

1st February, 1924

0

**THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES**

(Official Report)

Volume IV, Part V

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

SECOND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1924



**SIMLA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1924.**

1/2/24

CONTENTS.

VOLUME IV, PART I—30th January, 1924 to 18th February, 1924.

	PAGES.	
Wednesday, 30th January, 1924—		
Members Sworn	1-4	
Message from His Excellency the Viceroy ...	4	
Thursday, 31st January, 1924—		
Inauguration of the Fourth Session of the Council of State and the First Session of the Second Legislative Assembly ...	5-14	
Friday, 1st February, 1924—		
Members Sworn	15	
Statement laid on the Table	15-22	
Questions and Answers	23-106	
Unstarred Questions and Answers	107-123	
Governor General's Assent to Bills—		
(1) The Mahendra Partab Singh Estates Act, 1923, (2) The Moorshedabad (Amendment) Act, 1923; (3) The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1923; (4) The Indian Income-tax (Further Amendment) Act, 1923; (5) The Indigo Cess (Repealing) Act, 1923; (6) The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1923; (7) The Special Marriage (Amendment) Act, 1923; (8) The Indian Territorial and Auxiliary Forces (Amendment) Act, 1923; (9) The Indian Lunacy (Amendment) Act, 1923; (10) The Indian Army (Amendment) Act, 1923; (11) The Cutchi Memons (Amendment) Act, 1923; (12) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Further Amendment) Act, 1923; (13) The Indian Paper Currency (Amendment) Act, 1923; (14) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Second Amend- ment) Act, 1923; (15) The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act, 1923; (16) The Indian Ports (Amendment) Act, 1923; (17) The Indian Electricity (Amendment) Act, 1923; (18) The Charitable and Religious Trusts (Amendment) Act, 1923; (19) The Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923; and (20) The Indian Stamp (Amendment) Act, 1923		123
The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill—Introduced ...	123-124	
The Indian Coinage (Amendment) Bill—Introduced ...	125	
The Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Bill—Introduced ...	125-126	
The Indian Cotton Cess (Amendment) Bill—Introduced ...	126-127	
Election of the Public Accounts Committee	127	
Election of the Standing Finance Committee	128	
Monday, 4th February, 1924—		
Members Sworn	129	
Questions and Answers	129-166	
The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill—Referred to Select Committee	166-175	

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 1st February, 1924.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN:

Honorary Captain Ajab Khan, O.B.E., I.O.M., M.L.A. (Punjab: Nominated Non-Official); Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, M.L.A. (Allahabad and Jhansi Divisions: Non-Muhammadan Rural); Mr. Surendra Chandra Ghose, M.L.A. (Bengal: Landholders).

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee (Industries Member): Sir, I lay on the table a statement furnished by the High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom of cases in which tenders other than the lowest in respect of stores purchased for India have been accepted by him during the half year ending 30th June, 1923. 'This is done in accordance with a promise I gave to the Assembly in September, 1921.

*

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA,
INDIA STORE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF CASES in which Tenders, other than the lowest offering suitable goods, were accepted on the grounds of superior quality, superior trustworthiness of the firm tendering, greater facility of inspection, quicker delivery, etc.

HALF YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1923.

PART A.—Cases in which lower foreign tenders, including British tenders for foreign made goods, have been set aside wholly or partially in favour of British tenders.

Stores ordered.	Contract Number.	Name of Contractor.	Amount of Contract.	Lowest Tender not accepted.	Reason for acceptance.
Bottles, Water	C. 216-1126, 11th January 1923.	Eveson Bros.	£ s. d. 4,125 0 0	£ s. d. 3,408 2 6 (Czechoslovakian Manufacture).	To secure sure delivery. An order for 70,000 bottles was placed with the foreign firm but it was not considered advisable to place the whole order with them, mainly because it is most unwise to depend entirely on foreign sources of supply for consumable articles of military equipment.
Bottles, Water	C. 535-1126, 25th January 1923.	Macfarlane & Robinson, Ltd.	£ s. d. 4,125 0 0	£ s. d. 3,408 2 6 (Czechoslovakian Manufacture).	Orders for 33,000 bottles were placed with each of the two lowest English firms. This completes the purchase of the water bottles now under consideration. (This action taken will, it is hoped, lead to development of a source of supply which would be available in war time and enable us to obtain water bottles at a reasonable price in this Country, when we are again buying them.)

PART A.—Cases in which lower foreign tenders, including British tenders for foreign made goods, have been set aside wholly or partially in favour of British tenders—contd.

Stores ordered.	Contract Number.	Name of Contractor.	Amount of Contract.	Lowest Tender not accepted.	Reason for acceptance.
Wheels and Axles	C. 221-6848, 11th January 1923.	W. Beardmore & Coy., Ltd.	£ s. d. 14,495 15 0 (37½ pairs).	£ s. d. 9,256 10 0 (Stoka-Works, Czechoslovakia).	To ensure suitable delivery. The foreign firm was given an order for 500 pairs of Wheels and Axles but on account of the long delivery promised these wheels and axles will not arrive in India until 5-6 months after the wagons for which they are required.
Cloth, Tracing	C. 769-7677, 6th February 1923.	Winterbottom Book Cloth Coy.	6,770 8 4 (plus cost of packing).	5,592 10 0 (German Manufacture).	It was accordingly considered advisable to give a proportion of the order to Beardmore & Coy. on account of the much quicker delivery offered.
Machine Punching	C. 1381-7638, 10th March 1923.	Craig & Donald	1,521 0 0	1,260 0 0 (German Manufacture).	Greater reliability and more certain delivery. A trial order was placed with the lowest firm and the result will be watched for future action.
Wheels and Axles	C. 1499-6676, 26th March 1923.	Owen & Dyson, Ltd.	19,618 0 0	18,344 0 0 (Czechoslovakian). 17,986 8 0 (Lowest German).	Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery. The lowest tender offered machines of German manufacture for delivery in 7-8 months.

PART A.—Cases in which lower foreign tenders, including British tenders for foreign made goods, have been set aside wholly or partially in favour of British tenders—concl'd.

Stores ordered.	Contract Number.	Name of Contractor.	Amount of Contract.	Lowest Tender not accepted.	Reason for acceptance.
Portland Cement.	C. 1736-1156, 23rd April 1923.	T. Beynon & Coy., Ltd.	£ s. d. 2,406 5 0 F. O. B. Bristol Channel Ports.	£ s. d. 2,178 0 0 F. O. B. Antwerp (Belgian.)	Most favourable offer, having regard to shipping facilities. The cement is to be shipped to Cochin.
Axles, Engine	C. 1764-1184, 25th April 1923.	Vulcan Foundry, Ltd.	5,370 0 0	5,274 6 5 (Czechoslovakian). 5,650 14 0 (Lowest German).	Greater reliability. The lowest tenderer has yet to complete a trial order and the two other lower tenderers (German) offered stores made in the Ruhr District and were passed over on account of the unsettled conditions there.
Paint, Red Lead, Dry	C. 1994-1908, 17th May 1923.	Walkers Parker & Coy., Ltd.	316 0 0	314 0 0 (German Manufacture offered by a British Firm).	Superior reliability. Also the lowest tenderer has refused to admit Indian Students. In the case of the tender for German paint it would not be possible to inspect as required by Specification.
Tubes, Copper	C. 2150-1898, 28th May 1923.	Birmingham Battery & Metal Coy., Ltd.	225 19 0	194 16 6 (German Tender).	Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery. Extra cost of inspection in Germany would amount to about £10.

PART B.—Cases in which the discrimination is between British or between foreign firms and not between British and Foreign.

Stores ordered.	Contract Number.	Name of Contractor.	Amount of Contract.	Lowest Tender not accepted.	Reason for acceptance.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Steam Hammer	C. 39-7891, 2nd January 1922.	B. & S. Massey	220 0 0	190 0 0	Better value.
Irons, Branding	C. 125-8186, 8th January 1923.	Arnold Bros.	31 8 7	16 8 4	Lowest suitable, in view of the urgency of the requirements.
Pump	C. 305-7883, 15th January 1923.	Tangyes Limited	101 0 0	93 0 0	Better value.
Lubricators	C. 516-98, 25th January 1923.	Kingfisher (24881) Leads	19 5 9	17 19 0	Ditto.
Wheel Centres	C. 581-4'4, 27th January 1923.	Taylor Bros. & Co.	1,542 10 0	1,428 15 0	Lowest, giving the necessary delivery.
Axles	C. 600-412, 29th January 1923.	Steel Coy. of Scotland, Ltd.	2,735 0 0	2,663 15 0	Superior trustworthiness (a small trial order was also given to the lowest tenderer).
Lamps	C. 607-3987, 30th January 1923.	The General Electric Coy., Ltd.	537 12 0	537 0 0	Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery.
Wire Rope	C. 678-7227, 1st February 1923.	Bruntons	416 10 5	416 5 0	
Ditto	C. 678-7227, 1st February 1923.	J. & E. Wright	681 15 0	664 11 7	Ditto ditto.
Ditto	C. 680-7227, 1st February 1923.	Hall's Barton Ropery Co., Ltd.	184 19 0	178 17 6	
Gutters, etc.	B. 5538-7043, 23rd December, 1922 as amended by letter dated 6th February 1923.	Thos. Marshall & Son	262 12 8	244 17 8	Better value.

PART B.—Cases in which the discrimination is between British or between foreign firms and not between British and Foreign—contd.

Stores ordered.	Contract Number.	Name of Contractor.	Amount of Contract.	Lowest Tender not accepted.	Reason for acceptance.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Millboards . . .	C. 694-8064, 2nd February 1923.	Bells United Asbestos Co., Ltd.	111 13 6	95 15 8	Better value.
Electric Horns . . .	C. 754-44, 5th February 1923.	J. Lucas, Ltd.	5 12 6	5 4 0	Ditto.
Wheels and Axles . . .	C. 800-9053, 7th February 1923.	Taylor Bros. & Coy.	8,424 0 0	8,268 0 0	In case to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery.
Tapc, Cotton . . .	C. 486-7739, 9th February 1923.	J. Bonas & Co.	500 0 0	489 11 8	To secure reasonable delivery, the order was shared between the three lowest firms.
Ditto . . .	C. 837-7732, 9th February 1923.	J. & N. Phillips & Co.	1,575 0 0	1,526 11 3	
Brushes, tooth . . .	C. 860-7860, 12th February 1923.	W. R. Tilbury & Son	204 3 4 (7,000 Brushes).	189 11 8	Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery. The lowest firm received an order for 15,800 brushes.
Varnish, black . . .	C. 981-9379, 15th February 1923.	London Varnish & Enamel Co., Ltd.	67 10 0	57 10 0	Better value.
Canvas, packing . . .	C. 1019-656, 19th February 1923.	Baxter Bros. & Co.	422 7 7	417 13 1	Ditto.
Red Lead . . .	C. 1193-9377, 28th February 1923.	Champion Druce & Co.	165 0 0	158 2 6	Ditto.
Wire . . .	C. 1295-1097, 8th March 1923.	The Shropshire Iron Coy.	1,095 0 0	990 0 0	Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery.
Netting, Mosquito . . .	C. 1326-7353, 9th March 1923.	A. W. Black & Bros.	2,892 15 0 (56,653 yds. at 1).	2,587 13 5 at 10½d.	
Ditto . . .	C. 1327-7353, 9th March 1923.	T. Adams, Ltd.	4,895 16 8 (100,000 yds. at 11½d.)	4,479 3 4 at 10½d.	Lowest suitable, having regard to India's delivery requirements.

PART B.—Cases in which the discrimination is between British or between foreign firms and not between British and Foreign—contd.

Stores ordered.	Contract Number.	Name of Contractor.	Amount of Contract.		Lowest Tender not accepted.		Reason for acceptance.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Paper, Waterproof	C. 1828-708, 10th March 1923.	J. Blackwell & Sons	105 0 0	104 0 0			Better value.
Oil Engine, etc.	C. 1405-1015, 19th March 1923.	Robey & Co., Ltd.	75 0 0	70 4 4			Ditto.
Steel, Rod	C. 1630-1280, 9th April 1923.	Shropshire Iron Coy.	1,863 12 9	1,854 14 1			Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery.
Girder Bridges	C. 1805-1631, 1st May 1923.	The Horselway Coy., Ltd.	3,802 10 0	3,686 5 0			Ditto
Ditto	C. 1943-1938, 14th May 1923.	Patent Shaft & Axletree Co., Ltd.	1,302 7 9	1,388 17 6			Ditto
Sheets, Mild Steel	C. 2121-2260, 26th May 1923.	Gorse Galvanizing Coy., Ltd.	2,640 18 6	2,598 17 5			Quicker delivery, having regard to shipping facilities.
Hack Saw Blades	C. 2149-1738, 28th May 1923.	Sanderson Bros. & Newbould, Ltd.	83 16 0	69 15 3			Better value.
Tickets, Railway	C. 2158-1973, 20th May 1923.	T. De la Rue & Coy., Ltd.	1,014 9 4	906 11 8			Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery.
Disinfecting Fluid	C. 2282-1952, 4th June 1923.	The Sautas Coy., Ltd.	60 0 0	56 13 4			Lowest tender was for white fluid which has not previously been supplied to O. & E. R.—A trial order for white fluid was given to the lowest firm.

PART B.—Cases in which the discrimination is between British or between foreign firms and not between British and Foreign—contd.

Stores ordered.	Contract Number.	Name of Contractor.	Amount of Contract.	Lowest Tender not accepted.	Reason for acceptance.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Mild Steel Sheet . . .	C. 2389-2315, 6th June 1923.	Smith & McLean, Ltd.	8 12 5	8 3 9	Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery.
Water-cooled Tube . . .	C. 2385-3071, 8th June 1923.	Cuthbert Andrews . . .	11 18 0	11 9 6	Ditto
Rick cover . . .	C. 2442-2629, 11th June 1923.	Francis Webster & Sons . . .	51 7 8	48 7 3	Better value. A rick cover was ordered from the lowest tender for trial in India.
Girder Bridges . . .	C. 2592-2694, 16th June 1923.	Patent Shaft & Axletree Co., Ltd.	1,754 14 8	1,725 18 0	Desire to meet indenting department's wishes as to delivery.
Axles, engine . . .	C. 2677-3294, 21st June 1923.	Taylor Bros. & Co., Ltd. . .	820 6 3	795 2 3	Ditto
Canvas, sail . . .	C. 2762-1357, 25th June 1923.	Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd. . .	10,547 5 6	10,461 1 6	Ditto
Boxe Rail & Timber Trucks.	C. 2898-2436, 28th June 1923.	Metro. Carriage, Wagon & Finance Co., Ltd.	9,994 0 0	9,850 0 0	Ditto
Stone pumice . . .	C. 2902-3975, 29th June 1923.	O'Hara & Hoar . . .	197 10 0	187 10 0	Ditto

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. •

ITEMS OF FINANCIAL EXPENDITURE IN DISPUTE BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

1. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to put on the table a statement showing the items of financial expenditure in dispute between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government, which the Honourable the Secretary of the Finance Department said in the Council of State on the 16th July 1923 in a speech, he would place before the Legislature at a later date?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: A statement regarding important financial questions outstanding between His Majesty's Government and the Government of India is laid on the table.

Statement regarding important financial questions outstanding between His Majesty's Government and the Government of India.

(1) *Pension claim by War Office against India.*—This claim, which exceeds £25 millions and may be as much as £40 millions, represents a share of pensions arising out of casualties amongst British Troops who had served in India and who were employed in the Great War. The claim has been made with reference to an agreement entered into in 1870 between the India and War Offices. It is understood that this agreement is interpreted differently by the two offices, the former holding that it could not have been intended to apply against India in a war of the magnitude of the Great War, while the latter argue that it was subject to no qualification.

(2) *India's further contribution to the Great War.*—In September 1918 the Indian Legislative Council offered certain additional financial assistance to His Majesty's Government towards the prosecution of the Great War on the conditions, (i) that there was no costly conflagration on the Indian frontier and (ii) that the general agricultural and financial situation of India permitted it. On the assumption that the Great War would last till March 1920, the offer involved a payment by India to His Majesty's Government of about £49 millions which included about £4 millions on account of pensionary charges of British Troops. The Great War terminated earlier. The 3rd Afghan War broke out and the agricultural situation proved worse than anticipated, with the result that in March 1920 the Legislative Council reconsidered their offer and reduced the total amount of the contribution to £13,600,000. This amount which was paid to the War Office in 1918-19 also included £4 millions on account of pensionary charges of British Troops. But His Majesty's Government would not accept as correct the figure of £4 millions as against their estimated claim for pensionary charges of British troops, *vide* Item (1). The Secretary of State has informed the Government of India that the matter was being referred to the Cabinet in England.

(3) *Expenditure in East Persia.*—During the Great War and especially towards the end of 1917 and the beginning of 1918 it was necessary to send large Military Forces from India to East Persia. The expenditure on these forces to end of 1920-21 has been debited to the War Office in the same way as charges of Military Forces despatched from India to other theatres. In view of the Military and Political interests that India possessed in East Persia the War Office demurred to bear the entire charges in this region, but it is uncertain whether they are maintaining this attitude. As expenditure in East Persia was not recorded separately in the accounts, it is not possible to state the amount disputed.

(4) *Charges of Surplus officers of the Indian Army.*—Owing to the expansion of the Indian Army during the period of the great war the strengths of officers of the Indian Army were augmented by recruitment of a large number of officers who were granted permanent commissions. With the cessation of hostilities and the post-war reduction of the Army in India about 1,800 officers, mostly in the junior ranks, became surplus to requirements. These are being retired from April 1922 under special terms. The question of the basis of apportionment between England and India of the charges involved in the maintenance of the surplus officers and in the grant of special concessions on being retired, is still under discussion between the India and War Offices, the Secretary of State and the Government of India claiming

60 per cent. on the basis of the numbers recruited for special formations during the Great War, while the War Office would appear to have accepted only 50 per cent. of the charges. In a communication received in May 1923 the India Office apprehended that the matter might have to go to arbitration. The total amount requiring apportionment is about £5 millions.

(5) *Disbandment of British Troops.*—The organisation of the Post-War Army in India involves permanent reductions in the strengths of British troops as compared with the pre-war sanctioned establishments. The expenditure connected with the maintenance and disbandment of the surplus troops is an Indian liability, but it will be incurred in England along with similar charges relating to disbandment of Surplus British troops on Imperial Establishment. The apportionment between the two Governments is still under discussion. The total amount involved is not yet known.

(6) *Exchange concession on War gratuities.*—War Gratuities fixed in sterling and payable on 4th August 1919 were sanctioned for British officers and other ranks as a reward for service during the Great War. The cost of the gratuities in excess of the amount calculated for the normal strengths of officers and men on the Indian establishment was an Imperial liability. The rate of exchange on 4th August 1919 was 1s. 8d. the rupee. The Government of India acting upon what they believed to be the intentions of His Majesty's Government according to a telegram received from the Secretary of State, however, paid the gratuities at 1s. 4d. the rupee to British soldiers serving in India and Mesopotamia on that date. Subsequently the Secretary of State acting on what he believed to be the intention of His Majesty's Government, authorised the payment by the Government of India of war gratuities at the same rate to British officers. The loss by exchange debited to the War Office under these arrangements was estimated at £200,000 in 1921 and this amount was provisionally refunded to the War Office in 1920-21. The Government of India protested and the matter went to arbitration in England. The award of the arbitrator was against India.

(7) *Future administration of Aden and incidence of cost.*—A brief history of this item will be found at paragraphs 22 and 23 of the Retrenchment Committee's report on Political expenditure.

It has been suggested by the Government of India that the existing financial arrangement should be revised. The question is still under discussion.

(8) *Expenditure in Persia.*—Following the recommendations of the Welby Commission, diplomatic and consular expenditure in Persia is being shared equally between the Home and Indian Governments. In view of the fact that Indian interests in Persia have not increased as rapidly as Imperial interests, it has been suggested that this division is no longer fair and that since Indian interests are mainly confined to East Persia, it would be preferable to avoid divided expenditure where possible. Proposals to this end have been submitted for consideration by His Majesty's Government.

RETRENCHMENT IN THE ROYAL INDIAN MARINE.

2. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to state if all the recommendations of the Incheape Committee in connection with retrenchment in the Royal Indian Marine have been given effect to?

Mr. E. Burdon: The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to Part III of the statement which will be laid on the table to-day in reply to another question, No. 53.

DISPOSAL OF SHIPS AND BOATS BELONGING TO THE R. I. M.

3. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to state if the various ships and boats recommended for disposal by the Incheape Committee have been so disposed of? If the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing the amounts thus realized and the actual recurring expenditure saved by the acceptance of the Incheape Committee's proposals in this connection?

Mr. E. Burdon: The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 of Part III of the statement which is being laid on the table to-day in reply to another question (No. 53), and which

requires only to be supplemented by the particulars contained in the statement I now lay on the table.

Statement showing the number of Royal Indian Marine Ships, etc., sold and amount of saving incurred thereby.

Names. (1)	Amount realised. (2)	RECURRING SAVINGS. (3)		REMARKS.
		Obtained so far as known. (a)	Anticipated per annum. (b)	
		1923-24.		
	Rs.			
R.I.M.S. "Bhamo"	12,500	60,460	1,00,650	
R.I.M.S. "Sladon"	7,400	68,760	1,18,870	
R.I.M.S.L. "Tamil"	12,000	28,260	28,410	
R.I.M.S.L. "General Walker"	15,000	9,820	9,830	
R.I.M.S.L. "Pickaxe"	620	..	..	Replaced by "Flaminge".
R.I.M.S.L. "Sortie"	12,000	17,476	18,390	
R.I.M.S.L. "Linnet"	1,350	...	...	Replaced by "St. George".

PUBLICATION OF THE CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO KENYA.

4. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** In connection with the reply given by the Honourable Member in charge of the Department to me in the Council of State, will Government be pleased to state the reason of the delay in publishing the full correspondence between the Government of India and the Secretary of State about the Kenya question? If the papers are not published until the time this question is put in the Assembly, will Government be pleased to state when they expect to publish these papers in full?

Mr. J. A. Richey: The orders of the Secretary of State as regards the correspondence ending with the decision of His Majesty's Government contained in the White Paper are being awaited. Until orders have been received the Government of India are not in a position to make any statement.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: May I ask a supplementary question, Sir? Is it usual for the Government of India to take orders from the Secretary of State regarding publication of papers on a subject which is closed?

The Honourable Sir Narasimha Sarma: This is a matter which relates not merely to the India Office but also to other branches of His Majesty's Government, particularly the Colonial Office, and inasmuch as the correspondence has passed between the Colonial Office, the India Office and the Government of India, there must be further consultation with regard to the publication of such correspondence. There must therefore necessarily be some delay, and we had to refer the matter to the Secretary of State.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: One more supplementary question, Sir. Is it usual to have further consultation about a subject which is closed?

The Honourable Sir Narasimha Sarma: I understand the question is not closed yet.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: I only asked for the publication of papers as far as the Kenya decision was arrived at, and not beyond that, Sir.

The Honourable Sir Narasimha Sarma: Even with regard to matters which had been closed, if they are not exclusively of an internal character as between the India Office and the Government of India, I think it is but appropriate that we should consult the Secretary of State as to how far we can publish the correspondence which relates to other branches of His Majesty's Government.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Is the Government of India following any precedent in this matter, Sir?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: Yes, Sir.

EMIGRATION RULES.

5. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to state if they are prepared to put on the table the full correspondence between themselves and the Secretary of State in connection with the emigration rules that are to be framed according to the White Paper issued in July 1923?

Mr. J. A. Richey: It is assumed that the Honourable Member refers to the proposals for amending the law regulating immigration into Kenya. Discussion is proceeding on this matter and whilst it is in progress the Government of India do not propose to ask for leave to publish the correspondence. But the Honourable Member may rest assured that everything possible is being done.

CONDITION OF INDIANS IN KENYA.

6. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to state what steps they propose to take for the purpose of keeping in touch with the conditions of Indians in the Kenya Colony, and if they are aware of any additional hardships to which Indians in Kenya are being put since the publication of the Kenya decision?

Mr. J. A. Richey: The Government of India have made certain requests to which no reply has yet been received. The Government of India are aware that Indians in Kenya have been passing through a period of grave anxiety since the decision referred to and have seen reports in the press that attempts were being made to boycott them. But they have received as yet no specific complaint from anyone who has experienced additional hardship.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Whom do the Government of India expect from Kenya to send up their complaint here? The Government of India have no officer of their own?

The Honourable Sir Narasimha Sarma: We know that the persons who are affected, whether in South Africa, Kenya or other places, occasionally

choose to make representations to the Government of India in respect of hardships they undergo, and therefore it is perfectly open to them to make representations either to the Colonial Government or, if necessary, to the Government of India through the proper channel, and in the absence of any specific information, the Government of India are naturally unable to proceed in the matter. We shall be grateful if any Honourable Member will give us specific information upon which we can proceed.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Do I understand that the Government of India would attend to representations from Indians in Kenya, only if they are made through the Colonial Office?

The Honourable Sir Narasimha Sarma: We are in correspondence with the Secretary of State as to whether other means can be employed for the purpose of obtaining correct information, and that is the answer which was given in reply to question No. 6, namely, that we have not yet received any orders from the Secretary of State.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Do I understand that the Government of India have received no complaints from Indians in Kenya since the White Paper was published?

