



Proceedings of the Ninth Session of the First Assam Legislative Assembly assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935

THE ASSEMBLY met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 11 A.M., on Saturday, the 29th March 1941

PRESENT

The Hon'ble Mr. Basanta Kumar Das, Speaker, in the Chair, the nine Hon'ble Ministers and forty-six members.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(to which answers were laid on the table)

Government contributions to other Provincial Governments for certain educational facilities to Assam Students

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE asked :

1. Will Government be pleased to state, separately, institution by institution, the amount of annual contributions made by this Government to other Provincial Governments for giving facilities to Assam Students to study in the following educational institutions :—

- (a) Medical Colleges and Schools ?
- (b) Engineering Colleges and Schools ?
- (c) Veterinary Colleges and Schools ?
- (d) Agricultural Colleges and Schools ?
- (e) Training colleges and schools ?

(f) Other educational institutions, if any ?

2. Does the Government contribute anything on account of the services of the Presidency College and other Government colleges imparting instructions in ordinary Arts and Science Courses ?

3. (a) Does the Government of Assam contribute any amount direct to the Calcutta University or to the Dacca University or to the Government of Bengal for services by the Dacca University or for services by the Calcutta College of Science or by the Post Graduate classes of the Calcutta University ?

(b) If so, what are the respective amounts ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

	Contribution (1940-41)	Contribution (1941-42)
	Rs.	Rs.
1. (a)—		
(1) Examination fees and maintenance charges of the Calcutta Medical College	41,038	38,250

	Contribution (1940-41)	Contribution (1941-42)
	Rs.	Rs.
(2) Contribution to the Government of Bengal for the maintenance of the Calcutta Medical School ...	2,000	2,100
(b)—		
(1) Contribution to Bengal for Assam students in the Engineering College ...	5,500	6,420
(2) Contribution to Bengal for seats and other incidental charges for Assam students reading in Engineering Schools ...	2,500	4,500
(c)—		
(1) Contribution to Bengal Veterinary College ...	10,800	16,200
(2) Contribution to Veterinary Schools ...	...	...
(d)—		
(1) Contribution for training of Assam students in Agricultural College (Allahabad Agricultural Institute)	1,200	1,775
(2) Contribution to Agriculture Schools ...	...	...
	Nil	Nil.
(e)—		
(f)—		
(1) Share cost for the maintenance of the Hazaribagh Reformatory School	6,500	5,057
(2) Grant for a Lecturer in Assamese ...	1,200	1,200

***Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN:** May I know why these contributions vary from year to year? What is the basis of calculation?

***The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Sir, the debit is raised by Bengal on per capita expenditure for students. In one year there may be a professor with high salary; the next year that professor may go on leave and another professor with lesser salary may come. The variations are due to such matters.

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied:

2.—No.

3. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

*Speech not corrected by the hon. member or the Hon'ble Minister concerned.

STARRED QUESTIONS

(to which oral answers were given)

Superintendent, Assam Government Press**Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI** asked :

- *124. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether in consonance with the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Resources Committee, the post of the Superintendent of the Government Press, Shillong, has been abolished ?
- (b) If so, from which date ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

124. (a)—The Ministry has decided to give effect to the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee and abolish the post.

(b)—The date from which the Superintendent will cease to function has not yet been fixed.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: With regard to the answer to (b), will Government be pleased to expedite the matter ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Yes, Sir.

Appointments in the Public Works Department**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

- *125. Will Government be pleased to state how many appointments, officiating and permanent, were made in the ministerial branch of the Public Works Department in Surma Valley and Assam Valley after the assumption of office by the present Ministry with the names and home addresses of those appointed ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURI replied :

125.—A list giving detailed information is placed on the Library table.

Ministerial Re-organisation Committee**Maulavi MUHAMMAD MAQBUL HUSSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

- *126. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether the Ministerial Re-organisation Committee enquired into the present affairs of the Assam Government Press specially in regard to the mismanagement of the Press authority, reduction of office hours, restoration of holidays and revival of the post of the Distributors in the Press like its former standard, *i.e.*, up to 31st December 1933 and submitted any report ?
- (b) If so, will Government be pleased to place a copy of the said Committee's report on the table of the House ?

- (c) What action they have taken on the said report ?
- (d) Whether the said Committee received any evidence from the Assam Government Press Industrial Employees' Association ?
- (e) If so, will Government be pleased to place a copy of that evidence on the Library table ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

126. (a)—The Committee was asked to go into the questions of the duties of the Head Clerk, the request for reduction of office hours, the question of separate distributors, and the leave terms of certain workers. It was not requested to report on any question of management, nor was it competent to do so.

(b)—Government have not completed the examination of the recommendations and are not therefore prepared to publish the report at present.

(c)—Instructions have been issued defining the duties of the Head Clerk.

(d)—The Committee heard a deputation but did not record regular evidence.

(e)—The question does not arise.

