

27th January 1937

**THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES**

(Official Report)

Volume I, 1937

(25th January to 19th February, 1937)

FIFTH SESSION

OF THE

FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

1937



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1937**

M89LAD

Legislative Assembly.

President :

THE HONOURABLE SIR ABDUR RAHIM, K.C.S.I., KT.

Deputy President :

MR. AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA, M.L.A.

Panel of Chairmen :

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MR. S. SATYAMURTI, M.L.A.

SIR LESLIE HUDSON, KT., M.L.A.

SIR COWASJI JEHANGIR, BART., K.C.I.E., O.B.E., M.L.A.

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MIAN MUHAMMAD RAFI, BAR.-AT-LAW.

Assistant of the Secretary :

RAI BAHADUR D. DUTT.

Marshal :

CAPTAIN HAJI SARDAR NUR AHMAD KHAN, M.C., I.O.M., I.A.

Committee on Petitions :

MR. AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA, M.L.A., *Chairman.*

SIR LESLIE HUDSON, KT., M.L.A.

SARDAR SANT SINGH, M.L.A.

MR. M. GHILASUDDIN, M.L.A.

MR. MATHURADAS VISSANJI, M.L.A.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 27th January, 1937.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) in the Chair.

STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE.

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 1056 asked by Dr. N. B. Khare, on the 10th October, 1936.

RENT RECOVERED FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS FROM STATE RAILWAY STAFF AND OUTSIDERS.

Statement showing rent recovered on account of residential buildings during 1935-36.

	North Western Railway.	Great Indian Peninsula Railway.	Eastern Bengal Railway.	Burma Railways.	East Indian Railway
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gazetted staff	1,61,913	91,078	66,811	70,261	1,63,413
Non-Gazetted staff	4,08,612	4,00,459	2,74,879	1,36,750	5,72,468
Outsiders	4,764	2,235	91,937	1,468	2,50,141

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 1401 asked by Mr. Kuladhar Chaliha on the 16th October, 1936.

RAILWAY COLLISION BETWEEN TINSUKIA AND LUMDING DISTRICTS ON THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY.

- (a) Five.
- (b) No.
- (c) and (d). Do not arise.
- (e) Yes.
- (f) No.
- (g) Yes.
- (h) No.

(i) There are four inferior servants at Sapekhati station, in addition to the Station Master and the Assistant Station Master, and whichever one of the latter is on duty is responsible for the correct setting and locking of points.

(j) Books described as Train Reception Books are in use at certain stations.

(k) The books normally remain with the Line Clear Assistant Station Master on duty. The Yard Assistant Station Masters on duty are primarily responsible for points at such junctions.

(l) The normal working hours of an Assistant Station Master on the Assam Bengal Railway are eight hours continuous or 12 hours intermittent. Definite information as regards the practice on other railways is not readily available and Government see no reason to call for it.

(m) The hours of duty of Assistant Station Masters at Mariani, Lumding and Tinsukia are 12, 8 and 8 respectively. These do not contravene the provisions of any Act.

Information promised in reply to part (c) of starred question No. 1424 asked by Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad on the 16th October, 1936.

EXTRA-DEPARTMENTAL POST OFFICES.

(c) Extra-Departmental Branch Offices in India on 1st December, 1936.	{ Permanent	= 17,455
	{ Temporary	= 355
Extra-Departmental Sub-Offices in India on 1st December, 1936.	{ Permanent	= 1,040
	{ Temporary	= 11

Information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 161 asked by Mr. Sham Lal on the 16th October, 1936.

APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN NOTIFICATIONS OR OFFICIAL MEMORANDA TO THE STAFF ON STATE RAILWAYS.

