



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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A. M. on Monday, the 20th September 1948.

**P R E S E N T**

The Hon'ble Mr. Lakshesvar Borooah, Speaker, in the Chair, six Hon'ble Ministers and fifty-five Members.

**Statement re : manner of putting Supplementary Questions under  
Rules 31 and 32 of the Assembly Rules**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** I desire to make a statement before we start our business today. Day before yesterday, *i. e.*, on the 18th September, I disallowed several supplementary questions as they were inadmissible under our Assembly Rules. Much of our time and trouble may be saved if the hon. Members remember among other rules—rules 31 and 32 of our Assembly Rules. For convenience of hon. Members I consider it necessary to quote the Rules.

Rule 31 runs as follows :—

“(1) A question may be asked for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public concern within the special cognisance of the member to whom it is addressed” .....

Rule 32 runs thus :—

“In order that a question may be admissible it shall satisfy the following conditions, namely :—

- (1) it shall not bring any name or make any statement not strictly necessary to make the question intelligible ;
- (2) if it contains a statement by the member himself, the member asking it shall make himself responsible for the accuracy of the statement ;
- (3) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements ;
- (4) it shall not ask for any expression of opinion or the solution of a hypothetical proposition ;
- (5) it shall not relate to the character or conduct of any person except in his official or public capacity ;
- (6) it shall not be of excessive length ;
- (7) it shall not be a request for action ;
- (8) it shall be precisely and definitely expressed ; and
- (9) it shall be asked with the object of eliciting information pure and simple.”

I want further to draw the attention of the hon. Members that whenever an Hon'ble Minister makes a statement either in printing or orally in reply to any question, the statement so made should *prima facie* be accepted as correct ; but if any hon. Member who has positive and reliable evidence, documentary or otherwise, about the inaccuracy of such statement, may challenge its correctness. The hon. Member when so challenging the statement must never base his challenge or objection on mere gossips or rumours.

I want further to impress upon the hon. Members that supplementary questions arise from the answers given to original starred or unstarred or short notice questions. At the time of putting supplementary questions hon. Members

should make sure whether supplementaries contemplated do arise from answers given and also that they conform to the rules governing admissibility of questions.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

#### Liquor Prohibition Scheme

**Maulavi ABDUL HALIM** asked :

\*13. Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to introduce any Bill in the very near future prohibiting drinking of liquor in the Province ?

**The Hon'ble MAULANA MD. TAYYEBULLA** replied :

13.—The matter of total prohibition is engaging the attention of the Government. In view of the present total Opium Prohibition Campaign, Government do not propose to introduce any Liquor Prohibition Bill in the very near future. Ground is being, however, prepared to that end.

†**Maulavi ABDUL HALIM** : May I know the exact time when Government is going to introduce the new Bill ?

†**The Hon'ble MAULANA MD. TAYYEBULLA** : I cannot say.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER** : The hon. Member should sit down when the Hon'ble Minister rises. Two hon. Members should not be on their feet at a time.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE** : Is it on consideration of financial grounds that Government is not willing to take up the scheme of enforcing prohibition of liquor ?

†**The Hon'ble MAULANA MD. TAYYEBULLA** : No.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE** : Is it not a fact that many of the Congress administered provinces have enforced prohibition of liquor ?

†**The Hon'ble MAULANA MD. TAYYEBULLA** : I have no information.

#### Construction of timber bridges on the Medhipara-Tikrikilla-Fulbari Road

**Srijut LAKSHMIDHAR BORAH** asked :

†14. (a) Is it a fact that the construction of timber bridges from the 10th to 17th mile of the Medhipara-Tikrikilla-Fulbari Road connecting Tura with Goalpara was given to a non-Assamese Lawyer Contractor ?

(b) Are Government aware or have received complaints to the effect that this Contractor puts false marks on the bridge piles to show greater length sunk than was actually done with a view to make illegal profit ?

(c) Is it a fact that Overseer Srijut P. Das detected some such cases and submitted a report to the higher authorities ?

(d) Is it a fact that immediately after this the said Overseer was transferred to another section ?

(e) If the replies to questions 14(b) and 14(c) are in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what action Government have taken to punish the Contractor ?

(f) Whether Government received a representation to examine other piles of other bridges constructed by this Contractor ?

(g) If so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take on that representation ?

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

14. (a)—The Contractor is domiciled in the District of Goalpara.

(b)—Yes, this has been detected by the Department and the matter is under investigation.

(c)—These were detected and reported by the Subdivisional Officer (Public Works Department), Lakhipur prior to Das's report.

(d)—No. The transfer occurred under orders issued long before the case in reference arose.

(e)—His work other than those already started have been stopped and allotted to others. He may be paid for his work only when the Department is satisfied with his work after due verification.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—This is covered by (e) above.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** : With regard to (b), may I know whether Government received any representation from the President, Goalpara District Congress Committee prior to the detection of the false marks ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** : I have no record of that representation. I cannot tell off hand now.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** : Has not Government received any representation in that behalf ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** : I am not aware of any representation from anywhere except these questions which we have received.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** : With regard to (d), am I to understand that the said Overseer was transferred before the detection of the illegal act of the Contractor.

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** : No, the order for transfer was issued long before the occurrence but that took effect after the occurrence. That's all.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** : Sir, may I know how many days after the detection of the illegal act of the Contractor that particular officer was transferred ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** I have already said, Sir, that the effect of the transfer order took place after the detection, but the order was issued long before—may be about two or three months before; I cannot tell the exact date off-hand.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** In answer to (e) it is also stated "He may be paid for his work only when the Department is satisfied with his work after due verification". As he was going to cheat Government, why should Government pay him?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** That is a legal question. We shall see how our agreement with the contractor stands and whether we can pay him or not. That is a question which will have to be decided after due verification and investigation.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** May I know whether the decking of the bridges is being made now? When decking will be completed it will be difficult for the Department to detect and verify the false marks in the piles of the bridges.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** From which question does this supplementary arise?

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** From answer to question (e), Sir. Verification will be difficult, if decking is completed, I, therefore, want to know whether the decking of the bridges is being made now.

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** This has already been replied, Sir. Investigation with regard to that is being carried on and no more work is given to this contractor. But for the work he has already done we are investigating whether he did the work properly and how much we have to pay him.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** My point is that verification should be made before the decking is completed, as otherwise, how Government will verify once the decking is completed?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** This question has actually been replied, Sir. His work other than those already started have been stopped and allotted to others. For the work which he has already done payment will be made to him only after the Department is satisfied with his work after due verification. The officer investigating the matter will certainly see whether the piles are long or not. The investigating officer surely knows that it may be difficult to investigate once the bridge is decked and I have no doubt that he will find out whether the piles are long enough or not.

#### Enactment of Legislation for prohibiting fish catching during certain period

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA** asked:

\*15. (a) Are Government aware that certain Provincial Governments of Indian Dominion have made laws prohibiting fish catching during a certain period of the year, *i.e.*, during breeding period from June to August?

(b) If so, do Government propose to enact such legislation for Assam?

**Srijut BIMALA PROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

15. (a) —This may be so, but no information has been received.