Accident in the Assam Government Press

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN asked :

*127. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Superintendent of the Assam Government Press recently employed certain Press employees who were in the superior service to carry some machineries from the Commercial Carrying Company's Lorry to the Press Compound ?
- (b) If so, what action do Government propose to take against this Officer for employing those employees for doing such manual labour ?
- (c) Whether any accident occurred on the 16th December 1940, during the working hours as a result of engaging certain Press employees to carry machines from the Commercial Carrying Company's Lorry to the Press Compound ?
- (d) If so, with what result and what is the medical report thereon ?
- (e) If the answer to question No.127(c) above is in the affirmative, what action Government propose to take on such activities of the Press authority on the matter ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

127. (a)—On 16th December 1940 the Superintendent called upon about 60 employees, both superior and inferior, to help in a special job of moving in some heavy machinery which had arrived and been brought to the road outside the Press.

(b)—Government understands that the practice of calling upon all employees to give a helping hand has been in vogue from a long time. Government is enquiring whether in this instance help was not voluntarily given by the persons engaged.

(c)—Unfortunately there was an accident to two men.

(d)—One man sustained a fractured rib and the other a chest injury. The former was declared fit and the latter fit for light duty, excluding heavy lifting or hammering, after a month and 19 days.

(e)—Government are not able to come to a conclusion how far the accident was avoidable but they have instructed the Superintendent to take expert advice so far as possible on any occasion when heavy machinery has to be taken into the Press.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: May I know whether it is a fact that the unfortunate fellow sustained an injury resulting in fracture of the ribs?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: That is in the answer.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: Do Government propose to give him any compensation?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: That will be regulated by the Factories Act.

Establishment of Drug Industry

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI asked:

*128. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that due to the war pharmaceutical preparations have become very costly and scarce all over India and Governments of some provinces are devising ways and means to make up the deficiency so as to meet the present need and also to build up "drug industry" for the future?

(b) Whether it is a fact that Assam has got ample scope for such pharmaceutical industry?

(c) If so, what steps, if any, the Government of Assam propose to take in this direction?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY replied:

128. (a)—Imported drugs have become costly and scarce. As a result of this great efforts are being made by the Drug Industry in different centres in India to supply the need and these efforts have the fullest encouragement from the Government of India.

(b)—It is doubtful if Assam has got special scope for this industry at present.

(c)—Does not arise.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Has it been tried here ?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY: No, Sir, but it is the opinion of the experts that Assam has no scope for it.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: May I enquire who were the experts ?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY: I mean the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Is he the only authority on which the Government depend ?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY: Certainly, he is the authority of the Provincial Government on all matters concerning the Medical Department.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Will the Government be guided by the opinion of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals in point of establishment of industries in the province always ?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY: This is a matter of opinion. I do not think this question is relevant.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: How is it that Assam having a large scope for an industry like this it has not been started yet ?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY: The matter was examined by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, and he thinks that the different ingredients necessary for the different sorts of medicines are not available in this province, and have to be imported from other places.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Why are they not available ? Is it due to the fact that the soil of Assam is not suitable for the purpose ?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY: It is a new question. I want notice of the question.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Can the Hon'ble Minister claim notice of it, Sir ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes, he can. It means that he has not got all the relevant facts at his command.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: So may I give him notice by this question, so that he may be able to give us a reply at the adjourned session of the Assembly ?

The Hon'ble Srijut HIRENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY: The hon. member is raising all sorts of elementary questions each of which requires a separate investigation. If he asks information on a particular point I shall be glad to get it and supply him.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: The question has arisen out of a reply given to the main question, so if in the middle of it the Hon'ble Minister says that he requires notice, we cannot help it. However, I give notice now, and let the Hon'ble Minister supply the information at the adjourned session of the Assembly.

Mr. A. WHITTAKER: Sir, in the interests of other hon. members who may be interested in this very same question is it not desirable that a separate question appears on the order paper at the next session of the Assembly ? If this is not done other members will have no idea of what

these questions are since the proceedings will not be available to us. I think it will be more convenient for the House, as well as the Department concerned, if a separate question appears on the order paper at the next session.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, order. If the hon. member will refer to Rule 39 he will see that he is required to give his notice in writing, and as the Hon'ble Minister has claimed notice the rule requires that the member should give notice in writing, so that the Hon'ble Minister can answer the question at the next session.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Even when it arises out of a supplementary question?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I have already explained to the hon. member that he is entitled to put a supplementary question and the Hon'ble Minister is also entitled to ask for notice of the question to be adequately ready to answer the question when informations require to be collected, Hon'ble Ministers are entitled to claim notice, because they cannot imagine how many supplementary questions may be asked to the main questions. When an Hon'ble Minister finds that in answering a supplementary question the matter is to be examined for collection of materials, he can claim notice of the question. I would therefore request the hon. member to put down the question in writing.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: We might give notice of questions under that rule but when informations with regard to a supplementary question are to be collected, it can be done as continuation of the substantive question, Sir?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: That is not so under the Rule that I have already referred to. The hon. member will understand the difficulties of answering supplementary questions when he will become a Minister. (*laughter*).