The Honourable Sir Narasimha Sarma: No specific complaint upon which action could be taken.

SETTLEMENT OF AMOUNTS IN DISPUTE BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S
GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

7. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to state what steps they are taking to ensure that the amounts in dispute between them and His Majesty's Government which were not settled till 1st April 1923, are settled in accordance with the best financial interests of India?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Government of India have placed all relevant information fully before the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, in whose hands the final discussions with His Majesty's Government must necessarily rest.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Do the Government of India wish to consult this Assembly before any such settlement is arrived at?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: It depends entirely on the form in which the final settlement is arrived at.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Do I understand that this Assembly will then have some idea of the nature of the settlement, Sir?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: Undoubtedly, full information will be given to this Assembly in due course.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Before the settlement is made, I take it, Sir?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Honourable Member must take it as he wishes.

Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao: May I know, Sir, whether this Assembly will have an opportunity of making a representation with reference to the specific points covered by this question; whether they will

have an opportunity of discussing those matters in this House before any final decision is arrived at by His Majesty's Government?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: It will always be possible for a Resolution to be moved, but the Government of India will naturally take such steps as are in their power to see that this House is properly informed.

EXPENDITURE ON LEE COMMISSION.

8. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to state the total expenditure incurred by Lord Lee and his party coming out to India, giving details of:

- (1) the passage money spent by them from England to Bombay by sea, and
- (2) the amounts spent by them up-to-date (of framing the reply) on Railway journey in India?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: (1) The Chairman, three Members, and two Secretaries received first class passages from Bombay to London, and the four members of the reporting staff second class passages.

(2) The exact amount payable for railway journeys in India up to date has not yet been intimated by the Railway Companies. I would however make it clear to the Honourable Member that, following the ordinary practice, a note showing the total cost of the Commission will be printed with their report.

SEPARATE ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE LEGISLATURE.

9. ***Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state what steps, if any, have been taken to split up the Legislative Department into a department of Government and a department of the Legislature, as a result of the debate on the motion of Rao Bahadur C. S. Subrahmanayam in the last Assembly?

Sir Henry Moncrieff Smith: The question was exhaustively examined after the Incheape Committee submitted its report; and it has been decided that, for the present, in the interests both of economy and of efficiency, it is desirable that the business of the Legislature should continue to be conducted by the Legislative Department of the Government of India.

WORKING OF THE REFORMS.

10. ***Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state whether any report of any kind has been received from any provincial Government on the working of the Reforms? If the answer be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to lay on the table all such reports and connected correspondence?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: No official reports on the subject have been received.

Mr. K. C. Roy: May I ask if the Honourable Member proposes to call for such reports?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: I was going to add, Sir, that certain information was informally called for, but the Government of India do not intend to publish it.

Mr. V. J. Patel: Have the Government of India received any Report from the Central Provinces Government regarding the unworkability of the Reforms there?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: No, Sir. I am astonished to hear that the Reforms are unworkable in the Central Provinces.

EXPENDITURE ON SIR TEJ BAHADUR SAPRU'S DEPUTATION TO ENGLAND.

11. ***Mr. K. O. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the expenditure (under Major heads) incurred in connection with the deputation of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru to England?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred in connection with the deputation of Sir T. B. Sapru to England.

	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Sir T. B. Sapru.</i>			
Allowance at (£250)	3,750	0	0
Return passage to India (£53)†	795	0	0
Travelling allowance in India	1,302	0	0
<i>Mr. Rushbrook Williams (Private Secretary to Sir T. B. Sapru).</i>			
Pay	4,385	13	4
Return passage to India (£53)†	795	0	0
Travelling allowance in India	666	12	0
Total	11,694	9	4

† Converted at the rate of Rs. 15 to £.

COLONIAL AND INDIAN MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

12. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** (1) Have Government seen a reply in the House of Commons on the 30th July 1923, given to Mr. C. W. Darrishire (Liberal) by Sir William Joynson Hicks wherein the latter stated that

“ on the basis of estimates for 1922-23 the approximate cost of the defence per head for a population of European descent in the Dominions was as follows:

Australia	17s.	11d.
South Africa	12s.	1d.
New Zealand	11s.	4d.
Canada	6s.	8d. ?

(2) If the reply to the above be in the affirmative:

- (a) Will Government be pleased to get from His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies the average income per head of the population of European descent in each of the Dominions referred to by Sir William Joynson Hicks? and
- (b) Will Government be pleased to state the approximate cost of defence of India per head of the population of India together with the approximate average income per head of population in India during the years 1914-15, 1918-19 and 1920-21?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: (1) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. In answer to the second part, the Government have not framed any official estimate of the average income per head of population, nor are they prepared to endorse any of the unofficial estimates which have been framed from time to time. Such statistics necessarily involve a large number of assumptions and qualifications and are apt to be extremely misleading.

The approximate charge per head of population for military expenditure, on the basis of the net cost of military services, including services connected with the war, frontier operations and other special services, works out as follows:

	Total. Rs.	Per head of population. Rs.
1914-15	30,65,23,730	1.25
1918-19	66,72,03,582	2.70
1920-21	81,75,37,319	3.30
1923-24 (Estimate)	62,00,00,000	2.51

STATE PRISONERS.

13. ***Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of persons, belonging to each Province, who are at present under detention under Bengal Regulation III of 1818?

(b) How many of them, in each Province, have been dealt with under the said Regulation for creating trouble (i) on the frontiers, and (ii) in the Indian States?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: Will it be any convenience to the Honourable Member if I answer questions Nos. 13 to 18 together? I can answer them separately if he prefers.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: They may be answered together.

STATE PRISONERS.

14. ***Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) Have Government deviated, in any instance, from the recommendations of the Repressive Laws Committee, in regard to restrictions on the use of Bengal Regulation III of 1818, since the publication of the report of the said Committee?

(b) If so, in what instances, and for what reasons?

STATE PRISONERS IN BENGAL.

15. ***Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) What is the nature of the charges against the persons who have been imprisoned in Bengal under Bengal Regulation III of 1818, since September, 1923?

(b) Have the grounds of the determination taken in their case come under revision from time to time, as required by the said Regulation? If so, when, and with what result?

(c) For what periods, if any, were the said persons in the custody of a Zilla or city Magistrate? Did any Judge, in any such case, visit the State prisoner and issue orders concerning his treatment, as contemplated in clause First of Section IV of the said Regulation?

(d) Which public officers have been instructed by the Governor General in Council, under clause Second of Section IV of the Regulation, to visit

the State prisoners in Bengal; at what periods have they been instructed to visit them; and how many reports have been received from them regarding the health and treatment of such prisoners?

(e) Have reports been received under Section VI of the Regulation as to whether the degree of confinement to which the State prisoner is subjected, appears liable to injure his health, and whether the allowance fixed for his support is adequate to the supply of his own wants and those of his family according to their rank in life? If so, to what effect have such reports been received in each case?

ALLOWANCES OF STATE PRISONERS IN BENGAL.

16. *Mr. K. C. Neogy: (a) Will Government be pleased to state the amount of allowance fixed in the case of each person taken prisoner in Bengal under Regulation III of 1818, since September, 1923?

(b) Are Government satisfied that the allowances are adequate to the supply of the wants of the State prisoner and his family according to their rank in life, in each case?

(c) When was the arrest made, and when was the payment of allowance first made, in each case?

REPRESENTATIONS FROM STATE PRISONERS IN BENGAL.

17. *Mr. K. C. Neogy: (a) Have Government received any representations from the State prisoners in Bengal; if so, to what effect in each case, and what observations have been made thereon by the officer in whose custody the prisoner is placed, and what action taken by Government?

(b) Have reports been received under Section III of the Regulation; if so, to what effect in each case, and what action has been taken thereon by Government?

STATE PRISONERS IN BENGAL.

18. *Mr. K. C. Neogy: (a) Is it a fact that the papers relating to all such State prisoners in Bengal have been ordered to be placed before two Judges for examination?

(b) If so, what observations have been made by them in each case?

(c) Is it a fact that certain State prisoners applied to the Government of Bengal for permission to interview the said Judges while they dealt with their papers, and that such permission was refused?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Halley: *Question 13*—(a) Bengal, 22; the Punjab, 1; and Indian State Territory, 1.

(b) In four of the cases the action taken had reference to hostile activities directed from abroad against the security of India and among the objects of these activities was the fomenting of trouble on the frontier.

Question 14—(a) and (b). In twenty of the cases in Bengal, the action taken was in respect of complicity in a revolutionary conspiracy with the avowed object of the assassination of Government officials. Connections between some of the conspirators and Communist agents abroad had been definitely traced, and, though the immediate cause of action does not fall in the specific categories mentioned by the Committee, they recognised the necessity of special measures in the event of a contingency of this kind.

Question 15—(a) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply I have just given.

(b) The report required by section 3 of the Regulation on the 1st January has not yet been received. They were not under detention on the 1st July 1923.

(c) Government have no information.

(d) The District Magistrates of the localities in which the détenus are confined have been appointed to be the officers to visit and submit reports to Government every month. Sixteen reports have been received.

(e) Reports have been received and recommendations for allowances have been made and sanctioned in respect of all persons except those interned very recently. The détenus are in good health and are well treated.

Question 16.—(a) Government are not prepared to supply the information.

(b) Yes.

(c) Thirteen persons were arrested on the 25th September last; one on the 2nd and one on the 6th October; one on the 20th December last; one on the 16th and four on the 20th January 1924. Payments take effect from the date of incarceration.

Question 17.—One Muzaffar Ahmad confined in the Midnapore Jail complained of the inadequacy of the allowance sanctioned for his family. Inquiries made locally, however, showed that his incarceration has not affected their circumstances.

Seven internees in the same Jail complained of their treatment, particularly in respect of food and clothing; but inquiries showed that they had no grounds for complaint.

A third representation was received from two prisoners to be allowed to live in Calcutta on parole. This was refused.

(b) Please see my answer to part (b) of question 15.

Question 18.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Judges found that the existence of a revolutionary conspiracy has been clearly established and that in every case the evidence available is sufficient to prove active participation therein.

(c) Government have no information.

RULING re PUTTING OF QUESTIONS ON BEHALF OF A MEMBER WHO HAS NOT TAKEN THE OATH.

Mr. K. C. Roy: Sir, may I ask your ruling? Dr. Gour has asked me to put this question† on his behalf but I find that he has not yet taken his oath of office. If you will permit me, I shall very gladly put this question.

Mr. President: A Member who has not taken the oath of office cannot discharge his functions on the floor of this House. Honourable Members are aware that, as a matter of convenience, I have consented to receive notices of Questions and Resolutions before the oath was taken merely in order that the stage of admission might be gone through before business opened here. But when it comes to the asking of questions or the performance of any other function on the floor of this House, that cannot be done until the oath is taken.

† No. 19 in printed List of Questions.

GRANT OF FURTHER REFORMS.

19. ***Mr. B. Venkatapatiraju**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether any and what action was taken on Dr. Gour's Resolution *re* the conferment of further reforms passed by the Assembly on the 18th July 1923 and whether the Secretary of State replied to any communication made on the subject by the Government of India? If so, would Government place the Secretary of State's reply on the table?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: I find that this is practically identical, Sir, with the last question.† If the Honourable Member will allow me, I will read the answer I should have given to Dr. Gour if his question had been asked. It will, I think, supply the information that is asked for:

" (a) A copy of the Resolution adopted by the Assembly and of the debates in the Assembly on the Resolution was forwarded to the Secretary of State.

(b) No reply has been received from the Secretary of State.

(c) No recommendation has been made by Government on the Resolution, and there has been no intermediate correspondence with the Secretary of State.

(d) In reply to that I was about to suggest to Dr. Gour that he should await the discussion on the 5th February on the Resolution which has secured the first place in the ballot as regards this part of his question."

Mr. K. C. Roy: May I ask, Sir, what has been done to explore the possibilities of further reforms under the existing Act?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: I would again suggest to the Honourable Member that we had best deal with that matter when we come to the Resolution on the subject. We can then deal with it in some more convenient form than in answer to a question.

Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: May I ask, Sir, if His Majesty's Government have informed the Government of India that this question of extending the Reforms cannot be opened before 1929, the statutory period fixed? Has any information been received by the Government of India?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: If the Honourable Member has followed our debates of last Session, he will recollect that we received a Despatch from the Secretary of State on the subject; it was published at the time and fully discussed in this Assembly. At the present moment, that despatch is the ruling decision on the subject.

INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.

20. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas**: Will Government be pleased to put on the table a statement showing the following:

(a) The date on which the Indian Civil Service was instituted with the number of posts then created and filled, and the pay, promotions and all allowances including leave allowances and pensions of the various posts then.

(b) Similar figures for every twenty years since then till 1915-16.

(c) Similar figures for 1918-19 and 1922-23.

† Not put, *vide* Mr. President's ruling on page 32, *ante*.

- (d) A statement showing the cost of living in each of the years referred to in (a), (b) and (c) above.
- (e) A statement showing increases in the pay, allowances of all sorts and pensions to the English Civil Service in the years covered by the period referred to in (a), (b) and (c) above.
- (f) A statement showing the cost of living in Great Britain in the years referred to in (e) above.

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: I regret that I cannot, for the purposes and within the reasonable limits of a reply to a question, embark on the somewhat elaborate research to which the Honourable Member invites me. If the Honourable Member can be persuaded to undertake the inquiry himself, the results of which I should be extremely glad to receive, I would suggest that he might appropriately begin it in the year 1793, when the Indian Civil Service first received statutory recognition in the East India Company Act.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: I fully appreciate what the Honourable Member has said, but do I understand that the Government have not collected any figures on the lines of comparison indicated by me before they appointed the Lee Commission?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: I do not think the Lee Commission would have been entirely grateful to us if we had presented them with figures dating from 1793. We have given them very full information relating to the Service in recent years, but we have not indulged in a long process of historical research.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Would the period beginning from the year when the Crown took over India be considered by the Honourable Member as only of historical value?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: Of historical interest, but of no great value for present purposes.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: I understand, then, Sir, that Government have no figures even from the year 1858 onwards?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: We certainly have no figures readily available. I daresay they could be obtained by prolonged search among our records, but again I would suggest to the Honourable Member that, even if they were obtained, they would be of no value for present purposes.

Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar: May I ask, Sir, whether any information on the lines indicated in this question has been prepared for any period for the Lee Commission?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: To the best of my recollection, we have provided them with material subsequent to the Report of the Islington Commission. We have given them very full material about the Services since that date, but again, speaking only from recollection, I don't think we went further back than that.

Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao: May I ask, Sir, if that information can be made available to this House?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: I have little doubt that it will be published or at all events summarised in the Report.

Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao: But I am asking whether it could be made available earlier than the Report.

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: I will examine it, and, if the Honourable Member would like to see it, I will endeavour to place it at his disposal, but that must be dependent on the result of my examination.

REDUCTION OF COAL FREIGHTS.

21. ***Mr. K. O. Neogy:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the Resolution passed by the Associated Chamber of Commerce in the last Bombay session of its annual meeting, asking for a general reduction of coal freights over long distance traffic?

(b) Is it a fact that the Indian Mining Federation has been urging the question of reduction of coal freight from the coalfields to the distant centres ever since November 1921?

(c) Is it a fact that His Excellency the Viceroy, replying to an address presented by the Indian Mining Federation on the 16th December 1922, said that he was deeply impressed with the disability which the Indian coal has to labour under in competition with foreign coal in such consuming centres as Bombay, owing to high freight charges from coalfields to those consuming stations?

(d) Is it a fact that even so recently as the 22nd of August, 1923, a conference of the representatives of coal trade and the Railways concerned presided over by the acting Commerce Member discussed *inter alia* the question of reduction of freight rate over long distance traffic?

(e) Should the reply to the questions (a), (b), (c) and (d) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to indicate their general attitude in the matter, in view of the persistent representations from the various commercial bodies? Will Government also be pleased to lay on the table the full copies of correspondence they had with the Railway authorities concerned, and the correspondence which passed between the various Agents of the Railway Companies and their Home Boards?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: (a), (b) and (d). Yes.

(c) His Excellency the Viceroy in the speech referred to sympathised with the desire of the Indian Mining Federation for concessions in freight and said that he was impressed by its observations.

(e) The Government do not propose at present to take up with the Railway Companies concerned the question of reducing long distance freights on coal. For one thing it is in the general interest of the coal trade itself as well as of other trades that the bulk of coal for Bombay should go *via* the Kidderpore docks and coasting steamers rather than by the all-rail route. On the former route there is quick-turn-round of wagons. On the latter route the journey from the coalfields to Bombay and back takes about 25 days. The Honourable Member is no doubt aware that a rebate on coal exported from the Kidderpore docks has recently been granted by the Railway Companies concerned, and the Government hope that with this rebate and by the help of the measures which the trade is itself taking to sort and grade Indian coal before export to Bombay, Indian coal will again be able to compete in the Bombay market. They are, however, watching the situation carefully. The answer to the last part of the question is in the negative.

WAGONS FOR COAL TRAFFIC.

22. *Mr. K. O. Neogy: (a) Is it a fact that the Government still exercise a control over the distribution of wagons for the coal traffic on the E. I. and B. N. Railways?

(b) Is it a fact that the control exercised involves undue preference to some of the colliery owners and consumers over other colliery owners and other consumers?

(c) Is it a fact that the control over distribution of wagons for coal traffic was actually withdrawn in August 1919, and being re-introduced two weeks after, was again formally announced to be withdrawn towards the end of that year?

(d) Should the reply of the question (c) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state why the control is still being exercised, and why the Coal Transportation Department is still being continued in the face of definite announcement for its gradual abolition?

* The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: (a) Control over the distribution of wagons for coal traffic on the East Indian and Bengal Nagpur Railways is exercised by the Coal Transportation Officer, Railway Board, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee composed of representatives of the—

Indian Mining Association,

Indian Mining Federation,

Bengal Chamber of Commerce,

and Bengal National Chamber of Commerce,

with the Director of Industries, Bengal, as Chairman.

(b) The Government of India do not admit that the control exercised involves undue preference. It is obvious that Railways and other works of public utility must, in the general interest, have the first call on supplies of wagons, and an order of allotment of wagons has been in force for many years.

(c) and (d). It is a fact that the coal special indent system was withdrawn in 1919 and that in October of that year a warning was issued to coal consumers and dealers in India, that, from the 1st January 1920, they must arrange to obtain their coal from collieries by the ordinary methods which were in force prior to the introduction of the above system. At the same time, it was decided to replace the Coal Controller by a Coal Transportation Officer. The function of this officer was to come to the assistance of consumers in cases of emergency, but it was hoped that special assistance of this kind would be necessary only occasionally. In 1920, however, the demands for coal proved to be so much in excess of the available wagon supply that most consumers found themselves in difficulties, and applications for assistance became more and more numerous. Since then, the whole question has been frequently brought under review particularly by a Committee composed mainly of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State which sat in February 1921. It has not yet been found possible to abolish the Coal Transportation Officer with whom, as stated above, an Advisory Committee has been associated, but we are now returning to the conditions which prevailed before the war, and the Government of India are now examining the question whether it is not possible to leave the task of allotting wagons for coal traffic to the two Railways concerned. But I must warn the Honourable Member that it will probably be always necessary to proceed according to some order of allotment.

COST OF KASTA AND DAMAGURIA SIDINGS, E. I. RAILWAY.

23. ***Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state the cost involved in the construction of Kasta and Damaguria sidings off Ondal Sainthia and Sitarampur Branch in the E. I. Ry., and what traffic has been offered by these sidings since their construction?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: The total expenditure on Damaguria siding and Kasta Branch up to date is Rs. 2,86,692, and Rs. 26,22,151, respectively, and the total numbers of wagons, loaded on these sidings since opening, are 8,265 on the former and 4,994 on the latter.

RAILWAY FACILITIES TO THE KARANPURA AND TALCHER COALFIELDS.

24. ***Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state what is the amount of outlay already made and proposed to be made in providing Railway facilities to the two coalfields of Karanpura and Talcher and what is the earning already yielded by the traffic offered by these coalfields or is likely to be yielded from their prospective development in course of the next 10 years?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: A statement giving the information is laid on the table.

Railway extensions to the coalfields of Karanpura and Talcher.

—	Estimated capital outlay.	Outlay already made.	ESTIMATED RETURN.		Return already yielded.	REMARKS.
			On opening.	After 10 years.		
	Rs.	Rs.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	
<i>Lines sanctioned.</i>						
1. South Karanpura (Duneya Hesia) Extension of Bokharo Ramgarh Branch.	31,63,385	5,70,000	4.7			The line is under construction. The estimated return has been calculated on conservative estimate of traffic. The additional earnings of the main line from interchanged traffic have not been taken into account in calculating the return.
2. Talcher Coalfields Railway.	80,93,759	12,32,000	2.41 (and 3.44, 4.59 and 4.78 successively during next 3 years).	Estimated.	Nil.	The line is under construction. The estimated return takes into account neither the receipts of the main line from interchanged traffic nor the reduction that will eventually be effected on the freight on coal used on the east coast section of the Bonga Nagpur Railway.
<i>Lines proposed.</i>						
1. Hesia Hutar Daltonganj and Hutar Anuppur Railways.	9,15,50,000	...	6.88	Not	Nil.	The estimated return does not take into account the saving from the reduced cost of transporting coal to the west of India which will result from the construction of these lines. (The lines will also open up various new coalfields in the area traversed.) Detailed estimates are under preparation.
2. Hesia Chandil Railway.	...	5,91,000	...			

PURCHASE OF COAL FOR STATE RAILWAYS.

25. ***Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the evidence disclosed before what is known as the Church Trial in Calcutta in regard to the arrangements for the purchase of coal for the requirements of the State Railways by the Mining Engineer to the Railway Board, and do Government propose any change in the existing arrangements for purchase of coal for the requirements of the State Railways?

(b) Will Government be pleased to give a list of the contracts entered into by the Chief Mining Engineer to the Railway Board, in course of the last 3 years, for the purchase of coal, showing the period for which the contract extends and the quantity of coal involved in each contract?

(c) Is it a fact that some of these contracts were entered into without any invitation of tender from the public and if so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for such a course?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: (a) The Government have not had an opportunity of studying all the evidence adduced in the case referred to, but as at present advised, they are of opinion that they always require expert assistance in the placing of contracts for coal and in arranging for deliveries against those contracts. The Chief Mining Engineer is also required in connection with the collieries owned by railways.

(b) If the Honourable Member cares to come round to the Railway Board Office, he will be shown the list referred to.

(c) Offers were invited from the firms which were in a position to supply the class of coal required by the railways. This is an ordinary business procedure.

ABOLITION OF DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONERSHIPS.

26. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Has the Government of India asked the Local Governments to examine the question of the proposed abolition of the posts of Divisional Commissioners? And if so, what replies, if any, have been received from the different Local Governments?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table of the Assembly copies of all communications which may have passed between the Government of India and the different Local Governments on the subject, and also copies of communications, if any, between the Government of India, and the Secretary of State?

(c) With reference to question No. 490 on this subject (printed at page 3100 of Vol. III of the Legislative Assembly Debates), will Government be pleased to state what recommendation, if any, it has received from the Government of Bihar and Orissa? And will Government be pleased to lay a copy on the table?

(d) Will Government be pleased to give the Legislative Assembly an opportunity to discuss this question before any final decision is arrived at?

(e) Has this question been referred for opinion to any public bodies or Associations, or individuals? And if so, will Government be pleased to lay copies of their replies on the table?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: (a) Yes. All replies have been received.

(b) and (c). Government are not prepared at present to lay the correspondence on the table or to state the recommendation of any particular Local Government.

(d) It is open to any Honourable Member to move a Resolution on the subject.

(e) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha: Are Government aware that in the province of Bihar and Orissa there has actually been an increase in the number of Divisional Commissioners and one Mr. Heycock has been appointed Additional Commissioner of Patna simply because no other post could be found for him?

Mr. President: That question is not primarily the concern of the Governor General in Council but of the Governor-in-Council of Bihar and Orissa and of the Legislative Council of that province.

Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar: Do Government propose to take any action on these reports received?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: We are considering them.

PUSA AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE.

27. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Adverting to the *ad interim* reply given to question No. 70 (printed at page 53 of Vol. III of the Assembly Debates), and to question No. 31 (printed at page 1003 of Vol. III) on the subject of the Pusa Agricultural Institute, will the Government be pleased to state:

- (i) How long has the Pusa Agricultural Institute been in existence?
- (ii) What has been the total expenditure, recurring and non-recurring, incurred over the said Institution, year by year? And also, what income, if any, there has been each year?
- (iii) What practical results have so far been achieved from this Institution, towards the development and improvement of agriculture in the country?

(b) Will Government be pleased to furnish for the information of members of the Assembly a comparative statement of all officers and employees, drawing Rs. 500 per month and over, European and Indian, of the Institution since its foundation with their names, the amount of their salaries, their period of service, and the nature of their work?

(c) Is the Government aware that the people of this country generally have not at all been benefited by this Institution, and that they regard it as a waste of public money?

(d) If the answer to the above be in the negative, will Government be pleased to enquire and report?

(e) Will the Government, in the interest of economy, be pleased to state if it is wished to examine the question of closing the Institution; and if so, when?

