

ASSAM GOVERNMENT REPORTS.

1. General Report on Public Instruction in Assam, 1940-41.
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2. General Educational Table relating to Assam,
1942-43. 1944. 35 pp.
T. 26157 H3
3. Quinquennial Review of the Progress of Education in
Assam, 1937-1942. 1943. 153 pp.
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General Report on Public Instruction in Assam for the year 1940-41

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SHILLONG

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General Report on Public Instruction in Assam for the year 1940-41

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1. The year was one of all-round progress. In spite of the abnormalities of the times and the disturbed economic and political condition of the country, the educational activities continued unhampered.

The cost of daily necessities and school requisites increased considerably due to the War in Europe which was gradually approaching India, but it is satisfactory to note that it did not damp the eagerness of the people for education.

The inauguration of the Mass Literacy Campaign, the preliminaries in respect of which were settled in the year preceding, will be remembered as a most important event in the history of the progress of education in the Province.

The question of improvement and expansion of Primary Education also received special attention from Government.

A grant of Rs.40,000 was distributed to the Local Boards for expansion of Primary Education in rural areas and a sum of Rs.23,000 was spent for the same purpose in the urban areas. A sum of Rs.4,612 was also spent for non-Government Primary Schools in excluded areas.

The amount spent for the urban areas included grants made to selected Municipalities and Town Committees towards the settlement of preliminaries in connection with the introduction of compulsory Primary Education in their respective areas.

A sum of Rs.71,458 was distributed for the improvement and expansion of Secondary Education in the Province and another sum of Rs.16,324 for non-Government Special schools in non-excluded areas.

The expansion of education among the Tribal people also received special attention. A Tribal Education Conference was held in Shillong, as a result of which more attention was paid to educational needs of these people.

The opening of a co-educational Government High School at Jowai in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills on the 11th February 1941 was also a step forward in providing High School education facilities to the Hill Tribes.

The Collegiate education also recorded a good progress, the number of Colleges increased from 11 to 15 and their enrolment from 3,299 to 3,547.

The Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements and other extra-curricular activities also received due attention.

2. *General Statistics.*—The subjoined table gives the details of both divisions and of the Province as a whole showing the number of institutions, scholars and percentages of increase or decrease for the year compared with those of the preceding year:—

Area	Year	Colleges		High Schools		Middle English Schools		Middle Vernacular Schools		Primary Schools		Special Schools		Unrecognised Schools		All institutions	
		Number	Scholars	Number	Scholars	Number	Scholars	Number	Scholars	Number	Scholars	Number	Scholars	Number	Scholars	Number	Scholars
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Assam	1940-41	15	3,547	154	45,634	369	33,308	274	43,628	8,272	413,432	2,023	49,618	1,529	69,785	12,636	658,952
	1939-40	11	3,299	134	40,573	336	32,530	266	43,088	7,849	393,130	271	7,853	1,668	74,376	10,535	594,849
Percentage of increase or decrease.	..	+36.3	+7.5	+14.9	+12.4	+9.8	+2.3	+3.0	+1.2	+5.3	+5.1	+646.4	+531.8	-8.3	-6.1	+29.1	+10.7
Assam Valley Circle	1940-41	5	1,484	83	25,631	194	18,805	189	34,169	4,111	221,437	1,215	29,499	910	41,036	6,707	372,061
	1939-40	3	1,017	71	22,459	175	18,557	163	33,737	3,856	206,894	175	5,316	937	40,873	5,400	329,153
Percentage of increase or decrease.	..	+66.6	+47.0	+16.9	+14.1	+10.8	+1.3	+3.2	+1.2	+6.6	+7.0	+594.2	+454.9	-2.6	+3	+24.2	+13.0
Surma Valley and Hill Districts	1940-41	10	2,663	71	20,003	175	14,503	85	9,459	4,161	191,995	808	20,119	619	28,749	5,929	286,191
	1939-40	8	1,982	63	18,114	161	13,973	83	9,351	3,993	186,236	96	2,537	731	33,503	5,135	265,696
Percentage of increase or decrease.	..	+25	+34.0	+12.6	+11.4	+8.6	+3.7	+2.4	+1.1	+4.2	+3.0	+741.6	+693.0	-15.3	-14.1	+15.4	+7.9

The number of all kinds of institutions increased from 10,535 to 12,636 or by 29·9 per cent. and their enrolment from 594,849 to 658,952 or by 10·7 per cent.