The Notifications or Memoranda referred to in the question were not by themselves applicable to railway servants. The instructions contained in the Home Department's Notification referred to in item 1 of the question were not made applicable to railway servants on State-managed Railways at all. The principles laid down in the Notifications or Memoranda quoted in items 2 to 7 of the question were applied in their entirety to railway servants employed on State-managed Railways. As regards the warning referred to by the Honourable Member, the necessary general warning was issued in the Finance Department Resolution No. D./4523-Ex. I/31, dated the 9th July, 1931, which was applied to the railway servants in question also. This warning covered all cases except those in which a specific warning was required to have been given at a date prior to the 16th July, 1931. This specific warning may have been given in any suitable manner, i.e., individually, collectively or generally.

Information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 238 asked by Mr. V. V. Giri on the 16th October, 1936.

EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON LEE CONCESSION PASSAGES.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred on Lee Concession Passages during the years 1931-32 to 1935-36.

	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Civil (Central and Provincial).	17,73,038	15,72,926	14,24,371	13,10,026	12,97,097
Railways	8,35,360	6,44,880	5,78,784	5,96,402	5,46,632
Defence Services	91,950	55,355	62,271	38,687	52,106

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS. ◀

INTEREST ON ORDINARY DEBT, AND REDUCTION OR AVOIDANCE OF DEBT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg (Finance Member): Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,79,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Interest on Ordinary Debt, and Reduction or Avoidance of Debt'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,79,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Interest on Ordinary Debt, and Reduction or Avoidance of Debt'."

The motion was adopted.

INTEREST ON MISCELLANEOUS OBLIGATIONS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,64,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Interest on Miscellaneous Obligations'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,64,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Interest on Miscellaneous Obligations'."

The motion was adopted.

COUNCIL OF STATE.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 9,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Council of State'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 9,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Council of State'."

The motion was adopted.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEPARTMENT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 80,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Legislative Assembly and Legislative Assembly Department'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 80,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Legislative Assembly and Legislative Assembly Department'."

The motion was adopted.

FOREIGN AND POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 69,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Foreign and Political Department'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 69,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Foreign and Political Department'."

Sir Cowasji Jehangir (Bombay City: Non-Muhammadan Urban): What is the meaning of item (d)—"developments on the frontier and the forthcoming constitutional changes"?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: That means there have been a good many telegrams in connection with the Khaisora operations, and also of course in connection with the forthcoming constitutional changes on the 1st of April, 1937.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: The amount is as much as Rs. 34,000?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Yes; there were pretty considerable operations on the frontier.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: *That* is a considerable amount for telegrams?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: I imagine they are external telegrams, and they are very expensive.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 29,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Foreign and Political Department'."

The motion was adopted.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 21,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Home Department'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 21,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Home Department'."

The motion was adopted.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Public Service Commission'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Public Service Commission'."

The motion was adopted.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 13,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Legislative Department'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 13,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Legislative Department'."

The motion was adopted.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 29,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Finance Department'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 29,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Finance Department'."

The motion was adopted.

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Commerce Department'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Commerce Department'."

The motion was adopted.

EDUCATION.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 54,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Education'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 54,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Education'."

The motion was adopted.

EXPENDITURE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF BROADCASTING MET FROM THE FUND.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Expenditure on the Development of Broadcasting met from the Fund'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Expenditure on the Development of Broadcasting met from the Fund'."