Mr. J. A. Richey: (a) (i) and (iii). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the particulars already given at (a) and (b) on page 1331 of Volume III, Part 2, of the Legislative Assembly Debates. Later information regarding the activities of the Institute is available from its last Annual Report, which has been placed in the library.

(ii) A statement giving the information asked for is placed on the table.

(b) A statement giving the information asked for with regard to the staff now in service is placed on the table. For any further information a reference is invited to the Half-yearly Lists of Officers in the Imperial Department of Agriculture in India issued from 1904 to 1922 and to the Annual List of Officers in the Indian Agricultural Department for the 1st January 1923.

(c) and (d). The answer is in the negative.

(e) The question was gone into carefully in connection with the inquiry made by the Retrenchment Committee and it was decided to maintain the Institute which is doing valuable work. Government do not propose to make any fresh inquiry.

Statement showing the receipts and expenditure of the Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, from 1903-04 to 1922-23.

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	REMARKS.
	Rs.	Rs.	
1903-04 and 1904-05	4,005*	1,78,383	* For 1904-05.
1905-06	2,581	2,31,565	
1906-07	3,680	3,10,029	
1907-08	6,077	2,88,833	
1908-09	9,680	3,23,923	
1909-10	5,573	3,12,428	
1910-11	13,462	2,99,586	
1911-12	9,455	3,04,045	
1912-13	14,633	3,85,390	
1913-14	22,157	4,53,850	
1914-15	16,843	4,20,610	
1915-16	15,340	4,19,981	
1916-17	17,878	4,27,221	
1917-18	19,843	4,77,900	
1918-19	21,403	5,34,166	
1919-20	36,221	6,35,077	
1920-21	30,313	8,83,113	
1921-22	38,822	7,65,140	
1922-23	45,852	7,86,056	

NOTE :—(1) The above figures do not include expenditure on buildings. The cost of buildings constructed at Pusa is Rs 15,38,100.

(2) In 1912-13 the offices of the Director and Inspector General of Agriculture were amalgamated and the expenditure from that year includes the expenditure of the amalgamated offices.

List showing officers of the Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, drawing Rs. 500 and above on the 1st January 1924.

Name of officers.	Designation.	Date of appointment.	Period of Service on 1st January 1924.	Salary.	Nature of work performed.	REMARKS.
			Y. M. D.	Rs.		
1. S. Milligan, M.A., B. Sc. (Edin.)	Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India and Director of Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa.	28th October 1903.	18 2 6	Pay . . . 2,750	General administration of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, Imperial Bacteriological Laboratory, Muktesar, and Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay, and advice to the Government of India, Local Governments and Indian States, etc., in matters relating to agriculture.	
2. A. Howard, C.I.E., M.A., A.R.C.S., F.L.S.	Imperial Economic Botanist.	5th May 1905.	18 7 27	Pay . . . 1,200 Overseas pay . . . 250 Pusa allowance . . . 400 ----- 1,850	Research training of students and advice to officers of the Provincial Department of Agriculture and to the public.	
3. W. H. Harrison, D. Sc., (Manchester).	Imperial Agricultural Chemist and Joint Director, Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa.	14th November 1906.	17 1 17	Pay . . . 1,100 Overseas pay . . . 250 Pusa allowance . . . 350 Duty allowance . . . 250 ----- 1,950	General administration of the Pusa Institute in collaboration with the Director. Research and training of students and advice to the officers of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture and to the public.	
4. G. S. Henderson, N.D.A., N.D.D.	Imperial Agriculturist.	18th January 1907.	16 11 14	Pay . . . 1,050 Overseas pay . . . 250 Pusa allowance . . . 300 ----- 1,600	Research and training of students, advice to the officers of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture and the public.	
5. W. McRae, M.A., B.Sc.	Officiating Imperial Mycologist.	28th March 1908.	15 9 4	Pay . . . 1,000 Overseas pay . . . 250 Pusa allowance . . . 250 ----- 1,500	Ditto.	
6. C. M. Hutcheson, C.I.E., B.A.	Imperial Agricultural Bacteriologist.	24th December 1909.	14 0 8	Pay . . . 1,100 Overseas pay . . . 250 Personal allowance . . . 150 Pusa allowance . . . 250 ----- 1,750	Ditto.	

List showing officers of the Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, drawing Rs. 500 and above on the 1st January 1924—contd.

Name of officers.	Designation.	Date of appointment.	Period of Service on 1st January 1924.		Salary.	Nature of work performed.	REMARKS.
			Y.	M. D.			
7. T. B. Fletcher, B.N., F.E.S., F.Z.S., F.L.S.	Imperial Entomologist.	2nd March 1910.	13	10 0	Pay . . . 900 Overseas pay 250 Pusa allowance. 200 — 1,350	Research and training of students, advice to the officers of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture and the public.	
8. F. J. F. Shaw, D.Sc. (London) A.R.C.S., F.L.S.	Second Imperial Mycologist.	26th January 1910.	13	11 4	Pay . . . 900 Overseas pay 250 Pusa allowance. 150 — 1,300	Research and training of students.	
9. G. L. C. Howard, M.A. (Kaiser-i-Hind Gold Medalist).	Second Imperial Economic Botanist.	1st October 1910.	13	3 0	Pay . . . 1,150 Duty allowance. 150 — 1,300	Ditto.	
10. J. H. Walton, M.A. (Cantab.) M. Sc. Diploma in Agriculture (Canid).	Assistant Bacteriologist.	25th October 1912.	11	2 7	Pay . . . 850 Overseas pay 250 Pusa allowance. 160 — 1,260	Ditto.	
11. Palathunkal Varki Isaac, B.A., D.i.e., M. Sc. (London) F. E. S.	Second Entomologist (Dipterist).	16th June 1923.	1	6 15	Pay . . . 550 Pusa allowance. 150 — 700	Ditto.	
12. Jatendra Nath Sen, F.C.S. P. H. D. (Cal.).	Supernumerary Agricultural Chemist.	9th June 1906.	18	6 22	Pay . . . 750 Overseas pay. 250 — 1,000	Ditto.	
13. M. W. Sayer, B.A.	Supernumerary Agriculturist.	20th March 1914.	9	9 12	Pay . . . 750 Overseas pay. 250 Special allowance. 150 — 1,150	Temporarily appointed to work as Secretary, Sugar Bureau, with effect from 20th January 1919.	
14. Rai Bahadur Chandra Sekhar Misra.	1st Assistant to the Imperial Entomologist.	1st May 1906.	13	8 0	Pay . . . 625	Research Laboratory work, etc.	
15. Rao Sahib C. S. Gopaul K. Rao.	Superintendent, office of Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India.	1904	20	0 0	Pay . . . 500	Ministerial duties.	

GRIEVANCES OF STATE PRISONERS IN THE CENTRAL JAIL, ALIPORE.

29. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (i) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a communication published in the "Servant" newspaper of Calcutta, dated the 19th December 1923, regarding the grievances of State prisoners in the new Central Jail, Alipore, Bengal? And will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that:

(a) no family allowance has yet been sanctioned to the State prisoners?

(b) they have not yet been supplied with warm blankets or quilts, or other necessary articles of warm clothing?

(c) they are kept confined in small cells or wards, and are not allowed to go out for exercise?

(d) they are not being given proper food?

(ii) If the answer to the above be in the affirmative, what steps are being taken to redress their grievances?

(iii) Will the Government be pleased to give the names of the State prisoners (confined under Regulation III of 1818) in Bengal, and the period during which they have been in confinement, and their places of detention?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: (i) Government have seen the article.

(a) No. Family allowances have been sanctioned in all cases where Government are satisfied that the incarceration of the prisoner has affected the circumstances of his family. The cases of persons interned very recently are under consideration.

(b) No.

(c) They are confined in cells but are allowed ample exercise every day and are provided with facilities for playing badminton.

(d) No.

(ii) Does not arise.

(iii) Government are not prepared to publish information regarding the jails in which prisoners are confined, but a list of persons detained with the dates of their detention is being supplied to the Honourable Member.

HIGH COURT JUDGESHIPS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCIAL JUDICIAL SERVICE.

30. ***Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** (a) Will the Home Member be pleased to state whether any member of the Provincial Judicial Service in Bombay, Madras, Agra and Oudh and Bengal has been appointed to High Court Judgeship; and, if so:

(i) At what date have the appointments been made, and for what periods?

(ii) Who are the present incumbents?

(b) Is it not a fact that two such appointments have been filled from the service in Allahabad within the last six months?

(c) Is it a fact that during the last fifty years only two temporary appointments, for a period of six months each have been given to members of the Provincial Judicial Service?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: (a) The Government of India are not primarily concerned with these appointments except in so far as the appointments to the Calcutta High Court and the appointments of Additional Judges in other Courts are concerned. It would have been misleading to give information regarding these latter appointments only, and we have therefore refrained from searching the records of the last sixty years in order to obtain such information. I merely wish to invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the fact that in addition to the two cases referred to in part (b) of his question there are still two permanent Judges in High Courts in India who belonged to a Provincial Judicial Service:

- (i) Sir P. C. Banerji appointed to the Allahabad High Court in 1893.
- (ii) Sir C. V. Kumaraswami Sastri appointed to the Madras High Court in 1914.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) No.

LOCATION OF TROOPS AT MUZAFFARPUR.

31. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Is the Government aware that a number of soldiers have been stationed in Muzaffarpur town for some time? And if so, will the Government be pleased to state how long have they been quartered? What is their sanctioned numerical strength? And for what purpose have they been quartered?

(b) Is it a fact that the troops were first located in Muzaffarpur during the time Lord Sinha was the Governor of Bihar and Orissa, without any reference being made to him, or without his sanction?

(c) Will Government be pleased to furnish for the information of the members of the Assembly, copies of all communications on this subject, between the Government of Bihar and Orissa, the Government of India His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, or other Government officials concerned?

Mr. E. Burdon: (a) Yes. Troops were first despatched to Muzaffarpur in November 1921, in order to assist the police in the maintenance of public tranquillity. It was subsequently decided to locate one company of British Infantry permanently at Muzaffarpur for the maintenance of internal security in the Tirhut Division, but until barracks for the company have been constructed, the garrison consists of one company of British Infantry in the cold weather and one squadron of Indian cavalry in the summer.

(b) Troops were first despatched to Muzaffarpur while the Right Honourable Lord Sinha was Governor of Bihar and Orissa, and at the request of Lord Sinha's Government.

(c) Government are not prepared to place the correspondence on the table.

LOCATION OF TROOPS AT MUZAFFARPUR.

32. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Is the Government aware that His Excellency Sir Henry Wheeler, the Governor of Bihar and Orissa, in course of his reply to the address of the Bihar Planters' Association at

Muzaffarpur, on the 24th July, 1922, made the following statement regarding the location of troops in Muzaffarpur:

“ There is no intention of modifying that arrangement, so long as it may be found to be necessary; and it is designed in the common interest of all sections of the community ”?

(b) Has any section of the community ever made any representation to Government, recommending the location of troops in Muzaffarpur? If the answer be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state which section of the community? And also, will the Government be pleased to lay on the table copies, if any, of such representations?

(c) Is it not a fact that of all the public bodies which presented addresses to His Excellency the Governor on the occasion referred to above, the Bihar Planters' Association alone in course of their address expressed their approval at the location of troops in Muzaffarpur? And is it not mainly in their interest that this arrangement has been undertaken, and is being continued?

Mr. E. Burdon: (a) Government have no information of the occasion mentioned, but have no reason to doubt that the facts are as stated by the Honourable Member.

(b) The Government of India have received no representation from any quarter, except from the Government of Bihar and Orissa, recommending the location of troops at Muzaffarpur.

(c) With regard to the first part of this question, the Government of India have no information with regard to the second part, the arrangement is designed to secure the safety of all the inhabitants of the area.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Will Government be pleased to make an inquiry and ascertain views on the subject?

Mr. E. Burdon: Does the Honourable Member wish to request that an inquiry should be made regarding all the local bodies who presented addresses to His Excellency the Governor on the occasion mentioned?

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Yes, the fact mentioned in part (c) of the question.

Mr. E. Burdon: Certainly I am prepared to make an inquiry, and I will communicate the result to the Honourable Member.

COST OF TROOPS STATIONED AT MUZAFFARPUR.

33. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state if the troops are going to be permanently stationed in Muzaffarpur; and that land is in course of being acquired for their residential purposes?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to say what is the total cost involved in stationing the troops in Muzaffarpur, as well as the expense sanctioned for the acquisition of the land, and for the proposed buildings thereon?

(c) Is it a fact that cases of friction or assault have actually happened between the soldiers, and some of the inhabitants? If so, what were the nature of such occurrences, and what were they due to?

Mr. E. Burdon: (a) I have already informed the Honourable Member, in reply to a previous question, that it is intended to station permanently in Muzaffarpur one company of British Infantry.

(b) The only extra expenditure involved is the cost of constructing barracks. This is estimated at Rs. 5,79,485, including Rs. 40,670 on account of cost of acquiring the land. The figures which are given do not include departmental charges. The barracks are to be constructed by the civil Public Works Department.

(c) So far as the Government of India are aware, the only fracas that has occurred since troops were first stationed at Muzaffarpur took place on the 2nd November 1923, between some villagers and 4 sowars of the Indian cavalry detachment who were at the time cutting grass. The case is still under investigation at the hands of the civil and military authorities.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: May I put a supplementary question arising out of the answer to part (b) of the question? Will Government kindly state whether the proposed buildings include a slaughter house also?

Mr. E. Burdon: I am unable to answer off hand. If the Honourable Member will put the question down, I will call for the plan and examine it.

Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha: Are we to understand that the decision to station troops permanently at Muzaffarpur was arrived at without making an inquiry as to whether these troops were wanted by those for whose safety they are proposed to be stationed there?

Mr. E. Burdon: In accordance with the established procedure in the matter the Government of India complied with the request made by the Local Government.

Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha: Do the Government of India propose to reconsider this question after they have made inquiries in order to ascertain whether these troops are wanted by the people concerned?

Mr. E. Burdon: Not unless the Government of Bihar and Orissa make a request to the effect suggested.

Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha: Will the Honourable Member inform this House what the utility of any inquiry would be if the decision to station troops there was arrived at finally without making any inquiry?

Mr. President: That question sounds somewhat hypothetical.

KENYA IMMIGRATION BILL.

34. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** (a) Has the Government made any representations to His Majesty's Government on the subject of the Kenya Immigration Bill?

(b) Will the Government be pleased, with the permission of His Majesty's Government, if necessary, to publish all the correspondence on the subject?

Mr. J. A. Richey: (a) The Government of India have made strong representations on the subject of the Kenya Immigration Bill.

(b) Discussion is proceeding on this matter and whilst it is in progress the Government of India do not propose to ask leave to publish the correspondence, but the Honourable Member may rest assured that everything possible is being done.

REPORTS OF THE DEPUTATIONS TO FIJI AND BRITISH GUIANA.

35. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** Will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for the delay in publishing the reports of the deputation to Fiji and British Guiana and to place the reports on the table?

Mr. J. A. Richey: The Government of India have decided that the question of the publication of the report of the deputation to Fiji should be postponed until the appointment of the Crown Colonies Committee has been settled. The reports of the British Guiana deputation have been published.

Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao: May I know when this Committee is going to be appointed?

The Honourable Sir Narasimha Sarma: We hope to be able to do it at a very early date. We are already corresponding on the subject.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDIAN RAILWAYS COMMITTEE.

36. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the Indian Railways' Committee

(a) for the establishment of a Rates Tribunal; and

(b) for an inquiry into the questions of inland water-way communication as affected by unfair Railway competition have been considered by the Government and whether any decision has been come to on these matters?

Will the Government be pleased to place their orders on the table?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: (a) This question was discussed at the last meeting of the Central Advisory Council for Railways who recommended that a Rates Tribunal should be established. The matter is now being further considered.

(b) When the Rates Tribunal is established, it will form a suitable body for investigating cases such as those referred to in paragraph 155 of the Report of the Indian Railways Committee. The Government do not propose at present to institute any special inquiry into the competition of Railways with inland waterways.

RETRENCHMENTS ON INDIAN RAILWAYS.

37. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** With reference to the statement made in the explanatory memorandum on the Railway Budget for 1923-24 that all Railway administrations have appointed Retrenchment Committees to reduce working expenses; will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the retrenchments recommended by each of the Committees and the extent to which the administrations have carried out these recommendations?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: The inquiries regarding possibilities of retrenchment in working expenses have not yet been completed, and I am not therefore in a position to give the figures for which the Honourable Member asks. But Agents will be asked to report the economies effected up to the end of the current financial year and information will be supplied to Honourable Members as soon as it is available.

STATE PRISONERS.

38. *Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement containing the names of persons against whom action has been taken in the calendar year 1923 in the Presidency of Bengal under Bengal Regulation III of 1818 and also a similar statement of persons committed to custody in each of the other provinces under the regulations corresponding to Bengal Regulation III of 1818 during the same period?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: The statement asked for by the Honourable Member is of considerable length, in so far as it comprises the persons to whom the Madras State Prisoners' Regulation applies. If the Honourable Member desires that the full list should be read out, I will ask my Honourable friend, Sir Narasimha Sarma, who should be much more acquainted with the Madras nomenclature than I am, to do so. But perhaps he will take it as sufficient if I give him a list instead of having it either read out or printed at length in the proceedings of the House. I may add that the persons against whom action was taken in Madras, are, of course, those who were concerned in the Moplah rebellion.

STATE PRISONERS.

39. *Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao: Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of persons under custody on the 1st January 1924 in each province under each of the Regulations and Acts mentioned in paragraph 1 of the Report of the Repressive Laws Committee?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: A statement is laid on the table which gives the desired information in regard to the regulations. Action under the Criminal Law Amendment Act is not primarily the concern of the Governor General in Council and the Government of India are unable to supply the information asked for.

Number of persons in custody on the 1st January 1924 under certain enactments.

Enactment.	Province.	Number of persons in custody.	REMARKS.
State Prisoners Regulation, III of 1818.	Bengal .	17	
	Punjab . . .	1	
	N.-W. F. P. . . .	1	
Madras State Prisoners Regulation, II of 1819.	Madras . . .	204	Mainly persons concerned in the forcible conversion of Hindus or otherwise implicated in the Rebellion of 1921.
Bombay State Prisoners Regulation, XXV of 1827.	Bombay . . .	2	Concerned in the murder of on-Navalsinhji in the Eupal State of the Mahi Kantha agency.

REDUCTIONS IN THE INDIAN ARMY (BRITISH AND INDIAN).

40. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** (a) With reference to the statement laid on the table on the 2nd July, last, by Sir Basil Blackett, will the Government be pleased to state the decision of the Secretary of State in Council in regard to the following proposals of the Indian Retrenchment Committee:

1. Reduction of peace establishment of British Infantry battalions to 884 British other ranks.
2. Reduction of peace establishment of active Indian infantry battalions (other than Gurkha Units) to 766 Indian ranks.
3. Reduction of peace establishment of active pioneer battalions to 722 Indian ranks.
4. Reduction of peace establishment of training battalions by 50 Indian ranks.
5. Reduction of three British cavalry Regiments.
6. Reduction of 10 per cent. in artillery.

(b) If a decision has been come to, will the Government be pleased to place the correspondence on the table, after obtaining, if necessary, the sanction of the authorities concerned?

Mr. E. Burdon: (a)—1. The peace establishment of British Infantry battalions in India has been reduced to 882 British Other Ranks.

2. The peace establishment of active Indian Infantry battalions, other than Gurkha units, has been reduced to 736 Indian Other Ranks.

3. The peace establishment of active Pioneer battalions, excepting the 4th Hazara Pioneers, has also been reduced to 736 Indian Other Ranks.

4. The recommendation to reduce the peace establishment of Training battalions has not been accepted.

5. It has been decided to withdraw two British Cavalry regiments from the Indian establishment. As regards the third Cavalry regiment, it has been decided that this must remain on the Indian establishment. At the same time, in connection with the acceptance of the reductions in the establishment of British troops in India, it has been arranged to make a financial adjustment between the War Office and the India Office. With the concurrence of the Treasury, the Secretaries of State for War and India have agreed that the necessary adjustment should be made by the payment to the India Office of a sum of £75,000 a year by the War Office for a period of two financial years beginning with the year 1923-24.

6. Reductions have been effected which yield the pecuniary saving recommended by the Retrenchment Committee.

(b) The Government of India do not propose to lay the correspondence on the table.

Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao: May I ask the Honourable Member what proportion of the cost of maintenance of the regiment is represented by the £75,000? Is it the total cost of maintenance of the whole regiment or is it only a portion?

Mr. E. Burdon: The adjustment to which I have referred, is, of course, intended to be a general lump adjustment, but actually, so far as I recollect, the sum of £75,000 is somewhere about half the cost of a cavalry regiment.

IRRIGATION SCHEMES.

41. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao**: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table:

- (1) a statement of Irrigation Schemes sanctioned by the Government of India and under execution on the 1st December, 1923, in the various provinces;
- (2) a statement of Irrigation Schemes now pending before the Government for sanction or under correspondence with the local Governments; and
- (3) a statement of the irrigation schemes, if any, in respect of which local Governments have applied for financial assistance in 1924-25 by way of loans or otherwise?

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee: The statements asked for are laid on the Table.

(1)

Statement showing the Irrigation Schemes sanctioned by the Government of India and under execution on the 1st December 1923, in the various provinces.

<i>Name of Scheme.</i>	<i>Province.</i>
(1) Nira Right Bank Canal Project	Bombay.
(2) Pravara River Canal Project	Bombay.
(3) Sukkur Barrage and Canal Project	Bombay (Sind).
(4) Sarda Kichha Feeder Canal Project	United Provinces.
(5) Sarda Oudh Canal Project	United Provinces.
(6) Sutlej Valley Project	Punjab.
(7) Mahanadi Canal Project	Central Provinces.

NOTE.—Only projects costing over Rs. 50 lakhs are included in the above statement, this being the limit up to which Local Governments are now empowered to accord sanction to irrigation works.

(2)

Statement showing Irrigation Schemes now pending before the Government for sanction or under correspondence with the Local Governments.

<i>Name of Scheme.</i>	<i>Province.</i>
Cauvery (Metur) Project	Madras.

(3)

Statement showing Irrigation Schemes in respect of which Local Governments have applied for financial assistance in 1924-25 by way of loans or otherwise.

Local Governments have specifically applied for financial assistance in 1924-25 in respect of the schemes numbered (3) to (6) in statement (1) above.

REORGANIZATION OF THE CENTRAL STORES DEPARTMENT.

42. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao**: (a) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the general scheme of reorganization relating to the Central Stores Department referred to in the communication of the Government of India, dated 14th May, 1923?

(b) Has the scheme been sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India in Council and has it been brought into operation?

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee: The general scheme for the organization of the Indian Stores Department is still under consideration. I would like, however, to take this opportunity of explaining, for the information of such of the Honourable Members of this Assembly as may be unaware of the present position, that we have advanced some way towards putting into operation the initial stages of the scheme. The department was only constituted at the beginning of 1922, when it undertook the work of purchasing textiles for the Army and for certain other departments of Government. Since then its purchases in this line have extended to three crores of rupees. The Government of India have recently sanctioned the constitution of a branch for the purchase of engineering plant and materials, which is now functioning to a daily increasing extent, the constitution of a branch for the acquirement and dissemination of information respecting actual and potential sources of supply in the country, and the development of the Inspection side of the organization, the nucleus of which previously existed in the Metallurgical Inspectorate at Jamshedpur and the Government Test House in Calcutta. A Director and an Assistant Director of Inspection have been appointed, at headquarters, and an Inspection Circle in charge of a Controller has been created at Calcutta. It is hoped to undertake a further measure of expansion in the near future; but expansion will of course depend on the provision of funds.

MILITARY DAIRY FARMS.

43. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** (a) With reference to the Incheape Committee's Report, Part I, Military Service, paragraph 41, will Government be pleased to state if any Military Dairy Farms have been transferred from the Military to the Civil Authorities as recommended by the Incheape Committee?

(b) If the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state how many Military Dairy Farms have been so transferred?

(c) Will Government be pleased to put on the table a statement showing the results of the Dairy Farms when under control of Military authorities and when under control of Civil authorities?

Mr. J. A. Richey: (a) Yes.

(b) Two dairies, namely, Bangalore and Wellington, and one Young Stock Farm at Karnal.

(c) These farms were transferred to the civil authorities only with effect from the 1st July 1923 and there is not yet sufficient material available to enable a comparison to be made. A careful watch will be kept over the matter.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: What period do Government think would be sufficient for the comparison to be made?

The Honourable Sir Narasimha Sarma: We should have at least a period of one year by which time accounts will be sent in, scrutinised and audited.

COAL CONTRACTS FOR RAILWAYS.

44. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas**: Will Government be pleased to:

- (1) state the date on which the late B. W. Church, Mining Engineer of the Government of India fixed up the existing contract rates for Government purchases of coal,
- (2) put on the table a copy of the letter from the said R. W. Church, to the Government of India recommending acceptance of the current rates,
- (3) state the period for which these rates hold good stating the total quantity of coal purchased by Government every year during the last three years for the following purposes:
 - (a) Railways including Company-managed Railways,
 - (b) other Government Departments,
 - (c) quantity purchased by semi-public Departments like Port Trusts, Municipalities, Improvement Trusts and Development Departments.