Medical aid to Murarichand College students

Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI asked:

*129. Are Government aware—

- (a) That a number of Murarichand College students who are now living in messes very near to the Murarichand College and its hostels at Sylhet do not get any medical aid from the College dispensary?
- (b) That these college students find difficulty in getting medicine, etc., from the town dispensary which is about three miles off from these messes?
- (c) Do Government propose to extend the benefit of the college dispensary to these college students at an early date?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied:

129.(a), (b) and (c)—A reference is invited to Rule 15, Part II, Section 33 of the Education Department Rules and Orders. Under this rule, boarders and Government servants resident in the Murarichand College hostel compound are entitled to ordinary dispensary medicines, dressings, etc., and the services of the Medical Officer and compounder free of charge. Non-boarders have no claim at all on the dispensary, the Medical Officer, or the compounder.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: May I know whether Government propose to extend the same facilities to the messes which are situated just beside the Government Boarding House.

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: I can look into that question ; but as rules stand at present such relief cannot be given.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I understand the rules as they stand. But may I know whether these facilities may also be extended to the students who live just beside.

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: I shall look into the matter. If the number of students is not very large something can be done.

Grants-in-aid to Venture Schools

Babu BIPIN BEHARI DAS asked :

*130. Will Government be pleased to state the list of Venture Schools (Lower Primary) submitted by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Habiganj, in 1940-41 ?

*131. Will Government be pleased to state the number of Venture Schools (Lower Primary) which received grants-in-aid in 1940-41 ?

*132.(a) Are Government aware of the fact that the Scheduled Castes are most backward in education ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to adopt better means for the education of the Scheduled Castes ?

*133. Do Government propose to popularise education amongst the Scheduled Castes by way of granting free education in the secondary schools and colleges ?

*134. Do Government propose to appoint special officers to look after the education of the Scheduled Castes both in the Surma Valley and the Assam Valley ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

130.—The Deputy Inspector of Schools may have submitted such a list to the local committee, but the list is not readily available for providing the information required.

131.—Three hundred and thirty-nine.

132.(a)—They are backward in education like certain other sections of the community.

(b) and 133.—Government are already doing this by means of scholarships and free places in schools and colleges.

134.—The suggestion will be considered.

Mr. C. GOLDSMITH: Would Government accept that the Scheduled castes are the most backward in education ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: I have not accepted it. They are backward in education, but there are others who are equally backward.

Mr. C. GOLDSMITH: Is it not a fact that the ex-tea garden labourers, hills and the tribal people are the most backward ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: All that I can say is that they are also backward.

Starred question No.135 standing in the name of Maulavi Abdul Bari Chaudhury was not put and answered as the questioner was absent.

Selection grade of the Assam Lower School Service

Maulavi MD. ABDUS SALAM asked :

*136. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that in matters educational Naga Hills has been separated from the control of the Inspector of Schools, Surma Valley and Hill Districts ?

(b) If so, how the percentage of different communities are calculated for purposes of appointment in the Education Department ?

(c) Whether calculations are made excluding Naga people ?

(d) If so, how the percentage of various communities stands ?

*137.(a) Is it a fact that in filling up the nine posts of Science teachers newly sanctioned for Surma Valley and Hill Districts, 4 caste Hindus, 3 Muslims, 1 Scheduled caste and 1 tribal have been taken in ?

(b) If so, on what percentage basis ?

*138. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) What principle and procedure were followed in promoting teachers to selection grade of the Assam Lower School Service during the last 10 years and what principle and procedure are proposed to be followed this year ?

(b) The number of posts in the selection grade of the Assam Lower School Service and the number of such posts held by Muslims ?

*139.(a) Is it a fact that the people of Cachar are over-represented in the Assam Lower School and the ministerial services under the Education Department ?

(b) If so, why ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

136.(a)—Yes.

(b)—No change has been made in the calculation of the percentage referred to.

(c) & (d)—Do not arise.

137.(a)—Yes.

(b)—These were special posts and communal considerations could not be strictly observed for want of suitable candidates from all communities.

138.(a)—Seniority, age and merit. The same principle will apply this year.

(b)—26 out of which 3 posts are occupied by Muslims.

139.(a) & (b)—Government have no information.

Appointments are not made on a district basis.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table.)

Ministerial officers under the Deputy Commissioner, Khasi and Jaintia Hills**Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN** asked :

192. Will Government be pleased to state—
- The number of ministerial officers working at present in the establishment of the Deputy Commissioner, Khasi and Jaintia Hills? (Each community to be shown separately.)
 - The number of such officers now working in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner at Shillong in its different branches?
 - The number of Muslim ministerial officers in Deputy Commissioner's Office at Shillong?
193. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of new appointments in the ministerial staff in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Shillong, from April 1937 to December 1940, showing the number of Muslims appointed during the said period?
194. Will Government be pleased to state—
- Whether during the last few years no Muslim was appointed in the Upper Grade of the Ministerial Staff in the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Shillong?
 - Whether recently the Extra Assistant Commissioner in charge of Nazarat, Shillong, recommended for a Muslim to be appointed as Nazir in the said Deputy Commissioner's office, Shillong?
 - Will Government be pleased to state whether any Muslim has been appointed?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA replied :

192. (a)—4 Hindus.
29 Tribal People (Khasis).
Total—33 in all branches of the office.
- (b)—3 under the Deputy Commissioner in charge Forests.
2 under the Deputy Commissioner in charge Excise.
24 under the Deputy Commissioner in charge General.
- (c)—None.
- 193.—In 1937—2.
In 1938—5 including a temporary appointment of 3½ months.
In 1939—1.
In 1940—4.
Of these 10 are Khasis and 2 Hindus.
According to the communal representation table the Muslims are entitled to only 1 per cent. or .33 of the appointments in all the branches of the Deputy Commissioner's office. No Muslim was appointed in the Deputy Commissioner's office as now constituted, but two Muslims were transferred in 1940 to the Police Office of which he was then in charge.