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai (Sind: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I would like to have some information on this demand. At the meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee for the Industries and Labour Department new stations were created and they had to be established. At that time, I laid a claim for Karachi being given a broadcasting station. It was said that those stations—I believe their number was four—have got to be established first, because their requirements were more urgent than those of Karachi. I then explained the position of Karachi and I was glad to see that the Honourable Member in charge of the Department of Industries and Labour gave an expectation—I will not call it a promise—that the next station, that would be established after these stations had been opened, would be Karachi. I would, therefore, like to know from the Honourable Member whether these stations have actually been established, so that I may request the Honourable Member to hasten up the establishment of the broadcasting station at Karachi. Karachi is an important place now, and it cannot be denied that it should be given a broadcasting station as soon as possible. I would, therefore, like to be enlightened on this point.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce (Member for Industries and Labour): Sir, my Honourable friend, Mr. Lalchand Navalrai, is well-known for his provincial patriotism. It is perfectly true, as he says, that he brought this matter up before the Standing Advisory Committee of my Department and that I told him then, as I can only tell him now, that Karachi cannot unfortunately figure in the first stage of the programme for the development of broadcasting. Such funds as we have have been allocated, in accordance with the scheme put before the Standing Finance Committee and which met with their approval, to stations at Delhi, Madras, Calcutta, Bombay, Lahore, Lucknow, Trichinopoly and Dacca and also, as mentioned here, for taking over the small station which already exists at Peshawar. We hope in the course of the next year to get ahead with the first stage of development, namely, the erection of stations at Lahore, Lucknow and Madras (these are medium wave stations) and with the provision of short wave stations for Madras, Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi. I fear that at present there are no funds for Karachi. After next year we shall still have stations to erect and the 40 lakhs which has been set aside as a broadcasting fund will no more than enable us to fulfil our present commitments. I can only hope that the development of broadcasting will be sufficiently rapid to induce my Honourable colleague, the Finance Member, to give further funds when these have been fully utilised—I shall not be here at the time, but, as I have already said, I regard Karachi as entitled to a foremost place, if not the first place, in the further programme of development. My Honourable friend will be able to bring that view up against my successor and possibly also my Honourable colleague's successor.

Sir H. P. Mody (Bombay Millowners' Association: Indian Commerce): Give them a loud speaker in the meantime.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Expenditure on the Development of Broadcasting met from the Fund'."

The motion was adopted.

MINT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 71,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Mint'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 71,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Mint'."

The motion was adopted.

STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,30,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,30,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

The motion was adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 27,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 27,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

Mr. N. M. Joshi (Nominated Non-Official): Sir, may I ask a question and get some information from the Honourable Member in charge of Industries and Labour regarding the Coal Mining Committee? The Government of India have appointed a Coal Mining Committee to consider the question of safety in mines. Last year, a Bill regarding the safety of mines was discussed by the Assembly and during those discussions I had suggested to the Government of India that the Coal Mining Committee which they proposed to appoint should contain a representative of labour on it. I saw the names of the Members of this Committee and I do not find among the names any one who could claim to be a representative of the mining community in this coal area. I would like first of all to ask the Government of India why they did not appoint a man who could represent the mining community on this committee. The question of safety of mines is more important to miners than to anybody else. A mine-owner may lose some amount of money if there is any accident in the mine, but the miners lose their lives. From that point of view, I am quite sure the Honourable Member will admit that if any section represented in the mining industry has a right to be represented on a Committee of this kind, it is the miners. Their interests come first more than the interests of anybody else. It may be said that the Government of India did not want a representative Committee, but that they wanted an expert committee. Sometimes, I find it difficult to understand who is an expert.