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: The answer to this question is rather long. May I read it or place it on the table?

Mr. President: In the case of long answers I must leave it to the discretion of the answering Member.

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Then I will read it.

Before attempting to answer the Honourable Member's questions, I think it necessary to clear away certain misapprehensions under which he is evidently labouring. In the first place, it is necessary to explain exactly what part the late Mr. Church took in the contracts referred to. The question of the new contracts for railway coal for the year beginning from April 1922, was taken up in the autumn of 1920, when Mr. Church reviewed the whole situation in a report and submitted proposals as to the sort of contracts the Railway Board and the Railway Administrations concerned should aim at. His report was considered in detail at a meeting at which the Railway Board and the Agents of five important Company Railways concerned were present. As the result of that meeting, Mr. Church was authorised to negotiate with the coal trade on the basis of his proposals. The actual contracts were made by the Railway Board in respect of State Railways and by the Administrations concerned in respect of Company Railways. Secondly, I desire to make it quite plain that the criminal case recently instituted against the late Mr. Church related solely to certain F. O. B. contracts entered into on his advice by the Burma Railways, the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway and the Ceylon Government Railway. Mr. Church died before judgment was delivered, and it is not possible to say whether the Magistrate would have found him guilty or not. But the point I wish to make is that the Government are not in possession of any evidence to show that the advice on which the F. O. R. contracts for the remaining Railways were entered into was actuated in any way by dishonest motives. It is easy to say now that the prices were too high and that it was a mistake to place three-year contracts. But the Railway Board and Railway Administrations had to deal with the position as they saw it at the end of 1920.

I will now proceed to answer the Honourable Member's questions:

(1) I do not know when the contracts were actually signed, but Mr. Church's proposals were formally approved in November 1920.

(2) The letter in question covers several pages of print and I do not propose to place it on the table. The Honourable Member can see it any time he cares to come round to my office.

(3) The contracts are of three years beginning in April 1922, and cover a total of 5·64 million tons for the State Railways. The actual purchases by Government for State Railways during the last three years were as follows:—

1920-21, 1·51 million tons.

1921-22, 1·63 million tons.

1922-23, 1·67 million tons.

I have already made it clear that Government do not make purchases of coal for the Company managed railways. Information regarding the purchases made by them is being obtained but may be put approximately at between 3 and 4 million tons per annum. But it is believed that the contracts entered into by Company Railways on Mr. Church's advice covered only some 1,600,000 tons of coal. I have no figures relating to purchases by other Government Departments and semi-public Departments referred to by the Honourable Member.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: In regard to the reply to part (2) of my question, do I take it that the Honourable Member will be prepared to show a copy of the letter from Mr. Church to any other Honourable Member of the House beside myself?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Certainly, Sir.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Regarding (3) (b), cannot Government get from the Chief Mining Engineer, figures of the quantity of coal bought by semi-public departments on his recommendation or through him?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Government can surely get them but the contracts entered into by these other departments are so small that it was not thought worth while to get the information. They are small compared with the contracts entered into by Government and company managed railways.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Would it be too much trouble to get the accurate figures if the matter interests Members of the House?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: I can certainly, but I may say that their value for the Honourable Member's purpose would be very small.

EVIDENCE IN THE CASE AGAINST THE LATE MR. CHURCH.

45. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** (a) With reference to the prosecution of R. W. Church, in connection with coal purchases by the Government of India, will Government be pleased to state what steps they propose to take now in connection with many of the revelations made at the said prosecution?

(b) Will Government be further pleased to state if they are prepared to make available to the Members of the Assembly a complete report of the evidence both written and oral, and other proofs, produced at the time of Church's prosecution at Calcutta?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: (a) The Government are now considering in consultation with their legal advisers what further action should be taken in connection with the evidence adduced in the criminal case against Mr. Church.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Do I understand from the Honourable Member that the reply to part (b) is in the negative?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Yes, Sir.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: The case is finished and not *sub judice*. Is there any reason why the evidence should be withheld from Members of the House?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: The certified copies represent a big pile and I am not prepared to lay them on the table or go to the expense of printing them.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Will it be open for inspection or perusal by any Honourable Member of this House?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Certainly.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: I take it that a copy will be put in the Library.

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: It will be available in my office.

FUTURE CONTROL OF THE INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

46. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** (a) With reference to the recommendations of the Inchcape Committee under the heading Indo-European Telegraph Department, will Government be pleased to state if they propose to take any action in connection with conclusion 4 of the said Committee's Report, and if so, whether they are negotiating for the disposal of the Government lines to a commercial concern as recommended by that Committee with the exception of Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas?

(b) Has the attention of Government been drawn to paragraph 7 of Sir Purshotamdas's Note of Dissent in the Inchcape Committee's Report regarding the Indo-European Telegraph Department?

(c) If the reply to (a) above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state if they are prepared to appoint a Committee of the Legislature in India to enquire into, and report to the Legislature, the necessity and desirability of selling or leasing the Government lines of the Indo-European Telegraph Department to a private Company?

(d) Has the attention of Government been drawn to paragraph 5 of the Note of Dissent by Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas in the Report of the Inchcape Committee on the Indo-European Telegraph Department, and will Government be pleased to state if they are prepared to have an inquiry

made into the question of liabilities incurred by the Government of India in connection with the Meshed Seistan line and the Wireless Stations in Persia?

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee: (a) The question of the control and future management of the Indo-European Telegraph Department is under the consideration of the Government of India who are in correspondence with His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

(b) Yes.

(c) Until the question of the future control of the Department is further advanced than at present I am unable to say what action Government will be prepared to take on the lines suggested by the Honourable Member.

(d) Government have seen the paragraph referred to. This expenditure is at present under consideration.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: May I take from the reply that, when Government make up their mind regarding the question of control, they will let the House know?

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee: In due course; Government will certainly inform the House when the matter has been finally decided.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Which matter has the Honourable Member in mind? The matter of selling or leasing or of control? I am referring to the matter of control.

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee: The matter of control, Sir.

REDUCTIONS IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.

47. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** (a) With reference to the recommendations of the Inchaape Committee under the heading Ecclesiastical Expenditure and the Supplementary Note by Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas, will Government be pleased to state what reductions in establishment they have been able to effect in this Department since 1st April, 1923?

(b) Will Government also be pleased to state what action they have taken towards reducing substantially the present strength of the Ecclesiastical Department on the lines suggested by Sir Purshotamdas in his Supplementary Note in connection with this Department?

Mr. J. A. Richey: (a) and (b). It has been decided to reduce the present strength of the Indian Ecclesiastical Establishment of the Church of England by 28 posts from 166 to 138, ordinarily as vacancies occur, and to substitute grants-in-aid for the posts reduced. The total ultimate saving to be secured is estimated at Rs. 4,30,000 a year, the bulk of which will, it is hoped, be realised by the end of 1925-26. The whole position will be reviewed at the end of seven years. Up-to-date a net reduction of 12 out of the 28 posts to be reduced has been made in the Establishment.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE REGARDING CURRENCY AND EXCHANGE.

48. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to publish all correspondence on the subject of Currency and Exchange and

particularly of Reverse Bills between the Government of India and the Secretary of State since 1st January 1920 (or since the publication of the Babington Smith Committee's Report)?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Government do not propose to publish the correspondence.

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas: Do I understand that Government still think that that correspondence ought to be kept confidential?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: If the Honourable Member will consider my last answer he will draw his own conclusions.

SALE OF GOLD FROM THE CURRENCY DEPARTMENT.

49. ***Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** (a) Will Government be pleased to publish all correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Government of India on the subject of the sale of £2 millions of gold from the Currency Department?

(b) Was any opinion invited or received from the Bank of England authorities? If so, will Government be pleased to publish the same?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Government do not propose to publish the correspondence.

So far as the Government are aware, no opinion was invited or received from the Bank of England.

Mr. Harchandrai Vishindas: Is it a fact that to every question regarding the publication of correspondence a negative answer is given by the Government?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: No, Sir.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya: Will the Honourable the Finance Member give the reasons for not publishing the correspondence?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Government do not think it advisable.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya: In the public interest or because those who are in charge of affairs for the moment do not think it advisable?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: In the interests of the public.

POPULATION, INCOME AND EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE OF BRITISH INDIA.

50. ***Makhdum Syed Rajan Bakhsh Shah:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) What is the total population of British India and how many of them are educated persons?

(b) What was the total annual income of the country during the years 1922 and 1923, and what was the proportion of expenditure on education over the total income?

Mr. J. A. Richey: (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is laid on the table.

Statement showing the information regarding the total population, income and educational expenditure of British India.

Year.	Population.	Educated (i.e., literate) persons.	Annual income.	Expenditure on education.	Percentage of expenditure on education to total income.
1922-23 .	} 2,47,003,293	18,654,604	Rs. 2,05,31,42,400* (Revised estimate).	Rs. 9,27,01,500* (Revised estimate)	4.5
1923-24 .			2,23,02,19,400* (Budget estimate).	10,02,25,424* (Budget estimate).	4.5

* Actuals for 1922-23 and the revised estimate for 1923-24 are not yet available.

INCONVENIENCES CAUSED TO INDIAN PILGRIMS DURING THE RECENT HAJ PILGRIMAGE.

51. ***Makhdum Syed Rajan Bakhsh Shah:** Is the Government aware of the inconveniences and troubles caused to the Indian pilgrims at the time of the recent Haj pilgrimage? If so, whether the British Government has drawn the attention of Sharif Macca to them and whether any preventive measures have been suggested to Sharif Macca for check of such mismanagement in future?

Mr. E. B. Howell: The answer to all three parts of the question is "yes".

APPLICATIONS FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTS UNDER RULE 27 OF THE DEVOLUTION RULES.

52. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing the number, the nature and the particulars of the applications received by the Governor General in Council from January 1921 to 1st January 1924 from the Local Governments under rule 27 of the devolution rules and schedule III thereto, and also state the orders passed by the Secretary of State for India in Council and the Governor General in Council on each of such applications?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The information is being collected.

Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao: May I ask when the Honourable Member proposes to place it on the table?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: I shall be glad to answer that if the question is put down again.

RETRENCHMENTS IN THE MILITARY SERVICES.

53. ***Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** With reference to the statement placed on the table by the Honourable Sir Basil Blackett on the 2nd July last will the Government be pleased to place on the table a further statement showing what action has been taken after that date on the recommendations of the Indian Retrenchment Committee regarding the Military services?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: I lay on the table a revised statement which I should have laid on the table in answer to a previous question giving the retrenchment in actual expenditure in connection with the Inchcape Committee's recommendation and otherwise up-to-date.

III.—Statement showing the action taken on each recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee on the Civil Side.

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
1	Railways	61	5	Steps be taken to curtail working expenses as necessary to ensure that under normal conditions an average return of at least 5½ per cent. is obtained on capital invested on State Railways.	Rs. ...	Steps have been taken to limit working expenses during the current year to the provision made in the budget, viz., Rs. 61 crores. If the earnings anticipated are realised and working expenses limited as proposed the net revenue will, it is estimated, give a return of 5·46 per cent. As regards the question whether in the varying circumstances of the Railways the average of 5½ per cent. represents a standard which can be adopted for the regulation of working expenses and adjustment of rates and fares, definite proposals have been framed and are under urgent consideration of the Government of India and Secretary of State.	Rs. ...	
2	"	62	6	The overtaking of arrears of maintenance and renewals should be postponed on railways not able to earn sufficient receipts to pay interest and sinking fund charges. This would mean (paragraph 27) a saving of Rs. 2½ crores on the N. W., O. & R., E. B., G. I. P. and M. & S. M. Railways.	2½ crores	Definite proposals on the question of dealing with arrear renewals and of dealing with Capital and revenue expenditure on railways classed as unremunerative have been framed and are under consideration of the Government of India and Secretary of State. In the case of the Railways mentioned, it has been necessary to allow for commitments and essential renewals, e.g., of worn out material and also for works in progress. The figure	2½ crores.	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-24.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
2- con- id.	Railways.				Rs. 2½ crores	of Rs. 2½ crores referred to is based on certain theoretical figures for normal depreciation proposed by the Depreciation Committee and these figures had no connection with the Budget figure for Programme Revenue. The sanctioned estimate, however, stands at Rs. 9 crores, which is Rs. 2½ crores less than the figure originally proposed. The saving suggested has therefore been exceeded though it was not possible to accept the recommendations as regards individual railways.	Rs. 2½ crores	
3	"	62- 63	7	The present system of Programme Revenue to be abolished and adequate provisional provision to be made annually by each Railway for maintenance and renewals of permanent-way rolling-stocks.		Definite proposals have been framed on the subject and are under consideration of the Government of India and the Secretary of State.		
4	"	66	12	Revision of regulations to ensure a more equitable distribution between capital and revenue of expenditure on the maintenance of way and works and on rolling-stock.		Do.	...	
5	"	66	12	In present financial circumstances renewals of permanent-way on unremunerative lines be limited to cases when track is worn out and not capable of being strengthened to meet probable requirements for a substantial period		The principle laid down is generally in force. Renewals are not made before track has reached the limit of its useful life, and in all cases rails and sleepers taken from the main line are used in branches and subsequently in sidings when the demand generally exceeds the supply.	...	

Serial No.	Head.	References to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-26.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
6	Railways	67-68	14	Expenditure on fuel to be reduced to Rs. 8 68 crores.	Rs. 55 lakhs.	The sanctioned grant for fuel stands at Rs. 5 50 00 crores or a further reduction of Rs. 15 lakhs.	Rs. 70 lakhs	
7	"	68	14	The system of placing long-term contracts for fuel to be reconsidered.		The Railway Board controls contracts for the three State Railways only and the present contracts run till April 1925. Most Company Railways have contracts for a similar period. The question whether the decision to make these contracts has proved of advantage to Railways will be further examined.		
8	"	68	15	Renewals of locomotives on un-munerative lines to be postponed.		Definite proposals have been framed on the subject and are under consideration of the Government of India and the Secretary of State.	...	
9	"	70	18	Operating staff on all railways to be reduced to level necessary to meet current requirements. Reductions in headquarters staff to be effected as on G. I. P. Railway.		An enquiry is in progress on all railways, and every possible reduction is being made. It is pointed out that the increase in the G. I. P. administrative and clerical staff between 1914 and 1922 was 32.8 per cent. compared with 28 per cent. in general on all railways, and possibility of reduction was greater on that railway. New statistics are being prepared which will form a better classification of numbers and cost of staff employed. These statistics will be utilised for the purpose of reducing staff on State-worked Railways to the most economical standard.		

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
10	Railways	70	20	That an investigation be made into the methods adopted by the E. B. Railway to reduce losses and that the provision for compensation be reduced still further.	Rs.	There was no opportunity of explaining to the Committee that one of the large reductions in compensation on the Eastern Bengal Railway was the construction of the Sara Bridge over the Ganges and the consequent reduction in damage and loss caused by transhipment over the river. The position of each railway is now being examined with a view to reducing expenditure under the head to the minimum.	Rs.	
11	„	70	21	Steps to be taken to eliminate records which serve no practical purpose.		A new form of statistics has been prescribed.		
12	„	71	21	The present forms of Railway accounts to be investigated and recommendations of the Accounts Committee which have not yet been adopted, to have the immediate attention of the Financial Commissioner.		The Financial Commissioner is considering the system.		
13	„	72	22	A saving of Rs. 1 crore on salaries and wages.		The saving of Rs. 1 crore was included in the reduction of Rs. 3½ crores in working expenses as summarised in paragraph 30, and the Committee has recognised that it might be necessary to make alterations in the methods recommended for effecting this reduction. See remarks against Serial No. 9 as regards reductions of staff.	...	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
14	Railways.	75	28	No expenditure to be incurred on renewals of locomotives on the North-Western Railway in 1923-24.	Rs. ...	Owing to commitments entered into before receipt of this recommendation it has not been possible to carry it out entirely. Nor has it been possible, as originally intended to transfer some of the engines already ordered to other lines, as such lines had already committed themselves to orders for 1923-24. The total provision for renewals which cannot be avoided stands at Rs. 27 lakhs compared with Rs. 46 lakhs originally provided.	Rs.	
15	"	75	28	Programme for renewals on Great Indian Peninsula Railway for 1923-24 to be limited to actual requirements.	...	The figures upon which the Committee worked were not the finally authorised figures and no useful deductions can be made from them. An improved system has, however, been introduced which will enable demands for renewals and replacements to be more rigidly scrutinised and revised.	...	
16	"	75	28	Expenditure on freight stock on N. W. and M. and S. M. Railways to be largely curtailed as also the provision for miscellaneous vehicles on the O. and R., M. and S. M. Railways.	...	See remarks against Serial No. 15.	...	
17	"	76	28	On all unremunerative lines renewals of tracks to be limited to sections of line completely worn out and expenditure on certain railways to be drastically curtailed.	...	See remarks against Serial No. 5. The expenditure on track renewals on the railways specified has been restricted to actual commitments in regard to running contracts for rails.	...	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed in budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
18	Railways	76	28	Total provision for other works to be limited to Rs. 1 crore.	Rs.	The provision for "other works" for the current year has been limited to Rs. 87,00,600.	18 lakhs.	
19	"	76	28	Remodelling of Grant Road and Victoria Terminus at Bombay to be reconsidered.		These estimates are now under reconsideration. No sanction has yet been given to either work. The Committee appear to have been unaware that these works are connected with the re-organisation and electrification of suburban traffic in Bombay from which substantial economies are expected, in dealing with these estimates care will be taken that only such expenditure will be allowed as is financially remunerative.	...	
20	Railways	76	29	Programme revenue expenditure in 1923-24 to be limited to Rs. 9 crores. Agents to be empowered to utilise the amounts allocated to them at their discretion.	...	The provision has been limited to Rs. 9 crores. The second proposal involves an important question of principle and is under consideration. The Railway Board point out that this recommendation appears to be inconsistent with recommendations made elsewhere in the report that the Board should prevent money being spent on unremunerative lines in renewals of plant, permanent-way, etc.	...	
21	"	77	30	Budget provision for working expenses to be limited to Rs. 84 crores subject to further allowance to meet any increase in traffic.	4.59 crores.	The recommendation has been given effect to.	4.59 crores.	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
22	Railways	78	31	Except for existing commitments no further capital expenditure to be incurred on unremunerative lines until the position has been examined by the Financial Commissioner.	Rs.	Accepted . . .	Rs.	
23	"	78	32	Reduction in Railway stores.		The whole question of reduction of Store Balances was discussed at a Conference by the Financial Commissioner with responsible representatives of Railways and the Accountant General, Railways; detailed orders have been issued which are calculated to reduce the balances. A special officer has been deputed to look into this matter in the three State Lines. The figure of Rs. 34 crores is not correct. It should be Rs. 23½ crores.		
24	"	79	33	Agents of Railways to be designated General Managers and made responsible for administrative working and financial results of their Railways.		In matters affecting establishments considerably enhanced powers have recently been delegated to Agents of State-worked Railways and Boards of Directors of Company-worked lines. The question of delegation of enhanced powers in matters other than those relating to establishment is under consideration by the Board.	...	
25	"	79	34	Appointment of a Financial Adviser.	...	A Financial Commissioner has been appointed with effect from 1st April 1923.		

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
26	Railways	80	36	Abrogation of the rule imposing restriction on salaries of Managers of Railways.	Rs.	There is no special rule in force as regards salaries of Agents. The present scale was fixed by Government after very careful consideration, and it has been decided not to proceed just at present with the question of revision of pay of Agents.	Rs.	
27	"	80	37	Grouping of Railways.		The question is under examination.	...	
28	Posts and Telegraphs.	93	8	Reduction in number of officers.	6,00,000	The recommendation has been examined. It has been pointed out that the increase of officers included 44 officials who, on revision of pay, were automatically classed as such. The balance of 44 includes 17 officers and 15 officers, respectively, of the new Wireless and Telephone Branches in which no reduction is possible. Of the remaining 12 officers, 6 have been reduced. No further reductions are possible.	...	Savings have been taken into account in the general reduction under salaries.
29	"	94	9	Economy in staff employed in telegraph offices.	...	The Director-General has shown that the sanctioned strength of telegraphists is not in excess of requirements. It appears that in making their calculations the Committee did not take into account the authorised proportion of telegraphists employed on non-operation duties and the additional leave reserve thereon.	...	The question will be further examined in connection with the traffic of the current year. It is understood that the traffic of 1921-22 was below normal.
30	"	95	10	Economy in engineering and line staff.	...	The question has been carefully considered but no reduction has been found to be feasible.	...	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
31	Posts and Telegraphs.	95	10	Reduction in provision for salaries.	Rs. 25 lakhs	It is pointed out that the Committee did not take into account Rs. 16½ lakhs required in 1923-24 for increments of pay to staff on time-scales and for new sanctions accorded in 1922-23. With these additions the normal budget of 1923-24 would have been Rs. 6,15,83,000 for salaries. The corresponding figure for 1923-24 is actually Rs. 5,83,34,000, a reduction of Rs. 32½ lakhs on the normal expenditure though the limit imposed by the Committee has been exceeded.	Rs. 32½ lakhs	<p>The reduction on the normal scale of expenditures has been effected mainly under the following heads during the current year:—</p> <p>Rs.</p> <p>Officers 50,000 255 clerks and sorters 1,33,000</p> <p>Line staff 1,16,000</p> <p>900 Post- men 1,83,000</p> <p>828 Peons, etc., 1,22,000</p> <p>Wireless staff 72,000</p> <p>Tempo- rary es- tablish- ment 1,58,000</p> <p>Reduc- tion in grant for nor- mal ex- penses of staff 3,50,000</p> <p>The total re- ductions for 1923-24 amount to Rs. 16 lakhs in addition to over Rs. 16 lakhs retrench- ment effect- ed in the provision under this head in 1922-23.</p>

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-24.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
32	Posts and Telegraphs.	95	11	No additional motor services to be provided save on grounds of economy, and use of motors to be confined to large towns, etc. Better rates to be obtained on renewal of contracts.	Rs. ..	Existing motor services are governed by contracts but on termination of these, recommendation of the Committee will be followed. Proposals for new motor services will be dealt with as proposed.	Rs. ..	
33	"	96	12	Reduction in provision for conveyance of mails.	7,00,000	The provision for the current year has been reduced to Rs. 76,33,000.	7,03,000	
34	"	96	12	Reduction in charges for Account and Audit.	3,71,000	The budget of the current year was reduced to Rs. 25 lakhs; but it will probably be raised to Rs. 26,24,000 on account of a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,24,000 asked for by the Auditor General. It has to be remembered that it is false economy to restrict the check on the transactions of the Department, which may mean in the end a considerable loss to the Revenues.	2,47,000	
35	"	97	14	Reduction in expenditure on travelling allowances.	4,61,000	The provision has been reduced to Rs. 15,53,000 and with the recent alteration of the rules and of strict supervision of travelling it is hoped to keep within this reduced figure.	8,02,000	
36	"	97	15	Check over wastage in forms and consequent reduction in expenditure on stationery and printing.	3,00,000	The provision for the current year has been reduced to Rs. 21,75,000 and steps are being taken to minimise wastage of forms.	10,46,000	
37	"	97	16	Reduction in provision for postal buildings.	9,19,000	The programme has been revised and the expenditure in the current year is limited to Rs. 5,57,000.	9,62,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
38	Posts and Telegraphs.	97	16	Outside tenders to be called for for large buildings.	Rs. ...	The matter is under consideration and it is hoped to employ outside agency more extensively in future.	Rs. ...	
39	"	98	17	Reductions in charges for supplies and services.	4,92,000	The reduced provision of Rs. 8,06,000 has been accepted.	4,86,000	
40	"	99	20	Revision of house-rent allowances and reduction in provision for house-rent, local and other allowances.	2,61,000	The scale of allowances is under consideration and the provision has been reduced to Rs. 24,05,000.	64,000	
41	"	100	21	Automatic reduction in subsidies to cable companies.	50,000	The reduction has been effected.	50,000	
42	"	100	22	Maintenance of telegraph and telephone lines.	6,00,000	The provision has been reduced accordingly.	6,00,000	
43	"	101	23	Miscellaneous expenditure (purchase of stores).	64.3 lakhs.	It has been necessary to raise the provision by Rs. 7½ lakhs owing to commitments on purchase of stores in England.	76.8 lakhs.	
44	"	102	24	Payments under arrangements with Treasury.		The Secretary of State has proposed a provision of Rs. 3,20,000 on account of revised arrangements for the Eastern Mail Service.	...	
45	"	102	25	Reduction in furniture grant.	3,75,000	The reduction has been exceeded.	3,84,000	
46	"	103	27	Reduction in scales of clothing and extension of periods between issues. Central purchase of supplies.		The question of purchase of materials through the Indian Stores Department is under consideration. Scales have been reduced and periods of issue extended.		
47	"	103	29	Reduction in provision for contingencies.	6,31,000	Reductions have been effected but it has been found necessary to reduce the saving by Rs. 2 lakhs.	4,30,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
48	Posts and Telegraphs.	103	29	Reduction in miscellaneous expenditure.	Rs. 2,29,000	It has not been found possible to effect this reduction. On the other hand an excess is anticipated owing to the cost of postage stamps which are being charged direct to the department as part of arrangement for commercialising the accounts.	Rs.	
49	"	104	30	Reduction in expenditure on maintenance and repair of buildings.	4,58,000	It has not been found possible to effect reductions of more than Rs. 2,96,000.	2,36,000	
50	"	104	31	Reduction in expenditure on apparatus and plant.	97,000	It has been found necessary to provide for the same expenditure as in the past year, owing to commitments.	...	
51	"	104	33	Reductions in depot establishments.	1,01,950	The establishment of the depot is under examination and all possible sources of economy are being explored.	17,950	Further reduction depends upon the enquiry now proceeding.
52	"	105	34	Reduction in telegraph workshops.	30,000	This reduction has been carried out.	30,000	
53	"	105	35	Reduction in Wireless expenditure. Closing of stations. Dismantling of more stations.	93,630	Further reductions have been effected. Patna has been closed, Poona placed in charge of maintenance party, Ishapore handed over to Army Signals. Mayyo placed in charge of caretaker. Eight out of nine stations mentioned have been placed under care and maintenance parties. Peshawar alone being retained with minimum staff. The matter is one of general policy and is under consideration.	1,79,860	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
54	Posts and Telegraphs.	106	36-39	Reduction in capital expenditure on the telegraph department.	Rs. 50.7 lakhs.	The programme has been reduced accordingly but the reductions did not take into account necessary expenditure on telegraphs for new Delhi and essential expenditure on railway control lines, and it will probably be necessary to raise the provision by Rs. 16 lakhs. approximately.	Rs. 50.7 lakhs.	
55	"	106	37	Raising of rental charges on canal and railway lines.		This question is under examination.		
56	"	107	39	Further purchase of automatic apparatus to be postponed and enquiry to be made into comparative cost of ordinary and automatic exchanges.		No new commitments will be entered into and the proposed enquiry has been undertaken.		
57	"	107	40	Appointment of Financial Adviser.		The appointment was made with effect from April 16th.		
58	"	107	(8)	Reduction in total estimates for the Department for 1923-24.	137.27 lakhs.	The estimate has been reduced to Rs. 9,43,64,000. This includes about Rs. 40 lakhs on account of the purchase of postage stamps as explained against item 48 and Rs. 30,00,000 on account of Superannuation allowances and pensions which were not debited to the Posts and Telegraphs Budget in the past. These items represent transfers from other heads of the total budget and were not taken into account by the Retrenchment Committee. If these two amounts are excluded the actual reductions in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee have amounted to over Rs. 1,45,00,000.	75,63,000	The difference is mainly accounted for under 'salaries' where, as shown above, the Committee had not taken into account unavoidable commitments for 1923-24.