✓ The total expenditure on education increased from Rs.64,01,619 to Rs.67,04,270, *i.e.*, by Rs.3,02,651 or 4·7 per cent.

The expenditure from Provincial Revenue increased from Rs.34,97,388 to Rs.36,88,042, *i.e.*, by Rs.1,90,654 or 5·4 per cent.

The average annual cost in educating each pupil in a Primary School for boys was Rs.4-0-6 and that for girls Rs.3-12-8 ; in a Middle School for boys Rs.11-5-0 and for girls Rs.13-1-8 ; in High School for boys the cost was Rs.36-7-1 and for girls Rs.51-8-9 ; in Special Schools for boys Rs.5-10-3 and for girls Rs.16-6-1.

In Arts Colleges for men the annual cost per student was Rs.172-3-4 and for women Rs.159-15-0, and in the Law College Rs.227-6-11.

3. *Education in the Legislative Assembly and the Council.*—During the year under report many educational matters were discussed in both the Chambers of the legislature. There was no serious attempt to effect reduction in the education budget, rather the demand was for provision of more funds for the expansion of education in all directions.

CHAPTER II

CONTROLLING AGENCIES

4. *Direction.*—Mr. G. A. Small, I.E.S., was in charge of the Department for the whole year. He was out on tour for 86 days and visited Delhi, Madras, Simla, Gauhati, Barpeta, Jorhat, Silchar, Karimganj, Sylhet, Kohima, Jowai and Cherrapunji.

5. *Assistant Director of Public Instruction, Assam.*—Khan Bahadur Maulavi Aatur Rahman held the post since its creation, that is from 6th May 1940 till the close of the year. In addition to this he discharged the duties of the Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muslim Education. His work was characterised by zeal and devotion as usual.

As Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muslim Education he was on tour for 16 days and visited 34 Schools and Madrasas. He also attended meetings of the Board of Secondary and Intermediate Examination, Dacca, Boy Scout Conference at Delhi, etc.

The appointment of Assistant Director of Public Instruction has relieved the Director of Public Instruction of a considerable volume of his routine work, and in view of the steady increase of work in all directions this relief has been very much appreciated.

6. *Inspection.*—Mr. S. C. Goswami, I.S.O., was in charge of the Assam Valley Circle throughout the whole year. He was out on tour for 250 days and visited 52 High, 51 Middle, 46 Primary and 16 Special Schools. He also inspected one Deputy Inspector's office, one Headmaster's office and one Local Board office.

In addition to these he attended meetings of the Assam Sanskrit Board, Provincial Mass Literacy Committee, Triennial Conference of the All-India Boy Scout Association at Delhi, the All-Assam Boy Scout Jamboree at Shillong and many other educational committees and conferences. He also organised the Olympic Games at Jorhat and the Upper Assam Inter High School Tournament. His valuable services deserve recognition.

Dr. S. C. Gupta held charge of the Surma Valley and Hill Districts from the beginning of the year till his death on the 24th January 1941. He was out on tour for 178 days and visited 63 Secondary, 41 Primary and 24 Special Schools. He also inspected 2 offices of the Deputy Inspector of Schools and attended educational meetings and conferences.

The Department lost an able and trusted officer in the sudden and premature death of Dr. Gupta.

After him the charge of the division was held by Rai Sahib K. C. Purkayastha, M.A., B.T., in addition to his own duties as the Assistant Inspector of Schools. During this short period of 2 months and 5 days he was on tour for 33 days and visited 5 High, 1 Middle and 2 Primary Schools. He also attended prize-distribution meetings, Central Mass Literacy Committee and the All-Assam Boy Scout Jamboree held in Shillong.

