needs including accommodation in order of priority in determining how this amount is to be expended.

(f)—The question of grant of any subvention to the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District Council does not arise. Under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule certain items of revenue and taxation have been transferred to the District Council, the intention being that the District Council should, as far as possible, so adjust its expenditure as to be within the funds available to it out of the proceeds of the said revenue and taxes. However, to enable the Council to tide over the initial period of difficulty, Government have sanctioned the advances and grants-in-aid mentioned in the answer to question (e) above.

In addition, Sir, the State Government continue to bear the cost of primary education although this is the responsibility of the District Council. The State Government also bear the expenses in connection with Agriculture and such other departments.

Establishment of Town Committee in North Gauhati

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government have received any representation from a section of the people of North Gauhati opposing the establishment of Town Committee in North Gauhati ?
- (b) If so, what action has been taken on that representation ?
- (c) Whether all shades of opinion were consulted before deciding to establish this Town Committee ?
- (d) How much grant-in-aid or subvention or loan Government have advanced to this Town Committee ?

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Minister) replied :

213. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It has been rejected after consideration of all the circumstances.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—A statement is given below—

Statement showing the amounts of Grants-in-aid or subventions so far given by Government to the North Gauhati Town Committee.

1950-51

Rupees 7,500—a grant for general purposes.

1951-52

Rupees 3,108—a non-recurring grant for improvement of “communications”.

1952-53

Rupees 2,000—a grant for general purposes.

Rupees 552—a non-recurring grant for the improvement of “communications”.

Rupees 6,000—a non-recurring grant for the improvement of water-supply and renovation of old tanks.

LOAN—Nil.

Narikoli Sarabhanga Bridge on the Gauhati-Mangaldai Road

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

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

- (a) How many times the Narikoli bridge (known also as Sarabhanga bridge) near 73rd mile post on the Gauhati-Mangaldai road has been repaired in the last five years ?
- (b) What is the reason for the constant damage to this bridge ?
- (c) How much money has been spent during the last five years for the repair of this bridge ?
- (d) Who is the contractor appointed to do the repair this year ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

214. (a)—No other repair work regarding this bridge was done during the last 5 years except the usual annual maintenance work.

(b)—There was no damage to the bridge except in July 1952 caused by the abnormal flood and larger spills of Nunai river.

(c)—Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above but about Rs. 500 was spent for usual maintenance work.

(d)—The contractors for repairs this year are :—

1. For earthwork

... Shri Gaffar Mistry.

2. For Boulder collection ... Shri Achyut Ch. Das and Shri Sunanda Ram Deka.
3. For extension of the ... Shri J. M. Nath.
bridge.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Is it not a fact that this bridge is being repaired this year ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Yes, Sir, this will be evident from reply to (d), where I have given the names of the contractors.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Are they doing the usual annual repairs or something else ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Annual repairs are always done. Isn't it ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Yes, Sir.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I have seen the bridge myself and found that extensive repairs were being done.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): A portion of it which was damaged by last flood is under construction and for the old portion usual annual repairs are being done.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there a little extension also ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): A portion of the approach to the bridge was washed away also and the new construction includes extension of the bridge also. Regarding the remaining portion which was in existence, only annual repairs are being done.

Staff of the Supply and Procurement Departments

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

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

(a) The total number of staff employed in the Supply Department and the Procurement Department in the years 1950, 1951 and now ?

(b) What is the average tenure of service of the retrenched staff ?

(c) How many of the retrenched staff have been re-employed in other Departments of Government ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) replied :

	Supply Department	Procurement Department
215. (a)—1950	313	1,074
1951	321	1,198
1952-53	341	1,227

(b)—One to two years.

(c)—Certain categories of staff, for example, Assistant Sub-Inspectors and Checkers, have been retrenched but the other affected personnel have either been absorbed in their parent Departments or in different branches of the Supply Department. As regards the re-employment of the retrenched Assistant Sub-Inspectors and Checkers in other Departments of Government information is not readily available.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Out of 341 employees in the Supply Department and 1,227 employees in the Procurement Department, what are the numbers of persons who have been retrenched ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): As I have already stated, Sir, that three Assistant Sub-Inspectors and six checkers have been retrenched. If my hon. Friend want to know whether we propose further reduction, I can tell him that we propose to make a reduction of about 90 personnel from the Procurement Branch and 59 personnel from General side of the Supply Department, in course of the next two months or so.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Is it only three persons that have been discharged from the Supply Department, Sir, ? I am only concerned with the information regarding those who have already been retrenched.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): Certain categories of posts, such as A. S. Is and Checkers have been retrenched. The other affected personnel have either been absorbed in their parent Departments or in different branches of the Supply Department. As regards the re-employment of the retrenched Assistant Sub-Inspectors and Checkers in other Departments of Government information is not readily available and as such I cannot give that information off-hand.

**Nomination of defeated persons in the last General Election
to different Boards**

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB of Sidli asked :

*216. Will Government be pleased to refer to the interim reply given to Starred Question No.123 asked by the Questioner on the 20th September, 1952 and give final reply to the following questions now—

- (a) How many persons defeated in the last General Election were nominated by Government in different Boards constituted by Government ?
- (b) Their party affiliations ?
- (c) The names of such persons and the Boards to which they are nominated ?
- (d) The reasons for nominating such persons ?
- (e) The qualifications required for being members of those Boards ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) : replied :

216. (a)—Eighteen, two of whom have ceased to be Members because of abolition of the Boards.

(b)—Ten Congress ; five Independent ; two Socialist and one Garo National Council.

(c)—A statement is given below—

Names of persons nominated to different Boards and Committee

(1) Shri Kamini Kumar Sen (Congress)—

- (i) Member, Karimganj Supply Advisory Board.
- (ii) „ „ Land Settlement Advisory Committee.
- (iii) „ „ Anti-corruption Committee.
- (iv) „ „ State Transport Authority.

(2) Shri Lakhidhar Bora (Congress)—

- (i) Member, Gauhati Supply Advisory Board.
- (ii) „ „ Land Settlement Advisory Committee.
- (iii) „ „ School Board and District Cadet Committee, National Cadet Corps, Kamrup.
- (iv) „ „ Self-Help Advisory Board.

(3) Shri Ataur Rahman (Congress)—

- (i) Member, Barpeta Land Settlement Advisory Committee.
- (ii) „ „ District Minority Board, Kamrup and Subdivisional Minority Board, Barpeta.

(iii) Member, Barpeta Anti-corruption Committee.

(iv) „ „ Self-Help Advisory Board.

(4) **Shri Sarat Ch. Singha (Congress)**—

(i) Member, Dhubri Supply Advisory Board.

(ii) „ „ Goalpara Anti-corruption Committee.

(iii) „ „ Gauhati, Regional Transport Authority.

(iv) „ „ Dhubri School Board and District Cadet Committee,
National Cadet Corps, Goalpara.

(v) „ „ Dhubri Self-Help Advisory Board.

(5) **Shri Siva Prasad Sarma (Congress)**—

(i) Member, Mangaldai Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(6) **Shri Akram Hussain Saikia (Congress)**—

(i) Member, Gauhati Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(ii) „ „ School Board.

(7) **Shrimati Padma Kumari Gohain (Congress)**—

(i) Member, Dibrugarh School Board.

(ii) „ „ Self-Help Advisory Board.

(iii) „ „ Supply Advisory Board.

(8) **Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda (Congress)**—

(i) Member, Silchar School Board.

(9) **Shri Sayed Ahmed Ali (Congress)**—

(i) Member, Dhubri Self-Help Advisory Board.

(10) **Miss Mavis Dunn (Independent)**—

(i) Member, Shillong Supply Advisory Board.

(11) **Shri Larsing Khyriem (Independent)**—

(i) Member, Jowai Supply Advisory Board.

(ii) „ „ Shillong Regional Transport Authority.

(12) **Shri Bhuban Ch. Buragohain (Independent)**—

(i) Member, Jorhat Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(13) **Shri Brownson Momin (Independent)**—

(i) Member, Tura Self-Help Advisory Board.

(14) **Shri Dambarudhar Bora (Socialist)**—

(i) Member, Tezpur Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(15) **Shri Rup Ram Sut (Socialist)**—

(i) Member, Nowgong Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(16) **Shri Phukan Sangma (Garo National Council)**—

(i) Member, Gauhati Regional Transport Authority.

(ii) ,, Tura Self-Help Advisory Board.

(17) **Shri Rameswar Bora (Congress)**—

(18) **Shri W. Khongmen (Independent)**— } Cease to be Members of Textile Advisory Board because of its abolition.

(d)—They were considered suitable for discharge of their responsibilities in view of their long association and abiding interest in public affairs.

(e)—Government have not prescribed any specific qualifications for being eligible to be members of these Boards.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

To which Answers were laid on the table.

Opium addicts

Shri SARVESWAR BORUWA asked :

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

(a) How many centres for the treatment of opium addicts have so far been started and where ?

(b) The number of addicts treated in each centre so far ?

(c) The number of addicts under-going treatment in each centre in February, 1953 ?

(d) The number of Prohibition Officers attached to each centre ?

(e) Average monthly expenditure incurred in each centre ?

(f) What cottage industry, if any, has been introduced in the centres for the occupation of the patients' time and what income, if any, has been derived therefrom and how it is being utilised ?

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister) replied :

183. (a)—11 (eleven) Treatment Centres as shown below :

1. Nongpoh.

2. Sadiya.

3. Dellai in Mikir Hills of Golaghat Subdivision.

4. Deithor in Mikir Hills of Golaghat Subdivision.

5. Chapanala in Mikir Hills of Nowgong District.

6. Dabaka in Nowgong District.

7. Tamulpur in Kamrup District.
8. Amranga (Barihat) in Kamrup District.
9. Haflong in North Cachar Hills Subdivision.
10. North Lakhimpur.
11. Sonowal Kachari (Majuli) in Jorhat Subdivision.

(b)—In Nongpoh Centre —256 Number of addicts.

„ Sadiya	„	—176	„	„
„ Dellai	„	—574	„	„
„ Deithor	„	—129	„	„
„ Chapanalla	„	—103	„	„
„ Dabaka	„	—148	„	„
„ Tamulpur	„	—130	„	„
„ Amranga	„	—12	„	„
„ Haflong	„	—32	„	„
„ North Lakhim- pur Centre.		—34	„	„
„ Sonowal Kacha- ri Centre.		—32	„	„

(c)—In Dabaka Centre —14 Number of addicts.

„ Amranga	„	—12	„	„
„ Deithor	„	—12	„	„
„ North Lakhim- pur Centre.		—34	„	„
„ Haflong Centre		—16	„	„
„ Sonowal Kacha- ri Centre.		—32	„	„

(d)—In North Lakhimpur Centre 5 (five) Prohibition Officers.

„ Sonowal Kachari	„	3 (eight)	„	„
„ Haflong	„	8 (eight)	„	„
„ Dabaka	„	9 (nine)	„	„
„ Deithor	„	3 (three)	„	„
„ Amranga	„	4 (four)	„	„

(e)—Rupees 1,262 (Rupees one thousand two hundred and sixty-two) only.

(f)—Cottage Industry like Bamboo Matress, Baskets, Cane Chairs, etc. So far, practically no income has been derived as materials such as bamboo, cane, nails, etc., are to be purchased. Some of the produces are in stock for sale.