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
					Rs.		Rs.	
59	Indo-European Telegraph Department.	116	5	Steps to be taken to improve the output per man.		To attain this object further recruitment, the signalling branches has been stopped.	...	
60	"	116	7	Reduction in allowances.	2,63,000	Reductions have been made in excess of this sum by Rs. 18,000.	2,81,000	
61	"	117	8	Reduction on repairs to lines.	32,000	Estimates have been substantially reduced and the full saving is expected.	32,000	
62	"	117	9	Reduction on repairs to buildings.	70,000	Accepted.	70,000	
63	"	117	10	Reduction on apparatus and plant.	32,600	Estimate has been reduced to Rs. 92,500.	10,000	Efforts are being made to effect further possible savings.
64	Indo-European Telegraph Department.	117	11	Reduction under Stationery and Printing.	28,000	Six months supply will only be kept.	18,000	Full saving not yet known.
65	"	118	13	Savings under contingencies and miscellaneous.	1,78,000	The estimates have been reduced to Rs. 2,39,000.	2,39,000	
66	"	118	14	Reduction on cable repairs.	76,000	It has not been found practicable to reduce more than Rs. 4,000 as against Rs. 76,000 recommended by the Committee. This is owing to an expenditure of Rs. 77,000 being necessary for the partial renewal of one of the old cables.	4,000	
67	"	118	15	Reductions on cable factory.	9,840	It has not been found practicable to effect reductions of more than Rs. 1,200.	1,200	
68	"	119	16	Reductions in expenditure on cable steamer.	1,00,000	Reductions have been effected to the extent of Rs. 4,000 only, and further reductions are not possible.	4,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
68—	Indo-European Telegraph Department.			Arrangement should be made with commercial cable company for repair of cables.	Rs.	The only company which has a steamer near is the Eastern Telegraph Company at Aden and this steamer cannot be spared for other work.	Rs.	
69	..	120	18	Decision to be arrived at on future control of Department and meanwhile no capital expenditure to be incurred.	...	The question is under the consideration of the Secretary of State and meanwhile no expenditure of a capital nature is being incurred.		
70	..	120	19	System of commercial accounts should be introduced and form of accounts improved.		Under consideration.		
71	..	120	Conclusion (5)	Reduction into total estimates.	7,34,000	The provision for the current year has been reduced to Rs. 39,23,000 and it has not been found practicable to reduce it further to the limit proposed by the Committee, as originally intended.	4,12,000	
72	Irrigation	124	...	Reduction in expenditure and closing of one division.	2,18,000	By the closing down of one division and other measures of retrenchment the budget for 1924-25 has been reduced by about Rs. 4,65,000, as compared with the budget of 1922-23.	2,18,000	
73	General Administration.	128	8	Modification of scales of pay for lower division of the Secretariat.	...	The proposal is at present under examination. Departments already stop promotion at the efficiency bar where clerks are not qualified for more important work.		

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
74	General Administration.	128	9	Economy in expenditure of a contingent character.	Rs.	The allotments of all departments have already been cut down materially under these heads as will appear from the demands for grants, and the expenditure is being kept under very close scrutiny as the result of an enquiry made into it by an officer of the Audit Department.	Es. Included under general reductions in departmental budgets.	
75	"	128	9	Reductions in number of peons.	"	Reductions have been carried out in all departments in accordance with a revised distribution scale calculated to effect an approximate reduction of 25 per cent.	Es. Included under general reductions in departmental budgets.	
76	"	128	10	Reduction in expenditure on telegrams.	"	Substantial reductions have been effected in the provision under all departments which are curtailing the number and length of telegrams to the full extent possible.	"	
77	"	129	11	Reduction in number of officers and amount of establishment and records reduced down from Simla.	"	The recommendation was given effect to as far as possible.	"	
78	"	129	12	Reductions in Foreign and Political Department.	1,47,000	It will be seen from the demands for grants that the allotment for this department has been reduced from Rs. 10,42,900 to Rs. 8,41,200.	1,01,700	No further reduction is possible under establishment. But there is possibility of further reduction to the extent of Rs. 36,000 in the contingent expenditure.

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
79	General Administration.	129	13	Reductions in Home Department including abolition of post of Inspector of Office Procedure.	Rs. 97,000	The Department has effected savings of Rs. 87,000 and the balance will be effected by larger reductions under attached offices. The post of Inspector of Office Procedure has been abolished.	Rs. 87,000	
80	"	130	14	Reductions in Legislative Department.	1,08,000	The full reduction is being accepted. One post of Deputy Secretary has been held in abeyance. The Peace Treaty branch has been amalgamated with the Local Clearing Office saving Rs. 24,400. Further reductions have been made in clerical and menial staff.	1,08,000	
81	"	130	15	Reductions in Department of Education and Health. Abolition of Educational Commissioner. Bureau of Education and Central Advisory Board.		The Department of Education and Health has been amalgamated with that of Revenue and Agriculture. Government have decided to continue the post of Educational Commissioner as long as it is held by the present incumbent, but have effected economy by placing him in charge of the duties of the Superintendent of Education, Delhi and Ajmer. The Central Advisory Board has been abolished and the post of Curator, Bureau of Education, held in abeyance.	---	The economies are shown under the remarks on the general recommendation for amalgamation of departments.
82	"	130	16	Reductions in Finance Department.	1,01,200	The budget allotment has been reduced to Rs. 5,90,000 as proposed and the reductions noted have been effected.	1,01,200	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
83	General Administration.	130	17	Military Finance .	Rs. 69,000	The full saving has been effected.	Rs. 69,000	
84	"	131	18	Reductions in Revenue and Agriculture Department.		This Department has been amalgamated with the Department of Education and Health.	...	The financial effect of the amalgamation is shown under the section dealing with the reorganisation of the Secretariat.
85	"	132	19	Enlargement of the Board of Revenue.		The scope of the Board has been enlarged to include the administrations of Customs, Salt, Opium, Excise and Stamps.		
86	"	132	19	Discontinuance of Industrial Intelligence and the Labour Bureau.	Rs.	The intelligence work has been discontinued and the Labour Bureau as such has been abolished resulting in reduction of staff.		
87	"	132	20	Reductions in Army Department.	Rs. 84,000	Further reductions have been effected in the Marine establishment and Army list sections and in other portions of the office. The total reductions proposed have been carried out.	Rs. 84,000	
88	"	133	21	Reductions in Public Works Department.	...	The Department has been amalgamated with that of Industries and Labour. The 'estate work' is now dealt with by the Consulting Engineer in touch with local officers.		The effect of the reorganisation is shown under the section dealing with the reorganisation of the Secretariat.
89	"	133-134	22-24	Reorganisation of five Departments under two Departments and expansion of Board of Revenue.	10,63,900	Government have not adopted the exact line suggested by the Committee but have proposed as a more workable arrangement the reduction of five departments to three	See remarks.	The figure of Rs. 14,00,000 represents the cost of the departments as reorganised and

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
89— contd.	General Administration— contd.				Rs.	costing approxi- mately as follows :— Rs. Commerce . 3,00,000 Education, . 5,15,000 Health and Lands. Industries . 6,00,000 and Labour. Total 14,15,000	Rs.	with the addition of Rs. 1 lakh for addition to the Board of Revenue, the reorganisation will cost slightly over Rs. 1 lakh more than the arrangements proposed by the Committee. The figures for the Education Health and Lands Department excludes the cost of the Secretariat Library for which a reduced figure of Rs. 17,000 will be required. On the other hand there will be a saving of Rs. 14,000 approximately on the assumption by the Educational Commissioner of the duties of Superintendent of Education, Delhi and Ajmere. It must be understood that the total saving of Rs. 9½ lakhs will not be realised in the current year as it was necessary to provide

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
89— con- -cld.	General Adminis- -tration— -contd.				Rs.		Rs.	Funds:— (a) for the period required to bring the new organisation into effect i.e. up to 16th April 1923. (b) for expenditure on the grant of notice, leave and travelling allowance concessions to the staff which has been re-trenched. Details of this extra expenditure during the current year are not yet available but a possible estimate is Rs. 2 lakhs.
90	„	135	26	Saving on Staff Selection Board.	13,300	There will be no examination this year. A Committee was appointed to enquire into the working of the Board and it has been decided to accept the recommendation of the Committee that the operations of the Board should be transferred to a Department but that when an examination is held an <i>ad hoc</i> Board should be created to carry it out. Effect will be given to this when leave reserves are created for the Departments. The budget provision made for 6 months of the current year is Rs. 4,880 but an extra grant of Rs. 2,500 is necessary to carry on the work till the end of the year.	17,920	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
91	General Administration— <i>contd.</i>	135	27	Central Bureau of Information.	Rs. ...	No specific recommendation was made but the estimate has been reduced by Rs. 33,000.	Rs. 33,000	
92	"	135	28	Bureau of Central Intelligence. Proposals as regards recovery of cost of the Finger Print Bureau and the Questioned Documents Section or their abolition.	3,01,000	Orders have issued for closing of the Bureau from 1st July, and arrangements are in train to make the Document Section self-supporting.	2,56,000	The Committee have assumed as a direct saving the cost of the Documents Section, but if it is continued—even if it be made self-supporting—provision will be necessary on the expenditure side of the Budget.
93	"	136	29	Speeding up of work of elimination of records with a view to reduction of staff and setting free valuable accommodation.	2,000	The budget estimates have been reduced to Rs. 1,03,000. The historical (to 1859) records are now being sorted and classified with a view to their ultimate weeding, in accordance with the recommendations of the Indian Historical Records Commission. Measures have already been taken for weeding the current records (from 1859). Generally the work of elimination is being speeded up.	11,400	
94	"	136	30	Abolition of appointment of Inspector-General of Irrigation.	78,400	After careful consideration Government have decided that in view of the importance of irrigation questions it is necessary for them to retain the services of an expert. It has however been decided to abolish the separate post and the duties will be performed by the Consulting Engineer to Government who also takes over part	9,400	The cost of the Consulting Engineer and establishment is estimated at Rs. 69,000 but this includes Rs. 13,000 for establishment which was not separately provided for in the

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
94 - contd.	General Administration - contd.				Rs.	of the work hitherto transacted in the Public Works Department of the Secretariat. The appointment of Assistant Inspector General has been abolished.	Rs.	estimates for the Inspector-General of Irrigation but was included in the budget of the old Public Works Department.
95	"	137	31	If Local Governments press claims for services rendered, the Central Government should consider whether arrangements cannot be more economically carried out by an agency of its own.		This has been accepted in principle and claims will be dealt with in the light of this proposal.		
96	"	137	33	Reductions on the North-West Frontier.		The estimate has been reduced to Rs. 17,22,000 as against Rs. 17,38,000 proposed.	16,000	
97	"	137	34	Reductions in Delhi, and payment by the Municipality of the cost of their Secretary.	32,000	Reductions have actually been effected under the Chief Commissioner's establishment to the extent noted. The arrangement with the Municipality has been in force since 1906 and it is considered unwise to adopt the proposal of the Retrenchment Committee on grounds of economy and for other reasons.	26,000	The budget as shown in the Demands for Grants is increased this year by the transfer of certain expenditure from the Head-Land Revenue.
98	"	137	35	Reduction in Ajmere.	9,000	The savings have been effected.	9,000	As in Delhi, charges have been transferred from Land Revenue. Excluding these the budget on the old basis is Rs. 1,40,000.

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
99	General Administration— <i>contd.</i>	143-144	49-55	Expenditure of High Commissioner.	£ 52,000	<p>The reduction of £52,000 proposed by the Committee was made up (a) of the sum of £21,000 on account of value of credits in addition to those on account of stores expected from Provincial Governments or the Home Government and (b) of the sum of £31,000 on account of reduction required in the expenditure. The revised estimates for the current year show a savings of £48,900 on establishment, etc. as against £31,000 recommended by the Committee. But the net estimate for the current year is £146,000 as compared with the Committee's figure of £118,000 owing to the fact that the ordinary charges against departments and local Governments for work done in connection with purchase of stores fall short of £46,000 due to reduced indents.</p> <p>The question of increasing recoveries for agency work done has been accepted.</p> <p>The reduction proposed under Stationery and Printing has been effected.</p> <p>The High Commissioner has been addressed on the recommendation as regards indents in paragraph 51. The issue of the orders recommended in paragraph 52 is also under consideration.</p>	£ 24,000	<p>Note—The total reductions under General Administration already effected in the budget estimates of 1923-24 compared with the budget of 1922-23 amount to Rs. 36,37,000 as against Rs. 49,89,000 recommended by the Committee for the whole expenditure dealt with under "General Administration."</p>

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
100	General Administration --concid.	138-142	37-48	Reductions in expenditure of India Office.	£ 43,700	The Government of India are in correspondence on the subject with the Secretary of State who has intimated that every practicable method of economy is being carefully considered and that a detailed statement of results expected will be furnished at an early date. Meanwhile under his instructions a lump deduction of £15,000 was made in the original estimates for the current year. The Secretary of State has pointed out that the actual expenditure of the past year was considerably higher than the figure assumed by the Committee. The net budget for the current year is £97,650.	£ 49,500	The Secretary of State intimated that the saving effected in 1923-24 is more than contemplated by the Committee by £3,200; but it is hoped to make a further reduction of £3,100 in 1924-25.
101	Political expenditure.	154	7	Reduction in cost of frontier defence and immediate saving on cost of rations, clothing, etc.	Rs. 1,00,000	The position on the frontier is still un-stabilised. The proposed saving will probably be effected under grain compensation charges.	Rs. 1,00,000	The question of reduction in ration and clothing allowances is under consideration.
102	"	154	9	Reduction in cost of entertainment.	Rs. 48,000	This reduction has been made.	Rs. 48,000	
103	"	154	11	Reduction in provision for political expenditure in the North-West Frontier Province.	Rs. 26,27,000	The provision has been reduced by this sum.	Rs. 26,27,000	
104	"	154	14	Reduction in Baluchistan under Political Agencies.	Rs. 1,45,000	Reductions of Rs. 1,21,130 has been made and a further reduction of Rs. 28,000 is under consideration.	Rs. 1,21,130	
105	"	155	16	Reduction in temporary levies on the Sarhad.	Rs. 96,000	Budget provision was reduced to Rs 69,700 this year. Further reductions are under consideration.	Rs. 6,300	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
106	Political Expenditure.	155	17	Additions to irregular forces to be abandoned.	Rs. 8,22,000	The proposed additions have been abandoned, pending examination of the Railway Project.	Rs. 8,22,000	
107	"	155	18	Reduction in contract for food-stuffs.	50,000	Larger reductions have been effected.	1,68,940	
108	"	155	19	Reduction in Political expenditure in Baluchistan.	2,91,000	It is hoped to limit the expenditure to Rs. 40 lakhs this year.	2,91,000	The total reduction made on the provisional estimate for 1923-24 is Rs. 14,35,000.
109	"	155	20	Re-consideration of plans of Kabul Legation.	...	The estimates cannot be reduced below Rs. 16 lakhs.	...	
110	"	156	22-23	Administration of Aden.	...	The Secretary of State has been addressed in the matter and his orders are awaited.	...	
111	"	157	24	Incidence of pay of Chairman, Aden Port Trust and other reductions in Aden.	33,000	Accepted	33,000	
112	"	157	27	Saving on lighting and buoying of the Persian Gulf.	1,00,000	It has not been found practicable to reduce the expenditure as originally intended.	...	
113	"	157	28	Incidence of expenditure in Persia.	...	Proposals have been made to the Secretary of State on the lines recommended.	...	
114	"	159	34	Reduction in charges in Central India.	21,000	An appointment of Medical Officer, Indore, has been abolished. One Agency has been kept vacant for the present as an experimental measure.	21,000	Savings on the agency not yet reported.
115	"	159	36	Examination of incidence of charges in account of the Esdett, Mysore.	...	Proposals are under examination.	...	

Serial No.	Head.	Refer- ence to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction propo- sed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
116	Political expen- diture— contd.	160	40	Administration of the Bombay States and meanwhile a reduction of Rs. 1,75,000.	Rs. 1,75,000	The recommendations made by the Com- mittee will be con- sidered when a deci- sion has been arriv- ed at on the question of the transfer of the Bombay States. Meanwhile the Gov- ernment of Bombay are unable to accept a reduction of more than Rs. 1,51,000.	Rs. 86,000	A lump re- duction has been made for the cur- rent year pending ex- amination of the ques- tion.
117	"	160	41	Reductions in charg- es in Burma. Adoption of propo- sal for a fixed con- tribution for Po- litical charges in Burma.	1,50,000 ...	Reductions slightly in excess of this amount have been accepted. The question of po- litical charges is under consideration with the Burma Gov- ernment.	1,50,000	
118	"	161	Conclusion (6)	Tota' reduction in Political expendi- ture.	45,70,000	Excluding some Rs. 60 lakhs on account of military police in Burma and Assam transferred from the head Adjustments to this head in the cur- rent year, the provi- sion in the budget for 1923-24 is Rs. 271 lakhs, a re- duction of Rs. 38½ lakhs as compared with the budget es- timates of 1922-23.	44,14,370	Further re- ductions are under con- sideration.
119	Audit	164	2	Reduction of ap- pointment of Andir- tor, Government of India Sanctions, and conversion of other appoint- ments.	88,000	These reductions have been accepted.	Included in total saving on De- part- ment.	A further saving to the extent of Rs. 49,000 is estimat- ed to be eventually effected during 1923- 24 and 1924- 25.
120	"	165	5	Separation of audit and accounts.		This and the other points raised in paragraphs (3) and (4) are under consid- eration.		
121	"	165	6	Simplification of rules of aud.t.		The matter is and has been receiving the continuous attention of the Auditor- General.		
122	"	165	Conclusion (c)	Limitation of budget estimates.	3,76,000	The provision has been fixed at Rs. 79,40,000.	3,76,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
123	Administration of Justice.	166	4	Reductions in expenditure in North-West Frontier.	Rs. 30,000	Sanction has been accorded to certain retrenchments proposed by the Chief Commissioner on the recommendations of the Local Retrenchment Committee.	Rs. 26,000	
24	"	166	6	Abolition of Small Causes Court in Ajmere.	16,000	It has been shown that the abolition of the Court would cause great inconvenience and involve a loss of revenue. Further the total saving could not be Rs. 16,000. Reductions of Rs. 12,000 have been made in other directions as a set off.	12,000	
				Adoption of revised scale of court fees.		The United Provinces' revised scale has been introduced.		
125	Jails	168	4	Reduction of expenditure in Minor Administrations.	37,000	Larger reductions have been made on account of fall in prices.	38,000	
116	"	163	Conclusion (2)	Limitation of budget provision and recommendation that when the contract for the SS. "Maharaja" terminates more favourable terms be secured for the service, if it is considered necessary to maintain it.	4,80,000	Provision has been limited to Rs. 40,09,000 for the current year. A reduction of Rs. 4,26,000 on the preliminary estimates of 1922-23 and of Rs. 5,08,000 on the revised estimates for that year. The contract for the SS. "Maharaja" does not expire till the 31st August 1925 but Committee's recommendation in this respect will be borne in mind when the time comes.	4,26,000	
127	Police	169	4	Abolition of appointment of Personal Assistant.	16,000	A lump deduction of Rs. 1,25,000 has been made on the estimates for 1923-24 and total provision reduced to Rs. 50,30,000 compared with Rs. 55,69,000 which was the estimate for 1922-23.	1,25,000	The question of further reductions will be considered on receipt of the recommendations of the Chief Commissioner.
128	"	170	5	Reductions in police force.	2,50,000			

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
129	Police— <i>contd.</i>	170	6	Continuance of frontier allowances and economies in clothing of police.	Rs. ...	It has been decided not to withdraw frontier allowance. The question of economies in clothing of Police is under consideration.	Rs. ...	
130	„	171	9	Revised scale of pay for police recruits in Baluchistan.	...			
131	„	171	11	Reduction of police expenditure in Baluchistan to Rs. 12,16,000.	...	The Baluchistan Police force has been reorganised and the total budget for police has been limited to Rs. 12,16,000 for future years.	12,000	
132	„	171	12	Reduction in expenditure on police in Delhi.	92,000	A reduction of Rs. 60,000 has been effected on the estimates for the current year and the provision limited to Rs. 7,90,000 compared with Rs. 9,74,000 which was the revised estimate for 1922-23. It is doubtful whether it will be possible to effect further reductions.	60,000	
133	„	171	13	Reduction in police expenditure in Coorg.	21,000	This reduction has been effected.	21,000	
134	„	172	14	Reduction on police expenditure in Ajmere.		The Committee recommended that expenditure should be limited to Rs. 3,28,000. Reductions of Rs. 50,000 have been effected and the provision for 1923-24 has been reduced to Rs. 3,97,000. The figure adopted by the Committee represented the original estimate for 1922-23 after deduction of a cut of Rs. 50,000 towards meeting the lump sum made by the Assembly. Necessary expenditure was subsequently restored under this head. The possibility of further economy will be explored.	50,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page	Para.					
135	Police— <i>contd.</i>	172	15	Revision of contributions from Durbars for Raj, utala Police.	Rs.	The question is under consideration in connection with the re-organisation of the Police.	Rs.	
136	„	172	16	Revision of arrangements for payment of Railway Police.		Under consideration.		
137	„	172	16	Abolition of Inspector General and reduction of expenditure on police.	19,000	Reductions of Rs. 24,000 have been made and the budget provision will stand at Rs. 3,76,000. The actual expenditure in 1921-22 was Rs. 4,27,000.	24,000	Reorganisation of the Police is in progress.
138	„	173	17	Revision of contribution for police aid rendered to States and limitation of expenditure to Rs. 2,00,000.		A reduction of Rs. 35,000 has been made in the current year and the net expenditure will be Rs. 2,56,000. The Committee did not take into account the additional provision required for revision of pay and extra establishment entertained in consequence of the reduction in the Malwa Militia Corps.	35,000	Further savings of Rs. 21,500 and 3,000 respectively are expected to be effected during 1924-25 and 1925-26.
139	„	173	Conclusion.	Limitation of police expenditure to Rs. 80,83,000 or reduction of Rs. 9,00,000 on the estimated expenditure for 1922-23.		The revised estimates for 1922-23 were Rs. 89,15,000. The estimates for 1923-24 are Rs. 86,80,000 and further reductions are under consideration.		Considerable reductions effected when allowances are made for necessary additional expenditure on account of increment of pay.
140	Ports and Pilotage.	175	8	Steps should be taken to make the various services self-supporting and reduction of Rs. 2,11,000 should be made in expenditure.	2,11,000	On the method in which charges under Ports and Pilotage were shown in the Retrenchment Committee's report, the demand under this head has been reduced to Rs. 23,91,000 as against	2,41,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
140 — contd.	Ports and Pilotage—contd.				Rs.	Rs. 24,21,000 recommended by the Committee, saving Rs. 1,21,000. The re-organisations of the services are under examination. The case of the Bengal Pilot Service has been examined by a local Committee. As regards the question of making lighthouse services and the survey of vessels entirely self-supporting, local Governments have been informed that the methods advocated by the Retrenchment Committee should be followed.	Rs.	
411	Ecclesiastical expenditure.	175	...	Early decisions should be arrived at on questions of policy now under consideration. Further recruitment of chaplains should be stopped and further economies effected.	2,00,000	Government have framed a scheme of reduction under which it is hoped to save Rs. 4,30,000 annually, the bulk of it by the end of 1925-26. A saving of Rs. 1,00,000 at least is expected in the current year.	1,00,000	
442	Scientific Departments.	150	4	Reduction in cadre of military officers, etc.	50,000	Four vacancies in the cadre of military officers have not been filled up and reversion of 3 officers to Army has been arranged. Recruitment of Indian Army officers has been suspended. The immediate saving of Rs. 50,000 will be effected.	50,000	
443	"	180	5	Co-operation between Survey Department and Local Governments, etc.	...	Accepted	...	
444	"	180	6	Saving of 20 per cent. on Supplies and Services.	8,400	The saving has been effected.	8,400	
445	"	181	7	Reduction in contingent charges for Trigonometrical Survey office.	24,900	The provision has been reduced to within Rs. 40,000.	24,900	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
146	Scientific Departments.	181	8	Placing of accounts of the Mathematical Survey Office on a commercial basis, etc.	Rs. ...	The question was examined by a special committee whose recommendations are under consideration.	Rs. ...	
147	"	181	3	Charges of Instrument Office to be fixed on uniform basis to cover full cost.	...	Ditto.		
148	"	...	...	Stocks to be reduced.	...	Under examination by a special committee.		
149	"	182	10	Reduction in survey parties. Estimates to be reduced to Rs. 36 lakhs.	9,09,000	A lump deduction of Rs. 6½ lakhs has been made in the general charges for survey parties and the question of reducing the number of parties is under consideration.	6,50,000	
150	"	182	12	Retention of headquarters at Calcutta to be examined.		According to latest estimates the cost of new offices at Dehra Dun would be Rs. 47 lakhs while the Calcutta office would fetch Rs. 25 lakhs. It has been decided to postpone the transfer.	...	
151	"	183	13	Abolition of Weather Reports and reductions in general expenditure on Meteorology.	84,000	Monthly weather review has been abolished and issue of reports during dry season discontinued. It is however proposed to re-issue the Calcutta Report throughout the whole of 1924-25.	84,000	
152	"	183	14	Vacancies in Geological Survey to be kept unfilled till Indian recruits available.	67,000	Of the 7 vacancies in 1923, three were filled in that year. As it is not possible to defer recruitment without seriously interfering with the work of the Department it is proposed to fill two vacancies in 1924.	73,000	
				Department to work in co-operation with Provincial Governments.		The adoption of this recommendation is not likely to result in any saving to the Central Government and there are practical difficulties also in giving effect to it. The recommendation has therefore not been accepted by Government.		