7. *Assistant Inspectors*.—Rai Sahib K. C. Purkayastha was in charge of the office of the Assistant Inspector of Schools, Surma Valley and Hill Districts except for the period from 19th October to 23rd November 1940 when he was on leave and Maulvi Abdul Wahed, Special Deputy Inspector for Muslim Education acted for him.

He was on tour for 118 days and visited 49 Secondary, 39 Primary and 12 Special Schools and inspected 2 offices of the Deputy Inspector of Schools. Besides these he attended prize-giving meetings, Tournaments, Moderation Board meeting and a conference of Middle School Teachers.

Maulavi Abdul Wahed held the office of the Assistant Inspector of Schools from 19th October to 23rd November, 1940, in addition to his own duties. During this period he was on tour for 16 days and visited 4 Secondary, 20 Primary and 1 Special School.

In the Assam Valley Circle Srijut Sankhadhar Barua held the office of the Assistant Inspector of Schools for the whole year. He was on tour for 112 days and visited 32 High, 36 Middle and 52 Primary Schools, besides two offices of the Deputy Inspector of Schools, and attended many educational committees and conferences.

He also worked as Secretary to the Board of Moderators for the Normal School Examination and conducted the Practical Test of the Jorhat Normal School both for the Gurus and the Third Year Normal candidates.

8. *Special Deputy Inspector of Schools for Muslim Education*.—Maulavi Md. Abdul Wahed was in charge of the office for the whole year. He was on tour for 184 days and visited 74 secondary, 125 Primary and 11 Special Schools. He also attended sports tournaments, prize-distribution meetings, Moderation Boards and Text Book Committees.

He continued to do good work.

9. *Inspectress of Schools*.—The post of Inspectress of Schools was revived and Miss S. Sen was appointed to hold charge of the office since 12th October, 1940. She was on tour for 156 days and visited 14 High, 36 Middle, 153 Primary and 2 Training Schools.

10. *Assistant Inspectress of Schools*.—Miss Sen was in charge of the office till 11th October 1940, and from the day following she was appointed as Inspectress of Schools. Her work as Assistant Inspectress was always appreciated and she has deservedly earned promotion to the rank of Inspectress.

Miss B. Thomas, T.D. T.C. (London), was appointed as Assistant Inspectress with effect from 4th September 1940. She was on tour for 78 days and visited 45 Primary and 15 Middle Schools and 1 Training School.

11. *Deputy Inspectors of Schools*.—All the Deputy Inspectors of Schools worked satisfactorily. There were however a few cases of short touring due to absence on leave, Census Work or similar reasons.

The following Deputy Inspectors of Schools are particularly mentioned for good work:—

ASSAM VALLEY CIRCLE

1. Maulavi Abdur Rahman.
2. Srijut Karuna Kanta Barua.
3. Srijut Santapal Das.

SURMA VALLEY AND HILL DISTRICTS

1. Babu Surendra Nath Kar.
2. Babu Manomohan Majumdar.
3. Maulavi Omar Ali Barlaskar.
4. Babu Narendra Chandra Bhattacharyya.

12. *Sub-Inspectors of Schools*.—Almost all the Sub-Inspectors of Schools worked satisfactorily. In the Surma Valley all the Sub-Inspectors could put in minimum number of tour days but in the Assam Valley two of the Sub-Inspectors could not.

The divisional reports mention the following Sub-Inspectors for good work :—

ASSAM VALLEY CIRCLE

1. Maulvi Harun-al Rashid.
2. Srijut Sibnath Gogoi.
3. Srijut Rajani Kanta Goswami.
4. Maulvi Wahidur Rahman.
5. Srijut Mahendra Nath Gohain.
6. Srijut Bandhuras Kachari.

SURMA VALLEY AND HILL DISTRICTS

1. Babu Harasundar Bhattacharyya.
2. Babu Ramesh Chandra De.
3. Babu Tarak Nath Chakravarty.
4. Maulvi Syed Abdur Rahim.
5. Maulvi Abdul Gaffur Choudhury.
6. Maulvi Muzakkir Ali Chaudhury.
7. Maulvi Mahibur Rahman Choudhury.
8. Maulvi Ataur Rahman.