194. (a)—No.
 (b)—No.
 (c)—Does not arise.

Kalaigaon Circle

Srijut RABI CHANDRA KACHARI asked :

195. Are Government aware that Kalaigaon Circle in the Darrang district is popularly known as a tribal area, *i.e.*, the tribal elements preponderate in overwhelming number there ?

196. (a) Is it a fact that the said Circle has now been divided into several blocks ?

(b) If so, have these blocks been constituted for purposes under the development scheme or under Reservation Scheme for the people of tribal area ?

(c) Do Government propose to consider the advisability of reservation of land there for future expansion of tribal area ?

197. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is any petition praying for settlement from the tribal people within Kalaigaon zone ?

(b) If so, what action do Government propose to take ?

(c) Is it a fact that the quondam Sub-Deputy Collector Mr. Rajab Ali Mazumdar destroyed some 3,000 B form applications for settlement ?

(d) If so, what action do Government propose to take against him ?

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN replied :

195.—Yes, Kacharies predominate in Kalaigaon Circle.

196. (a), (b) and (c)—It is not a fact that the entire circle is to be divided into blocks. Blocks of waste land of over 1,000 bighas proposed from the circle are now under the consideration of Government for starting Development Schemes both for indigenous people including tribal, as well as immigrants. To reserve areas for future expansion of all classes of people is also in contemplation and forms part of the Development Scheme.

197. (a)—There are applications for settlement of waste lands from tribal people—Kacharies—awaiting disposal.

(b)—They are being considered by the local officers and will be disposed of on their merits.

(c)—Government have no such information.

(d)—Does not arise.

Srijut RABI CHANDRA KACHARI: Will the Government take it from me that such happenings happened in that area.

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: Well, I can take the statement of the hon. member as correct.

Srijut RABI CHANDRA KACHARI: Will the Government be pleased to have an immediate inquiry made regarding this ?

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: That may be done.

Karimganj Government High School

Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI asked :

198. (a) Are Government aware that most of the *Kutch* houses of the Karimganj Government High School were burnt down by fire in 1939 ?

(b) Are Government aware that the present temporary arrangement has resulted in congestion and lack of accommodation for the purposes of holding classes ?

(c) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the absence of the Science Laboratory in the School ?

(d) Are Government aware that a room or a building is essentially required to be set apart for the teaching of science as required by the rules of the University ?

(e) Are Government aware of the insufficient accommodation in the Muslim hostel attached to the Karimganj Government High School ?

(f) Will Government be pleased to state what steps, if any, have been taken by them to rebuild the houses burnt down ?

(g) Do Government propose to consider the desirability of reconstructing the school houses in this year ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

198. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g)—Yes. To meet all these requirements the Director of Public Instruction has submitted proposals for construction of new buildings for the school, and they are engaging consideration of Government, but could not be taken up hitherto for want of funds.

Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI: With regard to question 198(g), Sir, may I know from Government when these school houses will be really constructed ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: I have said, Sir, the whole matter is under consideration and the information which has been given by the hon. member is correct and the Director of Public Instruction has submitted his proposal and as soon as funds are available we shall do something.

Khan Bahadur Maulavi MAHMUD ALI: I want to know when funds will be available ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: That is as much known to the hon. member as to myself.

Posts of Physical Instructors

Srijut KARKA DALAY MIRI asked :

199. (a) Is it a fact that four posts of Physical Instructors were created in the Assam Valley in 1929 and that out of them up till now only three posts have been filled up ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to fill up the said vacant post immediately by a Madras trained Physical Instructor ?

200. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The official status of the present Inspectors of Physical Training ?

- (b) Whether Government propose to raise the existing status of the present Inspectors of Physical Training in view of the nature of their works ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that they have not yet been given chaprasies ?
- (d) If so, do Government propose to take early steps for supplying them with chaprasies ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

199. (a)—Yes.
(b)—The matter is under consideration.
200. (a)—They belong to Class III of the Assam School Service.
(b)—The suggestion will be considered.
(c) & (d)—The attention of the hon. member is drawn to the relevant scheme at page 98 of the Budget Memorandum for 1941-42.