(b) —Government are contemplating legislation of this nature based on a report of Dr. Bhatia, M. Sc., Ph. D. (Cantab), F. R. S. E., Assistant Fisheries Development Adviser, who visited Assam last year.

**Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA** : May I know whether Government contemplate writing to other Provincial Governments to elicit the information.

**Srijut BIMALA PROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary)** : (I have already replied, Sir, that Government are contemplating legislation of this nature and before drafting our Bill we will surely write for particulars of similar legislation of other provinces.

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA** : Will Government take steps to introduce such legislation as early as possible, say, in the next Budget Session of the Assembly ?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER** : This is a request for action.

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA** : My question is whether Government consider it necessary to introduce early legislation ?

**Srijut BIMALA PROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary)** : I have already replied that Government are contemplating legislation of this nature based on a report of Dr. Bhatia. What more does the hon. Member want ?

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA** : When can we expect introduction of such legislation ?

**Srijut BIMALA PROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary)** : As soon as possible.

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

#### Construction of a bridge over Katakhal at Matijuri

**Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA** asked :

37. (a) Are Government aware that a bridge over the river Katakhal at Matijuri is a vital necessity for the defence of Cachar and for maintaining peace and tranquility in its border areas in the way of facilitating speediest communication ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to construct a bridge over the Katakhal at Matijuri ?

(c) If not, why not ?

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

37. (a) —Yes, although Government do not accept the reasons adduced which are matters of opinion.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Does not arise.

**Srijut BIDYAPATI SINGHA :** With regard to (b), do Government propose to construct the bridge this year ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY :** I have said, Sir, that we propose to construct a bridge over the Katakhal at Matijuri, if possible during this winter.

**Sri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV :** Is it not a fact that the Railway authorities agreed to open the railway bridge for motor traffic ?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** How does it arise from the replies given ?

**Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV :** In the last Communications Board meeting the Hon'ble Minister said that the Railway authorities had agreed to open the Katakhal bridge for motor traffic.

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

**Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV :** The question is whether the Katakhal bridge will be so opened or not.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** It was replied that the bridge would be constructed this year, if possible.

**Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV :** This is with regard to construction of a new bridge. I want to know whether the Railways have agreed to open their bridge for motor traffic.

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY :** I will explain the position, Sir. We have been corresponding with the Railway to deck some of the bridges in Assam. In regard to a certain bridge in Goalpara which the Railway decked they said that they would not be able to allow all the traffic to pass over the bridge unless they put steel plates, and so we are not sure whether the Railway will actually deck the bridge this year. The question is to be considered by the Government. If it is not possible for the Railway to deck the bridge so that the traffic can go over the bridge conveniently then the Government will have to make a bridge over the Katakhal.

### Lakhiraj Estates in Karimganj Subdivision

**Srijut SANTOSH KUMAR BARUA** asked :

38. Will Government be pleased to state the total number of Lakhiraj Estates in Karimganj Subdivision and the total area covered by them ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI** replied :

38.—The number of estates is 65 and the area is approximately 375 acres. These are not accurate figures as the boundary has not been demarcated.

**Construction of timber bridges on the Medhipara-Tikrikilla-Fulbari Road**

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA and Srijut MANISANKAR BASU-MATARI** asked :

39. (a) Is it a fact that the construction of timber bridges from the 10th to 17th mile of the Medhipara-Tikrikilla-Fulbari Road connecting Tura with Goalpara was given to a non-Assamese Lawyer Contractor ?

(b) Are Government aware or have received complaints to the effect that this Contractor puts false marks on the bridge piles to show greater length sunk than was actually done with a view to make illegal profit ?

(c) Is it a fact that Overseer Srijut P. Das detected some such cases and submitted a report to the higher authorities ?

(d) Is it a fact that immediately after this the said Overseer was transferred to another section ?

(e) If the replies to Questions 39(b) and 39(c) are in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what action Government have taken to punish the Contractor ?

(f) Whether Government received a representation to examine other piles of other bridges constructed by this Contractor ?

(g) If so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take on that representation ?

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

39. (a)—The Contractor is domiciled in the District of Goalpara.

(b)—Yes, this has been detected by the Department and the matter is under investigation.

(c)—These were detected and reported by the Subdivisional Officer (Public Works Department), Lakhipur prior to Das's report.

(d)—No. The transfer occurred under orders issued long before the case in reference arose.

(e)—His work other than those already started have been stopped and allotted to others. He may be paid for his work only when the Department is satisfied with his work after due verification.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—This is covered by (e) above.

**Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA** : How Government will verify whether false marks were put to the piles of the bridges over which the deckings are being made ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** : We do not know how many bridges have already been completed and decked by this contractor. It might be possible that there has not been any bridge that has been decked. That will be investigated and it will take some time to investigate. But when new bridges are going to be made, we are asking the Sectional Officer to measure the piles before they are put in the ground. Whether this particular contractor has put false markings or not in all the piles of bridges made by him we are investigating, and if there be any piles which have already been driven into the ground I think the Engineers will be able to find out by some means of measuring these piles.

**Prof. NIBARAN CHANDRA LASKAR** : Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state the name of the contractor ?



**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** It will take me a little time to look into the file to find that out.

**Prof. NIBARAN CHANDRA LASKAR:** May I know whether he is an Advocate of the Assam High Court and whether an Advocate is eligible to take any contract.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** He can suspend his practice and take up contract work.

**Prof. NIBARAN CHANDRA LASKAR:** Is he a practising lawyer?  
(No reply)

**Steam Ferry over the Brahmaputra between Dhubri and Fakirganj**

**Srijut SANTOSH KUMAR BARUA** asked:

40. (a) Are Government aware that till now no arrangement of Steam Ferry has been made over the Brahmaputra between Dhubri and Fakirganj inspite of their assurance that such arrangement would be made from 1st April, 1948?

(b) Do Government propose to take necessary action in this matter?

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

40. (a)—Yes. Government tried their best to settle the Dhubri-Fakirganj Ferry as a Steam Ferry with effect from 1st April 1948 but received no tender from any one possessing a steamer. Thereafter the ferry was re-advertised for sale as a Steam Ferry but no tender was received.

(b)—Necessary action is being taken to settle this ferry for one year as power-driven boat ferry.

**Srijut SANTOSH KUMAR BARUA:** Do Government propose to accelerate their action in making the arrangements for a ferry?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** We are taking steps in that line.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** While Government gave assurance on the floor of this House that they would make arrangements for a Steam Ferry from 1st April 1948, was it not incumbent on the Government to make arrangements for such a ferry even at their cost from 1st April 1948 to materialise the assurance?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** We have done all that possibly could be done under the circumstances. We called for tenders twice. On the first occasion no one tendered at all. Then we again advertised and called for tenders but no one tendered for running a Steam Ferry. Then we calculated whether it would pay us to have a Steam Ferry of our own and we found that would not be a paying proposition. Moreover it was very difficult to get a steamer. For these reasons we are now trying to have a power-driven boat ferry.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** Is it not a fact that the assurance given by the Government.....

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Hon. Member starts an argument—disallowed.