13. *Mass Literacy Staff.*—The staff consists of one Mass Literacy Officer, 3 Assistant Mass Literacy Officers (one for Surma Valley and 2 for the Assam Valley) and 1 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, one for each of the plains subdivisions. There are also 19 clerks for the Mass Literacy work, one for each of the Deputy Inspectors of Schools in the plains and two in the office of the Mass Literacy Officer at Gauhati.

The Mass Literacy Officer, Srijut Kamakhya Nath Thakur, B.A., B.T., has been working quite satisfactorily since the inception of the scheme. The other officers were appointed only towards the end of the year and reports go to show that they have also taken up the work in right earnest.

These officers are all temporary and should be made permanent.

The staff also needs further strengthening.

14. *Need for strengthening.*—The number of secondary schools in the Surma Valley and Hill Districts has come to 300 and it is not possible for one Inspector and one Assistant Inspector of Schools to visit them all even once a year, not to speak of visiting a percentage of Primary Schools.

The charge of the Assam Valley Circle with Naga Hills and Manipur is too big for one Inspector and one Assistant Inspector to manage.

The female inspecting staff of one Inspectress and one Assistant Inspectress is also too inadequate and needs strengthening by at least one more Assistant Inspectress and some District Inspectresses.

An officer is also needed for the inspection and supervision of Sanskrit Tols.

The sub-inspectorate is still very weak. On an average 134 primary schools are in charge of each Sub-Inspector in the Surma Valley and Hill Districts, and 147 in the Assam Valley Circle.

The clerical staff of the Head office and the Divisional and Subdivisional offices also need strengthening with a view to coping with the steady increase of work.

15. *Local Boards and Municipalities.*—The relation between the Local Bodies and the Department was reported, on the whole, to be satisfactory, although instances were not rare of the Board's executive taking direct action without consulting the Departmental officers.

The Surma Valley report described the relation as "one of great strain" and urges the necessity of placing the administration of Board Schools in the hands of an "independent" body.

16. *Expenditure from Local and Municipal Boards.*—The Local Boards and Municipalities spent from their own resources Rs.6,90,736 and Rs.1,34,443, against Rs.6,87,287 and Rs. 1,41,182, respectively in the preceding year.

17. *University*.—The question of establishment of a University in Assam was receiving special consideration of Government.

18. *Mission and other agencies*.—The Welsh Presbyterian Mission was gradually withdrawing from the field of education, but the various other missions and private bodies continued their educational activities as before. A new Mission—The Indo-Burma Pioneer Mission—started its activities for the education of the Hill Tribes in the Silchar subdivision.

The Assam Oil Company at Digboi continued to maintain all their Middle English, Primary and Special schools.

The Assam-Bengal Railway continued to maintain one Middle English and two Primary Schools in the Surma Valley and two Middle English Schools in the Assam Valley.

The Assam Railway Trading Company in Dibrugarh also maintain and subsidise a few schools.

The Assam Tribal and Labour Welfare Association subsidises and supervises a number of Primary Schools.

The Ram Krishna Mission also continued to run a number of schools specially for tribal and the scheduled caste people.

19. *Civil Officers*.—The Divisional and Subdivisional reports acknowledge gratefully, the help, co-operation and courtesy received from officers of other Departments, particularly the District and Subdivisional Officers.

20. *Log Book Circular*.—The Log Book Circular was followed in all subdivisions with good results.

21. *Educational Services*.—The following table compares the strength of the various educational services for the last two years:—

Service	Sanctioned strength		Number of posts in occupation	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
1	2	3	4	5
Indian Educational Service	2	4	2	3
Assam Educational Service	86	68	86	66
Assam School Service	460	447	445	446
Assam Lower School Service	310	297	306	297
Posts outside the Graded Service	574	559	572	559
Ministerial Service	159	135	159	135

CHAPTER III

COLLEGIATE EDUCATION

22. *General*.—The number of Arts Colleges for both men and women increased from 10 to 14 and their enrolment from 3,235 to 3,494.

The number of Arts Colleges for men alone was 10, including the Government Sanskrit College, against 8 of the preceding year; and their enrolment was 3,331 against 3,127.

The enrolment in the Government Sanskrit College at Sylhet was 25 only.