Officers of Class III of Assam School Service

Srijut KARKA DALAY MIRI asked :

201. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) The basis on which the officers of Class III of Assam School Service are promoted ?
- (b) Whether any member of Class III in the teaching line has been promoted to Class I during the last ten years ?
- (c) How many officers of Class III in the inspecting line have been promoted to Class I during the same period, and what are their qualifications ?
- (d) Whether Government make any distinction amongst these officers of the same class ?
- (e) If so, why ?
202. (a) Is it a fact that the medium of instruction in the Assam Valley schools is still Bengali ?
- (b) If so, will Government be pleased to state how many teachers of these schools are still Bengali ?
- (c) Do Government propose to replace them with Assamese teachers ?
203. Will Government be pleased to state how many outsiders have been appointed to Class III in the Assam School Service as teachers on an enhanced initial pay from 1937 onwards ?
204. Will Government be pleased to state how many outsiders of the same qualifications and status as those mentioned in question No.203 above have been appointed to Class III of the Assam School Service during the said period ?
205. Will Government be pleased to state—
- (a) The reasons for such distinction in appointing outsiders to Class III of the Assam School Service ?

- (b) Whether Government have received a memorial on the matter from the teachers of Classes II and III ?
- (c) If so, do Government propose to take immediate steps to redress their grievances ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

201. (a)—Seniority and merit.

(b)—It is not clear whether the hon. member refers to direct promotion from Class III to Class I or to ordinary promotion through Class II to Class I and Government find it difficult to reply.

(c)—The information is furnished below :—

1. Babu Hem Chandra Das, L.T.
2. Maulavi Omar Ali Bar Laskar, B.A., B.T.
3. Babu Narendranath Bhattacharyya, B.A., B.T.
4. Srijut Premanath Barua, L.T.
5. Mr. Harrison W. Momin.
6. Srijut Santo Pal Das, L.T.
7. Maulavi Syed Mohsin Ali, L.T.
8. Srijut Sib Chandra Sarma, B.A., B.T.
9. Srijut Pratap Chandra Nath, B.A., B.T.
10. Srijut Chittramalla Barua, L.T.
11. Srijut Bhabakanta Dutta, B.Sc., B.T.
12. Maulavi Md. Alaur Rahman (I.A. passed).
13. Srijut Uttam Chandra Choudhury, B.A., B.T.
14. Srijut Premadhar Barua, L.T.
15. Srijut Gagan Chandra Barua, F.A.

(d)—The question is not intelligible.

(e)—Does not arise.

202. (a)—Yes with the exception of the Dhubri High School.

(b)—Six excluding the teachers of the Dhubri High School.

(c)—Vacancies as they occur will be filled up on the valley basis.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI : With regard to question 202 (a), Sir, was Assamese language ever tried at Dhubri High School ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI : I do not remember this. I will make an enquiry into this question, and let the hon. member know.

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :
203.—Two.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI : Will it be possible for Government to give the names of these two officers ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI : If my recollection is correct, the name of one is Srijut Rajkumar Sureshwar Gohain and the other is Horo Mohan Das.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI : From which districts they come ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI : Srijut Rajkumar Sureshwar Gohain comes originally from the district of Sibsagar and Srijut Horo Mohan Das comes from Kamrup.

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

204.—None.

205. (a)—Does not arise.

(b)—The Director of Public Instruction has received a representation.

(c)—It will be considered on its merit.

Maulavi Dewan MUHAMMAD AHBAB CHAUDHURY: From the list given in reply to question No 201(c) it appears that only three Muslims have been promoted to class I, and I think Muslims are under-represented in Class I of the School Service.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: What is the question?

Maulavi Dewan MUHAMMAD AHBAB CHAUDHURI: My question is that amongst 15 officers of Class I only three are Muslims. So Muslims are under-represented and I request Government to take.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. member is to put a question.

Maulavi Dewan MUHAMMAD AHBAB CHAUDHURI: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to this?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Yes, that matter is also under consideration, Sir.

Communal representation in the Education Department in the Surma Valley

Babu BALARAM SIRCAR asked :

206. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of officers belonging to the Caste Hindus, Muslims, Scheduled Castes and others, showing separately, who are serving as clerks, Sub-Inspectors, teachers and Deputy Inspectors in the Education Department in the Surma Valley?

(b) Whether the Scheduled Castes, people are fully represented in that Department in the Surma Valley?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

206. (a)—A statement is furnished below :—

	Clerks	Assam School Service		Assam Lower School Service	Outside grade service	Deputy Inspectors
		Sub-Inspectors	Teachers			
Muslims	28	18	72	29	3	3
Surma Valley Hindus	19	4	54	46	5	4
Assam Valley Hindus	..	..	1	1	..	..
Scheduled Castes ..	7	1	7	2	2	..
Domiciled .. ..	..	..	3	2	..	..
Others .. ..	..	..	13	6	..	..
						1

(b)—No.

Babu BIPIN BEHARI DAS: What is the percentage of appointments of the Scheduled Castes people in the Education Department in the Surma Valley ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: The Scheduled Castes people have not been fully represented in the Education Department in the Surma Valley. They are still under-represented.

Babu BIPIN BEHARI DAS: What is the percentage ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: I would require notice of that question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: But the Hon'ble Minister has said that they are not fully represented.

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Yes.