I do not know whether my claim to be considered an expert will be accepted by all people, although I am prepared to be representative as well as expert. Somehow the Government of India find these experts among their own officers and among the employers. They do not notice any experts among those people who work in the mines throughout their lives. I feel that it is wrong on the part of the Government not to appoint on a Committee of this kind anybody who will represent the interests of the miners. I would also like the Honourable Member to tell the House something about what Government have been doing in the meanwhile for the protection of the miners. Since we discussed the Bill regarding safety in mines, there has been another accident in the mining area, and I would therefore like the Honourable Member to tell us whether he has taken sufficient and adequate steps to prevent these accidents happening again and again and what those steps are. Perhaps the Honourable Member will give me information on the points which I have raised.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: Sir, in appointing an expert Committee to deal with the question of coal conservation and safety in mines, the Government did what I have so often told the House that I have endeavoured to do. The Government held the scales evenly between capital and labour. They decided to appoint an expert Committee instead of a representative Committee as enquiries made on the subject showed that it was perfectly obvious that there were so many differing views among the mine-owners that a representative Committee would serve no useful purpose. I would remind the House of the constitution of the Committee and I think they will agree that it is a very strong Committee which is likely to submit very valuable recommendations. Its Chairman is Mr. Burrows who was till recently the Commissioner of Burdwan Division in which the majority of the mines in Bengal are situated. He has taken a very special interest in this question, he was the Secretary of the Coal Fields Committee in 1920, and it would be difficult to find a Chairman with a greater knowledge on the subject than he possesses. The two non-official mining experts on the Committee are Mr. Mackie and Mr. Nag, both of whom have a very long experience of coal mines in the Bihar and Bengal coalfields. There is a Geologist, Dr. M. S. Krishnan, there is an Economist, Sir Jehangir Coyajee, and there is another expert—there are altogether six members on the Committee—whose name for the moment has escaped me. I submit that in these gentlemen you have an independent Committee and that that is what you want in dealing with this very highly controversial question which has been under consideration for the last twenty years or so. It is perfectly true that there is no labour representative on it, but there is also no representative of the various mining associations. If we had appointed a labour representative, we should have had to give representation to the Indian Mining Association, the Indian Mining Federation and the Indian Colliery Owner's Association and I think, from what I know of the matter, that they would have had very great difficulty in deciding who should represent them. It is much better, therefore, that the issues should be considered from an entirely independent and detached point of view. Labour interests have been given and will be given every facility to represent their case before the Committee.

My Honourable friend, Mr. Joshi, referred to the lamentable accident at the Poidih colliery, and I am glad he did so because it gives me an

[Sir Frank Noyce.]

opportunity of expressing my deep sympathy with the families of those who suffered in what is perhaps the most tragic disaster in the history of coal mining in India. My Honourable friend asked me what we have done about it and what we are doing now? We have yet to discover the cause of this particular accident and until we do so, it is impossible to decide whether the permanent and temporary regulations that we issued last year need strengthening in any respect. It will be perfectly obvious to my Honourable friend that this disaster, in common with other recent disasters, will come under the purview of the Coal Conservation Committee and we can only hope that they will be in a position to make recommendations to prevent similar accidents in future. They are in a special position to do, as by an extraordinary coincidence, the members of the Committee happen to be in the neighbourhood of the colliery in which the disaster occurred and were the first on the spot and Mr. Barraclough, the Inspector of Mines, whose name I forget just now was the first to enter the mine. Unfortunately conditions in the mine were such that they could do very little in the way of rescue work. The disaster was so complete that no one emerged from the mine alive. I can only once more remind my Honourable friend that this question of safety in mines has engaged our most earnest and anxious consideration for a long time past and that it was for that reason that last year we promulgated certain temporary regulations in the hope that they might prove efficacious in preventing further accidents. It is regrettable that they have not done so in this particular instance. He must wait now until we get the report of the Committee, as I hope we shall do in the next two or three months.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 27,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

The motion was adopted.

AJMER-MERWARA.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 67,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Ajmer-Merwara'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 67,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Ajmer-Merwara'."

Mr. G. Morgan (Bengal: European): Sir, I should like to ask if any action has been taken with regard to item (c) on page 20 which refers to a defalcation of Rs. 23,000.

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai (Secretary, Department of Education, Health and Lands): As a matter of fact, this particular individual who was a clerk at the Government school in Ajmer was prosecuted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Was the money recovered?

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai: Only Rs. 167, unfortunately.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: Was he a schoolmaster?

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai: No, he was the head clerk of the school; he used to get fees from the students, and, instead of remitting the full amount to the treasury, he made short remittances over a period of years.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: And it was never detected for a number of years?

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai: Unfortunately, no. They were detected only in the autumn of 1932 when this clerk happened to be away on casual leave.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: Was there no audit?

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai: There was, but he did it so cleverly that even the audit people were not able to detect the defalcation.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Of course the circumstances of the defalcation are considered by the audit authorities and by the Finance Department, and if the procedure or the regulations require tightening up, that will be done. It is done automatically in connection with every defalcation, and I have no doubt that is being done in this case.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 67,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Ajmer-Merwara'."