Discipline was on the whole satisfactory.

The total expenditure on Government Arts Colleges including the Government Sanskrit College was Rs.5,09,179 of which Rs.3,86,776 was in direct and Rs.1,22,403 in indirect charges against Rs.4,21,848 and Rs.1,26,362 respectively of the preceding year.

The total direct expenditure on the Government Sanskrit College was Rs.13,342.

During the year under report Government sanctioned a new Class of service consisting of the post of Assistant Lecturer in Government Arts Colleges to be called Class III of the Assam Educational Service.

The amount of Government contribution to non-Government Arts Colleges for men slightly decreased from Rs.27,111 to Rs.26,480 but to those for women increased from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 11,600.

The cost for each student in the Cotton College for the year was Rs.257, of which Government paid Rs.171 or 67 per cent. and the students Rs.86 or 33 per cent., as against Rs.288, Rs.201 and Rs.87 respectively in the preceding year.

In the Murarichand College the total cost per student for the year was Rs.302, of which Government paid Rs.222 or 73 per cent. and the student Rs.80 or 27 per cent., as against Rs.292, Rs.216 and Rs.76 respectively of the previous year.

COTTON COLLEGE

23. *Charge.*—Mr. S. C. Roy was in charge of the college till the 15th June 1940, when he was transferred to the Murarichand College, and Rai Bahadur B. C. Sen Gupta remained in charge during the remaining period. Rai Bahadur was ever watchful and spared no pains to secure the welfare of the students of the college.

Provision was made for expansion of Intermediate and Degree science classes in the college during the year under report. The academic life of the college went on smoothly.

24. *Staff.*—The staff of the college consisted of 45 members including one Lady member, Dr. (Mrs.) Kamala Roy.

The college sustained a loss by the retirement of Professor P. C. Roy, Head of the Department of English and Vice-Principal during the year under report.

25. *Enrolment.*—The enrolment of the college went up considerably and reached the peak figures of 1,045 against 995 in the preceding year.

The distribution of the enrolment, class by class, is shown below :—

Year	Class				
	I	II	III	IV	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1940-41	426	269	185	165	1,045
1939-40	355	317	139	184	995

There were 75 women students in the college against 76 of the previous year.

26. *Examination results.* - Examination results of the Cotton College for the last two years are given below :—

College	Year	B.A.			B.Sc.			I.A.			I.Sc.		
		Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success	Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success	Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success	Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Cotton College	1940-41	130	87	66.9	24	21	87.5	182	144	79.1	99	94	94.9
	1939-40	162	129	79.6	22	22	100	192	151	78.6	68	77	87.5

27. *Affiliation, etc.*—The college has been affiliated in Zoology up to the intermediate standard and in Botany to the Degree standard during the year under report.

Games and sports continued to be popular as usual. The college maintained its traditions in football and tennis during the inter collegiate tournament and won three competitions, *viz.*, the Prasenjit Cup, the Serawgi Shield and the Rai Sahib Shield.

Rowing and Swimming continued to receive considerable attention.

Mutual Aid Fund.—The fund was a great help to its members by advancing loans without interest in respect of college and examination fees, cost of books etc.

Hostels.—The hostels were well managed and their Superintendents did their best for the welfare of the boarders.

College hospitals.—Dr. D. Barua, the Medical Officer in charge, took all possible care and prompt action in all cases of infection.

28. *Acknowledgment.*—The Principal makes special mention of the following members of the staff who rendered very valuable services and substantial help:—

1. Professor Harsha Nath Sen.
2. " Lakshmi Narayan Chatterjee.
3. " Bhuban Mohon Sen.
4. " S. M. Muhibulla.
5. " Uma Kanta Goswami.
6. " Sarat Chandra Chatterjee.
7. " Robindra Nath Das.
8. " Radha Kanta Das.
9. " Atul Chandra Dutta.
10. " Mathura Nath Goswami.
11. " Indu Bhushan Sarkar.
12. " Dibakar Goswami.
13. " Sures Chandra Rajkhowa.
14. " Rohini Kumar Baruah.
15. " Hiranya Chandra Bhuyan.
16. " Harish Chandra Goswami.
17. Dr. Imran Hussain Choudhury.