Babu BIPIN BEHARI DAS: Therefore I like to know from the Government what is the percentage of appointments held by the scheduled castes people.

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: I want notice of that question. As far as I remembers about five more appointments will make the scheduled castes people fully represented in the Surma Valley.

Babu BIPIN BEHARI DAS: I think that is not enough. My question has not been answered.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: When the enquiry was made it was said that the scheduled castes people were not fully represented, but what is the percentage, the Minister cannot say that now.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: From the statement with reference to question 206(a) it appears that there is an outside grade service. May I know what is meant by 'outside grade service' ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: They are not in the regular grade.

Mass Literacy Campaign

Maulana ABDUL HAMID KHAN asked :

207. Will Government be pleased to state—
- The total amount spent on Mass Literacy Campaign showing the different purposes for which the money was spent ?
 - The amount spent by them on Mass Literacy Campaign in Dhubri South Bank ?
 - What help, if any, has been given by Government to the Night Schools under the Ghagmari Rural Uplift centre ?
208. (a) Is it a fact that books were distributed free of cost by Government to remove Mass illiteracy ?
- If so, will Government be pleased to state the total amount spent by them on purchase of books for such free distribution ?
 - Of this amount, how much was spent on purchase of books in Assamese language and how much on Bengali books ?
209. Will Government be pleased to state—
- Whether any special instruction was given to subordinate officers to distribute books in Bengali in the areas inhabited by Bengalees ?
 - If not, why not ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

207. (a)—The total amount spent up-to-date is Rs.51,760—

	Rs.
(i) Centre contingency, etc.	24,500
(ii) Preparation and Printing of Primers, Literature, pamphlets, Reading-sheets, etc....	10,000
(iii) Payment of salaries to teachers engaged ...	12,800
(iv) Pay of Mass Literacy Officer and his staff	4,460
Total ...	51,760

(b)—Government paid Rs.70 as contingency charges to 7 Literacy centres opened up-to-date in the South Bank at the rate of Rs.10 per centre and Rs.125 as contingency charge to all these centres paid out of the fund raised from the public.

(c)—A literacy centre is being opened at Ghagmari.

208. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No books were purchased, but they were prepared by Departmental officers and printed and published at Government cost, the total amount being Rs.10,000.

(c)—Approximately Rs. 5,600 for the preparation, printing and publishing Assamese primers, Literature, etc., and Rs.4,400 for Bengali.

Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: May I know the authors of these books ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: They were written by Government officers of the Department and nothing was paid as remuneration to those officers.

Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: Is it a fact that all these books have been written by the Inspector of Schools ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: I do not think so.

Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: Will Government please enquire whether all these books have been written by the Inspector of Schools himself ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Sir, if I know the purpose for which the answer is wanted, I can make an enquiry.

Mr. NABA KUMAR DUTTA: Whether other officers have got a chance to write these books or these were written by the Inspector of Schools himself ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: If the hon. member has in mind any particular author whose books, he considers may be useful then I can make an enquiry.

Khan Bahadur Maulavi KERAMAT ALI: Do officers in the Education Department receive any remuneration in writing these books ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: No, Sir.

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

209. (a)—No.

(b)—No special instruction was needed. Centres started for Bengali-speaking people were supplied with primers, literature, etc., in Bengali as a matter of course.

Grant-in-aid to Venture Primary Schools and Maktabas

Babu KARUNA SINDHU ROY asked :

210. (a) Is it a fact that the committees of Members of Legislative Assembly of each subdivision of the Province recommended for Government grants-in-aid to some of venture primary schools and Maktabas a year ago ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether Government grants-in-aid have been given to all the recommended schools ?

(c) If not, why not ?

211. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government grants-in-aid will be awarded to the venture primary schools and Maktabas next year ?

(b) Whether the recommendations of subdivisional committees of Members of Legislative Assembly will be sought for in this connection ?

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

(i) When the meetings of the subdivisional committees of Members of Legislative Assembly will be held for the purpose ?

(ii) Whether the Members of Legislative Assembly in prison will be consulted in the matter ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI replied :

210. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

(c)—Only a limited number of schools could be taken over with the funds available, and the committees recommended a much larger number.

211. (a)—The hon. member's attention is invited to the scheme at page 103 of the Budget Memorandum for 1941-42.

(b)—Yes.

(c) (i)—As soon as possible after the provision in the budget is voted by the Assembly.

(ii)—This will be governed by the rules in the Jail Manual.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Will it be possible for Government to state the number when calling for the recommendations of the subdivisional committees, *i.e.*, the number of schools they want to recommend ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Not possible just now.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Is the Hon'ble Minister aware of the fact that when calling for these recommendations from the Subdivisional Committees they give much larger number than actually can be taken ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Of course that is quite so.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: It becomes sometimes difficult to choose the schools which are particularly required and very urgently wanted. In view of this, Sir, will it be possible for Government to issue certain instructions to the Subdivisional Committees to give their recommendations for starting as many schools as are wanted ?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: It cannot be given beforehand, Sir. The Subdivisional Committees give a list containing more names that can possibly be taken up. These lists are scrutinised and finally selected by Government.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Has the Hon'ble Minister not received a number of representations and telegrams last time asking to state the number of schools and different communities that are to be included in the list of the Subdivisional Committees in making their recommendations?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Possibly I received, Sir.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD AMJAD ALI: Is the Hon'ble Minister not aware of the difficulties that are experienced by the Subdivisional Committees in recommending these schools if the number be not stated Sir?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: I do not understand the difficulties. They can give their list in order of preference and Government can select and choose.