### Assam Veterinary College

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE** asked :

41. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names of persons appointed as Professors of the Assam Veterinary College at Nowgong with their qualifications ?

(b) What procedure was adopted in making these appointments ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

41. (a)—1. Captain J. M. Bujarbarua. Graduate of Veterinary Science, Bengal, while a student the following honours and distinctions were obtained :—

First year Class—High Place in the Class, distinctions in Zoology, Chemistry and Animal Husbandry.

Second Year Class—1st place in the class, distinctions in Animal Husbandry, Physiology, Anatomy, Materia Medica and Therapeutics. Secured a Silver Medal.

Third year class (final year)—1st place in the Class, secured gold medal as best student also a silver medal for securing highest marks and distinction in Veterinary medicine. Distinction in Veterinary Surgery and Obstetrics, Animal Husbandry. Veterinary Parasitology and soundness. Attended a recognised course of Animal Husbandry and control of diseases in the tropical countries with special reference to the diseases commonly met in Assam, Burma and far Eastern countries, along with M. R. C. V. S. in 1944 at Ambala in the Army Officers Veterinary School. Also attended a Laboratory course for 1½ months at Lahore Military Veterinary Laboratory.

Served as an officer Instructor in Animal Husbandry with 52 British infantry Brigade at Bhopal State. Served in the same capacity for training Indian other ranks at I. R. V. C. Centre, Ambala Cantonment while a student at Bengal Veterinary College, Calcutta taught Anatomy (Junior) and Animal Husbandry to students of 1st year class (1942-43). Served in the Indian Army Veterinary Remounts and Farms Corps for last 5 years (1943-48). During this period has acquired wide knowledge in Animal Husbandry management breeding, rearing, dairy chemistry, dairy herd management and for controlling specific and common diseases which on milk producing and working animals in India. Experienced in Animal Husbandry through many educational and professional visits to various co-operative Dairy Farms, Breeding and rearing Centres in India and Abroad. Attained a high standard of efficiency in the administrative works by holding as Officer Commanding Units, Executive Veterinary Officer, etc., Technical Adviser to Animal Husbandry to Indian States. Now serving as Professor, Assam Veterinary College.

2. U Nobindro. Graduate of the Bengal Veterinary College (with distinction) Awarded "Raymond Star" for the best man of the year and medal for standing 1st in Veterinary Medicine and Surgery. Was in war Service. Undergone and completed the course of post graduate on Poultry, Husbandry and diseases at the Imperial Veterinary Institute and then worked as Assistant Investigation Officer. Undertook the training of Veterinary Field Assistant at Gauhati. Now serving as Veterinary Inspector, Central Assam Circle.

(b)—Advertisement and recommendation by the Assam Public Service Commission.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE**: Is it a fact that Capt. J. M. Bujarbarua had never served under this Government after his graduation from the Veterinary College ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR**: May be, Sir, I have not ascertained that fact.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE**: Did the Hon'ble Minister ascertain what was his previous service and where ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR**: That is not my duty, because the recommendation was made by the Assam Public Service Commission.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE**: May I know from the Hon'ble Minister.....

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER**: The recommendation was made by the Assam Public Service Commission and the appointment was made on that recommendation. That has been the reply.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE**: It has been stated that he served for the last five years from 1943 to 1948, in the Indian Army Veterinary Remounts and Farms Corps. But it appears that he never served in Assam. Now the Hon'ble Minister says that he does not know whether he served in Assam or not.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR**: He served in the Army. I do not know whether he served under the Assam Government. His service in the Army had added to his qualifications.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE**: May I take it that his total service was 5 years and that was abroad—not in Assam ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR**: It may be.

#### Assam High Court

**Mrs. BONILY KHONGMEN** asked :

42. (a) Will Government be pleased to state if their attention has been drawn to the fact that the seat of the Assam High Court having located at Gauhati, it will be extremely inconvenient for the people of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills to conduct their cases before the High Court at Gauhati in as much as the language of the Khasi people is not understood at Gauhati and that there is absolutely no accommodation whatsoever at Gauhati for the litigant public to stay ?

(b) Are Government aware that Advocates desiring to settle at Gauhati for practising in the High Court have not been able inspite of strenuous efforts to secure any accommodation there ?

(c) Do Government propose to request the Hon'ble the Chief Justice to arrange for a circuit Court at Shillong for hearing the cases arising from the Khasi and Jaintia Hills ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA** replied :

42. (a)—Government have received no such representation so far as they are aware.

(b)—Government have no information.

(c)—The question of circuit Court is in the first instance for the Hon'ble the Chief Justice to consider. It is unusual for High Courts in other Provinces to go out on circuit and the grounds suggested in the Question by the hon. Member for the district next door to Gauhati do not appear particularly strong.

**Mrs. BONILY KHONGMEN** : Will Government take it from me that it is extremely difficult to get accommodation anywhere at Gauhati for the general public ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA** : It may be so.

#### **Functions of the Marketing Officer and his staff**

**Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM** asked :

43. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The functions and duties of the Marketing Officer and his Assistants of different grades separately ?

(b) Whether it is not possible to amalgamate this work with the general Branch of the Department to enable Government to utilise these officers properly in other works as well ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

43.—The Marketing Section was abolished with effect from 1st April, 1947. The questions put by the hon. Member do not therefore arise.

#### **The Assam Primary Education Rules**

**Srijut MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Assam Primary Education Rules under section 49 of the Assam Primary Education Act, 1947, and to move that the Rules be taken into consideration.

Sir, in conformity with Section 49 (1) of the Act where it is provided that the Provincial Government may, after previous publication in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act and that all rules so made shall be laid before the Provincial Legislature, and shall be subject to such modifications as may be agreed to by both Chambers thereof. In accordance with this provision of the Act, the Rules were published in the official Gazette and the Rules made have been laid on the table of the hon. Members of the Legislature. I, therefore, move that the Rules be taken into consideration.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this item is not on the agenda.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER**: It is an addendum to the list of Business for to-day.

Motion moved:

"That the Rules under the Assam Primary Education Act, 1947 be taken into consideration."

**Maulavi Md. ABUL KASHEM**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to speak a few words. Under the Act there is a condition.....

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER**: May I know what is the object of the hon. Member?

**Maulavi Md. ABUL KASHEM**: It is to raise a general discussion, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER**: The hon. Member will have opportunity to do so during the time of general discussion.

Now I put the question:

The question is:

"That the Rules under the Assam Primary Education Act, 1947, be taken into consideration".

The question was adopted.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER**: The general discussion of the Rules item by item will be taken up on the 24th September 1947. Hon. Members are requested to table their amendments, if any, to the Rules on the 21st September 1948, before 2 P. M.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER**: The next item of business is discussion, if any, of Supplementary Statement of Expenditure charged upon the revenues of the Province during 1948-49.

I take it that hon. Members will not take part in this discussion.