MURARICHAND COLLEGE

29. *Charge.*—Mr. S. C. Roy, I.E.S., was in charge of the college except for the earlier period of the year from April to June 1940, when Mr. B. C. Sen Gupta acted as Principal.

Khan Bahadur A. A. Sayied, the permanent Principal retired from service from 16th June 1940. On his retirement the college lost an able and efficient administrator and an erudite scholar of Islamic language.

30. *Staff.*—The staff consisted of 35 members. There were some change in the personnel of the staff due to transfers and retirements which occurred during the year.

31. *Affiliation, etc.*—There was no extension of affiliation of the college during the year under report.

The enrolment of the college showed a decline from 825 to 751. The decline was attributed to the establishment within the town of two private colleges—one for men and the other for women students, and to the provision made by the University for allowing failed students to appear at the University Examinations without joining any college.

The distribution of the enrolment at the close of the year is given below:—

Year	Classes				
	I	II	III	IV	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1940-41	196	243	141	171	751
1939-40	260	243	166	156	825

There were 30 women students against 38 of the preceding year.

32. *Examination results.*—The University examination results were excellent as will appear from the following table :—

College	Year	B. A.			B.Sc.			I A.			I.Sc.		
		Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success	Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success	Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success	Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Murarichand College.	1940-41	161	127	78·8	22	17	77·2	211	141	66·8	60	54	90
	1939-40	146	115	78·7	25	19	76	185	125	67·5	58	50	86·2

33. *Games and Sports.*—Facilities for various games and sports were provided as usual. The Principal emphasised the need for the appointment of a Physical Instructor and the construction of a well-equipped Gymnasium. The Inspector of Colleges writes : ‘It is a pity that such a big institution, maintained by the Government, has no Physical Instructor in its staff. The College, it must be admitted, takes great care in providing adequate facilities for games and sports for the students ; the want of a Physical Instructor, however, cannot be remedied by merely providing facilities x x x’.

34. *Hostels.*—Unlike the two preceding years, there was a great rush of students for seats in both the Hindu and Muslim hostels.

Attempts were made to promote Inter-communal Harmony, through Moral and Religious Society, but the College Union could not be revived owing to lack of a spirit of compromise. The students, however, offered their services in connection with the Mass Literacy Campaign and managed night schools and helped in clearing jungles in the college compound and in village welfare works in the neighbourhood through Janamangal Sangha and other organisations.

35. *Funds.*—Several funds were maintained and were of great help to the students in times of need. These were the Games Fund, the Examination Fund, the Mutual Aid Fund, etc.

36. *Acknowledgment.*—The Principal makes special commendation of the services of the following members of the staff for good work during the year :

‘All the members of the staff, including the Vice-Principal, the Superintendents of Hostels, loyally co-operated with me and rendered valuable services to the college, whenever they were called upon to assist me.

I would specially commend the services of the following members of the staff :—

1. Professor J. M. Datta.
2. „ Majd-ud-din Ahmed.
3. „ S. N. Sen.
4. „ P. C. Sanyal.
5. „ N. C. Seal.
6. „ S. M. Chakravarty.
7. „ G. C. Datta.
8. „ S. N. Chakravarti.
9. „ J. K. Chaudhury.
10. „ A. Munim Chaudhuri.
11. „ U. K. Dutt.
12. „ S. K. Roy Chaudhuri.
13. „ Dinesh Chandra Datta.
14. „ P. K. Raha.
15. „ M. C. Das.

GOVERNMENT SANSKRIT COLLEGE, SYLHET

37. The institution continues its useful work for the advancement of Sanskrit education and culture, a note in respect of which may be seen in Chapter VII.

NON-GOVERNMENT COLLEGES

38. The demand for collegiate education continues unabated. The number of non-Government colleges affiliated to the Calcutta University rose from 7 to 10 (7 for men and 3 for women), and their enrolment from 1,391 to 1,625.

There is also one women's college at Sylhet, which has been affiliated to the University after the close of the year with an enrolment of 48 students.