Area, Population, Land Revenue or Poll Tax of different Mouzas

Shri SARVESWAR BORUWA asked:

184. Will Government be pleased to state in a tabular form—

(i) The area, (ii) Population, (iii) Land Revenue or poll tax (as assessed in 1952-53) of the following mauzas:—

A. (1) Sissi, (2) Dhemaji, (3) Paikmahal in the Dibrugarh Subdivision.

- B. (1) Bardoloni, (2) Maskhowa, (3) Gohaingaon, (4) Dhakuakhana, (5) Kadam, (6) Nakari, (7) Lakhimpur, (8) Lakhimpur-Kherajkhat, (9) Telahi, (10) Kamalabaria, (11) Naobaisa, (12) Laluk, (13) Bihpuria, (14) Narayanpur, (15) Narayanpur-Kherajkhat and (16) Dhalpur in North Lakhimpur Subdivision.
- C. (1) Gohpur, (2) Brahmajan, (3) Kalangpur and (4) Halem in Darrang District.
- D. (1) Salmora, (2) Kamalabari and (3) Ahataguri in the Sibsagar District.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

184.—(A), (B), (C) & (D).—The statement below will show the (i) Area, (ii) Population and (iii) Land Revenue of Mouzas in Question. No poll tax is realised in these Mouzas.

Statement showing the (i) area (ii) population and (iii) Land Revenue or poll tax (as assessed in 1952) of the following mouzas

Name of District and Subdivision (1)	Name of Mauza (2)	Area in Square miles (3)	Population (4)	Land Revenue or poll tax (5)		
				Rs.	a.	p.
Dibrugarh Subdivision.	(1) Sissi ...	288.88	12,304	19,337	0	0
	(2) Dhemajī ...	157.12	20,926	40,280	0	0
	(3) Sissi Paikmahal	Not available	9,361	Not known		
Darrang District...	(1) Gohpur ...	77.95	22,829	54,826	13	0
	(2) Brahmajan ...	37.09	15,231	33,271	5	0
	(3) Kallongpur ...	78.74	15,846	35,737	8	0
	(4) Halem ...	39.11	15,762	26,157	15	0
Sibsagar District	(1) Salmara ...	195.0	26,133	43,582	12	0
	(2) Kamalabari ...	164.0	34,730	35,940	7	0
	(3) Ahotguri ...	106.0	16,003	18,474	0	0
North Lakhimpur Subdivision.	(1) Bardoloni ...	181.66	12,108	33,894	0	0
	(2) Mashkhawa ...	72.37	12,901	32,433	0	0
	(3) Gohaingaon ...	106.53	12,438	16,485	0	0
	(4) Dhakuakhana	112.14	16,095	24,325	0	0
	(5) Kadam ...	202.55	24,280	35,141	0	0
	(6) Nakari ...	41.36	12,445	33,660	0	0
	(7) Lakhimpur including Lakhimpur Kherajkhat.	66.2	13,083	27,041	0	0
	(8) Talahi ...	121.55	15,798	29,900	0	0
	(9) Kamalabaria...	12.27	4,631	16,241	0	0
	(10) Naobaishya ...	126.07	30,248	68,845	0	0
	(11) Laluk ...	96.65	31,031	61,852	0	0
	(12) Bihpuria ...	53.71	16,759	41,881	0	0
	(13) Narayanpur ...	41.36	14,371	39,015	0	0
	(14) Narayanpur-Kherajkhat.	49.11	14,367	49,676	0	0
	(15) Dhalpur ...	60.99	15,634	43,422	0	0

Area of Land requisitioned by Government from Sagmotia Tea Estate

Shri LILAKANTA BORA asked :

185. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) How many bighas of land were requisitioned by Government up till now from Sagmotia Tea Estate in the District of Nowgong ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that land requisitioned is mostly high land unfit for recultivation ?
- (c) To how many families allotments had been made of these lands and when ?
- (d) When premiums were realised and at what rate ?
- (e) Whether settlement has been given to the allottees and if not, why not ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) replied :

185. (a)—1,104B-0K-13L of land.

(b)—No.

(c)—188 families have been given allotments on different dates.

(d)—Informations have been called for from the Deputy Commissioner and will be supplied as soon as received.

(e)—Settlement has not been given as the ownership in requisitioned land rests with the owner.

Shri LILA KANTA BORA : Is it a fact that premium for land has been realised more than a year back ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) : Sir, the answer is at (d)—“Informations have been called for from the Deputy Commissioner and will be supplied as soon as received”.

Any way, that cannot be a premium. If any money has been realised that might be on some other account, either as compensation or advance payment of premium. We do not know the exact information, so the information has been sought for.

When Government will give settlement to the people and when the allottees go to the land and bring it under cultivation, we acquire the land and settle it with them.

Lands belonging to the people of Sadilapur near Pandu

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

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

- (a) When were the lands belonging to the people of Sadilapur near Pandu requisitioned by the Military ?

- (b) When were these lands returned by the Military ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that Government instead of returning these lands to the people allowed the Assam Railway to erect its temporary Headquarters there ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Railways have not paid rents to the owners of the lands for the last three years ?
- (e) Now that the Railway Headquarters is no more there whether Government propose to return the land to the original owners ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) replied :

186. (a)—In the year 1943.

(b) & (c)—The lands in question were de-requisitioned in the year 1948. But before the lands were formally de-requisitioned the Military gave possession of the land to the Railways along with the Military buildings standing thereon without the knowledge or permission of the State Government. It is not a fact that Government allowed Assam Railway to erect temporary Headquarter there.

(d)—No. Railways are paying the rent. But they are not paying compensation for the damages done in spite of references by the Deputy Commissioner. The matter has now been taken up by Government.

(e)—The Railways have not yet given up possession. The matter is under examination.

Training of the Jatinga River in North Cachar Hills

Shri JOYBHADRA HAGJER asked :

187. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the amount required for the completion of the training of the Jatinga river in North Cachar Hills ;
- (b) the amount likely to be spent this year ;
- (c) the progress so far made ;
- (d) whether the work is likely to be completed before the rains ; and
- (e) if not, why not ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

187. (a)—Rs.84,500 (approximately).

(b)—Rs.20,000 (during 1952-53).

(c)—Earthwork completed and collection of boulders and wire netting for sauses in progress.

(d)—Expected to be completed by June.

(e)—Does not arise.

Non-recurring grants made to the Middle and High Schools in March last

Shri SARVESWAR BORUWA asked :

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

(a) in a tabular form, the distribution of non-recurring grants made to the Middle and High Schools in March last subdivision by subdivision ; and

(b) the reason for non-allotment of grants out of the savings at the end of the year to schools in the North Lakhimpur Subdivision ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) replied :

188. (a)—A statement is placed on the Library Table for the information of the Members.

(b)—The reason for giving non-recurring grants to a less number of schools in North Lakhimpur Subdivision is that most of the schools in that Subdivision already received non-recurring grants from the Earthquake Relief Fund.

Non-recurring grants were however sanctioned out of savings to four High Schools and ten Middle Schools of this Subdivision. The amount of grants sanctioned from the Earthquake Relief Fund have also been noted in the statement mentioned above against the institutions concerned.

Certain Lower Division Assitants of Assam Secretariat

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

189. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) When did the following Lower Division Assistants join the Assam Secretariat ?

1. Mahbubar Rahman.
2. Ram Prasad Sinha.
3. Suresh M. Roy.
4. G. Mc. Bennington.
5. Louis Addison War.
6. Bhagirath Bora.
7. Govinda Ch. Brahma.

(b) Is it a fact that these 7 Lower Division Assistants were already confirmed in their original Departments they served ?

(c) How were they recruited to the Assam Secretariat and under what rules of Departmental recruitment ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

189. (a)—The assistants joined the Assam Secretariat on the dates noted against each.

1. Shri Mahbubar Rahman—3rd September 1948.

2. Shri Ram Prasad Sinha—12th January 1949.

3. Shri Suresh Mohon Roy—7th April 1949.

4. Shri G. Mc. Bennington—23rd April 1949.

5. Shri Louis Addison War—28th April 1949.

6. Shri Bhagirath Bora—8th October 1949.

7. Shri Govinda Ch. Brahma—5th January 1950.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—They were recruited against temporary vacancies, on their applications, as an emergency measure due to the departure of a large number of Secretariat personnel who opted for service in Pakistan. After the Partition a large number of vacancies occurred in the Secretariat and the lists of candidates recommended by the Public Service Commission were quite insufficient for filling up the vacancies. As a stop-gap arrangement to cope with the abnormal situation the Public Service Commission allowed Government to recruit all available candidates from outside the lists approved by them from Heads of Department Offices and District Offices.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Is it not a fact that these two Assistants viz: Shri Basanta Narayan Kunwar and Shri Bres Mohan Roy who were appointed temporarily were confirmed before those seven Assistants ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): These names are not here, Sir. It is a new question and I am afraid, I cannot give the information off-hand.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: In relation to (c), is it not a fact that in 1950, when Mr. Desai was the Chief Secretary, these seven persons were exempted from appearing in the P.S.C. examination with the approval of the P.S.C. ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Sir, they were recruited against temporary vacancies on their applications as an emergency measure due to the departure of a large number of Secretariat personnel who opted for service in Pakistan. After the Partition a large number of vacancies occurred in the Secretariat and the lists of candidates recommended by the Public Service Commission were quite insufficient for filling up

the vacancies. As a stop-gap arrangement to cope with the abnormal situation the Public Service Commission allowed Government to recruit all available candidates from outside the lists approved by them from Heads of Department Offices and District Offices.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: My point is— they have not yet been confirmed.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Yes, they have not been confirmed.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Why ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): The whole idea is that there were some temporary vacancies in the cadre of Upper Division and Lower Division posts. If there be no permanent vacancies none of them can be absorbed.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: What is the sanctioned strength now ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): I do not exactly remember that, Sir.

Rice and Oil Mills

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

190. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of Rice and Oil Mills district-wise, with the names of the mills and the names of their owners ?
- (b) How many of them are still functioning ?
- (c) The total amount of labour they employ ?
- (d) The total quantity of rice supplied by each of these mills from March till December, 1952 ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): replied :

190. (a) to (d)— On the basis of the information so far available there are 203 Rice and Oil Mills in Assam of which 184 are functioning with 2,417 labourers and supplies obtained from them for the period March-December, 1952 were approximately 48,000 tons in terms of rice. A list showing the names of the mills procurement area-wise with names of their owners together with information regarding labour and supplies has been placed on the Library table. It is, however, not possible to furnish separate figures for the rice and oil mills as most of the mills having plants for rice and oil mill-ing have been registered to function as both.

Names of officers against whom departmental Proceedings were drawn up

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

191. (a) Will Government be pleased to give names of officers against whom departmental proceedings were drawn up in 1949-50, 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53 and also to furnish copies of the charges against each ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state how many of the proceedings referred to in question (a) above have been disposed of and also furnish in respect of each of these proceedings the names of the officers concerned (and copies of the findings of the enquiries in each case) together with the orders passed ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

191. (a)—The information has been called for.

(b)—The information has been called for.

Number of applications for refugee registration cards

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

192. Will the Minister-in-charge of Refugee Rehabilitation be pleased to state—

- (a) How many applications for refugee registration card were received till 31st December, 1952 from the refugees in the different districts of this State ?
- (b) How many refugee registration cards were issued till 31st December, 1952 in the different districts ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that such registration has been stopped since July last and if so, what is the reason for doing so ?
- (d) What is the total number of loan applications received from the refugees by Government till December, 1952 ?
- (e) How many applicants have been granted loan and what is the total amount of such loan ?
- (f) What is the total number of rural and total number of urban refugees ?
- (g) How much money has been spent for the up-keep of the establishment of the Relief and Rehabilitation Department in the State till December, 1952 ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

192. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g)—The informations have been called for from District Officers.