**Statement *re*: discussion on Cut Motions on Supplementary Demands for Grant**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER**: Then, item No. 3, *i.e.*, voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants. Before we take up this, I want to make a statement regarding discussion on Cut Motions on Supplementary Demands. It is a well established law prevailing in the House of Commons, our Central Assembly and in our Assembly also that the scope of discussion on Cut Motions on Supplementary Demands is very limited. No question of policy in regard to the main grant to which the Supplementary Demand relates should be raised. Censure motions should confine to criticism of necessity or otherwise of the Supplementary Demand only. In an economy Cut Motion no censure is allowed. Local grievances should not be ventilated in a Cut Motion on Supplementary Demands.

Hon. Members may, however, refuse or reduce the whole or any particular item of the Demand and should state their reasons for refusing or reducing the Demand on particular item of the Demand. Hon. Members' remarks must be confined to the grounds given by the Treasury Benches stating the necessity for

Supplementary Demands. Applying these criteria, I am afraid, I shall have to declare many Cut Motions tabled, as out of order. Accordingly, I am sorry, I cannot allow Cut Motion No. 1 under Supplementary Demand No. 1 as it attacks the general policy; Cut Motion No. 2 also on the same ground; Cut Motion No. 3 also on the same ground; so also Cut Motion No. 4 as it seeks to ventilate a grievance which cannot be allowed.

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE:** May I know whether Cut Motion No. 4 is out of order?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** That is out of order. If the hon. Member likes, he may speak at the time of the general discussion on the Demand by opposing it.

**Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1948-49**  
**Supplementary Demand No. 1**  
**(29—Police—Home Guards)**

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been authorised by the Hon'ble Premier to move Supplementary Demand No. 1 standing in his name.

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 19,16,734 (nineteen lakhs sixteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-four), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head "29.—Police (Home Guards)."

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... .. Rs. 1,12,83,400

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

*E.—Special Police—*

	Rs.
Allowances and Honoraria ... ..	15,91,451
Contingencies ... ..	3,25,283
Total ... ..	19,16,734

**DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE**

*Allowances and Honoraria*

1. Honorarium for Home Guards, Nayaks, Jethadars, Subedars, Trainers, Area Commandants and for one <i>Ex-Commissioned Officer</i> ... ..	Rs. 11,82,268
2. Travelling allowance and Car allowance for Commandant General ... ..	4,283
3. Office establishment for the Commandant General and his personal staff and travelling allowance for them ... ..	10,338
4. Travelling allowance of Area Commandants and Subedars ... ..	18,414
5. Cost of Board of Home Guards, other ranks and officers during training ... ..	3,62,628
6. Establishment of a Sub-office at Shillong... ..	2,360
7. Travelling allowance for 60 Jethadars for 6 months ... ..	3,600
8. Pay of 18 Accounts Clerks at Rs. 70 per mensem... ..	7,560
Total ... ..	15,91,451

Contingencies						Rs.
1. Uniforms	...	...	...	...	...	2,77,553
2. Badges and Pipes	...	...	...	...	...	3,850
3. Tents and Bashas	...	...	...	...	...	4,000
4. Contingencies (Non-recurring) for 18 Areas	...				...	11,600
5. Contingencies (Recurring) for 18 Areas including House-rent	...	...	...	...	...	18,900
6. Contingencies (Non-recurring) for pitching tents	...				...	500
7. Contingencies for Headquarters	...			...	...	8,880
				Total	...	3,25,283

The reasons for moving this Supplementary Demand have been given in the \*Explanatory Notes and I do not like to say any thing further.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Motion moved:

“That a sum of Rs.19,16,734 (nineteen lakhs sixteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-four) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1949, for the administration of the Head ‘29.—Police (Home Guards)’.”

There are several Cut Motions which I have just now said are out of order. However, I should say that hon. Members of the Cut Motions may say what they have got to say during the time of general discussion either for refusing or reducing the whole Demand or any particular item of the Demand.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to make some observations regarding the function and duties of the Home Guards. I like to say that the whole grant is unnecessary. During the days of the British rule the public viewed the police with suspicion and fear and the police also could not create any confidence in the minds of the people that they are their friends.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I find that the hon. Member is attacking the general policy of the Government. He should confine his observation whether the expenditure is necessary or not.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE:** As the Home Guards are not doing good to the society I am going to point out that the money will be wasted and as such the expenditure is unnecessary.

#### \*EXPLANATORY NOTES

Provision could not be made in the current year's Budget as the expenditure sanctioned in the last March and provided in Supplementary Demand could not be spent except a small amount which was surrendered and a fresh expenditure shown above was sanctioned.

The Assembly is therefore asked to vote a Supplementary grant of Rs. 19,16,734 (nineteen lakhs sixteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-four) under the above-mentioned head.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** You are to say on particular item such as, honorarium for Home Guards, Nayaks, etc., travelling allowance and car allowance for the Commandant General and on other items, whether they are necessary or not.

**\*Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA:** How can he say now that the Home Guards are unnecessary when a Bill was passed in this House. •

**Maulai MD. NAZMAL HAQUE:** I want to say that the whole expenditure is unnecessary.

A huge sum of money is going to be spent from the public fund and the purpose is to serve the good of the public. I can say from the day to day experience, and from the actions of the Home Guards that this expenditure is wasted.

Sir, the public had great expectations towards the Home Guards as they would be taken from themselves and they would serve them at any moment and relieve them of their troubles and difficulties, but now it is found that contrary is the thing. The Home Guards being puffed up with powers have become more powerful than the police officers. The police have consciousness of their powers, whereas the Home Guards have not.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** To which item the hon. Member is referring to ?

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE:** To all the items, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** He should particularly speak on certain item and to say whether the expenditure on that particular item is necessary or not.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE:** I will speak on the travelling allowance and car allowance for Commandant General.

My point is that if these Home Guards are kept under strict control, their powers and movements are restricted, and proper and suitable training is imparted to them, these Home Guards can serve a great deal, for the safety of the person and property, detecting nefarious activities etc., in the society. But from experience, it is seen that the money spent by Government on these Home Guards is not serving the real purpose.

I am not going to details because my speech has to be kept under limitation on certain items.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Does the hon. Member oppose the Motion ?

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE:** Yes, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Any other hon. Member taking part ?

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really surprised to hear complaints that have been made against the Home Guards organisation.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Your remark deals with which item ?



**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE:** I am really surprised to learn that the Home Guards in some other districts are behaving like that. But I can say from my own knowledge of the working of this organisation in Nowgong district. Of course at the beginning, in the flush of power and position there was a tendency in evidence to commit acts of excess and to over-step the bounds of duties but the authorities took timely precaution and consequently the Home Guards in my district are behaving, I should say, splendidly (*Hear, hear,*) and they have been working successfully in the detection of smugglers and rendering service to the cause of the Province. If the Home Guards in the Nowgong district can work in a befitting manner, I do not see any reason why this organisation cannot work properly in other districts.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Is it a local grievance?

**Maulavi MAHAMMAD ROUFIQUE:** This is not a local grievance, Sir. I am not opposing the Motion. What I want to say is that if the Home Guards are properly conducted they can work very well.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Now I am putting the Demand as a question.

The question is:

“That a sum of Rs. 19,16,734 (nineteen lakhs sixteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-four), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head ‘29—Police (Home Guards).’”

The question was adopted.