Maulavi ABDUR RAHMAN: Is it a fact Sir, that sometime Government selects schools even outside the list that is submitted by Local authorities?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: Sometime it may be so, Sir. I remember to have done that at the instance of my hon. friend the questioner last time.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, order.

Complaint for the non-receipt of replies to certain question

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, before we take up the next item of business I want to make a submission regarding questions. I got an assurance from the Hon'ble Prime Minister when he asked me to put some short notice questions relating to free distribution of newspaper by Government. But in spite of the assurance, Sir, unfortunately I do not find any reply to those questions. Sir, may I now enquire from the Hon'ble Premier about that?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Sir, I am glad that my hon. friend has raised that question. I was going to make a statement on this point, Sir, by a mistake, in office, all these questions were placed before my Hon'ble Colleague the Minister-in-charge of the General Department. But probably at the time when I gave that assurance he was not present or was unmindful and therefore he objected to admission of the questions at such a late time. So from the Secretariat the file came back to the Assembly office. The Assembly Secretary remembering the assurances given by me brought the file to me, when I agreed to give the answer and prepared the answers hurriedly yesterday by 2 P.M. In this way one day was lost. Probably there is a rule that unless it is received in the Assembly office before 3 o'clock they cannot send it to press and hence the replies could not be given.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: In this connection may I make another submission? I remember it perfectly well that the Hon'ble Minister concerned was present in the House at the time when the assurance was given by the Hon'ble Premier. The Hon'ble Premier has said that probably he (the Minister concerned) was unmindful. Sir, will the Hon'ble Premier kindly ask his Colleague to be more mindful in future?

The Hon'ble Srijut ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHURI: It is very difficult to be always mindful to what my hon. friend Mr. Mookerjee says.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I am just quoting the word used by the Hon'ble Premier, Sir ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It is natural that under pressure of work one may sometimes be unmindful.

Mr. BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: That may be said so far as the Hon'ble Premier is concerned. But as regards other Ministers, do you sincerely believe that, Sir ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi Saiyid Sir MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: It may be, Sir, that at the time when I replied to my hon. friend, my Hon'ble Colleague was busy preparing his own case for the cut-motions. I remember it was one of those cut-motion days when the matter arose. It is regrettable that one valuable day was lost, and the replies could not be placed before the House. I hurriedly drafted the replies yesterday and sent the file to the Secretariat before 2 o'clock.

Presentation of the authenticated schedule of authorized expenditure for the year 1941-42

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the authenticated Schedule* of authorised expenditure for the year 1941-42.

Presentation of the authenticated schedule of authorised expenditure in relation to Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1940-41

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulavi SAYIDUR RAHMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the authenticated Schedule† of authorised expenditure in relation to Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1940-41.

Adjournment of the Session *sine die*

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: This finishes the business of the day. I am going to adjourn the House *sine die*. It is not possible to announce a definite date for the resumption of the sittings of this Session, but I may tell the hon. members that most likely the sittings would be resumed by the middle of May. If for some reason it cannot be done even by the middle of May, then the adjournment may continue till some time in June.

Now, the hon. members will remember that the Session is going to be adjourned for settling some difficulties in order to transact the outstanding Government business, *viz.*, consideration of the Rules under the Motor Vehicles Act. So, if the sittings are resumed by the middle of May I am afraid that no day for private members' business will be allotted. But I may tell the hon. members that if for some reasons the sittings be delayed beyond June then some days may be allotted for private members' business.

Now, I adjourn the House *sine die*.

SHILLONG :

The 14th June, 1941.

A. K. BARUA,

Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly.

*See Appendix F.

†See Appendix G.

APPENDIX F

Authenticated schedule specifying the grants made by the Legislative Assembly and the sums required to meet the expenditure charged on the revenues of Assam for the year 1941-42 as required by section 80 of the Government of India Act, 1935

No. of grant	Description	Charged			Demand as presented to the Assembly (Voted)	Amount of cut made by the Assembly (Voted)	Amount included by Governor (Voted)	Authenticated amounts (Voted)
		Non excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total authenticated amounts				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax.	..	..	..	38,200	..	..	38,200
2	Land Revenue	33,700	27,100	60,800	15,71,900	..	..	15,71,900
3	Provincial Excise	31,000	15,400	46,400	3,79,400	..	..	3,79,400
4	Stamps	..	100	100	44,200	..	..	44,200
5	Forests	1,63,500	1,10,700	2,74,200	9,64,200	..	..	9,64,200
6	Registration	..	..	..	1,51,800	..	..	1,51,800
7	Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.	10,100	1,300	11,400	4,67,200	..	..	4,67,200
8	Other Taxes and Duties	..	..	..	2,500	..	..	2,500