Number of Manipuries employed in different offices of Government in Shillong

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS asked :

193. Will Government be pleased to state the number of Manipuries so far employed in different offices of Government in Shillong ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

193. The information has been called for.

Lower Division Assistants in the Secretariat

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS asked :

194. (a) Is it a fact that at the time of confirmation of Lower Division Assistants in the Secretariat in 1951 the seniority of the Assistants confirmed was determined taking into consideration the Assistants' past War services as well as continuous services in the civil department of Government whether temporary or permanent ?

(b) Is it a fact that the principle adopted in the Secretariat for the determination of the seniority of the Assistants by taking into account the past services of an individual both civil and military is not being followed in any other department of Government because of absence of any direction from Government in the matter to other departments ?

(c) If the answer to questions (a) and (b) is in the affirmative what are the reasons for such differentiation ?

(d) Do Government propose to issue a directive now to all departments of Government to adopt the same principle as has been done by Government in the Secretariat in this regard ?

(e) If not, why not ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

194. (a)—No.

(b), (c), (d) and (e)—Do not arise.

Patharkandi Girls' Middle English School

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS asked :

195. (a) Are Government aware of the existence of Patharkandi Girls' Middle English School ?

(b) Do Government propose to grant recognition to this School ?

(c) Do Government propose to sanction suitable recurring or non-recurring grant to this School ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) replied :

195. (a)—Steps are being taken to obtain particulars.
 (b)—This will receive consideration in due course.
 (c)—Applications when submitted will receive due consideration.

Manipuri Applicants for Engineering Scholarships

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS asked :

196. (a) Will the Education Minister be pleased to state whether there were any Manipuri applicants for the State Government Engineering Scholarship in the year 1952 ?

(b) If so, what are their names ?

(c) If any of the Manipuri applicants has been granted any such scholarship ?

(d) Is it a fact that Manipuri Community residing in the State of Assam is an educationally backward Community ?

(e) If so, have Government taken any steps to give special facilities like other backward people of the State (i) in respect of education (ii) in respect of appointments ?

197. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any substantial grants out of Special Scholarship quotas were sanctioned to Manipuri students during the years 1950, 1952 and 1953 ?

(b) If so, how many of them in all stages of education were granted ?

(c) Whether any provision has been made for them during the year 1953-54 ?

(d) If not, why not ?

(e) Do Government propose to move the Central Government for provision of funds for special scholarships to the Manipuris as in the case of other backward communities ?

- Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) replied :

196. (a)—Yes, only one.

(b)—Sri Joysenjit Rajkumar.

(c)—No.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Manipuri students along with other backward people of the State are allowed equal facilities in the matters of Education and appointment.

197. (a)—Funds for the purpose being inadequate, students of no community could be rendered substantial help during 1950, 1951 and 1952.

(b)—4 in 1950-51,
3 in 1951-52, and
13 in 1952-53.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—No such proposal at present.

Lachaumere Estate at Shillong and number of Government Employees who have been allotted Land for construction of residential quarters

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS asked :

198. (a) Is it a fact that the Lachaumere Estate at Shillong belonging to the Nawab of Dacca was acquired by Government with the sole object of distributing the same on plots to Government officials and Assistants alone ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state—

(i) whether allotment has been made ;

(ii) the names of the allottees with their designation, pay and home districts and also the amount of premium in each case ; and

(iii) the principle on which the allotment has been made ?

(c) Is it a fact that a number of plots have been allotted to non-officials and the applications of the deserving Government employees have not been considered ?

(d) If so, why ?

199. (a) Will Government be pleased to state—

(i) the number of Government employees stationed at Shillong who have been allotted land for construction of their residential quarters since Partition ;

(ii) their names, designation, pay and home districts ; and

(iii) the principle on which the allotment has been made ?

(b) Is it a fact that a number of Government employees whose services are transferable throughout the State and also certain outsiders who are not Government employees nor permanent residents of Shillong have also been allotted land at Shillong in recent years ?

(c) If so, who are they and reasons behind allotting land to them ?

(d) Are Government aware that there are still a large number of Government employees who are permanently stationed at Shillong and whose services are not transferable, have not been allotted land for their residential purpose ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

198. (a)—No. It was acquired for accommodation of Government servants and others.

(b)—(i) Most of the plots have since been allotted.

(ii) A list is placed on the Library Table. The pay of officers could not be given as it is not readily available.

(iii) The urgency and the extent of necessity for accommodation of the deserving persons was the basis of the principle of allotment.

(c)—Some plots have been allotted to non-officials as well but it is not a fact that the cases of the deserving Government employees were not taken into consideration.

(d)—In view of the reply to (a) above this does not arise.

199. (a)—(i) 245.

(ii) A statement is placed on the Library Table. The pay could not be given as it is not readily available.

(iii) Same as in 198 (b) (iii).

(b)—Yes, some plots have been allotted to some such officers and to some outsiders.

(c)—A statement is placed on the Library Table. All Government services are transferable. Lands have been allotted to those officials who are expected to stay in Shillong for a sufficiently long time. As regards the outsiders—the cases of those who are required to come to Shillong very frequently in connection with their duties have been considered.

(d)—Yes.

Chaldhoa Middle English School in North Lakhimpur

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY asked :

200. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the grant of Rs.2,000 for Chaldhoa Middle English School in North Lakhimpur Subdivision under article 275 of the Constitution has been diverted to Narayanpur Middle Vernacular School in the same subdivision which is situated in non-Tribal area ?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for doing so ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) replied :

200. (a) & (b)—Yes. The grant was diverted to the Narayanpur Middle Vernacular School in the North Lakhimpur Subdivision.

During February, 1953, it was ascertained on enquiry that the Chaldhoa Middle English School had only 22 pupils on its rolls and, at the time of the enquiry, only 6 students were attending the school. The school was, therefore, hardly functioning. The grant for this school was, therefore, diverted to the Narayanpur Middle Vernacular School, which had been badly damaged by the earthquake and which was reported by the Director of Public Instruction to be a deserving institution.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: মই ধৰি লব পাবোনে যে ট্ৰাইবেল স্কুলৰ কাৰণে মঞ্জুৰী কৰা কিছুমান টকা non-tribal স্কুলক দি আমাৰ ট্ৰাইবেল স্কুলৰ অন্যায় কৰিছে; যেহেতু নাৰায়নপুৰ মজলীয়া অসমীয়া স্কুলখন non-tribal হোৱা সন্দেহও মঞ্জুৰী দিছে।

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): আপোনালোকৰ পৰামৰ্শ অনুযায়ীহে সেইটকা আন স্কুলক দিয়া হৈছিল। কিন্তু পিচত আপোনালোকে যদিও মত সলনি কৰিলে যে আন স্কুলক দিব নেলাগে, আমি তাৰ আগতেই মঞ্জুৰীৰ টকা দি দিছো। এতিয়া আকৌ সেইটকা ঘূৰাই আনি ট্ৰাইবেল স্কুলত দিব নোৱাৰি।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: এই বিষয়ে আমি আপত্তি কৰিছিলো যে ট্ৰাইবেলৰ মঞ্জুৰী আনক দিব নেলাগে আৰু দিলে ট্ৰাইবেলৰ অসুবিধা হয়।

Mr. SPEAKER: তেখেতে আগেয়ে কৈছে যে আপোনালোকৰ মত অনুযায়ীহে আন স্কুলক দিছে। কিন্তু পিচত আপোনালোকে মত সলালে যদিও টকা আগতে দিয়া হৈ গল।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: এইটো মোৰ পৰা জানি লব নে যে নাৰায়নপুৰ মজলীয়া স্কুলক মঞ্জুৰী দিবৰ কাৰণে মই কোৱা নাছিলো।

Mr. SPEAKER: No answer is required.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: এই সম্বন্ধে তদন্ত কৰিবনে?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): তদন্ত কৰিম বুলি কৈছো নহয়? কোন স্কুলত কিমান ট্ৰাইবেল লৰা আছে, সেইমতে এখন লিষ্ট দিয়ক। সেই সম্বন্ধে এটা তদন্ত কৰি ঠিক কৰিম।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে মোৰ পৰা জানি লবনে যে সেই Information মই দিয়া নাছিলো?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): মোটৰ ওপৰত আমি গ্ৰাণ্টটো Divert কৰিবলৈ Information পাইছিলো আৰু সেইমতেই মঞ্জুৰ কৰা হৈছিল।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: মই আপোনালোকক সেই Information দিয়া যে নাছিলো; সেইটো চৰকাৰে ধৰি লবনে?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): আমাৰ Department ত তেনেকুৱাই খবৰ আছিল। আপোনালোকে ২,০০০ টকা দিব লাগে বুলি কৈছিল। তাৰ ঠাইত অফিচে ১,০০০ টকা দিলে। যেতিয়া সেই টকা মঞ্জুৰ হৈ গল তেতিয়াহে

সেই গ্ৰান্ট পৰিবৰ্ত্তন কৰিবলৈ খবৰ পোতা হৈছিল। তেতিয়া গ্ৰান্টৰ মঞ্জুৰী পৰিবৰ্ত্তন কৰাৰ সময় নহল। মোটৰ ওপৰত গ্ৰান্ট Divert কৰিবলৈ কিছুমান ট্ৰাইবেল মেম্বাৰেই অনুমোদন কৰিছিল।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: মোৰ নাম তাত নাছিল। চৰকাৰে সেইবিধয়ে ভালকৈ তদন্ত কৰি প্ৰমাণ কৰিবনে?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): প্ৰমাণ নিশ্চয় কৰিব লাগিব।

Bangalmora Venture High School

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY asked :

201. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education Department be pleased to state—

(a) If a grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,000 was allotted from the Development Scheme under Article 275 of the Constitution, to the Bangalmora Venture High School ?

(b) If the said allotment has since been cancelled and diverted to another school in Goalpara District ?

(c) If so, the reasons therefor ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) replied :

201. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—It was reported to Government that the school had a very poor enrolment and further that there was no properly constituted Managing Committee, recognised by the Education Department, to whom the money could have been handed over.

Re : Community Project (Development) launched in Cachar District

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA asked :

202. Will Government be pleased to state in respect of the Community Project (Development) launched in Cachar district—

(a) Whether the items of improvement works envisaged in the Development plans, are being actually implemented according to time schedule and working plan ?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to make a statement of various works done so far ?

- (c) What are the staff under different categories appointed so far (dates of entertainment of each may please be furnished) ?
- (d) What is the expenditure estimated for the year 1952-53 ?
- (e) What are the amounts of expenditure up-to-date under various items ?
- (f) Whether there is any provision in the Scheme for a District Advisory Committee, consisting of experts and non-officials to advise the Project Officers in the implementation of the technical programme ?
- (g) If so, whether the District Committee has been formed ?
- (h) If not, why not ?
- (i) Do not Government feel that the District Committee should be formed immediately for the benefit of the Scheme ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) replied :

202. (a)—Improvement works envisaged in the Development plans have been initiated. The time schedule and working plans for the whole period of the Project have not yet been finalised.

(b)—A statement showing the different items of work done upto 31st March 1953 is laid on the table.

CACHAR COMMUNITY PROJECT

(First Block)

B.—Agriculture and Animal Husbandry extension—

Work done upto 31st
March 1953

1. Rabi Crop introduced	...	...	...	...	500 bighas.
2. Buro Crop introduced	...	...	...	...	1,066½ "
3. Vegetable introduced	...	...	...	...	358 "
4. Compost Manure Pits made	...	...	...	...	1,121 Nos.
5. Poultry (Duck and Hen) introduced	...	...	...	...	In 164 families.
6. Use of Pesticide	Over 85 bighas.
7. Horticulture	3,155 Nos.