### Supplementary Demand No. 2.

#### (36. Scientific Departments.)

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** In the absence of the Hon'ble Srijut Gopinath Bardoloi, Sir, and being authorised by him I beg to move on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, that an additional sum of Rs. 1,462, be granted to the Minister-in charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head “36.—Scientific Departments”

		Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	... ..	10,300
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—		
B.—Museums—		Rs.
2.—Allowances	... ..	180
3.—Contingencies	... ..	1,282
	Total	1,462

The reasons for asking this Supplementary Demand have been stated in the \*Explanatory Notes.

There is no Cut Motion under this demand.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,462, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head '36.—Scientific Departments'."

There is no Cut Motion.

(After some pause).

It seems no hon. Member is taking part in the discussion, so I put the question.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs. 1,462, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head '36.—Scientific Department'".

The question was adopted.

### Supplementary Demand No. 3. (38.—Medical)

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 8,063, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year 1948-49, for the administration of the Head "38.—Medical."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... ..	19,08,100
Additional amount now required ... ..	8,063
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
C. Grants for Medical purposes —	Rs.
Grant to the Assam Aram Ghar ... ..	5,000
B. Hospitals and Dispensaries —Grants for Leprosy works	3,063
Total ... ..	8,063

Details are given in the †Explanatory Notes.

#### \* EXPLANATORY NOTE

*Allowances.* Due to sanction of lodging allowance to the Assistant Curator for the period of training in Numismatics in Calcutta Museum.

*Contingencies.* Due to—

- (i) appointment of two menials for the museum,
- (ii) construction of a strong room,
- (iii) incidental expenditure in connection with shifting the coin cabinet from the Shillong Treasury to the Gauhati Museum.

#### † EXPLANATORY NOTES

- C. *Grants for Medical purposes —Grant to the Assam Aram Ghar.*—The extra amount is required for maintenance of the disabled *ex-service* personnel in the Assam Aram Ghar, Shillong.
- B. *Hospitals and Dispensaries—Grants for Leprosy works.*—The extra amount is required for the construction of a ten-bedded ward for lepers at the Alipore Leper Colony ( Cachar ).

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER** Motion moved :

"That an additional sum of Rs. 8,063 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year 1948-49 for the administration of the Head '38.—Medical.' "

There are 3 Cut Motions out of which I disallow Cut Motion No.1 and I allow Cut Motions Nos. 2 and 3

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 5,000 under Supplementary Demand No.3,—Major head 38.—Medical, Minor head—C.—Grants for Medical purposes, Detailed head—Grant to the Assam Aram Ghar, at page 3 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 8,063 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Sir, my intention of moving this Cut Motion is to point out that this provision of Rs. 5,000 for the Assam Aram Ghar for the maintenance of disabled *ex* soldiers is unnecessary, because these disabled *ex*-service personnel are already getting pension and also some compensation from the proper authorities. In view of this there is no necessity for maintaining them here in the Assam Aram Ghar.

If they are to be maintained at all, then other poor disabled and diseased persons that are in our country have also got to be maintained.

With these few words, Sir, I oppose this Grant and I commend this Motion for the acceptance of the House.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Cut Motion moved :

"That the provision of Rs. 5,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 3, Major head—38.—Medical, Minor head—C.—Grants for Medical purposes, Detailed head—Grant to the Assam Aram Ghar, at page 3 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 8,063 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

✓ **Maulavi MD. ABUL KASHEM:** Sir, it is the usual procedure for this House to place the estimates once in a year for expenditure by Government, otherwise it tends to diminish the control of the Legislature. So, Sir, with some precaution Supplementary Grants are placed before the House.

Sir, Rs. 5,000 out of the total grant of Rs. 8,063 has been given as a grant to the Assam Aram Ghar and this Grant is brought under the Head—Medical Grant—, when it is a grant for medical purpose it must be spent only for treatment of diseased people. But the words given here are "for maintenance of the disabled *ex*-service personnel in the Assam Aram Ghar, Shillong." If these disabled *ex*-service personnel are to be maintained then the sum must be shown under some other head and not under the head "Medical". Any sum under this head "Medical" is meant for diseased people only of the country. But in this case the sum in question is going to be sanctioned for the Assam Aram Ghar and therefore, Sir, I am supporting the Motion moved by my hon. Friend Maulavi Md. Nazmal Haque and I request the hon. Members of the House to accept his Motion.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I think the Cut Motion standing in the name of Dr. Emran Husain Choudhury is an identical one. So, he can speak on this Motion as well.

**Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHOUDHURY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the Motion moved by my hon. Friend, Maulavi Md. Nazmal

Haque and I also support what Maulavi Md. Abul Kashem just now said on the Motion. If disabled *ex-service* personnel receive compensation from Government there is no point in making extra grants for them. Might I know from Government what allowance is made for disabled *ex-service* people? If they do get anything where is the necessity of incurring further expenditure of public money? The grant in question is not intended for treatment of any diseased personnel. There is no reason why this grant can be shown under the head 'Medical'.

**Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR:** Sir, this is a benevolent institution for giving shelter to *ex-service* men disabled in war. This charitable institution was started by some kind hearted ladies and gentlemen. And it is being run with public donations. I do not see any reason why we should grudge when our Government donate a few rupees for its maintenance. It has been said that those *ex-service* personnel who receive shelter there get their pensions. But that is no good ground. These unfortunate men might have lost some vital limbs. They might have been rendered blind or crippled and might have thus become unable to look after themselves. They therefore are in need of some tender care. And this institution renders such services. Sir, such institutions deserve all encouragement as they will induce our youngmen to come forward to do national services and to fight for the defence of the country. I am, therefore, of the opinion that instead of opposing this Grant the hon. Member ought to have whole-heartedly supported it.

So, from humanitarian point of view, I hope, the hon. Mover of this Cut Motion should withdraw it.

With these words, Sir, I beg to oppose the Motion

**Srijut BELIRAM DAS:** Sir, I support the contention of Mr. Talukdar. Those hon. Members who have opposed the Grant to the Assam Aram Ghar must have misunderstood the purpose of it. It is not for 'Aram', but it is for giving shelter and taking care of the *ex-service* disabled personnel. Besides, that, Sir, this Aram Ghar is not only for giving shelter to the army personnel but some disabled civilians are also given shelter there. Therefore, Sir, as it has to be maintained for a humanitarian cause and as it is a benevolent institution hon. Members should not grudge this petty amount.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this matter I am quite confident that the point raised by my hon. Friend, Maulavi Abul Kashem, is very strong and pertinent, that is, whatever the intention of the Government may be, the Demand for this charitable purpose cannot come under the Head "Medical". Government has blundered by bringing this Demand under this Head.

I think few hon. Members of this House know the history of this institution of 'Assam Aram Ghar'. One of the two hon. Members sitting in the Treasury Bench who have just now spoken, I mean Mr. Beliram Das, has mentioned certain things which are quite wrong. The Assam Aram Ghar was started while the war was on by some cheritable minded ladies of Shillong, both Europeans and Indians headed by Mrs. Small.