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
153	Scientific departments.	185	17	Reduction in plantation of quinine.	Rs. 50,000	The reduction has been effected.	Rs. 50,000	
154	"	185	18	Estimates for Botanical Survey to be limited to Rs 18,35,000.	8,80,000	The estimate has been reduced to Rs. 18,70,000.	9,08,000	For 1924-25 the estimates for Botanical Survey are being reduced to less than 10 lakhs
155	"	185	19	Reduction of establishment of Zoological Survey and provision to be limited to Rs. 1,30,000.	47,000	The expenditure will be limited to Rs. 1,55,000.	22,000	No further reduction is possible.
156	"	185-17	20-24	Reductions in Archaeological Survey.	6,29,000	It has been decided to make a lump reduction of Rs. 3 lakhs in the current year and re-arrange expenditure to Rs. 13,72,000 as against Rs. 10 lakhs recommended by the Committee. The reduction has been effected under the heads supplies, services and contingencies.	3,00,000	
157	"	187	25	Recovery of cost of Mine surveys.	...	Will be taken up in connection with amendment of Land Acquisition (Mines) Act.	...	
158	"	187	25	Curtailment of free issues of publications, etc.	...	Accepted	...	
159	"	188	27	Reductions in Archaeological Section of Calcutta Museum.	14,600	The expenditure has now been transferred to the head Archaeological Survey in which a reduction of Rs. 3,00,000 has been effected.		
160	"	189	30	Reductions in expenditure in Minor Administrations.	16,000	Accepted	16,000	
161	"	189	31	Discontinuance of grant to Imperial Institute.	21,000	Accepted	21,000	
				Grant to mineral Resources Bureau to be reduced to £ 1,000.	18,000	Accepted	18,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks. (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
162	Scientific Departments.	190	31	Reduction in purchase of stores in England.	Rs. 4,05,000	The provision has been reduced to Rs. 223,700.	Rs. 3,49,500	
163	"	90	Conclusion (6)	Provision for Scientific Departments to be limited to Rs. 82,58,000.	30,02,000	Provision has been limited to Rs. 88,98,000.	23,67,000	Further reductions are under consideration.
164	Education	192		3	Elimination of grant to Rajkot College and reduction of grant to Aitchison College.	Rs. 38,000	The provision for the Rajkot College has been reduced to Rs. 10,000 and that for the Aitchison College to Rs. 15,000.	28,000
165	"	193	7	Reduction in grant to Training College, Peshwar.	25,000	The post of Principal will be kept unfilled.		
				Contribution to Islamia College not to be increased. Grant to Dera Ismail Khan College to be withdrawn.	5,000	There is no proposal to increase grant to the former College. It has been decided to continue the grant to the latter college.	...	
166	"	194	8	Reduction in grant for secondary education in the North-West Frontier Province.	1,68,000	A provisional reduction of Rs. 1,00,000 was made in the budget but it has been decided to apply to the Assembly for restoration of Rs. 40,000.	60,000	No further reduction is possible.
167	"	195	10 and 11	Reductions in cost of special schools and general charges.	44,000	Reductions of Rs. 40,000 have been made.	40,000	
168	"	195	12	Reductions in expenditure on Secondary Education in Baluchistan.	15,000	The reductions have been effected.	15,000	
169	"	195	13	Reduction in general charges in Baluchistan.	18,750	Reductions to the extent of Rs. 14,640 have been made in the provision.	14,640	
170	"	196	15	Reductions of grants to Delhi Colleges.	91,500	It has been decided that the provisional cut should be restored to the extent of Rs. 25,000 and that the grant should be limited to Rs. 85,000 for a term of 3 years from 1924-25.	6,500	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
171	Education	196	15	Scheme for Delhi University to be reconsidered.	Rs. 50,000	It has been decided to retain the University and provision has been voted by the Assembly.	Rs. ...	
172	"	196	16	Reduction in expenditure on secondary education in Delhi.	50,500	A provisional reduction of Rs. 45,000 was made in the budget but it has been decided to apply to the Assembly for restoration of Rs. 25,000.	20,000	
173	"	197	17	Reduction in expenditure on education in Cccig.	41,000	The provision has been reduced by Rs. 20,000.	20,000	
174	"	197	19	Reduction in expenditure on the Ajmere College.	19,700	Under consideration.		
175	"	198	20	Reduction in expenditure on secondary education in Ajmere.	25,000	A lump deduction of Rs. 20,000 was made but reductions to the extent of only Rs. 13,566 have been effected. Further reductions are not possible.	13,566	
176	"	198	24	Reductions on grants for secondary education in Rajputana.	14,000	A reduction of Rs. 3,850 has been effected. Further reduction is not possible.	3,380	
177	"	199	26	Reductions in grants in Hyderabad.	18,490	A reduction of Rs. 9,000 has been accepted for the current year and repeated also in the budget estimates of 1924-25. The question of effecting further reduction is under consideration.	9,000	
178	"	200	33	Curtailment of grants for higher education, etc.		The Educational Commissioner is examining the question.	...	
179	"	200	34	Grants for primary education to be fixed on a capita-tion basis.	...	It is stated that the system advocated by the Committee is wasteful and that it has been discredited in the past.	...	
180	"	200	Conclusion (b).	Reduction in total expenditure on education.	5,19,000	The provision for Education after restoration of Rs. 90,000 will stand at Rs. 33,06,000 compared with Rs. 27,77,000 recommended by the Committee.	...	The total reductions which have now been admitted amount to Rs. 1,10,000.
181	Medical Services and Public Health.	204	3	Abolition of appointments of Officer on Special Duty and D. A. D. G.	20,900	The appointments have been abolished	25,200	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or how proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
181	Medical Services and Public Health— <i>contd.</i>	...	...	Reduction of appointment of Public Health Commissioner.	Rs. 45,000	It has been decided that the post should not be abolished. Counter vailing savings of Rs. 13,000 under other items were effected in 1923-24.	Rs. 13,000	
182	Do.	204	4	Reduction in expenditure in Director-General's Office.	34,000	Reductions in excess of the recommendation have been made.	37,000	
183	Do.	205	8	Abolition of appointments of 12 Bacteriological officers.	1,97,400	The provision for 1923-24 was reduced to Rs. 1,07,000. Further reductions of Rs. 12,500 are proposed. It is considered necessary to retain a nucleus of 6 officers.	1,02,900	
184	Medical Services.	205	8	Contribution to Indian Research Fund to be discontinued.	5,00,000	This has been discontinued for the present.	5,00,000	
				Appointment of Director, Medical Research, to be abolished.	30,000	The appointment has been kept in abeyance.	27,500	
185	Do.	206	11	Reduction in plague charges and grant for Central Health Board.	10,500	Accepted.	10,500	
186	Do.	206	12	Reduction of charges for Imperial Serologist and abolition of appointment if not made self-supporting.	20,000	Reductions effected. Fees will be levied and abolition will be considered if office does not prove self-supporting.	20,760	
187	Do.	206	13	Charges to be levied for training at X-ray Institute.	...	It appears that the amount recoverable would be so small that it would not be worth while to effect recovery.		
				Cancellation of indent for stores and limitation of stocks.	1,27,000	Accepted.	1,27,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
188	Medical Services— <i>contd.</i>	206	14	Revision of quarantine arrangements.	Rs. ...	It is stated that the Committee has misunderstood the situation and it is not proposed to pursue the matter further.	Rs. ...	
189	Do.	207	16	Reductions in Baluchistan.	57,000	A reduction of Rs. 44,500 will be effected under Medical and Rs. 10,000 under Public Health. No further reductions are feasible.	54,500	
190	Do.	207	17	Reductions in Delhi	54,000	Reduction of Rs. 9,000 and 7,000 respectively have been effected under Medical and Public Health. The provision for Public Health includes a sum of Rs. 7,000 for Nurse Visitors which the Committee did not take into account. Further reductions are not feasible.	16,000	
191	Do.	208	18	Reductions in Coorg	11,500	It is proposed to limit the expenditure for 1924-25 to Rs. 75,000 against the sanctioned grant of Rs. 80,000 for the current year.	12,000	
192	Medical Services and Public Health.	208	Conclusion (4)	Total reductions in these Departments.	14,19,000	The total reductions made under these two heads amount to about Rs. 12 lakhs.	12,00,000	
193	Agriculture.	209	4	Fairy Farms to be self-supporting and two Military Farms to be transferred to the Department.		Three military dairies have been transferred to the Department. Their cost, with the exception of that of Dairy Expert and Physiological Chemist, is proposed to be met from receipts.		
194	„	210	6	Central Cotton Committee to be self-supporting.	79,000	All expenditure incurred will be met from proceeds of Cotton Cess.	79,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-24.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
195	Agriculture— —contd.	210	7	Continuance of Sugar Bureau to be examined.	Rs. ...	It has been decided to continue the Bureau in view of the useful work which it does but the expenditure has been reduced by Rs. 2,000.	Rs. 2,000	
196	Do.	210	8	Local Government to be asked to increase contribution to Pusa Hospital.		The Local Government has agreed to increase the contribution to Rs. 4,000.	...	
197	Do.	210	9	Reductions in establishment of Agricultural Adviser.	10,000	Accepted . . .	10,000	
198	Do.	210	10	Reduction of Rs. 10,000 under supplies, services, etc.	10,000	Reduction of Rs. 5,000 accepted.	5,000	
199	Do.	211	11	Reduction in expenditure on Research Institute.	50,000	Reduction of Rs. 15,000 in the contingent expenditure has been effected. The posts of Supernumerary Entomologist and Assistant Bacteriologist have been abolished. As regards the post of Supernumerary Mycologist, the Secretary of State has been asked to abolish it meanwhile it is held in abeyance. The post of Supernumerary Agriculturist chemist and supernumerary Agriculturist cannot be abolished until the present incumbents are provided for elsewhere. No expenditure is being incurred during the current year on the latter post and efforts are being made to provide for the former elsewhere.	39,000	
200	Do.	211	12	Charges for training of students at Pusa Institute.	...	Accepted and fees are now being charged.	...	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
201	Agriculture— <i>contd.</i>	211	13	Muktesar Institute to be self-supporting.	Rs. ...	A reduction of Rs. 35,000 has been made in the expenditure. Every endeavour is being made to cheapen the process of serum manufactured with a view to effect further savings.	Rs. 35,000	
202	Do.	211	14	Reductions in North West Frontier Province and Baluchistan.	19,000	Accepted .	19,000	
203	Do.	211	Conclusion (4)	Reductions in total expenditure on Agriculture.	2,86,000	Actual reductions amount to Rs. 2,15,000.	2,55,000	
204	Industries	212	5	Postponement of School of Mines and Geology.	...	It has been decided to make no provision for the construction of the School in 1923-24.	...	
205	Civil Aviation.	213	3	Retention of Chief Inspector not justified.	...	As an experimental measure the appointment has been terminated and the present incumbent appointed temporarily as a Consulting Aeronautical Engineer on a retsining fee of Rs. 300 per mensem. The position will be reviewed shortly with a view to determine whether the new arrangement is working satisfactorily.	...	
				Provision for Aerodromes.	7,000	No provision has been made.	13,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
206	Civil Aviation.	213	4	Disposal of gift Aeroplanes.	Rs. 5,000	Machines have been disposed of.	Rs. 5,000	
207	Do.	213	5	Reduction in total provision.	33,000	Provision has been reduced to Rs. 24,000 and further reductions are under consideration.	24,000	
208	Miscellaneous Departments.	214	4-6	Reductions under Commercial Intelligence.	2,80,000	The expenditure has been reduced to Rs. 2,53,000 and the possibility of further reduction is under consideration particularly in the matter of publications.	2,27,000	Reductions in establishment and other charges have been effected so as to bring down the budget of the Department for 1924-25 to Rs. 2,12,000.
208-A	Do.	215	7	Limitation of the provision for the completion of the census of 1921, to Rs. 1 lakh.	4,22,000	The total census grant for 1923-24 authorized is Rs. 1 lakh.	4,22,000	
209	Do.	216	12	Abolition of Board of Examiners.	50,000	The Board has been abolished and expenditure in the current year reduced to Rs. 35,000.	31,000	
210	Do.	216	13	Fees to be charged for inspections by Explosives Department.	...	Under consideration.		
211	Do.	216	15	No provision to be made for further expansion of the Indian Stores Department until expansion is financially justified. Expenditure to be limited to Rs. 3,00,000.	83,000	The recommendation has not been accepted by Government for the reasons given by the Hon'ble the Finance Member in the statement placed on the table of the Assembly on the 16th July 1923.		
212	Do.	216	16	Discontinuation of registration of Provincial Trade statistics.	15,000	Reductions have been effected.	9,000	
213	Do.	217	18	Close the office in the City and carry out the duties in the High Commissioner's office with additional establishment costing £2,000.	1,15,000	The city office has been closed and the work transferred to the High Commissioner's office. The cost has been reduced to £2,500.	1,07,500	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
214	Miscellaneous Departments— <i>contd.</i>	217	19	Reduction in provision for expenditure in England on sundry items.	Rs. 45,000	A reduction has been effected to this extent, but it appears that there will be a carry over of some ₹2,500 from last year and it is doubtful whether the whole saving will be effected.	Rs. 45,000	
215	Do.	217	Conclusion (9).	Total reductions under the head Miscellaneous Departments.	11,18,000	Excluding the special provision of Rs. 23,40,000 for the British Empire Exhibition a saving of Rs. 7,19,000 has been effected in the normal expenditure under this head.	7,19,000	Further reductions under consideration.
216	Customs	218		Strength and pay of staff in Customs Houses to be examined.		The question will shortly be taken up by the Customs Member who has recently been appointed to the Central Board of Revenue, but the prospects of effecting a reduction are doubtful, having regard to the fact that the Board has recently had to consider proposals for increasing establishments in certain cases.		
217	Salt	221	6	Introduction of commercial accounts.		Commercial accounts have been introduced in the Northern India Salt Revenue Department and, as experience is gained, will be extended to the Salt Departments in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies.	...	
218	Do.	221	8-9	Reductions in Northern India Salt Revenue Department.	13,51,000	Accepted . . .	13,51,000	
219	Do.	223	12	Reduction in Bombay and examination of possibility of Central Government taking over administration of Salt.	5,02,000	Reduction accepted. Question of administration is under consideration.	5,02,000	
220	Do.	224	16	Total reductions in Salt Estimates.	19,15,000	These reductions have been accepted.	19,15,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1923-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
221	Opium	225	3	Abolition of appointment of Managing Director.	Rs. 18,000	It has been decided to retain the post of the Managing Director, but it is proposed to amalgamate the office of the Opium Agent, Ghazipur, with that of Income Tax Commissioner, U. P., as an experimental measure for the present, with effect from March 1924.	Rs. ...	
222	"	225	4	Reduction of purchase price paid to cultivators.		The proposal has been examined, but it is reported to be too early to reduce the present price the question will be re-examined when the results of poppy cultivation of the season 1923-24 in the United Provinces are known.		NOTE.—The reduction of Rs. 20 lakhs assumed by the Committee was based on estimates which were then incomplete. Further prior commitments for purchase of opium have made it impossible to effect the reduction assumed. In any case any reduction in expenditure would mean a considerable loss of revenue.
223	Land Revenue.	227	4	Reductions in North-West Frontier Province.	1,68,000	Provision has been reduced to Rs. 4,09,716.	1,16,284	Further reductions are under consideration. The budget includes a special provision of Rs. 50,000 for the Peshawar settlement which the Committee has not taken into account.

Serial No.	H. a. l.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
224	Land Revenue— cont'd.	227	5	Reductions in Baluchistan.	Rs. 31,000	Accepted . . .	Rs. 31,000	
225	Do.	227	7	Reductions in Coorg.	47,000	A reduction of Rs. 46,000 has been made, but part of this is due to adjustment. Further reduction is not possible.	46,000	
226	Do.	228	Conclusion.	Reduction in total expenditure under Land Revenue.	3,98,000	The budget has been reduced to Rs. 11,66,600.	3,98,000	A part of the reduction is due to readjustment of Treasury Charges.
227	Excise .	228	3	Arrangements to be made with provinces regarding payment of still-head duty or, alternatively, direct manufacture by Central Government.	...	Supplying provinces are not prepared to forego the duty. The Government of India are considering in consultation with them the adoption of a general principle to regulate all transactions relating to the inter-provincial import and export of excisable articles.	...	
228	Stamps .	230	7	Debit to minor administrations of cost of stamps supplied.	...	Accepted . . .		
229	Do. .	231	8	Printing of post-cards in India.		This forms part of the much wider question of undertaking the printing of security papers in India. That question has been examined by an expert committee and in pursuance of their recommendations, it has been decided to establish an experimental press in Delhi in order to see whether local manufacture is possible or not. The press is expected to be in working order very soon.	...	
230	Do. .	231	10	Charging provincial expenditure direct to provincial accounts in England.		This has been accepted and steps have been taken to carry it into effect.	...	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
281	Stamps .	231	11	Reduction of stocks.	Rs.	Not feasible, as it is considered essential to avoid any possibility of a shortage of stamps during the period which may elapse between the termination of the existing contract and the contemplated introduction of the scheme for the manufacture of stamps in India.	Rs. ...	
282	Do. .	231	12	Claim against Provincial Governments for loss in exchange. Recovery of railway freight.	...	Accepted . . . Do. . . .		
283	Do. .	233	13	Improvement in system of effecting recoveries.		Do. . . .	...
284	Do. .	234	Conclusion.	Reduction in net expenditure on stamp operations.	22,00,000	Larger reductions are anticipated.	25,50,000	
285	Forests .	234		2-3	Change in present method of administration and management of forests on commercial lines.	...	Under consideration
286	Do. .	235	7	Reconsideration of scheme for expansion of Research Institute and limitation of expenditure to Rs. 8 lakhs.	86,000	The scheme is under reconsideration and charges have been reduced to Rs. 8,73,000.	91,000	The reduction was made on the provisional estimate for the current year.
287	Do. .	236	9	Abolition of appointment of Director of Forest Studies in England.	13,500	Recommended to Secretary of State, who has sanctioned subject to completion of the alternative arrangements which are in progress.	...	
288	Do. .	236	Conclusion.	Reduction in total Forest expenditure.	6,90,000	The total provision has been reduced to Rs. 46,10,000.	6,85,000	
289	Interest.	238		5	Purchase of sinking funds by open tender.	...	Under consideration

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
240	Currency	239	5	Discontinuance of one rupee note.		The opinions of Local Governments and Chambers of Commerce have been invited. Meanwhile new supplies have been restricted and question of reducing cost of supply is also under consideration.		
241	Mints	242	4	Closing of portion of Mints. Transfer of Calcutta Mint to cheaper site.	...	Under consideration.		
242	Do.	244	Conclusion	Reduction in expenditure on Mints.	4,12,000	The reduction will be effected.	4,12,000	
243	Exchange	244	2	Revision of method of showing exchange in the budget.		The method has been revised in the current budget though on different lines.	...	
244	Civil Works.	246	3	Reconsideration of expansion of Forest Research Institute.		Expenditure will be limited to existing commitments. Provision for current year reduced.	2,00,000	
244	Do.	246	3	Dhanbad School of Mines.	2,00,000	Provision has been omitted in current year.	2,00,000	
				Reduction in provision for Agricultural Institute.	1,00,000	Provision reduced accordingly.	1,00,000	
				General reductions in expenditure on original works.	5,30,000	Total reductions effected.	5,00,000	
245	Do.	246	4	Limitation of provision for repairs.	7,50,000	Accepted . . .	7,50,000	
246	Do.	246	5	Future utilisation of buildings in Calcutta.	...	Substantial progress has been made with the disposal, to the best advantage, of the space available in the buildings owned by the Central Government in Calcutta.	...	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
247	Civil Works— <i>contd.</i>	247	6	Reductions in establishment charges in Rajputana and Central India.	Rs. 40,000	An alternative scheme has been adopted involving abolition of two Executive Engineers and considerable further savings in establishment.	Rs. 1,07,000	
				Reductions in Coorg	20,000	Larger reductions have been effected.	23,000	
				Reductions in Simla	35,000	A reduction of Rs. 23,000 has been effected during the current year and a reduction amounting to Rs. 42,000 will be effected during the next year.	23,000	
				Total reductions in establishment charges.	2,50,000	Reductions have been effected on lines proposed.	2,00,000	
248	Do.	247	7	System of tenders for complete works and of lump sum contracts whenever possible.		The system has been encouraged but as Local Governments are the Agents in this work, the question is largely for their discretion. The question is however under further consideration.		
249	Civil Works.	348	8	Revision of arrangements for execution of works now carried out by the agency of Local Governments.		As an experiment a proposal to transfer the works in the United Provinces to the Delhi Engineering Staff has been sanctioned. If it proves successful, similar arrangements will be made in other provinces.		
250	Do.	248	9	Reappropriation of funds and introduction of a system to obviate rush of expenditure at end of year.		Under consideration		
251	New Delhi	249	5	Revision of scheme for construction of new station.		Under consideration		
252	Territorial and Political Pensions.	250	...	Endeavour to be made to effect progressive reductions.		The principle has been followed in the past and will be strictly adhered to in future cases.		