C.—Irrigation—

8. Land irrigated	582 bighas.
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D.—Reclamation—

9. Land reclaimed	404¼ bighas.
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		Work done upto 31st March 1953	
E.—Health and Rural Sanitation (including drinking water supply)—			
10. Tanks cleared	209 Nos.
11. Tanks disinfected	101 "
12. Redigging of Tanks	53 "
13. Redigging of Wells	56 "
14. Clearance of Jungles :—			
(a) on Home stead lands	Over 333 Nos.
(b) along Roads	19 miles.
(c) on other lands	83½ bighas.
15. Drains cleared and improved	15,330 feet.
16. Bore-hole latrine constructed	181 Nos.
17. Number of persons inoculated (against pox)	3,785 "
F.—Education—			
18. Schools newly started :—			
(a) Middle English Schools	2 Nos.
(b) Primary Schools	5 "
G.—Social Education—			
19. Night School started	33 Nos.
20. Sporting and Dramatic Clubs formed	31 "
21. Youngmen's Club formed	27 "
H.—Communication—			
22. New Roads made	24 m. 3¾ f.
23. Old Roads improved	6 m. 2 f.

(c)—A statement giving the details asked for is placed on the table.

CACHAR COMMUNITY PROJECT

Statement showing Staff entertained upto 31st March 1953

Designation	Date of entertainment
Executive Staff—	
1. Project Executive Officer ...	30th June 1952.
2. Assistant Project Officer ...	2nd July 1952.
3. Supervisors (4) ...	One joined on 19th November 1952, one on 25th November 1952, one on 23rd December 1952 and the last on 25th December 1952.
4. Gram Sevaks (20) ...	Three joined on 7th October 1952, four on 8th October 1952, four on 10th October 1952, one on 11th October 1952, one on 13th October 1952, another on 19th October 1952, three on 16th January 1953, one on 13th February 1953 and two on 25th March 1953.

Designation

Date of entertainment

Office Establishment—

5. Head Assistant	...	...	23rd September 1952.
6. Accountant-cum-Cashier	...	...	16th February 1953.
7. Upper Division Assistant (1)	...	...	2nd December 1952.
8. Accounts Assistant	...	...	12th November 1952.
9. Lower Division Assistants (7)	...	...	One joined on 1st August 1952. One joined on 14th November 1952. One joined on 16th December 1952. One joined on 22nd December 1952. One joined on 1st January 1953. One joined on 15th January 1953. One post vacant.

Grade IV Staff—

10. Messengers (7)	...	...	One joined on 7th July 1952. Two joined on 20th October 1952. One joined on 20th December 1952. One joined on 24th November 1952. One joined on 17th December 1952. One joined on 2nd January 1953.
11. Chaukidars (2)	...	...	One joined on 6th July 1952. One joined on 10th October 1952.
12. Office Peon (1)	...	...	Joined on 1st August 1952.
13. Orderlies (2)	...	...	One joined on 1st July 1952. One joined on 2nd July 1952.

Technical Staff—

14. Weaving Inspector (1)	...	...	Joined on 3rd March 1953.
15. Sericulture Inspector (1)	...	...	Joined on 21st March 1953.
16. Civil Overseer (1)	...	...	Joined on 13th March 1953.
17. Midwife	...	...	Joined on 20th March 1953.
18. Chief Social Educational Organizer (1).	...	...	Joined on 28th March 1953.

(d)—Rupees 1,82,192.

(e)—Expenditure actually incurred upto 31st March 1953 under various items Rs. 56,227-8-0.

Expenditure on account of equipments received from the Government of India for which debit will be raised by them:—
Rs. 55,000, (approx.)

(f)—Yes.

(g) & (h)—Yes. The Committee has been formed and the names of the members will be notified in the next Gazette.

(i)—Does not arise.

Present Tahshildar of Majuli

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU asked :

203. (a) Are Government aware that the number of land disputes between the Tribal and non-Tribal people and between the Tribal and Tribal people has been daily increasing since the present Tahshildar of Majuli was placed there ?

(b) If so, what step Government has taken so far to tackle and decrease the number of land disputes amongst the people mentioned above ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

203. (a)—There has been some increase in the number of land disputes in Majuli area owing to the enforcement of settlement rule 16 of the A. L. R. Manual, and the improvement of the land due to the construction of the embankment in Majuli and the present Tahshildar is not responsible for this.

(b)—The Tahshildar personally visited various localities in connection with land disputes and have taken steps to settle them. Some of these have already been settled. The Deputy Commissioner himself visited the area and settled many disputes locally. Tahshildar has been instructed to take all possible step for prompt disposal of all cases.

Waste lands at Kamalabari and Salmora Mouzas of Majuli

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU asked :

204. Will Government be pleased to state how many bigas of Government waste lands are there at Kamalabari and Salmora Mouzas of Majuli and mention the names of the blocks where these lands are available.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

204.—At present, there are about 1,000 (one thousand) bighas of Government waste lands lying scattered here and there in Kamalabari and Salmora mouzas of Majuli. There are no blocks by name in land records.

Tribal Areas of Ahotguri Mouza

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU asked :

205. (a) Is it a fact that the present Tahshildar of Majuli has never visited the Tribal areas of Ahotguri Mouza with special reference to Nam-Choraibari, Kutumgaon and Pakbondha and other villages ?

(b) If not, why not ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

205. (a)—No. The present Tahshildar of Majuli has visited the following Tribal villages of Ahotguri mouza—(1) Chitaldubi Miri, (2) Bohikhowa-Miri, (3) Patirgaon, (4) Kerkergaon, (5) Misamora Miri, (6) Chengelishuti, (7) Cherhaikhowa, etc.

He has not yet visited Namchoraibari, Kutumgaon and Pakbondha as there was no urgent necessity for visiting these villages. He has however fixed a programme for visiting these villages in April, 1953.

(b)—Does not arise.

Present Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar District

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU asked :

206. (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many times and on what dates the present Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar District did visit the flood and erosion affected people of Majuli with special reference to the Miri people of Muamari and Chapori villages during the year 1952 ?

(b) If not, why not ?

(c) If so, what necessary step has been so far taken by the Deputy Commissioner to rehabilitate these people referred above ?

(d) Is it a fact that the Minister-in-charge of Revenue and the Minister-in-charge of Forests had recently directed the Deputy Commissioner, Sibsagar to immediately go to Majuli to solve the land problems facing the Tribal and non-Tribal people of Majuli while coming back from Majuli after attending the Majuli Rastriya Sanmilan ?

(e) Whether the Deputy Commissioner acted according to the verbal direction of both the Ministers ?

(f) If so, when ?

(g) If not, what action has been taken against the Deputy Commissioner ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied:

206. (a) & (b)—In 1952 there was neither flood nor any erosion in Majuli area, but in connection with the construction of a new embankment in Salmara Mauza certain Miri families of the embankment wanted to be shifted inside the embankment and the Deputy Commissioner, Sibsagar, visited Salmara Mauza on 10th April, 1952 and 11th April, 1952.

(c)—The affected Miris of Chapari have already been rehabilitated on 34 bighas of high land within the embankment.

(d) to (g)—Yes. In connection with some land disputes, the Deputy Commissioner was directed by the Revenue and Forest Ministers to go to Majuli and to settle the matters locally. Accordingly the Deputy Commissioner along with the Executive Engineer, Jorhat Division and Tahshildar, Majuli, toured Majuli area on 13th March, 1953 and 14th March, 1953 and amicably settled their disputes.

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU: What are the places visited by the Deputy Commissioner on 13th and 14th March, 1953?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Sir, the names of villages that are visited by the Deputy Commissioner cannot be given just now. But the Deputy Commissioner went to Majuli and visited several places where it was considered necessary.

Scheduled Caste Stipendiaries in Secondary Schools and Colleges

Shri MAHADEV DAS asked:

207. Will Government be pleased to state the total number of Scheduled Caste Students who are now in receipt of scholarships in Secondary Schools and Colleges (both boys and Girls)?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) replied:

207. (a)—Secondary Schools—

(i) 2 for girls.

(ii) 8 for boys.

(b)—Colleges—

(i) 3 for girls.

(ii) 28 for boys.

Scheduled Caste persons holding post of E. A. Cs., S. D. Cs. and Class I Services

Shri MAHADEV DAS asked:

208. Will Government be pleased to state the total number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes who are serving in Government Service in the Cadre of E. A. Cs., S. D. Cs. and other Class I Services of the State Government with a corresponding

list showing the number of persons other than Scheduled Castes serving in the above named services ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

208.—The information has been called for.

Public Health Dispensaries

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS asked :

209. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of fully equipped Public Health Department dispensaries in each district of the State of Assam ?
- (b) The number of new Public Health dispensaries opened and closed in each district in Assam from 1947 ?
- (c) The number of Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, Anti-Malaria Centres, Kala-azar wards and Hospitals and T. B. Clinics, run or subsidized by the Public Health Department ?
- (d) The actual *per capita* expenditure incurred by the Public Health Department in each district in 1950 and 1951 taking the population of each district as for 1951 census ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister) replied :

209. (a)—Seventy-eight dispensaries distributed as follows :—

(1)	Cachar	...	...	...	...	3
(2)	Darrang	...	...	...	...	5
(3)	Goalpara	...	...	...	...	8
(4)	Garo Hills	...	...	...	...	5
(5)	Kamrup	...	...	...	...	10
(6)	Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...	7
(7)	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	19
(8)	Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	21

(b)—

				Opened	Closed
(1)	Cachar	...	...	2	Nil.
(2)	Darrang	...	...	1	Nil.
(3)	Goalpara	...	...	3	Nil.
(4)	Garo Hills	...	...	5	Nil.
(5)	Kamrup	...	...	2	Nil.
(6)	Lakhimpur	...	...	6	Nil.
(7)	Nowgong	...	...	8	3
(8)	Sibsagar	...	...	8	Nil.
(9)	United Mikir and North Cachar Hills.	...	...	2	Nil.

Total ... 37 3

(c)—(i) Eight Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, including 4 Subsidized with staff (trained dhais and female attendants) drugs and equipment.

(ii) Thirty-five Anti-malaria centres.

(iii) Two Kala-azar Hospitals and 3 Kala-azar wards.

(iv) One T. B. clinic at Jorhat.

(d)—The information not available.

Hailong Government High School

Shri JOYBHADRA HAGJER asked :

210. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) if it is a fact that Hailong Government High English School is running short of six teachers ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to appoint the teachers without delay ; and

(c) whether Government are aware that the tribal students who have to take alternative English and an alternative subject in place of a classical language are the sufferers ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

210. (a) & (b)—Yes. While the existing enrolment justifies the appointment of only 3 additional teachers in the School, 3 other teachers require to be appointed for teaching additional subjects. A proposal for the appointment of these 6 teachers is under consideration of Government.

(c)—Yes.

Road from Maibang to Diger Area

Shri JOYBHADRA HAGJER asked :

211. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) If Government have lately received representations for a road from Maibang to Diger area ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that survey for this road was ordered last year, but subsequently withdrawn ?

(c) If so, why ?

(d) Whether Government propose to take up the construction of this road next year ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

211. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Revised priorities were allotted to the various road construction projects in the autonomous districts, in the light of the recommendations of the Iyengar Committee which visited Assam last year. This road could not find a place in the first list of priority.