39. *Lady Keane College for women, Shillong*.—The enrolment of the college was 55 against 51 in the preceding year.

The examination results were very satisfactory. Sixteen students were sent up for the I. A. examination of whom 14 were successful—one student stood first in the Province. For the B. A. examination 6 were sent up and 3 passed—one receiving Honours in Bengali and the other two Distinctions.

40. *St. Mary's College for women, Shillong*.—The college with its B.T. and L.T. training classes continued its useful work, although its enrolment decreased from 61 to 45.

41. *R. H. Girls' College, Gauhati*.—The college was named after the donor Rai Bahadur Radhakanta Handique of Jorhat, who made a princely donation of Rs.20,000. The enrolment was 15 only. Government sanctioned, beside handing over the I.E.S. quarters No.II together with a plot of land covering an area of about 12,000 s. ft. for the college, a grant of Rs.500 per mensem since the close of the year under report.

42. *St. Edmund's College, Shillong*.—The enrolment in the College Department remained at 159, as in the previous year, including 78 in the B. T. Class. The examination results of the college were excellent. In the B. T. examination one student secured the 2nd place in the University and 6 were placed in the First Division. In the B. A. examination 10 candidates were presented and 9 were successful.

43. *Jagannath Barooah College, Jorhat*.—The college is affiliated to the Calcutta University up to the B. A. and the B. Com. standards. The extension of affiliation to the I. Sc. standard is still under consideration of the University.

The enrolment of the college increased from 275 to 323. The examination results were quite satisfactory.

44. *Brindaban College, Habiganj*.—The enrolment of the college rose from 262 to 299. The college sent the first batch this year for the B. A. examination and the results were satisfactory.

45. *Gurucharan College, Sulcha*.—The college is affiliated to the Calcutta University up to the B. A. standard. Its enrolment increased from 200 to 212. It continues to make progress and gain in popularity.

46. *St. Anthony's College, Shillong*.—The enrolment of the college decreased from 154 to 130.

The examination results were quite satisfactory.

47. *Madan Mohon College, Sylhet*.—The enrolment of the college was 70. It is affiliated to the Calcutta University up to the I. A. standard only.

48. *Madhab Chowdhury College, Barpeta*.—The enrolment of the college was 48. It is also affiliated to the Calcutta University up to the I. A. standard only.

49. *Sylhet Women's College, Sylhet*.—The college has secured affiliation up to the I.A. standard after the close of the year. Its enrolment was 48.

CHAPTER IV
SECONDARY EDUCATION (BOYS)

50. *Statistics.*—The number of high and middle schools for Indian boys rose from 658 to 708 and their enrolment from 102,395 to 107,635.

The table below compares the enrolment, class by class, for the last two years in each division and in the province:—

Area	A	B	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	Totals
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1940-41													
Assam Valley Circle	6,254	4,369	3,987	3,690	11,228	12,399	10,151	7,324	3,298	2,615	2,231	1,979	69,525
Surma Valley and Hill Districts.	1,876	1,366	1,334	1,369	6,807	7,061	5,846	4,593	2,467	2,103	1,791	1,461	38,079(a)
Province ..	8,130	5,735	5,321	5,059	18,035	19,460	15,997	11,917	5,765	4,723	4,022	3,440	107,604(a)
1939-40													
Assam Valley Circle	6,683	4,476	4,084	3,810	10,825	11,661	9,294	6,713	2,939	2,350	1,974	1,757	66,566
Surma Valley and Hill Districts.	1,870	1,318	1,350	1,373	6,349	6,544	5,489	4,252	2,298	1,883	1,691	1,351	35,798
Province ..	8,553	5,824	5,434	5,183	17,174	18,205	14,783	10,965	5,237	4,233	3,665	3,108	102,364

(a) Excludes 31 pupils of "Hafiz" class.