This institution wanted to help disabled *ex-soldiers* and military people who have been rendered helpless on the ground of their disability, those who have perhaps lost their arms or their eye-sight during the war. It is for helping such people that this Aram Ghar was started and the efforts of those ladies were successful and they were able to collect more than a lakh of rupees for this purpose. I was one of the members of the Executive Committee of the War

Purposes Fund collected from donations by the Assam public which helped with contribution to this institution while I was Prime Minister and I know that this was the main object for which this institution was first started and for some years it was located in the old buildings of Lachamiere. Later on when the new building of Toc. H. in front of the cricket ground was empty, they took this building on a monthly rent of Rs. 800. The Committee also started a restaurant for the benefit of those people who visited the disabled soldiers to have their tea and other refreshments in that restaurant and from the proceeds thereof they wanted to raise a fund for maintenance of the institution. Later on, Mrs. Small who wanted to go home—and now she has already left India—started a Board and handed this sum of one lakh of rupees probably under trust deed to that Board from the proceeds of which to maintain this Aram Ghar. That idea of getting money from the restaurant did not succeed, therefore they have to remove the institution to what was the old canteen at the back of the Garrison theatre.

Now, this Aram-Ghar trustees maintain a Parsi Lady as nurse or matron, the wife of an Assamese youngman, son of Mr. Jnan Barua, the former Principal of the Law College at Gauhati. This couple looked after this institution and they have done quite a good job of it.

If the present demand is wanted for the fact that this institution suffers for want of medical facilities, then it would have been in order and we would have all supported it. But when the Government states that this demand is wanted for the "maintenance" of the soldiers, we maintain that they are out of order in bringing in this Motion. I would, therefore, request Government either to amend the Head or to bring it on another day with proper Head and not to press for this which is technically wrong. I am also in full sympathy for giving this aid to this institution where homeless disabled people who go and can live—people who risked their lives and lost their limbs for the country and therefore, for the nation; these people do deserve all sympathy, but our hands are tied by rules and Government have committed a mistake in bringing in this Motion, therefore they should suffer. I suggest that Government withdraw this particular item and bring it another day under the proper Head and we will all support it.

**Mrs. BONILY KHONGMEN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition for enlightening us about how this Aram-Ghar was first started. He has already stated that it was some ladies who started it and it is a fact that in the beginning it was meant for those men and women who risked their lives for the country and for their countrymen. I feel that it is the duty of everyone of us at this stage to help these people who have no place to go to and who cannot do any work on account of their disablement. Now, this Aram Ghar in the beginning admitted disabled men of the fighting forces but later on they also admitted civilians as well who are disabled. I have got here a list of people who are inmates of this Aram Ghar ever since the beginning *i.e.* from the 1st of August 1946. The number of inmates there were—31 *ex-service* men, 1 *ex-service* man's widow and 9 civilians. Besides these they have taken in similar patients both the blind and the disabled. At present they are having about 3 blind patients, and one blind Naga aged about 20 was taken in through the recommendation of the Inspector General of Civil Hospitals.

It was due to the dearth of funds that they have approached Government for money and Government were good enough to give them aid. Probably many Hon Members do not know what work has been taught to these men. Many of them were taught different trades so that they can earn their living

when they leave the Home. The women inmates were taught trades such as weaving, knitting, basket making and men were taught carpentry, gardening, drawing, painting, carpet making etc. I hope hon. Members will realise the importance of this Home and I hope they will support and encourage it by giving wide publicity as well as give their full co-operation for the success of this Home. I may also mention here that in many other countries they have a Home of this sort, India has not got one, but Assam alone is a pioneer in this connection. As such I do hope hon. Members will lend their wholehearted support to this demand and not grudge the small amount of money which the Government proposed to give to this institution.

I would also invite hon. Members to go there once and see for themselves what these men and women are doing. Some of them have already left the Home and are now doing useful work as good citizens of Assam.

With these words, Sir, I hope hon. Members will help this institution and co-operate for its success.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition. He has explained the utility and the origin of this Home. The hon. Mover of the Motion has of course criticised the grant on the ground that this grant is unnecessary. But the facts stated in the speech that was delivered by the Leader of the Opposition have enabled the House to know that this grant is not unnecessary. But an objection has been raised by him to the wordings of the explanatory note as well as to the head under which it has been brought. But this grant is required for the maintenance and treatment of invalid *ex-service* personnel as well as civilians and as such I hope the House will be pleased to accept it under the Head—"Medical" if I bring an amendment to this effect to the explanatory note and then the objection can be withdrawn.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Are they receiving medical aid ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** Yes, Sir. I may add to what the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition has said with regard to the scope of this institution. The Home originally meant for invalid *ex-service* men. The scope of the Assam Aram Ghar has been enlarged now. This Aram Ghar gives shelter to other disabled persons as well. The Hon'ble Deputy Speaker has explained, in this Aram Ghar what arts and crafts are taught. In addition to teaching of these crafts those people who suffer from disease are either treated in this Aram Ghar or are sent to hospital if they require treatment in hospital. Therefore, Sir, I propose to put the explanatory note in the following—The extra amount is required for giving medical aid to the disabled *ex-service* personnel and others in the Aram Ghar, Shillong. The ground of objection which was raised by the Hon'ble the Leader of the Opposition can be met if this amendment is accepted for in addition to the crafts that are taught in this institution to these disabled people they are also treated medically.

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA:** On a point of information, Sir, I want to know from the Government whether those disabled persons are treated in the Aram Ghar.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** As I have already said that disabled persons who need medical treatment in the Home are treated at the Home and those who need service in hospital are treated in hospital.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** May I come to the aid of the Hon'ble Minister ?

As the explanatory notes are not part of the proceedings, we cannot pin our objection to that. The speech of the Hon'ble Minister has let this loophole. In addition to the ordinary medical treatment of patients in the Aram Ghar they are giving training in such things as weaving, knitting etc., as the hon. Deputy Speaker has stated. I may come to the Government's aid. Since the war vocational therapy has been introduced throughout the world, and it is a great success. It is this : the inmates of the Aram Ghar are receiving vocational therapy treatment and in order to give them the material to start this, they require the sum. I think the House will in this case agree to this item and I simply want that the Government should be careful in future.

**Maulavi MD. NAZMAL HAQUE:** On the development made on the matter, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Cut Motion.

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

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

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Dr. Emran Husain Chaudhury's Motion is identical. So I put the original Motion as a question.

The question is :

"That an additional sum of Rs.8,063 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year 1948-49 for the administration of the head—'38.—Medical'."

The question was adopted.

#### Supplementary Demand No.4. (42.—Co-operation)

**Srijut BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary):** With your permission, Sir, I would like to move Demand No.4 in the absence of the Hon'ble Premier.