(d)—No. This road will be taken up after the roads at present under construction in the autonomous districts are completed

Expenditure involved in establishing a new district

Shri SARVESWAR BORUWA asked :

212. Will the Minister-in-charge of General Administration be pleased to state—

- (a) The extra expenditure that will be involved in establishing a new district comprising the present subdivision of North Lakhimpur, the Sissi and Dhemaji Mouzas of the Dibrugarh Subdivision, the Majuli Tehsil of Sibsagar district and the Gohpur Mouza of Darrang district ?
- (b) The total revenue receipts from the above areas including all heads of receipts ?
- (c) The total expenditure now incurred in the administration of the North Lakhimpur Subdivision ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

212. (a)—(c)—Information has been called for.

Names of persons and institutions who have been granted permits for C. I. Sheets

Shri SRIMAN PRAFULLA GOSWAMI asked :

213. Will Government be pleased to state the names of the persons and institutions those who have been granted permits for C. I. Sheets and other consumer goods like iron rod, cement, etc., from the office of the Director of Consumer Goods or Director of Supply with quantity granted to each from the month of February, 1952 to March, 1953 on district-wise basis in Assam ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) replied :

213. A Statement is laid on the Library Table for the information of the hon. Member.

Shri Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI: Do Government ascertain the *bonafide* of applicants before permits are granted ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): What does my Friend mean by "*bonafide*", Sir, I do not exactly understand. But in some cases, it so happens that when some permits are issued even on the recommendation of some hon. Members, like my Friend Shri Goswami the same (*i. e.*, the permit) are not used within the time allowed in the permit. Because in some cases, the people cannot take delivery of the goods within the dates specified in the

permit due to their financial difficulties. This does not prove that the claim was not a *bonafide* one.

Shri Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI: Do Government make an enquiry from the Supply Officer whether persons getting permits have actually utilised those cement, C. I. sheets, etc., for the purpose prayed for ?

Mr. SPEAKER: That is absurd altogether.

Shri Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI: Sir, my point is that, some people use to come to Shillong and apply for permits to purchase C.I. sheets, cement, etc., for purposes of some public schools, dispensaries, etc. or for personal use. Before the permit is issued to parties, whether Government take any steps to enquire or ascertain the facts from the local supply officers ? I apprehend, that this is not ascertained after the permits are issued.

Mr. SPEAKER: You are not certain. You apprehend only.

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEV of Siddli: Sir, whether permits are issued on the recommendation of the Members only. ?

Shri Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI: What is the basis of issuing permits from Shillong, whether by the Director of Consumer Goods or the Minister-in-charge ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): The Director of Consumers goods issue the permits and not the Minister-in-charge. My Friend should know at least this much of the procedure. Sir, in some cases, permits are issued on the recommendation of the Members of the Legislature and the report of the local officers are also taken into consideration, not on the recommendation of the Members only.

Shri Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI: I am satisfied about the issuing of permit but my point is that whether any enquiry is made through local officers after permit is issued.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Goswami, you please take your seat.

Assam Secretariat

Mr. A. S. KHONGPHAI asked :

214. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) How many Assistants were recruited from Heads of Departments and District Offices and were appointed in the Assam Secretariat during the period of 1947-49 ?

(b) What are—

(1) their names ;

(2) the office from which they were recruited ;

- (3) the posts (whether permanent or temporary) held last and the pays last drawn by each of them in their original Departments;
- (4) the post (whether permanent or temporary) in which each of them was appointed first and the pays allowed to be drawn by each of them first in the Assam Secretariat; and
- (5) the seniority fixed for each of them in the Assam Secretariat?
- (c) Is it a fact that a batch of 7 (seven) Assistants (permanent) was recruited during 1948-49 from the Heads of Departments and District Offices and appointed as Lower Division Assistants on temporary basis in the Assam Secretariat?
- (d) Whether their cases as to their confirmation and seniority in the Assam Secretariat are treated in the similar way as was done in the cases of the previous departmental recruits?
- (e) What are—
- (1) the names of the Lower Division Assistants included in the batches confirmed in 1950 and 1951 serially according to seniority;
- (2) the names of all the Lower Division Assistants waiting for confirmation in the Assam Secretariat serially according to seniority?
- (f) What particular principles were followed from time to time for confirmation of the Lower Division Assistants in the Assam Secretariat during the period of 1947-1952?
- (g) How many batches of Lower Division Assistants were confirmed during the above period and what are the dates of confirmation?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied:

214. (a)—36.

(b) (1), (2), (3), (4), (5)—The required information is given in Statement (I) which is laid on the Library table.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—As these recruits were brought to the Secretariat against temporary posts on their applications, their cases regarding confirmation and seniority could not be treated in the same way as was done with regard to previous departmental recruits who were generally appointed against permanent vacancies.

(e) (1), (2)—The required information is given in Statements (II) and (III) which are laid on the Library table.

(f)—The principles were followed on the basis of:—

(1) Public Service Commission Test.	} During 1947-49.
(2) Service records of the Assistants.	
(3) Communal representation.	

(1) Public Service Commission Test.	} During 1950-51.
(2) Length of Service rendered.	
(3) Service records of the Assistants.	

(1) Academic qualification including Public Service Commission Test.	} 1952 onwards.
(2) Length of Service.	
(3) Service records of the Assistants.	

(g)—Six batches of Lower Division Assistants were confirmed during the period:—

	Date of confirmation
1st batch	1st January 1948.
2nd ,,	29th March 1949.
3rd ,,	28th April 1949.
4th ,,	28th April 1949.
5th ,,	9th December 1950.
6th ,,	19th May 1951.

Shri A. S. KHONGPHAI: Are these persons still temporary?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: How many of these 36 persons have been confirmed?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): I want notice of that question Sir.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Regarding (c)—Is it a fact that in 1950 Mr. Desai recommended to the P. S. C. to exempt these persons from appearing in the Public Service Commission examination?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): I don't know that.

The question is what particular principles were followed from time to time for confirmation of the Lower Division Assistants in the Assam Secretariat during the period of 1947-52.

And the answer is given at (f).

In 1947-49 the principles were followed on the basis of—(1) Public Service Commission Test, (2) Service records of the Assistants, and (3) Communal representation.

In 1950-51 the principles followed were (1) Public Service Commission Test, (2) Length of Service rendered, (3) Service records of the Assistants.

In 1952 the principles followed were (1) Academic qualification including Public Service Commission Test, (2) Length of Service, (3) Service records of the Assistants.

All these things are taken into consideration at the time of confirmation.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Is it a fact that one Miss Monika Devi and one Jogendra Mahanta were appointed temporarily in the temporary vacancies and were immediately confirmed superseding over others?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): I want notice of that question, Sir.

Assam Secretariat

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked:

215. Will Government be pleased to state —

(a) How many Assistants were recruited from Heads of Departments and District Offices and were appointed in the Assam Secretariat during the period of 1947-49?

(b) What are (1) their names ;
 (2) the offices from which they were recruited ;
 (3) the post (whether permanent or temporary) held by each of them in their original Departments ;
 (4) the post (whether permanent or temporary) in which each of them was appointed first and the pay allowed to

- be drawn by each of them first in the Assam Secretariat ; and
- (5) the seniority fixed for each of them in the Assam Secretariat ?
- (c) Is it a fact that under the same Government Orders passed for Departmental recruitment, a batch of 7 (seven) Assistants (Permanent) was recruited during 1948-49 from the Heads of Departments and District offices and were appointed as Lower Division Assistants on temporary basis in the Assam Secretariat ?
- (d) Whether their cases as to their confirmation and seniority in the Assam Secretariat are treated in the similar way as was done in the cases of the previous departmental recruits ?
- (e) What are (1) the names of the Lower Division Assistants included in the batches confirmed in 1950 and 1951 serially according to seniority ; and
(2) the names of all the Lower Division Assistants now waiting for confirmation in the Assam Secretariat serially according to seniority ?
- (f) What are the basic principles adopted from time to time for confirmation of the Lower Division Assistants in the Assam Secretariat during the period from 1947-1952 ?
- (g) How many batches of Lower Division Assistants were confirmed during the above period and the date of confirmation of each ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

215. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) (1)-(2), (f), (g)—The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the replies given to similar questions asked by Shri A. S. Khongphai during the current Session of the Assembly.

Number of persons affected by the last earthquake of 1950 in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri INDRESWAR KHOUND asked :

216. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of persons affected by the last earthquake of 1950 and the subsequent floods in the Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

- (b) How many of these affected persons have so far been rehabilitated, and where ?
- (c) The number of such persons that still remains to be rehabilitated ?
- (d) What steps are going to be taken for their rehabilitation ?
- (e) How long will it take to rehabilitate them ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

216. (a)—Number of persons not available, but 8,922 families were affected.

(b)—So far 4,690 families have been rehabilitated as follows:—

(i) Phillobari	...	...	...	619	families.
(ii) Lekhapani	...	...	...	459	„
(iii) North Bank	...	...	...	2,000	„
(iv) Murkongselek	...	...	...	354	„
(v) Sadiya	...	...	...	1,258	„
				4,690	families.

(c)—4,232 families ; 3,464 of whom were displaced by 1952 flood.

(d)—Government have taken steps for rehabilitation by requisitioning surplus tea garden areas as well as dereserving grazing grounds and forest reserves as far as possible.

(e)—About a year.

Monthly rent paid on account of the office accommodation of the District Transport Officer, Cachar

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA asked :

217. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The amount of monthly rent at which the District Transport Officer, Cachar had arranged a B.O.C. bungalow in Arunachal for accommodation of the Motor Vehicles Office ?
- (b) If the entire amount is being paid by Government ?
- (c) If Shri M. M. Bora, the present District Transport Officer is entitled to rent free quarters ?
- (d) If he is in occupation of the Bungalow since June 1952 ?

(e) Whether Government propose to cause an enquiry to be made into the matter and recover a proportionate amount of rent from Shri M. M. Bora ?

218. (a) Will Government be pleased to state if any armed guard is detailed in District Transport Officer's office at Arunachal during night when daily collection of taxes, etc., exceeds a few thousand rupees and kept in the office for the night ?

(b) If not, do Government propose to take adequate security measures in this respect either by detailing armed guards or by shifting the office from Arunachal to Silchar town immediately ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

217. (a)—Rs.120 per mensem.

(b)—Yes, but action is being taken to realise a portion of the rent from the District Transport Officer, Cachar in proportion to the plinth area occupied by him from the date of his occupation.

(c)—No.

(d)—Yes, since 20th June, 1952.

(e)—Does not arise.

218. (a)—Adequate security measures exist.

(b)—Government are on the look out for a suitable house in the Silchar Town for the accommodation of the office of the District Transport Officer.

Shri GAURI SHANKAR ROY : With regard to (a)—Will Government be pleased to clarify what sort of security measures have been taken ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Sarma are you prepared to answer ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) : Armed guards Sir.

Discontinuance of medical facilities, supply of water, etc., by the management of tea gardens closed at Cachar

Shri GAURI SHANKAR ROY asked :

219. (a) Are Government aware that with the recent closure of Tea Gardens in Cachar, the essential services like medical facility, water supply and schools, etc., were discontinued by the management ?

(b) If so, how many gardens have done this ?

(c) Do Government propose to take steps against the managements concerned for their withdrawal of the essential services mentioned above ?

220. (a) Are Government aware or received reports to the effect that some tea-labourers lately died for want of medical help in certain closed Tea-Gardens of Cachar ?

(b) If so, what are the names of the Tea Gardens involved ?

(c) What steps do Government propose to take against such Gardens for loss of human life ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister) replied :

219. (a), (b) & (c). 220. (a), (b) & (c)—Information has been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar.