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23	Action taken or now proposed	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
253	Superannuation allowances and pensions.	251	4	An actuarial examination should be made of the cost of revision of pensions.	Rs.	The Government Actuary was consulted, but an accurate examination would mean very great delay. It has been otherwise ascertained that compared with the present system, the revised rules are not likely to involve any material charges in present scale of expenditure.	Rs.	
254	Do.	251	5	Adoption of varying mortality rates.		The principle has been accepted and an examination will be made.		
255	Do.	252	7	Debit to commercial departments of pensionary charges.		This is already being done in the accounts of the main commercial departments and steps are being taken to include these charges in other departments which perform functions of a commercial character.		
256	Do.	252	8	Revision of temporary increased scales of pension in 1924.		Local Governments have been asked for their opinion and the question will be considered on receipt of their replies.		
257	Stationery and Printing.	253-260	...	Reductions and improvements in Stationery and Printing organisation.	10,37,000	The specific recommendations are under consideration and budget provision for 1923-24 has been reduced to Rs. 60 lakhs.	15,56,000	Paragraphs 4, 5, 7, 11, 13 and 16 have been accepted.
258	Miscellaneous.	261	5	Special commissions of enquiry to be resorted to only in exceptional cases.		This recommendation has been noted and will be observed whenever possible.	...	
259	Do.	261	7	Local Clearing Office to be amalgamated with Peace Treaty Branch.		This has been carried into effect.	...	
260	Do.	262	9	Revision of incidence of certain payments to provinces.	45,000	Decision will shortly be arrived at. A provisional saving of Rs. 20,000 has been made.	20,000	
261	Do.	263	11	Reduction in miscellaneous expenditure on the North-West Frontier Provinces.	1,22,000	Provision for grain compensation has been omitted. The reserve of Rs. 30,000 has been cut out and a reduction of Rs. 2,000 effected under Darbar presents.	1,20,000	

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed, etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
262	Miscellaneous— <i>contd.</i>	263	13	Reduction in miscellaneous charges in Delhi.	Rs. 45,000	The reserve has been eliminated and the grant to the Notified Area reduced as proposed.	Rs. 65,000	
263	Do.	264	Conclusion.	Reduction of provision under the head Miscellaneous.	14,03,000	It has not been possible to secure this reduction. The Committee assumed a reduction of Rs. 7,80,000 in expenditure in England under this head but the estimate for the current year is Rs. 21 lakhs, a reduction of Rs. 2,37,000 only. Provision has also been necessary for the Public Services and for unavoidable payments to provincial governments. Omitting the special provision and anticipated supplementary grants the normal estimate under this head will be Rs. 69,86,000. Reductions have been effected as indicated under the preceding items.	...	
264	Adjustments with Provincial Governments.	273	2	Steps to be taken to determine the amount of the fixed assignment to be made to Burma for the cost of Military police.	...	The question is under consideration with the Government of Burma.	...	
265	Expenditure in Minor Administrations.	277	Conclusion.	Settlement to be entered into with the North-West Frontier Province and Baluchistan. A special enquiry to be made into the cost of minor administrations in Central India and Rajputana.		The decision on the report of the North West Frontier Province Enquiry Committee is awaited. Further, owing to the disturbed condition of the frontier the present time is inopportune for framing standard figures to form the basis of a settlement. It is therefore proposed to postpone consideration of the question till the budget of 1924-25 is settled. Such an enquiry is being made.		

Serial No.	Head.	Reference to Report.		Recommendation.	Reduction proposed on budget of 1922-23.	Action taken or now proposed.	Reduction in 1923-24.	Remarks (further action proposed etc.).
		Page.	Para.					
266	Pay, leave and allowances.	285	Conclusion (1).	The whole question of pay and leave conditions of the subordinate services to be made the subject of an enquiry in which local Governments will be associated.	Rs.	Almost all the local Governments who were addressed on the question of pay are of opinion that no reduction is feasible and seem to be satisfied that on a general comparison of the present and pre-war conditions the present scales of pay are not unduly extravagant. The proposal for an all India enquiry has not, therefore been taken up at present. But enquiries into individual cases of excessive enhancement are being pursued. An examination of the present leave rules is in progress with a view to economy.	Rs.	
267	Do.	285	Conclusions (2) and (3)	Revision of travelling allowance rules.		The recommendations of the Committee have been accepted with a slight modification and orders have been issued accordingly.		The probable saving is not known but on the basis of expenditure for 1922-23, it is estimated that a saving of about Rs. 15 lakhs should be secured by the revision of the rules and stricter control over this expenditure.
268	General Observations.	292	6	Introduction of commercial accounts.		Will be adopted for all departments affected.		
269		292	7	Reductions in holdings of Stores.	...	Stocks are under examination in all departments affected and the recommendation is being carried into effect.	...	
270		...	...	Total reductions recommended in the civil departments.	905 lakhs.	Exclusive of interest and Sinking fund charges, the total reductions now accepted in the current year's budget are about Rs. 7½ crores.	721 lakhs.	The possibility of further reductions is being considered.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ON NEW DELHI.

1. **Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** With reference to question No. 30* asked by me in the Council of State on 16th July 1923, regarding "Capital Expenditure on New Delhi", will Government be pleased to put on the table the "Report" referred to by the Hon'ble Member in the course of his reply to me to the above question?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: The report is of a very technical and lengthy nature and in the circumstances it is not proposed to place it on the table; but I shall be glad to show the Honourable Member a copy at the Railway Board's Office.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INCHCAPE COMMITTEE.

2. **Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing in detail:

- (1) their decision regarding those recommendations of the Inchcape Committee which were said to be "under consideration" in answer to a question† in the Council of State on 16th July 1923,
- (2) whether those reductions proposed by the Inchcape Committee, which had been "allowed for" in the Budget for 1923-24, have been actually effected, and
- (3) the total amount of reductions made up to now, and likely to be made during the present financial year, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Inchcape Committee?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Honourable Member is referred to the statement laid on the table this morning in reply to a similar question‡ by Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao.

TRANSFER OF THE STATION MASTER, BALLYGUNGE.

3. **Mr. K. G. Neogy:** (1) Will Government be pleased to state how long the present Station Master of Ballygunge Station (E. B. Ry.) has not been transferred from the Station, and if there is any rule regarding the transfer of such officers?

(2) Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) The quantity of coal which has reached the Ballygunge Railway Station every month, for the last 3 years.
- (b) If this coal is stored in the Railway Yard, and the amount of money realised by the Railway authorities on that account?

* Vide p. 1483, Council of State Debates, Vol. III.

† Vide pages 1417-70, Council of State Debates, Vol. III.

‡ Starred Question No. 53.

(3) Is it a fact that the merchants and traders of the locality have recently approached the Agent for his transfer?

(4) Will Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken on the representation made by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce in this matter?

(5) Will Government be pleased to state why the said Station Master has not been transferred for so long a time?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: (1) The Station Master, Ballygunge, has been there since June 1913. There is no rule requiring a Station Master to be transferred after any given period.

(2) (a) and (b). The information is not available.

(3) The answer is in the negative.

(4) The matter was enquired into by the Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, and no evidence of friction between the Station Master and passengers and traders was adduced. The Bengal National Chamber of Commerce was so informed by the Agent.

(5) See (1) above. It has not been found necessary to transfer the Station Master.

EXPORT OF BOVINE CATTLE.

4. **Raja Raghunandan Prasad Singh:** Will the Government be pleased to give the exact or fairly accurate number of bovine cattle, classified according to their kinds, exported to foreign countries during the last two years from British India?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: No statistics are recorded of the different kinds of cattle exported from India. The total number of bovine cattle exported in the years 1921-22 and 1922-23, were 21,179 and 13,675 respectively.

RESULTS OF THE INCHEAPE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

*5. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state what total reduction in expenditure has been effected for 1923-24 as per the recommendations of the Incheape Committee over and above the amounts stated in their answer to question No. 15 (page 4063 of Volume III, Part VII of the Legislative Assembly Debates) and under what heads?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state further what decision they have arrived at in respect of the following heads of expenditure and what further reduction in expenditure they expect to budget for in the years 1924-25 and 1925-26:—

(1) In the peace establishment noted under heads 1 to 7 of the Army Expenditure at page 4064 of Volume III, referred to above.

(2) In the pay of "Officers and clerks at Army Headquarters" as recommended by the Incheape and Innes Committees and noted in heads 8 and 9 at page 4065 of the above Volume.

* For answer to this question, see Answer below Question No. 12.

(3) In " army commands, district and brigades staff and transport," noted in heads Nos. 10 and 12 of the same volume, page 4065.

(4) Regarding " transport charges " referred to in head 13 of the same volume, page 4067.

(5) Regarding the Railway noted in head 13 and when is it likely to be budgeted for?

(6) In respect of " English Army Education second part " referred to in head 26 of the same volume, page 4068.

(7) In respect of the heads " Hospitals, etc.," referred to in heads 27 and 28 of the same volume, page 4068.

(8) Under heads 32 to 35 of the same volume, page 4069, regarding the several departments (Ordnance, Clothing, etc., Depots).

(9) Under " Military Works " heads 71 and 72, page 4076 of Volume III.

(10) Regarding the savings covered by heads 2 to 7, 10, 14 to 16, 19, 20 of the "Royal Indian Marine " shown in pages 4079 to 4082?

RETRENCHMENTS IN THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

*6. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** Will the Government be pleased to state if the question of staff—" Officers, Clerks and Engineering establishments"—of the Posts and Telegraphs Department, has been fully gone into, and, if so, what reduction in expenditure under that head has been made in the budget of 1923-24 over and above that referred to under heads 28 to 31 of page 4088 of Volume III of the Assembly Debates and what further reduction in expenditure is proposed to be effected in 1924-25?

Similarly, what reduction is expected to be effected in the following heads for 1923 to 1924 and for 1924-25:—

- (1) " Conveyance of mails " referred to in heads 32 to 33, page 4089.
- (2) " Account and Audit " covered by head 34, page 4089.
- (3) " Travelling allowance " under head 35, page 4089.
- (4) " Stationery and Printing " under head 36, page 4089.
- (5) " Supply and services " under head 39, page 4089.
- (6) " House rent, etc., allowances " under head 40, page 4089.
- (7) " Maintenance of Telegraphs and Telephone lines " under head 42, page 4090.
- (8) " Miscellaneous source " under head 43, page 4090.
- (9) " Contingency " under head 47, page 4090.
- (10) " Apparatus and plants " under head 50, page 4090.
- (11) " Depot establishments " under head 51, page 4090.

* For answer to this question, see Answer to Question No. 12.

RETRENCHMENT IN THE INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

*7. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** Have all or any of the methods suggested in conclusions 1 to 4 referred to on page 120 of the Inchcape Committee report, been adopted in respect of the Indo-European Telegraph Department and if so, what reduction in expenditure and increases of income is anticipated in 1924-25?

RETRENCHMENT IN EXPENDITURE UNDER IRRIGATION.

*8. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** Has the method suggested in the Inchcape Committee Report for irrigation been adopted and with what financial results?

RETRENCHMENT IN EXPENDITURE UNDER GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

*9. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** Have all or any of the methods referred to in conclusions 1 to 6 noted at page 144 under the head "General Administration" of the Inchcape Committee's report been adopted and with what financial results in income and expenditure for the year 1923-24 and for 1924-25?

RETRENCHMENT IN POLITICAL EXPENDITURE.

*10. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** Under the head "Political Expenditure" have all or any of the methods referred to in conclusions 1 to 5 on page 161 of the Inchcape Committee's report been adopted and with what financial results in the income and expenditure for 1923-24 and for 1924-25?

RETRENCHMENT IN EXPENDITURE UNDER AUDIT.

*11. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** Under the head "Audit" noted on page 165 of the Inchcape Committee's report have all or any of the methods been adopted and with what financial results for 1923-24 and for 1924-25?

RETRENCHMENT IN EXPENDITURE UNDER JAILS, POLICE, ETC.

12. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** Under the head "Jails" on page 168, "Police" on page 173, "Ports and Pilotage" on page 175, "Ecclesiastical expenditure" on page 175, "Scientific department" on page 190, "Education" on page 250 and "Public Health and Medical service" on page 208 and "Miscellaneous department" on page 217, have the methods suggested in the Inchcape Committee's report been adopted and with what financial results for 1923-24 and for 1924-25?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Honourable Member is referred to the revised statement laid on the table this morning in reply to the question† by Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao, which gives such information as is available at present. As regards the financial results in income and expenditure for the year 1924-25 involved by the adoption of the methods recommended in the Indian Retrenchment Committee's report, I would ask the Honourable Member to await the Budget Statement and discussions.

* For answers to these questions, see the Answer below Question No. 12.

† Starred Question No. 53.

HOUSE RENT ALLOWANCES FOR TELEGRAPH STAFF.

13. **Mr. K. Rama Aiyangar:** Will the Government be pleased to state what decision they have come to, in regard to the scale of house rent allowances to be given to the Telegraph service men, after the recommendation of the Inchcape Committee referred to in page 99 of their report and whether it is proposed to give effect to the recommendations of the Telegraph Committee of 1921 to place Indians and non-Indians entertained prior to March 1913 on a footing of equality in the matter of house rent allowance? If not, why not?

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee: No final decision has yet been arrived at by Government on the recommendations of the Inchcape Committee regarding the scale of house rent allowances to the telegraph staff. The question is still under examination. The recommendations of the Telegraph Committee of 1921 to place Indians and non-Indians entertained prior to March 1913 on a footing of equality in the matter of house rent allowance could not be accepted by Government in view of the additional expenditure involved. Government regret that for the same reason they are unable to reconsider the question at the present time.

INCOME FROM THIRD CLASS RAILWAY PASSENGERS.

14. **Raja Raghunandan Prasad Singh:** Will the Government be pleased to state the income arising from third class travelling on each of the Railways under its control, direct or indirect, during any week of the last Dussehra and X'mas seasons as also during the week next preceding and that next following each of the said seasons?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: The information asked for by the Honourable Member is not readily available on Railways and cannot be obtained without an expenditure of time and labour which the value of the results would not warrant.

STERLING SECURITIES HELD ON ACCOUNT OF THE GOLD STANDARD RESERVE.

15. **Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas:** Will Government be pleased to lay the following information on the table:

- (a) Amount and description of the various Sterling Securities held on account of the Gold Standard Reserve on 31st March, 1915, and each subsequent year,
- (b) When and at what rates were each of such securities realised, if any,
- (c) What was the loss on realisation of each of such security as compared to its original purchase costs?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: (a) The information is available from the Finance and Revenue Accounts for the years concerned and also from the statements showing the position of the Gold Standard Reserve published in the *Gazette of India* from time to time.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the information required is placed on the table. It does not include British Treasury Bills which are purchased, renewed and realised at current rates.

Statement showing sterling securities other than British Treasury Bills held in the Gold Standard Reserve.

Description of Securities.	NOMINAL VALUE OF				Gain (+) or Loss (—) on realisation.
	Balance on 31st March 1915.	Securities since purchased.	Securities since realised.	Balance on 31st March 1923.	
	£	£	£	£	£
6% Exchequer Bonds . . .		5,545,500	5,545,500	...	...
5½ % Exchequer Bonds . . .		12,013,700	9,763,700	2,250,000	—41,484
5½ % New South Wales Bonds and Stock.		129,000	129,000	...	+ 1,168
5½ % Union of South Africa Bills.		2,050,000	1,350,000	700,000	+ 21,689
5% Exchequer Bonds . . .		13,893,500	13,893,500	...	—20,085
5% National War Bonds . . .		25,686,000	20,780,000	4,906,000	+ 61,352
5% National War Loan Stock.		4,329,782	3,762,181	567,601	} —223,339
4½ % National War Loan Stock.	...	3,574,000	3,574,000	...	
4 % Southern Nigeria Bonds .	350,000		350,000	...	+ 1,116
4% Queensland Stock . . .	55,000		55,000	...	—1,208
4% Queensland Bonds . . .	155,000		155,000	...	—2,931
3½ % Canada Government Bonds.	161,000		161,000	...	—3,437
3½ % New Zealand Debentures	45,000	...	45,000	...	—170
3½ % New South Wales Stock .	113,000	...	113,000	...	+ 558
3½ % Corporation of London Debentures.	45,000	...	45,000	...	—451
3% Local Loans Stock . . .	200,000	...	200,000	...	—92,363
3% Exchequer Bonds . . .	6,885,600	2,998,000	9,883,600	...	+ 137,587
3% Transvaal Government Guaranteed Stock (1923—53).	1,092,023	...	1,092,023	...	—397,086
2½ % Exchequer Bonds . . .	16,000	...	16,000	...	—10
2½ % Irish Land Guaranteed Stock.	438,720	...	...	438,720	...
2½ % British Government Con- solidated Stock.	3,266,392	1,000,000	4,266,392	...	+ 109,057
New South Wales Treasury Bills.	750,000	500,000	1,250,000	...	...
Total . . .	18,572,785	71,719,482	76,429,896	8,862,821	—290,027

REDUCTION IN MR. GANDHI'S WEIGHT.

16. **Mr. C. Duraiswami Aiyangar:** (a) Is it a fact that Mahatma Gandhijee, now a political prisoner in Yarrowda jail, has lost weight to the extent of nearly fifteen pounds?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state the reason for the loss of weight, if true?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to cause a weekly publication to be made regarding the state of health of Mahatmajiji?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: As the Honourable Member is doubtless now aware, the condition has been diagnosed and a successful operation performed; and frequent bulletins have been issued.

PARTICIPATION OF GOVERNMENT PENSIONERS IN THE KHILAFAT AND SWARAJYA MOVEMENTS.

17. **Haji S. A. K. Jeelani:** (a) Is it a fact that owing to the Khilafat and Swarajya movement action has been taken against Government Pensioners?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of pensioners to whom warnings were given, the number who were deprived of their pensions and the number to whom it was restored after submitting an apology?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: The Government of India are not in possession of information as to the action taken by Provincial Governments which is not primarily their concern. Information is being collected in respect of pensioners formerly employed in services directly under the control of the Government of India, and the Honourable Member will be informed of the result in due course.

ALLIANCE BANK FAILURE.

18. **Haji S. A. K. Jeelani:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether any action has been taken on the Resolution moved by Sir P. S. Sivaswami Iyer and passed by the Assembly in its last July Session on the Alliance Bank Episode?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Honourable Member is referred to the statement made in this House by the Honourable Home Member on the 19th July 1923. The Resolution was communicated to the Secretary of State. No further action has been taken.

MANAGEMENT OF INDIAN DEBT IN ENGLAND.

19. **Haji S. A. K. Jeelani:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the management of Indian debt in England has been entrusted to the English Branch of the Imperial Bank of India?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the terms on which the Imperial Bank have undertaken the job and the relative saving or loss to the Government of India by the introduction of this change?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: (a) The management of the Government of India rupee securities in London has been entrusted to the London Office of the Imperial Bank of India with effect from 28th January 1924.

(b) The terms are a charge of £300 per crore of rupee subject to a minimum of £5,000 per annum, with the proviso that in the event of the debt on which the charge is assessed falling in any year below 8 crores of rupees, the minimum charge shall be reduced to £4,000 per annum. The charges hitherto made by the Bank of England for the management of this work were £400 per crore of rupees subject to a minimum of £8,000 per annum.

GRIEVANCES OF THE NON-GAZETTED JUDICIAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS HIGH COURT.

20. **Haji S. A. K. Jeelani:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it has received any representation from the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court on the grievances of the non-Gazetted Judicial Officers particularly with regard to the grant of acting allowance?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state its decision on that question?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

PROVIDENT FUND AND COMMUTATION OF PENSIONS.

21. **Haji S. A. K. Jeelani:** (a) Is it a fact that matters relating to Provident Fund and commutation of pensions to non-Gazetted Officers are under the consideration of the Government?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state within what period of time (approximately) do they hope to arrive at a final decision?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: (a) No matters relating to Provident Funds applicable to non-gazetted officers are at present under consideration of the Government. The Government of India are, however, in correspondence with Local Governments regarding the commutation of pensions of Government servants generally.

(b) It is not possible to state when a final decision will be arrived at.

DOUBLING OF RAILWAY LINE FROM MADRAS TO PALLAVARAM.

22. **Haji S. A. K. Jeelani:** (a) Is it a fact that the South Indian Railway Company has in view a double line project for quickening suburban traffic from Madras to Pallavaram?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state for how long has this project been in contemplation and within what period of time does the Company hope to complete the execution of the scheme?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: (a) Yes.

(b) The project has been under consideration on various occasions during nearly 17 years but owing to stringency of funds and other causes the work has had to be deferred. Estimates for the scheme have been prepared recently but the Railway Administration are now considering the advisability of electrifying their suburban services in conjunction with the doubling of the line as far as Tambaram and as this proposal is likely to give a much better service than doubling alone, the final decision on the matter is for the moment being delayed. It is hoped, however, that there will be no great delay in carrying out the required improvement of this section.

AMENDMENT OF SECTION 19 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT.

23. **Haji S. A. K. Jeelani:** (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the Special Bench ruling of the Madras High Court, reported in "New India" of Madras of 20th November, 1923, in disposing of a Civil Revision Petition against the acquisition of land for the Vizagapatam Harbour and the Observation of Mr. Justice Ramasan to the desirability of amending Section 19 of the Land Acquisition Act?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether to afford protection to the party concerned from the arbitrary orders of Land Acquisition Officers, the Government is prepared to undertake an early amendment of the Act?

Mr. J. A. Richey: (a) Yes.

(b) Government will consider the matter when the full report on this case is available.

INDIA'S SHARE OF THE GERMAN INDEMNITY.

24. **Mr. N. M. Dumasia:** 1. Will Government be pleased to state what sum was apportioned to India for the great part she played during the war with Germany and her allies out of the amount fixed for indemnity from Germany?

2. Has any amount been received from the Imperial Government towards the payment of India's fixed share of the indemnity? If the reply is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to state if any representation has been made to the Imperial Government demanding the payment of the money?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Inter-Allied Agreement concluded at Spa in July 1920, provided that the British Empire, which includes India, should receive 22 per cent. of the amount received from Germany for reparations. In May 1921, the total liability of Germany was fixed by the Reparation Commission at £6,600 million and this figure was accepted by Germany. At the same time a schedule of payments was drawn up and accepted by Germany, under which payment was to be spread over a period of years and made dependent in part on the progress of Germany's export trade. The result of this arrangement was to reduce the present value of the nominal total of £6,600 million to about half that total. At the Imperial Conference held in London on July 13th, 1921, the British Empire's share in the payments by Germany on account of her liability was distributed among the various portions of the Empire, India being allotted 1·20 per cent. thereof.

As a result of the breakdown of Germany's finances and subsequent political developments it is not possible to say what amount Germany will be able to pay and therefore what sum will ultimately be received by India.

India's claim will not be overlooked when the question of distributing any amounts received from Germany on account of reparations again comes up.

ABOLITION OF POLITICAL AGENCIES.

25. **Mr. N. M. Dumasia:** 1. Will Government be pleased to state what political agencies were abolished in the time of Lord Minto?

2. Were any reductions of political agencies subsequently made on the initiative of the Government on the grounds of economy?

3. Will Government be pleased to state what saving has been made by the abolition of political agencies in the past?

4. What is the total cost of residencies and political agencies in Indian States and how does it compare with the pre-war level?

Mr. E. B. Howell: 1. No Political Agency was abolished during the Viceroyalty of Lord Minto.

2. Yes.

3. The savings amount to about Rs. 75,880 a year.

4. The total cost of Residencies and Political Agencies in the Indian States is Rs. 35,24,392 in 1923-24 as compared with Rs. 25,71,366 in 1912-13.

ALLEGED ILL-TREATMENT OF STAFF BY MR. KERR, DISTRICT LOCOMOTIVE SUPERINTENDENT, E. B. RAILWAY.

26. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether, in considering the question of promoting an officer from subordinate to superior rank, Government take into consideration, *inter alia*, his capacity for dealing with subordinates and his fitness for establishing proper relations between officers and subordinates? (b) If the answer be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state if they are aware of any complaints preferred against Mr. Carr, District Loco Superintendent, E. B. Railway, by the staff for ill-treatment? If the reply be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what action, if any, was taken?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) There is Mr. Carr, District Locomotive Superintendent, on the Eastern Bengal Railway. Perhaps Mr. Kerr is meant. If so, the reply is in the negative.

GRIEVANCES OF INDIAN GUARDS AND DRIVERS, E. B. RAILWAY.

27. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Are Government aware of complaints regarding non-attention of E. B. Railway authorities to the grievances of Indian Guards and Drivers of E. B. Railway regarding arrangements for Running room? If the reply be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken to redress their grievances?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: Government have no information, but will make inquiries.

HOUSE RENT ALLOWANCES FOR MENIAL STAFF OF STATE RAILWAYS.

28. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Are Government aware that State Railway employees drawing a pay of less than Rs. 15 per month are not given any allowance in lieu of quarters? If the reply be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reason for not granting such privilege to this class of employees, and to state if any proposal is under consideration for extending the said privilege to this class of employees?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Under the revised rules, State Railway employees drawing Rs. 20 per mensem or less are not given any allowance in lieu of quarters.

The concession of free quarters is extended only to such of the staff as are liable to be called upon to attend to railway business at any time of the day or night, and such of the staff, drawing Rs. 20 or less, who come under this category, are, as far as possible, provided with quarters.

Government have not under consideration any proposal to extend the privilege of an allowance in lieu of free quarters to employees drawing Rs. 20 per mensem or less, but in view of the increased annual provision for capital expenditure on railways, the question of spending further additional sums on the provision of quarters for all subordinate and menial staff, including those drawing Rs. 20 per mensem or less, is receiving careful consideration.

LEAVE OF MENIAL STAFF OF STATE RAILWAYS.

29. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state why all the menial staffs in the permanent establishment of the State Railway are not entitled to leave with pay?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: Menials in the permanent establishment of State-worked Railways are granted leave on the same terms as inferior servants in civil employ under the Central Government. The general rule is that the absentee allowance of the substantive incumbent must not exceed what remains from his pay after provision is made for the efficient discharge of his duties.

ALLEGED ASSAULTS ON INDIANS BY MR. PAYENE, LOCO-FOREMAN,
LALMONIRHAT, E. B. RAILWAY.

30. **Mr. K. O. Neogy:** Are Government aware that Mr. Payene, Loco-foreman, Lalmonirhat, of the E. B. Railway, assaulted a student of the Lalmonirhat H. E. School, for which he was summoned under section 323, I. P. C., and submitted a written apology, and that again on 24th August 1923, he assaulted Babu R. K. Sarkar, a fireman? If the answer be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what departmental action has been taken against the said officer?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: Government have no information, but will make inquiries.