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.14,743 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1949 for the administration of the head—"42.—Co-operation".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	3,12,500
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grants will be accounted for—	
II.—Rural Development ... ..	14,743

The details of this expenditure is given below in the \*Explanatory Notes. In the explanatory notes it is stated "Since the Budgets of Industries and Supplies and Co-operation were framed a greater measure of co-ordination has been achieved in these activities by the creation of separate departments of Sericulture and Weaving and of Cottage Industries and by combining these departments

#### \*EXPLANATORY NOTES

Since the budgets of Industries and Supplies and Co-operation were framed a greater measure of co-ordination has been achieved in these activities by the creation of separate departments of Sericulture and Weaving and of Cottage Industries and by combining these departments with Rural Development and Co-operation under a single direction. There was no provision for certain Rural Development activities which were a charge on the Provincial revenues and so an additional provision is required.

with Rural Development and Co-operation under a single direction. There was no provision for certain Rural Development activities which were a charge on the Provincial Revenues and so an additional provision is required."

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Motion moved:

"That an additional sum of Rs.14,743 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1949 for the administration of the head—'42.—Co-operation'."

There are no Cut Motions.

The question is:

"That an additional sum of Rs.14,743 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1949, for the administration of the head—'42.—Co-operation'."

The question was adopted.

### Supplementary Demand No.5 (56.—Stationery and Printing)

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA** to move:

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,68,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1949, for the administration of the Head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly (Voted)	Rs. 5,30,800
II.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—	
	Rs.
(a) Stationery—	
A. Stationery supplied from Central Stores (Voted)	80,000
(b) Government Press ... ..	88,000
Total ...	<u>1,68,000</u>

Details as well as \*Explanatory Notes have been given. In the "Remarks" column of Appendix A it is stated that "the existing machines are inadequate to cope with the increased work in the Government Press. So it has been decided to purchase the following machines" named therein at a cost of Rs.88,000.

#### \*EXPLANATORY NOTES

(a) Rupees 1,20,000 was provided in the Budget for Non-Excluded Area. The budget provision has proved insufficient and already a large number of requests for supplementary grants have been received. In order to meet the actual requirements of administration a further sum of Rs.80,000 is required.

(b) Rupees 10,000 was provided for purchase of plant and furniture in the current year's budget which has proved inadequate. The work in the Press has greatly increased and the existing machines are quite inadequate to meet the situation. It has therefore been decided to man the Press with some men, and machines for larger outturn. The details may be seen at Appendix 'A'.



**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

“That a sum of Rs.1,68,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the head '56.—Stationery and Printing”.

There is one Cut Motion standing in the name of Maulavi Md. Abul Kashem. Although this raises a very small matter, I am afraid this Motion is out of order. I would nevertheless recommend to the Hon'ble Minister to try to meet the wishes of the hon. Member by remedying this grievance.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** I would advise my Friend not to speak on the matter. If he looks at Appendix A he will find that the Government Press is suffering for want of stitching machines and that they are going to buy two stitching machines with this money.

**The Hon'ble Maulana MAHOMED TAYYEBULLA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, not withstanding all disadvantages, I assure the hon. Members that I will look into the matter and see whether the hon. Members, and some others also can get stitched copies of the gazette. At the present moment it is impossible for one stitching machine to do all these things. Nevertheless I will try to remove, as far as possible, this disadvantage from which we all are suffering.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Thank you.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** The question is :

“That a sum of Rs.1,68,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the head '56.—Stationery and Printing”.

The question was adopted.

#### Supplementary Demand No.6 (57.—Miscellaneous)

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the absence of Hon'ble Srijut Medhi, I shall move this Demand.

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.3,06,940, be granted to defray charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head “57.—Miscellaneous”.

I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly...	...	Rs.	28,18,300
II. Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for by the Revenue Department.			
(A) I. Contributions—Miscellaneous—Voted	...		1,000
(B) K. Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—	...		
5. Miscellaneous charges	...		3,05,940
		Total	<u>3,06,940</u>

The details and the \*Explanatory Note are placed before the House. But in this connection I want to point out that the Explanatory Note under item (2) is somewhat out of date. I think when this demand was drafted it was the intention to use the Dibrugarh Station Club buildings for Social Welfare Centres, but now it has been decided that these will be used as a Medical College Hospital.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

"That a sum of Rs.3,06,940, be granted to defray charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head '57.—Miscellaneous' "

There are two Cut Motions standing in the names of Maulavi Md. Abul Kashem and Maulavi Md. Nazmal Haque. Of these two †Cut Motions No.1, standing in the name of Maulavi Muhammad Abul Kashem is out of order because he wants to refuse the whole amount, and at the same time censure the Government. Motion No. 2 seeks to raise a discussion on the unauthorised expenditure and the hon. Member may move it.

**Maulavi Md. NAZMAL HAQUE :** I don't like to move this ††Cut Motion, Sir.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM :** May I speak on the demand, Sir ?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Opposing it ?

**Maulavi Md. ABUL KASHEM :** Yes, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Yes, but, confine your discussion to the item.

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\*EXPLANATORY NOTE

(A) Grants to Lady Hydari Pleasure Park Committee .. .. .	Rs. 1,000
(Details may be seen in the attached scheduled Appendix A.)	

(B) (1) There is a dearth of suitable buildings for the accommodation of the Hon'ble Ministers and Government Officers in Shillong and as a result extreme difficulties are experienced by them in the discharge of their duties. The availability of such houses was taken advantage of by Government by resuming the land and paying suitable compensation for the houses according to the terms of the lease in the interest of public service. The total cost paid as compensation for these two houses, *viz.*, Roseneath and Islington amounts to Rs.97,729-10-0.

(2) Similarly for the accommodation of Government Offices and Social Welfare Centres at Dibrugarh Government have purchased the Dibrugarh Station Club buildings together with the land at a cost of Rs. 2,08,210-6-0.

Cut Motions :—

†1. Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM to move :—

That the total provision of Rs.3,06,940 under Supplementary Demand No.6, Major head—57.—Miscellaneous, at page 5 of the List of Supplementary Demands be refused, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.3,06,940 do stand refused.

(To censure Government for misuse of public money and for showing utter disregard to the Legislature.)

††2. Maulavi Md. NAZMAL HAQUE to move :—

That the total provision of Rs.3,06,940 under Supplementary Demand No.6, Major head—57.—Miscellaneous, at page 5 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1., *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.3,06,940 do stand reduced by Re.1. (To raise a discussion on the unauthorised expenditure).

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD ABUL KASHEM:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the Cut Motion has been disallowed I want to discuss in general terms. While I agree with the Hon'ble Minister that some houses had to be purchased owing to dearth of suitable buildings for the accommodation of the Hon'ble Ministers and Government officers, I object to their purchase from the "Miscellaneous Head". In the original Budget there was no such provision under this head. But under the head "Civil Works" there was a provision for more than a crore of rupees which included grants for building purposes to the extent of about Rs.62 lakhs. I could give you the exact figure if I had time to look at the original Budget. However, Sir, at this stage, in the month of September, we are not sure whether the whole amount of that grant has been spent under that head. If it is not spent, why then the Hon'ble Minister has come up for additional grant? As under the head "Miscellaneous" there is no provision, I would request the Hon'ble Minister who is placing this demand for grant to consider if this additional sum is necessary in view of the fact that the budgeted amount has not been spent. With these words, I oppose the whole grant and request the Government to withdraw it.