Shri GAURI SHANKAR ROY : Is it a fact that the Managements of closed tea gardens did not allow the doctors and school masters to impart their services even without remuneration though they desire to do so ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister) : Yes, Sir, Government received representation to that effect. In fact I had discussed this matter with I. T. A. representative stationed at Shillong sometime past in presence of Shri R. P. Chaubey, M. L. A., President, Cachar Chah Sramik Union, and Shri G. S. Roy, M. L. A., the Questioner ; and the I. T. A. representative then assured them all that where teachers were willing to work voluntarily without any pay in the gardens which have been closed down, the school building would be made available to them for their use.

As regards Hospitals, he informed that where the managements have maintained a skeleton staff, medical service would be encouraged to be continued. However, it was made clear in that discussion by him that it would not be possible to entrust the value of stock of medicines to those persons who are no longer in the service of the managements.

Shri GAURI SHANKAR ROY :

Will Government be pleased to call for a detail report at an early date from the Deputy Commissioner ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister) : Yes, Sir.

Village Grazing Reserve at Salenguri

Shri INDRESWAR KHOUND asked :

221. (a) Is it a fact that for the use of the public of Kakopathar area, a village Grazing Reserve at Salenguri in Saikhowa Mouza of Lakhimpur District was opened by Government in 1932 ?

(b) Is it a fact that inspite of vehement protests by the public, 50 bighas of land in the said reserve have been settled with a big timber merchant of Doom-Dooma named Sri Rambachan Singh ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to enquire and state whether it is a fact that in place of 50 bighas he has occupied there more than 130 bighas of land ?

(d) If so, will Government be pleased to state if steps have been taken for removal of the unauthorised occupation of more lands ?

(e) Is it a fact that he applied for the land for opening a cattle farm and the land was settled with the expressed condition for opening a cattle farm ?

(f) Is it a fact that instead of cattle farm he has established a saw mill there ?

(g) If so, will Government be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take for violating the condition of settlement ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

221. (a) to (g)—The information has been called for from the Deputy Commissioner which will be supplied to the Member when received.

Rupashri Cinema and New Cinema at Gauhati

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI asked :

222. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether licenses for running the Rupashri Cinema and the New Cinema at Gauhati have been granted by the State Government during the year 1953 ?

(b) Whether the halls of the cinemas were inspected by the proper authority during the last twelve months ?

(c) If so, whether the authority concerned submitted any report to Government and whether Government propose to lay a copy of the report on the table of each Member ?

(d) Whether these cinema halls satisfy the conditions laid down for an approved cinema hall ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

222. (a)—New Cinema's Licence has been renewed for 1953 by Deputy Commissioner. The renewal of Rupasree Cinema's Licence is pending submission of certificate from the Government of India Films Division, Calcutta.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—As Deputy Commissioners are the Licensing authorities, reports are not submitted to Government. The reports of the inspecting officers have been called for.

(d)—Yes.

Discrimination in granting of dearness allowance to teachers of Middle English Schools and Middle English Madrassas

Maulavi Md. SAHADAT ALI MANDAL asked:

223. (a) Is it a fact that Government have sanctioned a dearness allowance of Rs.10 to the teachers of Middle English Schools and Rs.5 to those of the Middle English Madrassas ?

(b) If so, why such discrimination has been made ?

(c) Is it a fact that previously the teachers of the Middle English Madrassas were enjoying Rs.10 per head as dearness allowance ?

(d) If so, why Government have reduced the same to half ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) replied :

223. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Aided Middle English Schools are treated as "Secondary Schools" whereas Middle English Madrassas are treated as "Special Schools". Provisions for dearness allowance for the teachers of these two types of Schools are made under two distinct heads. Hence is the distinction in payment of dearness allowance.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of refugees in Majeralga Char in Goalpara Subdivision

Maulavi Md. SAHADAT ALI MANDAL asked :

224. (a) Is it a fact that the refugees are being rehabilitated in the Majeralga Char under Police Station North Salmara in the Subdivision of Goalpara ?

(b) Is it a fact that in doing so the old *bona fide* cultivators are being ousted from their cultivated and ploughed lands ?

(c) Is it a fact that Government have requisitioned some lands in the Majeralga Char and the cultivating *gujasta* holders have not been served with any notice whatsoever as required by law ?

(d) Is it a fact that the cultivating settlement holders are being debarred from harvesting their crops and entering upon their ploughed land for the purpose of cultivation ?

(e) If the answer to questions (b)-(d) are in the affirmative, do Government propose to intervene in the matter and pass necessary orders for vacating *gujasta* lands ?

(f) Is it a fact that the Government Kanoongo stationed at Majeralga Char has been demarcating the so called requisitioned land without any reference to the maps of the Chapar Estate to which the lands belong ?

(g) If so, do Government propose to call for a report from the Manager of the Chapar Estate and direct the Officer concerned to settle the khas lands with the refugees in consultation with the Estate maps and records ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

224. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) (f) & (g)—The required information has been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara.

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEV of Sidli : The questions were asked long ago. Will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to say whether they have received the information ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) : No, Sir.

Mangaldai Sub-Treasury

Shri DANDIRAM DUTTA asked :

225. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to keep the Mangaldai Sub-Treasury open daily ?

(b) If not, what is the reason for not doing so ?

(c) Have Government lately received any representation to this effect from the people of Mangaldai ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

225. (a)—Yes. We propose to keep it open daily in response to public demands.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Yes.

Plying of Bus No.ASD. 665 on Mangaldai-Tangla-Bhutiasang Route.

Shri DANDIRAM DUTTA asked :

226. (a) Is it a fact that the Bus No.ASD.665 has been placed for plying on Mangaldai-Tangla-Bhutiasang Route ?

(b) If so, is it a fact that the said bus has not been plying on the route for more than the last one year ?

(c) Is it a fact that the said bus is still lying unserviceable ?

(d) Will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to state whether there is any instruction to all the route operators to form an association ?

(e) Is there any association in Mangaldai-Tangla-Bhutiasang Route ?

(f) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the duty-chart of the buses of the said route with the copy of the entry-register of the Thanas touching this line for the last six months ?

227. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state when Bus No. ASD.665 was last tested by the Inspector of Motor Vehicles and who was the Examiner ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

226. (a)- (f) & 227.—The Information has been called for.

Dr. S. R. Barooah, Special Officer, Agriculture Department

Shri DANDIRAM DUTTA asked :

228. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Special Officer of the Agriculture Department Dr. S. R. Barooah got his salary sanctioned at enhanced rate for his alleged holding of a foreign doctorateship which afterwards was found to be faked ?

(b) What extra amount has he earned up till now for his being given a higher pay ?

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY (Minister) replied :

228. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

Number of Fisheries settled with Scheduled Caste people

Shri MAHADEV DAS asked :

229. Will Government be pleased to state the total number of fisheries in Assam and how many of them have been settled with the Scheduled Castes people either by auction or by private settlement ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

229.—Information is being collected from the local officers concerned and will be supplied to the Member as soon as received.

Devastation caused by rivers Bhola, Bihkhaita and Lasmi

Shri DANDIRAM DUITA asked:

230. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether a petition was lately submitted by 21 Tribal families of village Samuapara in the Kalaigaon Circle in Mangaldai Subdivision regarding devastation caused during the last monsoon flood by the rivers Bhola, Bihkhaita and Lasmi?

(b) Is it a fact that their paddy, cattle and buffaloes, etc., were swept away by the flood?

(c) If so, what steps did Government take to give relief to these poor homeless tribal people?

(d) Is it a fact that these people submitted a representation to the Minister Shri Rupnath Brahma while on tour at Ponerihat dispensary?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied:

230. (a)—No.

(b) & (c)—Government have no information about the flood damages in Samuapara village. However reports of flood in Mangaldai Subdivision have been received and for the Subdivision as a whole, Government sanctioned Rs.20,000 as agricultural loan and Rs 5,000 as gratuitous relief. Over and above, 800 maunds of rice were allotted for issue at a concessional rate of Rs.15 per maund to the affected families.

(d)—No such representation was received in the Medical Department.

Resolution regarding reservation of 20 per cent. of posts of Sub-Inspector of Schools to be filled up by promotion of experienced and normal 3rd year passed Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools.

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHOUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in view of the fact that at present there is no way of promotion of non-Graduate Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to reserve 20 per cent. of posts of Sub-Inspectors of Schools to be filled up by promotion of experienced and normal 3rd year passed Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools.

Sir, there are many Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools who are Normal 3rd year passed and who are men with service of 15 years or more, but they do not get promotion to the post of

Sub-Inspector of Schools only because they are not graduates. Sir, to control, supervise and inspect the Primary Schools it is not necessarily required that the inspecting officer should be a graduate. Sir, to me it appears that a third year Normal passed Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools who has acquired due experience by being long in service is sometimes better than a graduate inspecting officer without teaching experience. So, Sir, Normal passed Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools are in no way inferior to Sub-Inspectors in the matter of control, supervision and inspection of Primary Schools. In actual field of activity also we see that the work of an Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools and the work of the Sub-Inspector of Schools is almost the same. The Assistant Inspector Supervises, controls and visits primary schools as the Sub-Inspector, he also countersigns bills as the Sub-Inspector. So practically, there is little difference between the duties of the Sub-Inspector and that of the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools. So if the duties of these officers are almost the same and they are properly qualified, I do not know why these Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools should be debarred from promotion only on the ground that they are not graduates. As I have already said, most of these Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools are Third Year Normal passed men and who have obtained long experience in the field, they are also no less qualified than the Sub-Inspectors of Schools.

Sir, in other Departments also we see that a police constable has got a chance of promotion to be a Sub-Inspector or even Inspector of Police. In the Agriculture Department also we see that some Agricultural Demonstrators got promotion to the post of Agricultural Inspector. So in contrast to these Departments, it is essential that the Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools like other Departments should get promotion to the post of Sub-Inspector of Schools by virtue of their seniority and long experience in service. Sir, if an Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools has to work as such for the entire period of his service, can we expect them to work sincerely and actively ?

Again, Sir, in my Resolution I have stated that only 20 per cent. of the posts of Sub-Inspector of Schools should be reserved and filled up from the Assistant Sub-Inspectors who are Third Year Normal passed and I think out of 100 posts of Sub-Inspectors 20 per cent. of such posts, is not a high percentage. If it is our desire to give them impetus to work sincerely and actively, it is essential that Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools should be given the chance of promotion to the posts of Sub-Inspectors of Schools. With these words, Sir, I commend my Resolution to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER : Resolution moved.

“In view of the fact that at present there is no way of promotion of non-Graduate Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to reserve 20 per cent. of posts of Sub-Inspectors of Schools to be filled up by promotion of experienced and normal 3rd year passed Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools.”

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard the arguments advanced by my Friend, Mr. Chowdhury, in support of his Resolution. But at the very outset, I would like to say that Government is not prepared to accept the suggestion he has made in his Resolution ; because Government have already laid down a policy in so far as appointments of Sub-Inspectors of Schools are concerned as far back as March 1951 in which it was clearly laid down that all Sub-Inspectors of Schools must be graduates. Not only that, they must also have teaching experience for a period of five years and over and above that they must preferably be B. T. passed graduates. So his contention that graduate Sub-Inspectors of Schools have no teaching experience, is not correct. Sir, sometimes we hear criticisms from some quarters that there is no proper control, supervision or inspection of the schools. So naturally there must be properly qualified Sub-Inspectors of Schools to ensure better inspection of Schools. But if the qualifications of these Sub-Inspectors of Schools are lowered or relaxed, then it will be detrimental to the work of control, supervision and inspection of the Schools.

Then, Sir, it is also not correct to say that the duties and responsibilities of the Sub-Inspectors of Schools and of the Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools are the same. For example, the Sub-Inspectors of Schools are to supervise Middle Vernacular Schools, but the Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools are not empowered to inspect or supervise Middle Vernacular Schools. So also in many other spheres the Sub-Inspectors of School have far greater responsibilities than the Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools.