APPENDIX F—concl'd

No. of grant	Description	Charged			Demand as presented to the Assembly (Voted)	Amount of cut made by the Assembly (Voted)	Amount included by Governor (Voted)	Authenticated amounts (Voted)
		Non-Excludes areas	Excluded areas	Total authenticated amounts				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
10	Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works.	15,300	..	15,300	1,51,100	..	..	1,51,100
	Interest on debt and other obligations ..	4,94,000	..	4,94,000	..	..	..	..
	Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt.	3,75,000	..	3,75,000	..	..	..	..
11	General Administration.. ..	10,35,600	3,01,200	13,36,800	22,69,100	..	..	22,69,100
12	Administration of Justice	2,12,200	1,600	2,13,800	7,32,100	..	..	7,32,100
13	Jails and Convict Settlement	5,100	14,000	19,100	4,87,900	..	..	4,87,900
14	Police	6,71,500	61,200	7,32,700	24,50,900*	..	..	24,50,900*
15	Ports and Pilotage .. ..	..	..	..	2,000	..	..	2,000
16	Scientific Departments .. ..	..	..	..	6,200	..	..	6,200
17	Education (European)	800	3,700	4,500	78,700	78,700
18	Education (other than European)	38,800	1,30,600	1,69,400	41,44,900	41,44,900

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19	Medical	1,44,100	2,10,000	3,54,100	11,76,300	11,76,300
20	Public Health	60,600	35,500	96,100	7,91,800	7,91,800
21	Agriculture	19,600	22,700	42,300	6,47,100	..	..	6,47,100
22	Veterinary .. .. .	..	7,600	7,600	2,17,500	..	..	2,17,500
23	Co-operation	34,900	..	34,900	1,40,500	..	..	1,40,500
24	Industries .. .. .	..	9,700	9,700	2,46,200	..	..	2,46,200
25	Miscellaneous Departments	2,200	100	2,300	1,16,600	..	..	1,16,600
26	Civil Works [excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment].	47,000	4,11,400	4,58,400	43,06,400	..	..	43,06,400
27	Tools and Plant and Establishment charges	1,87,200	97,500	2,84,700	7,95,700	..	..	7,95,700
28	Famine Relief .. .. .	..	..	..	50,000	..	..	50,000
29	Superannuation Allowances and Pensions ..	8,71,000	..	8,71,000	17,26,900	..	..	17,26,900
30	Stationery and Printing	1,300	4,600	5,900	3,45,000	..	..	3,45,000
31	Miscellaneous	18,05,100	1,34,200	19,39,300	3,30,700	..	..	3,30,700
32	Extraordinary charges .. .. .	..	..	..	1,300	..	..	1,300
33	Loans and advances bearing and not bearing interest.	..	..	..	5,32,000	..	..	5,32,000
	Grand total.. .. .	62,59,600	16,00,200	78,59,800	2,53,66,300	..	..	2,53,66,300

* Includes Rs. 64,600 under special responsibilities of His Excellency the Governor.

R. N. REID,
Governor

The 27th March 1941.

Authenticated schedule of supplementary statement of expenditure for the year 1940-41, laid before the Legislative Assembly in the March Session, 1941, under section 81 of the Government of India Act, 1935

Number of Grant	Heads	Supplementary amount laid before the Assembly in this Session			Amount of cut made by the Assembly		Amount included by Governor		Amount now authenticated				Remarks
		Charged		Non-excluded areas (Voted)	Non-excluded areas (Voted)	Non-excluded areas (Voted)	Non-excluded areas (Voted)	Charged		Non-excluded areas (Voted)	Total amounts	Total amounts	
		Non-excluded areas	Ex-cluded areas					Non-excluded areas	Ex-cluded areas				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
		..	..	825	825	..	..	..	..	825	825	825
	7.—Land Revenue	38,730	4,150	15	4,300	..	..	38,730	4,150	150	4,300	4,300
	8.—Provincial Excise	7,240	..	..	..	..	..	7,240	..	..	..	..
	9.—Stamps	25,500	..	..	..	..	..	25,500	..	..	..	..
	10.—Forests	5,200	..	..	..	..	..	5,200	..	..	..	..
	11.—Registration..	..	14,858	..	14,858	..	..	..	14,858	..	..	14,858
	12.—Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	22.—Interest on Debt and other obligations	..	1,93,000	..	1,93,000	..	..	..	1,93,000	..	..	1,93,000
	25.—General Administration	48,000	..	..	..	..	..	48,000	..	..	..	..
	27.—Administration of Justice	27,700	..	..	..	..	..	27,700	..	..	..	..
	28.—Jails and Convict Settlement	67,241	..	..	..	..	..	67,241	..	..	..	..
	29.—Police	50,046	..	..	..	..	..	50,046	..	..	..	..
	37.—Education (European, etc.)	883	65	..	65	..	..	883	65	..	65	65
	37.—Education (other than European).	38,798	500	..	500	..	..	38,798	500	..	500	500
	38.—Medical	8,700	19,743	1,720	21,463	..	..	8,700	19,743	1,720	21,463	21,463