REINSTATEMENT OF EMPLOYEES DISMISSED BY THE E. B. RAILWAY.

31. **Mr. K. O. Neogy:** Are Government aware that the E. B. Railway authorities have recently discharged men from service when convicted in the lower Court, but refused to reinstate them when acquitted in the appellate Court? If the answer be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state if they allowed any men under similar circumstances to resume duty? If so, will Government be pleased to state why they refused to reinstate the men referred to in the first part of the question?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: Government have no information. If the Honourable Member will specify the cases he is referring to, Government will make inquiries.

APPEALS AGAINST DECISIONS OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER,
E. B. RAILWAY.

32. **Mr. K. O. Neogy:** Are Government aware that the E. B. Railway authorities refuse to entertain appeals from employees to move the Medical Board against the decision of the E. B. Railway Chief Medical Officer? If the answer be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state the reason for such refusal?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Government have no information. But the Eastern Bengal Railway has its own Medical Department and the Chief Medical Officer is the head of that Department of the Railway. No appeal therefore lies to any outside Medical authority.

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT OF THE SUBORDINATE AND SUPERIOR ESTABLISH-
MENTS OF THE E. B. RAILWAY.

33. **Mr. K. O. Neogy:** Are Government aware that the E. B. Railway authorities enter into agreements with their employees in the subordinate establishment that the services of the employees may be terminated at any time without assigning any reason whatever? If the answer be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state if they enter into similar agreements with men in the superior establishment of the Railway? And if not, will Government be pleased to state why such distinction is made between superior and subordinate employees of the Railway?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Railways are commercial undertakings and, as traffic rises or falls, so must the number of certain classes of employes be readily susceptible of increase or reduction.

The existing arrangements on the Eastern Bengal Railway are not peculiar to that line, but follow those generally in force on railways and similar commercial concerns. That is, the bulk of the staff, whether maintenance, running, workshop, or office staff, are employed subject to a month's notice on either side. The superior staff on the other hand, which forms a small proportion, comprises professional men who are required for purposes of supervision. Such men are only obtainable on agreements, which, ordinarily, provide for a 3 or 6 months' notice of termination on either side. In the circumstances, the Government are unable to admit that any "invidious distinction" is made.

RETRENCHMENT OF INDIANS, ANGLO-INDIANS AND EUROPEANS ON THE E. B. RAILWAY.

34. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state how many Indians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans, both in the superior and subordinate service of the E. B. Railway, have been discharged on account of retrenchment?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: All available information on this subject will be embodied in the memorandum which will be supplied to Members in connection with the discussion of the Budget.

RETRENCHMENTS ON THE E. B. RAILWAY.

35. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) If any outsiders have been recruited in the E. B. Railway service, including the Audit Department, after the termination of the services of several men owing to retrenchment? If the answer be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state how many Indians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans have been recruited in such post, and how many discharged hands have been taken back?

(b) If it is a fact that several men have been discharged from the Calcutta Goods shed as a measure of retrenchment, and after few months men from outside have been taken on in preference to the men discharged?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: Government have no information but will make inquiries.

APPOINTMENT OF STATION MASTERS AS TRAVELLING TICKET INSPECTORS ON THE E. B. RAILWAY.

36. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Are Government aware that the E. B. Railway Authorities have reduced several Station Masters to the rank of Assistant Station Masters owing to retrenchment, but about 10 Travelling Ticket Inspectors have been recruited from outsiders who have no knowledge or experience in the Railway? If the answer be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state if they are prepared to appoint the aforesaid Station Masters to the post of Travelling Ticket Inspectors, instead of reverting them to the grade of Assistant Station Masters?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: This is a purely domestic matter with which the Agent is competent to deal, and the Government of India are not therefore prepared to interfere.

FOOD INSPECTORS AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICERS ON THE E. B. RAILWAY.

37. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state the utility of appointing Food Inspectors and Transportation Inspectors in the E. B. Railway in these days of retrenchment, in addition to Traffic Inspectors, the duties of the former being heretofore performed by the latter?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: These appointments are made in the interests of the travelling public, with a view to ensuring a better class of food and improving transport arrangements, respectively.

CATERING DEPARTMENT, E. B. RAILWAY.

38. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state the reason for establishing a catering department in the E. B. Railway with a Gazetted Officer in charge as Catering Superintendent?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: The catering on the Eastern Bengal Railway is not done by the Railway itself. Food and refreshments are provided by contractors and vendors under the supervision of a Catering Superintendent, whose appointment has been considered necessary in order to maintain a proper standard of catering for the public.

GRANT OF RETIRING GRATUITY TO GAZETTED OFFICERS OF THE E. B. RAILWAY.

39. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state the reason for granting a retiring gratuity to the Gazetted officers of the Railway, in addition to the bonus of the Provident Fund, when their services are permanent?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: Provident Funds which in the case of the officers referred to replace pensions are intended partly to be an insurance against death or premature retirement, partly to make provision for the employé on retirement after a normal period of service. After prolonged discussion it was finally decided that the best way of securing the ends in view was to combine gratuities with Provident Fund benefits. The special object of gratuities is to secure long service.

REDUCTION OF PAY OF INDIAN EMPLOYEES OF THE E. B. RAILWAY.

40. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Is it a fact that the pay of some of the Indian employees of the E. B. Railway, earned by seniority in service according to the sanctioned scale, has been reduced, and a portion thereof converted in some cases to personal allowance?

The Honourable Sir Charles Innes: Government have no information on the subject and are not aware of any cases such as those referred to.

PAYMENT TO BOMBAY GOVERNMENT FOR WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH INCOME-TAX.

41. **Mr. Harchandrai Vishindas:** Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) what amount was paid to the Bombay Government last year for doing income-tax work on behalf of the Central Government?

(b) What amount will be paid this year for the same?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: No payment was made to the Bombay Government last year for the income-tax work done by their staff on behalf of the Central Government, but payments aggregating Rs. 6,15,807, viz., Rs. 2,83,942 for the year 1921-22 and Rs. 3,31,865 for the year 1922-23, have been made during the year.

INCOME-TAX OFFICERS.

42. **Mr. Harchandrai Vishindas:** Will Government be pleased to state what posts of Income-tax Officers, Assistant Commissioners, Inspectors and Examiners have been filled up to this time out of the number sanctioned in March last, and how many remain yet unfilled?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: A statement giving the information is placed on the table.

Designation.	No. of posts sanctioned.	No. filled.	No. vacant.
Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax	5	3	2
Income-tax Officers and Assistant Income-tax Officers (including 1 Personal Assistant).	37	36	1
Inspectors	37	37	
Examiners	48	47	1

EMPLOYMENT OF REVENUE DEPARTMENT MEN TO DO INCOME-TAX WORK IN BOMBAY AND SINDH.

43. **Mr. Harchandrai Vishindas:** Is it a fact that provincial Revenue Department hands are still doing income-tax work in certain parts of the Bombay Presidency including Sindh? If so, why?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The reply to this question is in the affirmative. The income-tax work is still being done in some parts of the Bombay Presidency by the staff of the Local Government. The scheme for the introduction of a special income-tax staff is being gradually introduced in the Presidency as men are trained to fill the sanctioned posts.

ALLOWANCES OF INCOME-TAX OFFICERS AT KARACHI.

44. **Mr. Harchandrai Vishindas:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state how much local allowance is paid to Inspectors and Examiners of the Income-tax Department in Karachi?

(b) Are Government aware that the house rent allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem is paid to officers of the same standing stationed in Karachi?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: (a) The Inspectors of Income-tax and Examiners at Karachi, who are non-gazetted officers, draw pay at Rs. 150 to 325 and 175 to 325 with a local allowance of Rs. 30 a month.

(b) The Government are not aware to what officers of the same standing in other departments the Honourable Member refers.

APPRAISERS, KARACHI CUSTOMS HOUSE.

*45. **Mr. Harchandrai Vishindas:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that the Eastern Express Company Ltd., by their manager Sir Montagu Webb, wrote to the Chief Collector of Customs to increase

For answer to this question, see answer below Question No. 47.

the number of appraisers in the Karachi Customs House, and that the said Company was informed that the number would be increased when the scheme was sanctioned?

(b) Is it a fact that the number of appraisers after the scheme is the same as before the war?

SHORTAGE OF APPRAISERS AT KARACHI.

*46. **Mr. Harchandrai Vishindas:** Will Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that owing to the shortage of appraisers, no appraiser is posted at the Napier Mole Boat west wharf to the great inconvenience of Indian merchants who have repeatedly petitioned the Customs authorities to post a full-time appraiser there; and that by such shortage work is considerably hampered?

ALLOWANCES OF APPRAISERS, EXAMINERS, ETC., IN KARACHI.

47. **Mr. Harchandrai Vishindas:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state why no rent allowance or local allowance is given to appraisers, examiners, wharfingers, gate-keepers and tally clerks in Karachi?

(b) Is any local allowance or house rent allowance given to men of similar standing employed in other departments in Karachi?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: Inquiries are being made and a further reply will be given to the Honourable Member when the information is available.

INSANITARY CONDITION OF THE B. N. W. RAILWAY COMPARTMENTS.

48. **Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** (a) Are Government aware of the insanitary condition of the B. N. W. Railway compartments?

(b) Is it a fact that the cushions placed on the berths of 1st and 2nd class compartments are torn and tattered and very seldom cleaned?

(c) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the report of the committee appointed by the Government of Bihar and Orissa to inquire into the working of the B. N. W. Railway?

(d) If so, what steps have been taken by the Government on the said report?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: (a) and (b). Complaints of this kind are essentially matters which should be brought to the notice of the Agent through the Local Advisory Council.

(c) and (d). The Honourable Member is referred to items (b) and (c) of the reply given on the 6th March 1923 in this Assembly to question† No. 472 asked by Khan Bahadur Saiyid Muhammad Ismail.

FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN MONGHYR AND MONGHYR GHAT.

49. **Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** (a) Are Government aware that there is considerable dissatisfaction in the mind of the public at the present arrangement of ferry service between Monghyr and Monghyr Ghat station E. I. R. (Bihar and Orissa)?

* For answer to this question, see answer below Question No. 47.

† Vide L. A. Debates, Vol. III, pages 3021-3022.

(b) Are Government aware that several questions were put in the last Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council, in answer to which the Local Government admitted that there was public feeling against the present arrangement?

(c) Do Government propose to make an inquiry in the matter?

(d) Are Government aware that the rate of fare charged for traffic by the aforesaid ferry service agency is higher than that of all the other ferry services of the Ganges in Bihar and Orissa.

(e) Is it a fact that the steamer used there is very small and considerable inconvenience is caused to the passengers for that reason?

(f) Is it a fact that the B. N. W. Railway Company expressed their willingness to ply ferry for traffic at that very ghat at reduced fare? If so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for refusing their offer?

(g) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the terms of contract between the E. I. Railway Company and the present contractor for the said ferry service?

(h) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any ferry service on the same terms anywhere in Bihar and Orissa?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons: (a) Government have received complaints regarding the working of the ferry but these were chiefly with reference to the Ghat arrangements made by the railway administration and Government understand that action has been taken to remedy matters in this respect.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter will be referred to the Agent, East Indian Railway.

(d) No.

(e) Inquiry will be made.

(f) The Bengal and North Western Railway applied to the Railway Board for permission to establish a ferry service but the Board after consulting the Local Government decided not to interfere with the existing arrangements. The question of reduced fares did not arise.

(g) No.

(h) Government are not aware of any.

ENLISTMENT OF BRAHMINS IN THE ARMY.

50. **Sardar V. N. Mutalik:** (1) Will Government be pleased to state whether Brahmins from any Province are admitted in the Army, and if Brahmins from any Province are excluded from admission?

(2) Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether any company of the Deccan Brahmins was formed during the War?

(b) if so, what was the total strength of the Company?

(c) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, is the Company still in existence, and if not, the reasons why it was disbanded?

(d) whether there is any intention to form Companies of the Deccan Brahmins?

Mr. E. Burdon: (1) Provided they have the necessary qualifications laid down for the Indian Army, Brahmins from any Province are enlisted in units for which their class is authorised.

(2) (a) and (b). No Company composed of " Deccan " Brahmins was formed during the war, but a $\frac{1}{2}$ Company (114 all ranks) of Mahratta Brahmins was formed.

(c) This $\frac{1}{2}$ Company was disbanded on the cessation of hostilities, consequent on the reduction in the strength of the Indian Army.

(d) There is no intention at present of forming Companies composed of " Deccan " Brahmins.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ASSENT TO BILLS.

Mr. President: I have to acquaint the Assembly that His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to give his assent to the following Bills passed by both Chambers of the Indian Legislature:

1. The Mahendra Partab Singh Estates Act, 1923.
2. The Moorshedabad (Amendment) Act, 1923.
3. The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1923.
4. The Indian Income-tax (Further Amendment) Act, 1923.
5. The Indigo Cess (Repealing) Act, 1923.
6. The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1923.
7. The Special Marriage (Amendment) Act, 1923.
8. The Indian Territorial and Auxiliary Forces (Amendment) Act, 1923.
9. The Indian Lunacy (Amendment) Act, 1923.
10. The Indian Army (Amendment) Act, 1923.
11. The Cutchi Memons (Amendment) Act, 1923.
12. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Further Amendment) Act, 1923.
13. The Indian Paper Currency (Amendment) Act, 1923.
14. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Second Amendment) Act 1923.
15. The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act, 1923.
16. The Indian Ports (Amendment) Act, 1923.
17. The Indian Electricity (Amendment) Act, 1923.
18. The Charitable and Religious Trusts (Amendment) Act, 1923.
19. The Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923.
20. The Indian Stamp (Amendment) Act, 1923.

THE INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey (Home Member): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code for certain purposes.

This short Bill needs few remarks from me by way of introduction, but I may take the opportunity of reminding those of my Honourable friends here who were not with us last Session of the nature of certain legislation

[Sir Malcolm Hailey.]

that we then undertook. We had engaged to implement certain Resolutions, to which we were signatories, passed by the International Convention for the suppression of the traffic in women and children, signed in Geneva in March 1922. Our discussions finally crystallised in our Act No. XX of 1923. Briefly, what we did there was to make an addition to section 366 of the Indian Penal Code (which deals with kidnaping and abducting), in order to widen the scope of that section. But that is not the point with which we are now immediately concerned. We went on to add a new section after 366, the purport of which was to provide penalties against the procurement of minor girls, even for a single occasion, or the importation of girls from foreign countries. Now, there was no question between us at the time regarding the substance of this new section; there was, however, a difference of opinion, and a great deal of discussion regarding the age which should be taken for the definition of minority under that section. That cleavage of opinion was not merely between Government and the other side of the House, but extended to a division between our friends opposite also. Those of us who had some hesitation in accepting the proposal to take 18 as the age establishing minority under that section were actuated by two considerations. In the first place, we were constituting a new offence, and we apprehended the results of the wide extension which would be given to that offence if we took the age at 18 years. But also we thought it inconsistent that we should adopt the age of 18 for our new offence, while we retained the age of 16 for certain old-standing offences of a somewhat similar character in the Indian Penal Code, offences which in themselves were indeed of a somewhat more serious nature: I refer of course to section 361, that is, kidnaping from lawful guardianship, and sections 372 and 373, which provide against selling and buying a minor for purposes of prostitution. We, therefore, obtained the assent of the Assembly to the introduction of a commencement clause, which would enable us to postpone the bringing of this new Act into operation until we had consulted Local Governments and the public regarding the advisability of having one uniform age for all these offences. Those opinions have now been received. Neither the Local Governments nor the public bodies, who have given us their opinions, are altogether unanimous on the question. Nevertheless, we think that we have a sufficient body of convinced public opinion to warrant our now proposing to apply one uniform age to all four offences, the age of 18 years. I have no doubt that there will be residents of some areas who still think that it is not advisable to take the age up to 18 years for all four sections, at all events in regard to those areas. Still it is a sound principle of social legislation that the Legislature should always be somewhat in advance of current opinion, while of course avoiding going so far in advance of that opinion that the law in itself would become inoperative. At all events that is our proposal. As I have explained, we have hitherto delayed the notification of Act XX of 1923, in order that we may consider the co-ordinate offences as a whole. If the Legislature now agrees to the Bill which we place before it and which deals of course with the three old-standing offences, we shall take immediate steps to notify the Act of 1923 in common with the provisions of the Bill. I beg leave to introduce the Bill.

Mr. President: The question is:

“That leave be given to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code for certain purposes.”

The motion was adopted.

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE INDIAN COINAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett (Finance Member): Sir, I ask for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, for certain purposes.

Honourable Members will find in the Statement of Objects and Reasons a short explanation of the reason for this Bill. Under the English Coinage Act, the Act of 1870, power is given to withdraw from circulation token coinage and to declare it to have ceased to be a legal tender. There is no corresponding provision in the Indian Coinage Act and on occasion the absence of this power has proved inconvenient. The Government have of course at any time power by executive action to do what they can to withdraw a coin from circulation. But all they can do is to take steps to prevent the re-issue from treasury and currency offices of any coins of that particular denomination which come into their offices. That is a very slow process and all the time the coins remain legal tender. At the present time and for some little time past there has been a little difficulty with our eight-anna nickel coin which was issued during the war and has not proved a success. Indeed it has proved rather a troublesome failure. There have been a good many cases of counterfeiting, some of them so good that it has been impossible to determine whether a coin is counterfeit or not until it has actually been assayed at the mint. Naturally when there are counterfeit coins about, the public dislike the coin of the denomination which is being counterfeited. But the Government have no power beyond preventing the re-issue of coins that come into currency offices to deal with such a situation. It is proposed under this Bill that there should be power to issue a notification declaring that after a certain date a particular coin should cease to be legal tender. Provision is made in the Bill under which coins so notified can be received at Government treasuries and currency offices for a specified time after they have ceased to be legal tender for the purposes of ordinary circulation and in order to protect the public who have received at one time or another from the Government a coin purporting to be of a certain value, arrangements are also made under which at any time such a coin, if it is genuine, can be exchanged for its face value at Government currency offices. The Bill is general in character and repairs an omission which I think was probably unintentional in the existing Coinage Acts. Our immediate purpose in introducing it now would be to issue a notification dealing with the particular nickel coin that I have mentioned.

Mr. President: The question is:

“That leave be given to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, for certain purposes.”

The motion was adopted.

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE INDIAN INCOME-TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett (Finance Member): Sir, I ask for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes.

The object of this Bill is to make good two omissions in the existing Act and in another case to carry out rather more effectively what clearly are the intentions of the Income-tax Act of 1922. The first omission is a question of procedure. Under section 30 of the original Act an appeal

[Sir Basil Blackett.]

against the assessment of an income-tax officer may be made before the Assistant Commissioner and an assessee objecting to the decision of the Assistant Commissioner may within thirty days of that decision appeal to the Commissioner under section 32. The Commissioner normally disposes of the case, but in the event of a question of law arising reference may be necessary to the High Court. An assessee under section 66 (2) of the original Act is entitled to demand such a reference within one month of the passing of the Commissioner's order. The Commissioner may, however, refuse to state a case on the ground that no question of law arises. In that event the assessee may apply under section 66 (3) to the High Court direct. But under the existing Act no period is prescribed within which an assessee who maintains against the decision of the Commissioner that there is a question of law must apply to the High Court. The result is that such an application may at present be made many months after the Commissioner has refused to pass on the case. Section 9 of the Bill which I propose to introduce prescribes a time limit of one month according with the other time limits prescribed by the original Act for various stages of the Bill. I think it is a very reasonable provision and obviously for the advantage of good administration and therefore of assessees generally. The next amendment proposed in the Bill is rather a technical one. There is no provision in the Act for the assessment of a business, profession or vocation which was in existence at the commencement of the Act which had paid no tax at the time under the provisions of the Income-tax Act and is thereafter discontinued. This is a curious little omission.

The third portion of the Bill is one which is again rather technical owing to the wording of the Provident Insurance Societies Act of 1912 and of the Income-tax Act first of all of 1918 and then of 1922. Certain provident funds of private companies and firms have been found to share in a concession intended for provident funds of a different kind, that is, funds which are in the nature of life insurance. It is proposed to deal with these cases by omitting all reference to Provident Insurance Societies from sections 4(3) (iv) and 15(1) of the original Act.

Finally, there is an omission in the Income-tax Act of 1922 in regard to the assessment of the income, profits or gains of an Association or a Club which is neither a company nor a firm nor a Hindu undivided family. An assessee is defined in the original Act and includes an association or club, but the Income-tax Act of 1923 when it comes to specifying rates of tax proceeds by enumeration and that enumeration omits associations or clubs which are not firms nor a Hindu undivided family. It is proposed in this Bill to remedy that defect.

Mr. President: The question is:

"That leave be given to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes."

The motion was adopted.

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE INDIAN COTTON CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. J. A. Richey (Educational Commissioner): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Indian Cotton Cess Act, 1923, for certain purposes.

It may seem to be early to amend an Act which was passed into law only last year; but it is not always possible to anticipate the effect of working an Act until it has actually been put into operation. The present Bill seeks to amend two small defects in order that the Act may fulfil its original intention. The first amendment seeks to regularise the system by which the cess is collected in the Bombay Presidency. In that presidency Cotton Excise Collectors are for the collection of excise subject to the Collector of Bombay, but for the purpose of collecting this cess they have, by the Act, been placed under the District Collector. This is an anomaly which has been brought to our notice by the Government of Bombay and which the Bill seeks to set right. The second amendment seeks to extend or to empower the extension of the operations of the Indian Cotton Cess Act to the two foreign territories in British India, namely, the French and Portuguese possessions. It was clearly not the intention of the original Act to exempt cotton exported from India by land to these territories. Both these amendments have been recommended by the Indian Central Cotton Committee and I commend them for the acceptance of this House. Sir, I beg for leave to introduce the Bill.

Mr. President: The question is:

“That leave be given to introduce a Bill to amend the Indian Cotton Cess Act, 1923, for certain purposes.”

The motion was adopted.

Mr. J. A. Richey: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

ELECTION OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett (Finance Member): Sir, I beg to move:

“That this Assembly do proceed to elect 8 Members to be members of the Committee on Public Accounts.”

This motion is made in accordance with section 57 of the Indian Legislative Rules which requires that as soon as may be, after the commencement of each financial year, a Committee on Public Accounts shall be constituted and provides that it shall consist of not more than 12 members including the chairman, of whom not less than two-thirds shall be elected by the non-official Members of the Assembly according to the principle of proportional representation. The Committee, when appointed, will be required to deal with the appropriation accounts and audit reports for the year 1924-25. It will probably be possible to have some meetings to deal with the audit reports during the course of February and March; but it will not be possible, in view of the demand on the time of Honourable Members, to proceed to the more important part of the Committee's business until after the Session closes. Probably the most convenient time for that work will be perhaps a fortnight or 10 days before the Simla Session meets later on. The reason why I have mentioned this is that Honourable Members, in putting their names down for election, will, I hope, bear in mind that, if elected, it will be important from the point of view of getting the work done efficiently that they should be available during the summer.

Mr. President: The question is:

“That this Assembly do proceed to elect 8 Members to be members of the Committee on Public Accounts.”

The motion was adopted.

ELECTION OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett (Finance Member): Sir, I beg to move:

“ That this Assembly do proceed to the election, in such method as may be approved by the Honourable the President, of a Standing Finance Committee of the Assembly not exceeding fourteen in number to which shall be added one Member of the Assembly to be nominated by the Governor General. The Member so nominated shall be Chairman of the Committee.”

This Committee, Sir, unlike the last, is not a Statutory Committee. It is appointed in accordance with a Resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 11th March 1922. Its chief duties are to scrutinise all proposals for new votable expenditure in all the departments of the Government of India, to sanction allotments out of lump sum grants, to suggest retrenchment and economy in expenditure and generally to assist the Finance Department of the Government of India by advising on such cases, as may be referred to it by that Department. It will be seen that it is a Committee of very great importance from the point of view of our finance. In this case, unlike the Committee on Public Accounts, the Committee is appointed in accordance, I think, with the terms of the Resolution in respect of the financial year. It will, therefore, be necessary, before the close of this Session, to repeat this motion with a view to the appointment of a Committee for the following financial year.

Mr. President: The question is:

“ That this Assembly do proceed to the election, in such method as may be approved by the Honourable the President, of a Standing Finance Committee of the Assembly not exceeding fourteen in number to which shall be added one Member of the Assembly to be nominated by the Governor General. The Member so nominated shall be Chairman of the Committee.”

The motion was adopted.

Mr. President: I may inform the Assembly that, for the purpose of the election of these two Committees, namely, the Public Accounts Committee and the Standing Finance Committee, the Assembly office will be open to receive nominations up to 4 o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, the 4th February 1924. The election will take place in this Chamber on Wednesday, the 6th February. The election of members to both Committees will be conducted in accordance with the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote. The regulations which have been already made under Standing Order 56 of the Legislative Assembly Standing Orders for the conduct of the election of members of Select Committees for the amendment of Standing Orders shall apply also to the election of members of these two Committees. Copies of these regulations will be supplied to every Member of this House.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 4th February, 1924.