So far his argument comparing the Education Department with other Departments, goes, I would like to say that it is the intention of the Government that in the field of Education there must not be any lowering down of the qualifications of the incumbents in respect of promotion and more specially in respect of Inspecting staff. So, Sir, in view of the grounds stated by me, Government cannot accept his Resolution. I therefore, request my hon. Friend to withdraw his Resolution and not to press for the same.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is

“In view of the fact that at present there is no way of promotion of non-Graduate Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to reserve 20 per cent. of posts of Sub-Inspectors of Schools to be filled up by promotion of experienced and Normal 3rd year passed Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools.”

(The Resolution was negatived.):

Resolution regarding revision and reframing the existing Government Servants' Conduct Rules to bring them in line with the changed set-up in the country

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in view of the fact that the existing Government Servants' Conduct Rules are outdated, archaic and curb the liberty of the Government servants unduly, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to revise and reframe the Rules to bring them in line with the changed set-up in the country.

Sir, we have to day been supplied with copies of the Assam Government Servants' Conduct Rules, the Assam Secretariat Superintendents' Service Rules and the Assam Non-Gazetted Secretariat Service Rules. These Rules, as their names appear, only apply to the staff serving in the Secretariat. But there are other Government servants who live in District Headquarters serving as ministerial officers. So far I have been able to understand, these rules will not apply to them. They are under the Assam Government Servants' Conduct Rules which were framed in 1937 and which were amended from time to time. These Rules were framed in 1937 and up till now Government servants are governed by those rules. Those rules were framed at the time when the British Government was here and when we were not an independent people. There are certain provisions under those rules which should not have been there. As for instance, in various places I find the mention of the Secretary of State. Rule 20 runs as—“Evidence before Committee.—(1) No Government servant shall give evidence before a public committee—

- (a) in India, except with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government;
- (b) outside India, except with the previous sanction of the Secretary of State.

(2) No Government servant giving such evidence shall criticise the policy of decisions of the Secretary of State, or of the Governor-General or of any Provincial Government."

Sir, somehow I have been able to get this copy and I do not know whether these defects have been removed. As these terms are out of date they should have been removed and the rules should have been properly framed.

Then, Sir, when we come to various other subjects dealt with by these rules we find some more defects. Rule 4 runs as "Public demonstrations in honour of Government servants—

(1) Save as otherwise provided in this rule, no Government servant shall, except with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government—

(a) receive any complimentary or valedictory address, accept any testimonial or attend any public meeting or entertainment held in his honour; or

(b) take part in the presentation of a complimentary or valedictory address or of a testimonial to any other Government servant or to any person who has recently quitted the service of Government, or attend a public meeting or entertainment held in honour of such other Government servant or person."

In this way, Sir, we find various provisions which, if applied strictly, might create difficulties. We have seen from our experience that such provisions cannot be followed and need not be followed. In certain cases when a Government servant or a senior Government servant goes away from his office to another office there is a farewell meeting and if these rules are strictly to be applied then this cannot be done. Sir, I consider that in the changed set-up these provisions should not be there and meeting of this nature should be allowed to be held.

I may now come to Rule 7. It runs as "Subscriptions.—No Government servant shall, except with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government, ask for or accept from a Prince or Chief, of any State in India, or the Agent of any such Prince or Chief, any subscription or other pecuniary assistance in pursuance of any object whatsoever."

Sir, this rule appears to be quite out of date. It does not fit in with the present circumstances because at present there are no Prince or Chief of any State. As regards subscriptions we have

seen that various Government servants are allowed to collect them for some laudable or charity purpose and if they are stopped then it will be a wrong step.

Then let us come to Rule 19. It runs as "Publication of documents and communications to the Press in the name of Government servants and public speeches.—(1) No Government servant shall, in any document published under his own name or in any communication made to the Press under his own name or in any public utterance delivered by him, make, any statement of fact or opinion which is capable of embarrassing—

- (a) the relations between the Government or any Provincial Government and the people of India or any section thereof, or
- (b) the relations between His Majesty's Government or the Governor-General and any foreign country or the Prince or Chief of any State in India."

Sir, here there is unreasonable restriction also when we find that "No Government servant shall, in any document published under his own name or in any communication made to the Press under his own name or in any public utterance delivered by him, make any statement of fact or opinion which is capable of embarrassing the relations between the Government or any Provincial Government and the people of India or any section thereof." If this rule is applied strictly in our State, then Government servants will not be able to go to the Press to ventilate their grievances.

Then again what we find in Rule 18? It runs as "Anonymous publication of documents and anonymous communications to the Press.—No Government servant shall, in any document which he publishes anonymously or in any anonymous communication to the Press, criticise the policy or action of Government intemperately or unreasonably." This rule I think will have no meaning because if anything is sent to the press anonymously criticising the policy or action of the Government intemperately or unreasonably then it will not be known as to who has done it. So, this restriction has no meaning.

Then again we come to Rule 23. It runs as "Membership of Service Associations.—No Government servant shall be a member, representative or officer of any association representing, or purporting to represent, Government servants or any class of Government

servants unless such association satisfies the following conditions namely :—

- (a) Membership of the association shall be confined to a distinct class of Government servants and shall be open to all Government servants of that class ;
- (b) The association shall not be in any way connected with or affiliated to—
 - (i) any association which does not, or
 - (ii) any federation of associations which do not, satisfy condition (a) ;
- (c) the association shall not be in any way connected with any political party or organisation, or engage in any political activity ;
- (d) the association shall not—
 - (i) issue or maintain any periodical publication except in accordance with any general or special order of the Provincial Government ;
 - (ii) except with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government, publish any representation on behalf of its members, whether in the Press or otherwise ;
 - (iii) in respect of any election to a legislative body whether in India or elsewhere, or to a local authority or body—
- (A) pay, or contribute towards, any expenses incurred in connection with his candidature by a candidate for such election ;
- (B) by any means support the candidature of any person for such election ; or
- (C) undertake or assist in the registration of electors, or the selection of a candidate for such election ;”

In this way, Sir, there are certain provisions which are not in conformity with the professed view of the Government of India also. The Government of India some times came out with the statement that even the Government servants should be able to form their own association, like trade union to carry on their own interest or trade union activities. Not only that they only allowed to join—Central Trade Union Organisations and other organisations like Hindustan Mazdoor Organisation, I.N.T.U.C., etc. If they are to remain on these organisations then it will not be possible for the Government servant to do so and then it will run counter to the professed view of the Central Government.

Secondly, Sir, the Government servants very often have their grievances. As I had the fortune or misfortune of being the President of the Assam Ministerial Officers Association and officers suffering from various grievances sent their resolutions to newspapers for publication and when this fact was brought to the notice of the then Finance Minister who is the Chief Minister now, he said that such publication was illegal and when the members of the Association approached him, he said, "I cannot recognise you when Mr. Goswami is your President". After this a notification was issued in the *Assam Gazette*, dated September 1, 1948, it states, "The Government of Assam are pained to find signs of indiscipline still persisting in some quarters. They hoped that the attainment of freedom by the Country would after a time make responsible people and organisations realise the legitimate bounds of individual freedom consistent with the freedom of others and the good of the country at large. Government have so long proceeded on the assumption that it is better to let these people find the bounds for themselves than to take punitive action. Time had to be allowed to ignorance and thoughtless action to spend themselves. A year has thus passed and Government now feel that any further indulgence would retard the development of the right spirit needed for the progress of the people. They have therefore decided that acts of indiscipline shall no longer be tolerated. This warning extends to all officers, men and their Service Associations."

Then the last para says, "While conveying publicity the warning Government desire to make it clear that their only intention is not to interfere with the normal procedure prescribed for Associations for ventilation of the grievances of their members. On the contrary Government desire that they should be encouraged to avail themselves of that procedure and not go beyond it. No Association is entitled to publish its proceedings in the Press and if it contravenes this, it will do so at its own peril". Now, Sir, it will appear that in the democratic countries every organisation has to educate the public so that they can obtain sanction of the public behind their legitimate grievances and it is necessary for that purpose to publish their grievances in the Press.

It is also our experience that when matters are brought to the notice of the Government very often when these are not published Government remain very indifferent to the demands and therefore it is essential that these Associations should have the right to ventilate their grievances in the Press which does not mean that the Government Servants will take to immediate direct action. If we stick to the present rules then ventilation of the grievances of the Government servants will be impossible

I know that in other countries, so far as my information goes, the Government servants are allowed to take actions as other unions. I also know that in 1948 when the representatives of the Ministerial Officers Association met, the then Finance Minister gave an assurance that all these things would be gone into and there would be an attempt to revise these rules but that had not been done up till now.

Not only that, Sir, but it has been found that when Members of the Congress Party were appointed as President of the Ministerial Officers' Association even they were not allowed to do so. I know that Shri Motiram Bora and Shri Siddhinath Sarma who were appointed President had to refuse, as it was objected by Government. One conference of the Assam Ministerial Officer's Association which was to be held in February, 1950, under the Presidency of Shri Motiram Bora had to be postponed as he could not be made President. In this manner even in the election of President of the Association Government wants to control. This takes away the right which is given in our Constituion. It takes away the fundamental right also. It is against the spirit of the Constitution. It was expected that after the Independence these rules would be revised and for that purpose a Committee should have been appointed to revise and reframe these rules under the changed circumstances of the country. Even now, I would request the Government in order to rectify the defects and in view of the necessity for having better rules, which does not mean that the Government servants should forget their responsibility, a committee should be appointed in reframing the rules, the Association should have two or three members in the Rule-making Committee. If we do that, many of the grievances of the Association will go. It is always good to have such organisations and Government should see that their liberty is not unnecessarily curtailed.

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

Mr. SPEAKER : Resolution moved :—

“In view of the fact that the existing Government Servants Conduct Rules are outdated, archaic and curb the liberty of the Government servants unduly, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to revise and reframe the Rules to bring them in line with the changed set up in the country.”

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard my hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition and I am sorry to say that he has given certain

suggestions which is due to his ignorance of the present position regarding the rules, and he has also given certain other suggestions by which he desired that the relative rules should be changed.

Firstly, my Friend said that these rules framed by the Government in 1937 when the political set-up of the country was not what it is to day. But the purpose for the fulfilment of which these rules were formulated by the Government of the day at that time have to be served even now and as such the change in the political set-up of the country does not make any difference as regards the character of the rules in question. It cannot be said that because these rules were framed a few years back they have not got the same utility at present. Of course, with the change of time it is necessary that the rules should be changed to fit in with the changed circumstances, but there are certain rules which are fundamental rules which cannot be changed, whether they were framed in British regime or any other regime when we were not independent. The rules were designed to enable the Government Servants to perform their duties faithfully and efficiently and to make them free from undue influences from any quarter—these were the intention of these rules and when those conditions are still existing it cannot be said that these rules are outdated and archaic.