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been suggested by the hon. Member who opposed this Motion that Government have come forward to this House for a grant which is unnecessary, as the amount budgeted for building have not been all spent. Hon. Members know that this grant will not be spent if there is left anything out of the amount originally granted for buildings. Government consider that it is necessary and therefore the demand has been placed before the House. There is no amount of money to be made available for these buildings. I therefore put forward this demand for the amount of money placed before the House and request the hon. Members to accept the Motion.

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

The question is:

"That a sum of Rs.3,06,940 be granted to defray charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949 for the administration of the Head '57.—Miscellaneous.'"

The question was adopted.

### Supplementary Demand No.7.

#### (63B.—EXPENDITURE ON POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES)

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that the †Motion could not be placed before the House in time. If the House agrees, I solicit the permission of the Chair to allow me to move the demand in some later date and fix a date to give notice of Cut Motion in regard to this demand.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** May I have the views of the House?

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** So far as we are concerned, I would like to say that we would not press for giving a separate day for this Motion. We are prepared to vote on this but we would like to have more information on this important subject.

†See Appendix J

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** The difficulty is to receive Cut Motions.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Yes, I fixed the 16th September as the last date for receiving Cut Motions on Supplementary Demands.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Yes, that is with regard to Supplementary Demands.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Hon. Members may not have any opportunity to table Cut Motions on Supplementary Demand No.7.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Another date may be fixed for this purpose.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I think that can be done.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** Yes.

**Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN:** I think there should be a formal presentation of this Supplementary Demand.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Let the Hon'ble Minister present it formally to-day and I shall give three days' time before discussion.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Supplementary Demand No.7 before the House.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The Hon'ble Minister should not put the House to a disadvantage by dilatory method of this kind in future.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** I regret, for this delay, Sir.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** So, I fix the 23rd September as the date for tabling Cut Motions, they should be submitted upto 2 P.M. and these Cut Motions will be considered on the 27th September—the last Government day.

We have finished our business for to-day. Do the hon. Members propose to take up any non-official business?

(Voices:—No, No.)

#### Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Tuesday, the 21st September, 1948.

SHILLONG:  
The 5th November, 1948.

A. K. BARUA,  
Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Assam.

**CORRECTION SLIP TO THE LIST OF SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND  
FOR GRANTS FOR 1948-49**

No.1

Insert the following as demand No.7 at page 997 of the List :—

No.7

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.5,71,000 (Five lakhs and seventy-one thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1949, for the administration of the Head "63-B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes".

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...                           | Rs.7,71,67,700 |
| II. Sub-head under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for— |                |
| 47.—Miscellaneous Departments ...                                       | Rs.5,71,000    |

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**

In pursuance of the Resolution published in Notification No.GEL.12/47/69, dated the 4th September 1948 in the *Assam Gazette* in connection with the Rural Electrification Scheme in the Gauhati Subdivision, it is proposed to take up implementation of the Scheme for which there was an original provision of Rs.68,618 which represents only the pay of the Hydro-electric Development Staff. It is expected that a sum of Rs.5,71,000 will be required to be spent during the current financial year in connection with the implementation of the Schemes mentioned below. The details of the Scheme are given in Appendix "B".

**CONSTRUCTION YEAR**

Description		Amount Rs.	Total Rs.
<b>Lands and buildings</b>			
Lands ... ..	L.S.	3,000	...
Buildings—Power House Work- shop Officers, etc.	L.S.	36,000	...
Staff Quarters ... ..	L.S.	38,000	77,000
<b>Generation</b>			
Diesel Electric Sets, 300 K.W. each, with switch gear, crane, Oil storage, Cooling water tank, etc.	L.S.	3,39,000	3,39,000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Office Furniture ... ..	L.S.	3,000	...
Motor lorries ... ..	L.S.	8,000	24,000
			<hr/> 4,43,000
Departmental charges at 7½ per cent.	...	...	33,225
			<hr/> 4,76,225
Add 20 per cent. increase in price since estimates were prepared.	...	...	95,241
			<hr/> 5,71,466
Total ... ..	...	...	5,71,466
or	...	...	<hr/> 5,71,000

CORRECTION SLIP TO THE APPENDIX 'B'

No. 2

Insert the following at page 999 of the list under Appendix "A":—  
LIST OF NEW SCHEMES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET OF 1948-49

Major, minor and sub-head under which provision should be made	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate cost			Estimate of expenditure in 1948-49			Remarks
		Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
63-B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes. 47.—Miscellaneous Departments.	Provision for implementation of the Rural Electrification Scheme in the Gauhati Subdivision.	98,31,000	Rs. ..	Rs. 98,31,000	Rs. 5,71,000	Rs. ..	Rs. 5,71,000	The Scheme extends over a period of ten years with an estimated cost as follows:—Commencing from the next financial year 1949-50:— 1st 5 years of operation Rs. 2nd 5 years of operation Rs. Generating Plant and System .. 14,29,000 2,92,000 Transmission Distribution and Service Miscellaneous including lands and buildings .. 11,30,000 12,58,000 20,07,000 27,98,000 Total .. 1,79,000 1,67,000 47,45,000 45,15,000 92,60,000

Major, minor and sub-head under which provision should be made	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate cost			Estimate of expenditure in 1948-49			Remarks
		Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	
1	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
								<p>A sum of Rs.5,71,000 is required to be spent for the construction year ending on the 31st March 1949. The details of the expenditure are given below:—</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rs.</p> <p>Lands and buildings .. 77,000</p> <p>Generation .. 3,39,000</p> <p>Miscellaneous—</p> <p>Office furniture, Motor Lorries, etc. .. 27,000</p> <p>Departmental charges at 7½ per cent. .. 33,225</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>4,76,225</u></p> <p>Add 20 per cent. due to increased price since estimates were prepared 95,241</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total .. <u>5,71,466</u></p>

Page 1000—

No.3

Correction slip to the statement showing by Major Heads the amounts of supplementary grants which the Assembly is asked to vote in the present Session.

*Insert* Rs.5,71,000 in column 3 against 63-B.—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes and *substitute* Rs.7,77,38,700 for Rs.7,71,67,700 in column 4 and also *insert* No.7 in column 5.

*Substitute* Rs.29,86,942 for Rs.24,15,942 and Rs.16,90,69,942 for Rs.16,84,98,942 against columns 3 and 4 respectively against Grant Total.

A.G.P. (L.A.) No.158/48—118—9-11-1948.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN** asked :

\*16. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Assam Railway propose to close down the Jorhat-Niamati Line ?

(b) Do Government propose to press for the line to be kept open until the existing railway bridge is adapted for road transport ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

16. (a)—It is not proposed to close down the Jorhat-Niamati Line at present.

(b)—Does not arise.

#### **Kokilajan Bridge**

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN** asked :

\*17. Will Government be pleased to state when the work of decking the Kokilajan Bridge is expected to be completed ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** replied :

17.—The Railway Authorities have agreed to re-deck the Kokilajan Bridge and the Government have requested them to complete the work within this winter.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN** : Are Government aware that there is a very urgent need for decking the Kokilajan Bridge ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** : Yes, Sir, and therefore, we have taken steps.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN** : Are Government aware that the decking of this bridge was completed by the Military authorities within a week ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS** : We are not aware of that, Sir.