The motion was adopted.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,78,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Indian Posts and Telegraphs'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,78,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Indian Posts and Telegraphs'."

Mr. G. Morgan: Can the Honourable Member give us any information as to why the Reserve Bank subsequently cancelled these negotiations?

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: Sir, there are one or two points that arise out of this demand. The first was that there was an anticipated credit of Rs. 14,09,400 on account of the sale of a certain property in Bombay to the Reserve Bank, and evidently that was taken for capital expenditure.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: In reduction of capital expenditure.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: In reduction of capital expenditure of Rs. 41,99,000. What I want to know is this. When real property belonging to departments is sold, how do you credit that? Is it credited to revenue?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: It depends on the circumstances of each particular case. For instance, in the case of the Bombay military lands there is some special arrangement the details of which I cannot at the moment remember. But in the case of a department which has a separate capital account it would definitely be taken in reduction of the capital programme of expenditure. It is definitely a capital receipt. In the case of military lands, there again I have not refreshed my memory recently, but sales of military property are credited to a special account and used for works of a quasi-capital nature, such as housing and barracks, etc. Those are the departments which mostly deal in land and virtually in those cases it is used as a capital and not a revenue receipt. In the case of the Bombay military lands I am not fully cognisant of the details but I will look them up and inform the Honourable Member.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: Is that a new order which the Honourable the Finance Member has passed? I have a recollection that at one time when such monies were obtained by Government they were credited to revenue; and if there was any capital expenditure in the department for that year, such monies went to revenue and were spent. That is my recollection and that is why I raised this question. I raised it once before.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Both this and the Defence Department are for the purpose of capital receipts treated as commercial departments, and certainly in the case of commercial departments capital receipts are used in a capital way and not credited direct to revenue. If it were not a commercial department, it would be otherwise. I shall have to refresh my memory but I imagine that in the other departments capital receipts are of a very small order. In the case of the New Delhi capital project, capital receipts are credited to the capital project for that too is a quasi-commercial concern.

With regard to the question asked by Mr. Morgan, I am afraid I cannot give the Honourable Member any better information than that the Reserve Bank changed their mind and found it cheaper and more suitable to make other arrangements.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,78,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Indian Posts and Telegraphs'."

The motion was adopted.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND RESEARCH.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,92,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Schemes of Agricultural Improvement and Research'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,92,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Schemes of Agricultural Improvement and Research'."

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Sir, as one associated with the question of the Pusa Institute being transferred to Delhi, I feel anxious to know from the Honourable Member, the Secretary in charge of the Education, Health and Lands Department, as to the progress that has been made here, whether the whole thing has been completed, whether the buildings are complete, whether any laboratories have been established, whether training is being given there or not yet, and, lastly, whether the provinces have taken or are likely to take advantage of that institution. I know that the Honourable Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai is an expert in giving all this information briefly, though in his own way very lucidly, and I hope that the House will be interested in knowing something about this institute which, after very great dispute, was transferred from Bihar to Delhi.

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai: Sir, my brevity on this occasion will be even more than customary. Perhaps my Honourable friend will do the Institute, which is complete, the honour of paying it a visit one afternoon. The unusual leisure of the afternoons might be irksome to my Honourable friend, and one particular afternoon might be relieved by a visit to the Institute.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,92,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Schemes of Agricultural Improvement and Research'."

The motion was adopted.

INTEREST-FREE ADVANCES.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I move:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,70,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Interest-free Advances'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,70,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1937, in respect of 'Interest-free Advances'."

Babu Baijnath Bajoria (Marwari Association: Indian Commerce): Sir, may I know what is meant by Objection Book Advances?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: I am afraid I have got to confess to the Honourable Member that I wish I knew: I do not.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,70,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1937, in respect of 'Interest-free Advances'."

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 28th January, 1937.