Now, Sir, Shri Goswami raised another point that there are certain terms in the rules which are out of date *e. g.*, Secretary of State, Crown, the Governor-General, Provincial Government,..... etc. I agree with him, Sir, that certainly these are outdated in the present political context of the country but in that connection it would be necessary to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the provisions under the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950 which have regularised the apparent anomalies and in view of which these seemingly archaic expressions stand corrected with a view to bring them in line with the provisions of the Constitution. If in formulating and directing policy a Government is also to take into consideration the personal, social or political susceptibilities of their officers no Government will be able to function and however lofty may be the ideals for which a particular Government may be working they will never be able to translate them into reality. The administrative machinery must be kept free from the influence of passing political or social events so that the officers have an open mind and are able to loyalty and faithfully carry out the directions and orders of the Government which they may be called upon to serve at any particular time. However, Sir, the Central Government, I understand has taken up the question of necessary changes in the existing rules wherever necessary. Now,

Sir, my Friend, raised another point that the Government Officers should be allowed to ventilate their grievances through the Press. Certainly, the Government Officers should ventilate their grievances, but in a formal way through proper channel. I cannot agree with my Friend that it should be through the Press. There are other official ways through which they can ventilate their grievances. The ways are still there. The Government Servants know their limitations and those limitations were known to them when they accepted the service. Sir, it is for their interest as well as for the interest of the country as a whole that there should be some restrictions. These restrictions are there so that they may not be victims of circumstances, so that they may not indulge in expressing their personal views without paying due attention to the policies of the Government which they are serving. Today they are serving under some form of Government, tomorrow they may serve under some other form of Government and if there are not some restrictions, and they are allowed to move in their own ways, then there will be great difficulties in running the administration efficiently. They are certainly not in the same position as any other person as far as freedom of action and freedom of speech is concerned. It is not contested that the existing Government Servants Conduct Rules, to some extent curtail the liberty of the Government Servants in the matter of formation of associations, freedom of speech and freedom to join hands with any political party or association, but at the same time it must be recognised that officers of the Government have special responsibilities to discharge and are under specific obligations to the Government of the day and therefore to the State as a whole. If they voluntarily undertake to work as officers of the Government and by doing so take upon themselves certain special responsibilities and obligations which are required to be discharged in the interest of the country as a whole, there can be absolutely no reason why with a view to the loyal and proper discharge of these there should not be certain rules of conduct to guide the activities of the officers.

Now, my Friend said there are some unnecessary things and they should be removed. Sir, if there is anything unnecessary, certainly that should be removed. We have heard the hon. Member, and if we find, as I have already said, that there is anything unnecessary, that will be removed. His other suggestions would also be duly considered and if they do not stand in the way of efficient administration of the State and if it is not found harmful to the Officer concerned in the due discharge of his official duties, in that case due considerations will be given to those suggestions. The existing restrictions are absolutely necessary to serve

the vital purpose and no reasonable exception should be taken. I hope, after hearing my speech, my Friend will not press his Resolution.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I do not press my Resolution, Sir.

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

Resolution regarding constitution of a Taxation Enquiry Committee to go into the whole Provincial tax structure with a view to recommend reduction of taxes.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the growing economic crisis, falling purchasing power and consequent distress of a large section of the people and the excessive burden of tax on the poorer sections of the people, this Assembly do constitute a Taxation Enquiry Committee consisting of seven members of which not less than four will be members from this Assembly to go into the whole Provincial Tax structure and recommend reduction of taxes.

Sir, when I tabled this Resolution, I did not know that the Central Government had appointed a Taxation Enquiry Committee. I tabled the Resolution before the Central Government appointed the said Taxation Enquiry Committee. So, in a way it has been accepted even by the Central Government that there is need to go into the whole question of tax structure—to see whether it is possible to reduce under certain Heads the burden of tax on the poor people. Sir, to day it may be argued that as the Taxation Enquiry Committee would also go into the question of taxation structure in the States, and as a matter of fact yesterday there was a communique from the Government which asked from individual and organisations suggestions in the matter, therefore it may be argued that this Resolution is unnecessary. But, Sir, even though all these things are here, I feel that an Enquiry Committee should be instituted in our State. This will be very helpful when the Taxation Enquiry Committee of the Central Government would visit our State. We know, in our State there are so many taxes. There are different taxes in other States also but in our State where *per capita* income of the people is very low—the *per capita* income here is in the range of Rs.250 per year—we find that the incidence of taxes here become unbearable to the poor section of the people. If we only look into the question of Agricultural Income Tax, the tax is imposed on income above Rs.3,000 *i. e.*, if the income in this respect is Rs.250 per month and above, one has to pay agricultural income-tax. Thirdly there are other taxes—the Profession Tax, Trade and Calling Tax, etc. In our State we have mostly got

joint family system where the members of same family are living on the earning of a particular man who may be an agriculturist, at the same time, in the same family there are people who go to other professions and they are required to pay the taxes also. The next is the most un-wanted tax, *viz.*, the Sales Tax. There is hardly any commodity which is free from this tax. This Sales Tax takes a big slab of the income of the poor people. Then there is the Village Cart Tax, then the Amusement Tax, etc., In this way, we find to day there is hardly anything left on which no tax is imposed. The people are feeling the burden of these taxes very much. Sir, when there is a tendency not towards inflation but towards deflation and when there is a trade slump, the income of the people are likely to go down. When the income rises, trade prospers. when there is a boom, people can justify these taxes. But to-day the situation is quite different. In view of the changed situation, it is necessary to review the whole position and revise the Taxation Policy and with that end in view, I have suggested in my Resolution that there should be a Taxation Enquiry Committee in our State also, so that we may be in a position to see our way to reduce the incidence of taxation on the poorer section of the people who are groaning under the various taxes. I do not mean that Government can run without imposing taxes, but all that I mean is to see how far we can adjust all these things and reduce the incidence of taxes on the poorer section of the people. On the other hand we should see how far we can tax the richer section of the people and thus be in a position to give some relief to the poorer section of the people. We know, Sir, when the Finance Commission came to our State, we placed a memorandum to them which was approved by this House before hand. Similarly if we have a Taxation Enquiry Committee here, we may be in a position to place our agreed opinion before the Central Taxation Enquiry Committee which will be visiting our State soon. It is an innocuous Resolution which will help the Government in the long run.

Now, Sir, there is no reliable figure about the incidence of tax in our State at present. I have inquired from various departments. They could not give me any figure regarding incidence of taxation. Sir, it is a most unhappy situation. Also we do not know what is the proportion of indirect tax to direct tax. All these informations are necessary, if we have to go into the matter. Therefore in my Resolution, now I have suggested that some members should be from outside and not less than 4 members should be from this House. If they have that sort of a committee, we shall be able to get very

valuable information regarding incidence of taxation, and regarding proportion of indirect taxes to direct taxes, and also how it affects people, and we may be able to render help to the people.

Mr. SPEAKER : Resolution moved : "That in view of the growing economic crisis, falling purchasing power and consequent distress of a large section of the people and the excessive burden of tax on the poorer sections of the people, this Assembly do constitute a Taxation Enquiry Committee consisting of seven members of which not less than four will be members from this Assembly to go into the whole Provincial Tax structure and recommend reduction of taxes."

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, frankly speaking, I am not at all convinced with the arguments advanced by my Friend about the utility or necessity of a Provincial Taxation Enquiry Committee at this stage. While advancing his arguments, my Friend himself also has in a way admitted that this Provincial Taxation Enquiry Committee is not necessary.

Sir, I shall be able to convince the House that there is no scope or rather no necessity to form such a committee here. It is not unknown to us that the Government of India have already constituted a Taxation Enquiry Commission with Dr. John Matthai as its Chairman. This Commission has already begun its work. It has also issued certain questionnaire. One set of questionnaire has already been published in the paper. It was also published in yesterday's *Assam Tribune*, asking for co-operation of the people.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : The questionnaire has not been published in the paper.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) : They are coming up soon. Sir, my Friend wants that the Provincial Taxation Enquiry Committee should go into the matter and issue terms of reference. He will be pleased to find that this purpose is covered by the terms of reference of the Central Committee. I am just going to read those terms of reference of the Central Committee, one by one.

"The following terms of reference are provisionally suggested for the consideration of the Conference :—

- (i) To examine the economic effects of the Taxation system, Central, States and Local so as to ensure that the system as a whole does not produce adverse effects on the economy of the country. The Committee will specially consider the effects of the present rates of income taxation on the ability and incentive to save and invest, and suggest modifications, if necessary, so that capital formation, and investment in risk bearing enterprise is not unduly hampered.

- (ii) To consider how far the present system of taxation is suitable for facilitating the implementation of the development programme of the country and to indicate whether, and in what manner, the system should be adapted to attain this end.
- (iii) To examine the manner in which the burden of taxation is distributed at present between the different classes of the people and to suggest changes, if necessary, in order to ensure that the burden is fairly and equitably distributed.
- (iv) To examine the effect of taxation on the inflationary situation, that is taxation as a fiscal instrument for dealing with inflationary situation, its use, abuses and pitfalls."

Sir, the terms of reference of this Central Commission is very wide. All that have been said by my Friend, Mr. Goswami, are covered by the Central Commission. Therefore, if a small committee of the State Legislature, as pointed out by Mr. Goswami is constituted, it will mean duplicating the work of that Central Commission. The Central Commission has got much more advantages to go into all these questions, than a Committee appointed by us. It has got advantages to make a more scientific enquiry of all these things as they will get more materials with small committee appointed by us. Besides that, the personnel of that Central Commission is likely to be more experienced as the field of recruitment is wider than that of ours and their report will in consequence be also much more useful and comprehensive. Here we have no such personnel to conduct such a scientific enquiry. Therefore, Sir, when the Government of India have appointed such a Commission for the same purpose. there is no necessity to constitute another committee in our State. So, I cannot accept the Resolution moved by my Friend, Mr. Goswami, and I hope he will see his way to withdraw it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Goswami, will you withdraw your Resolution?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I don't like to withdraw my Resolution, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is: "That in view of the growing economic crisis, falling purchasing power and consequent distress of a large section of the people and the excessive burden of tax on the poorer sections of the people, this Assembly do constitute a Taxation Enquiry Committee consisting of seven members of which not less than four will be members from this Assembly to go into the whole Provincial Tax structure and recommend reduction of taxes."

(The Resolution was negatived.)

Prorogation

I have just received an order from the Governor of Assam,
It is as follow :—

“Raj Bhavan,
Shillong
April, 10, 1953.

ORDER

In exercise of powers conferred by clause (2) (a) of Article 174 of the Constitution of India, as amended up to date, I, Jairamdas Doulatram, hereby prorogue the Assam Legislative Assembly at the conclusion of its sitting on the 11th April 1953.

JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM,

Governor of Assam.”

The Assembly was then prorogued,

Shillong :

R. N. BARUA,

The 19th December 1953.

*Secretary, Legislative Assembly,
Assam.*

AGENTS IN INDIA

1. Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co., Calcutta.
2. Messrs. W. Newman & Co., Calcutta.
3. Messrs. S. K. Lahiri & Co., Calcutta.
4. Messrs. R. Cambray & Co., 6 and 8/2, Hastings Street, Calcutta.
5. Messrs. D. B. Taraporevala Sons and Co., 103, Meadow Street, Fort, Post Box No.187, Bombay.
6. The Indian School Supply Depot, 309, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta.
7. The City Book Company, Post Box No.283, Madras.
8. The Director, The Book Company, Limited, Book Sellers and Stationers, 4/4A, College Square, Calcutta.
9. The Manager, The Imperial Publishing Co., 99, Ry. Road, Lahore.
10. Messrs. Chapala Book Stall, Shillong.
11. Messrs. Sirbhumi Publishing Co., Calcutta
12. The Proprietor, 'Graduates Union,' Gauhati.
13. Mr. Banwarilal Jain (Book Seller), 1719/2002, Mati Katra, Agra (India).
14. Messrs. Low Book Society, 65/3, Harrison Road, Calcutta.
15. The Director, Benares Corporation, University Road, P.O. Lanka.
16. Messrs. Law Book Society, 4A, Wellington Square, Calcutta.
17. Messrs. Bodh Raj Marwah, Booksellers, Shop No.63, Pusa Colony Market, Delhi-Karol Bagh, New Delhi.