51. *Expenditure.*—The total direct expenditure on high and middle English schools for Indian boys rose from Rs.20,92,483 to Rs.22,11,145 as shown below:—

Direct expenditure from—	1940-41	1939-40	Increase or decrease
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Provincial Revenues	9,88,168	9,44,054	+44,114
Board Funds	1,96,113	2,04,265	—8,152
Municipal Funds	22,572	21,512	+1,060
Fees	8,84,947	8,04,098	+80,849
Other sources	1,19,345	1,18,554	+791
Total	22,11,145	20,92,483	+1,18,662

The decrease in expenditure from Board Funds was due to the fact that the North Sylhet Local Board was relieved of the charge of maintaining the Middle Vernacular Schools since September 1939 and the Habiganj Local Board withdrew its grants-in-aid to the Middle English Schools.

52. *High Schools.*—The number of High Schools for Indian boys rose from 115 to 131 and their enrolment from 35,177 to 39,522. The total direct expenditure in respect of these schools rose from Rs.13,56,153, to Rs.14,40,362 of which Rs.7,64,051 was met from Government funds, Rs.6,26,163, from fees and the balance from other sources.

The number of Government High Schools for boys rose from 21 to 22 and their enrolment from 10,347 to 10,614. The total direct expenditure in respect of these schools decreased from Rs.7,23,146 to Rs.7,19,132. The fee income amounted to Rs.1,76,860 against Rs. 1,73,414 in the preceding year.

The number of Aided High Schools for boys increased from 79 to 94 and their enrolment from 21,243 to 25,182. The total direct expenditure on these schools rose from Rs.5,41,076 to Rs.6,29,776, of which Rs.2,22,093 was met from Government grants, Rs.3,89,891 from fees and the balance from other sources.

The number of unaided high schools for boys remained at 15 as in the preceding year, but their enrolment increased from 3,587 to 3,726. The expenditure on these schools was Rs.91,454, of which Rs.59,412 was met from fee income and the rest from other sources.

The cost per pupil in a Government High School for boys was Rs.67-12-0, of which Rs.51-0-8 was met from Government funds, and that in an Aided High School was Rs.25-0-1, of which Rs.8-13-1 was met from Government grants, Rs.15-7-8 from fee income and the balance from other sources.

In an unaided High School the cost per pupil was Rs.24-8-8, of which Rs.15-15-1 was met from fees and the rest from other sources.

53. *Middle English Schools.*—The number of Middle English Schools for Indian boys rose from 305 to 334 and their enrolment from 27,568 to 28,294. The expenditure increased from Rs.4,11,249 to Rs.4,45,898, of which Rs.1,17,986 was met from provincial revenues.

The number of Government Middle English Schools remained at 5 with an enrolment of 802 pupils against 876 of the preceding year. The expenditure on these schools rose from Rs.21,546 to Rs.22,028 against the fee income of Rs.5,052.

The number of aided Middle English Schools rose from 221 to 262 and their enrolment from 19,030 to 21,510. The total direct expenditure rose from Rs.2,91,836 to Rs.3,36,515, of which Rs.97,621 was met from Government grants, Rs.1,76,725 from fees and Rs.19,735 from Board and Municipal funds and the balance from other sources.

54. *Middle Vernacular Schools.*—The number of Middle Vernacular Schools for boys rose from 238 to 243 and their enrolment from 39,619 to 39,819.

There were 16 Government Middle Vernacular Schools with an enrolment of 2,914 pupils. The expenditure on them rose from Rs.52,552 to Rs.53,281, while that on the non-Government Middle Vernacular Schools fell from Rs.2,72,529 to Rs.2,71,604, of which Rs.53,425 was met from Government grants, Rs.1,88,535 from Board and Municipal funds and the rest from other sources.

In the Surma Valley the Middle Vernacular Schools are losing in popularity while the case in the Assam Valley is quite the contrary.

The Middle Vernacular Schools create a class of educated people who live and work in villages. The introduction of vernacular as the medium of instruction in High Schools is another factor for which this class of schools should be encouraged with liberal Government grants.

55. *Optional English Classes in Middle Vernacular Schools.*—18 Middle Vernacular Schools in the Surma Valley and 52 in the Assam Valley have these classes against 21 and 56 respectively in the preceding year.

The move for separation of the English classes and constituting them into independent Middle English Schools is taking shape in some places.

It would be well to revive the old system of Middle English Schools and Middle English Examinations under which the full Middle Vernacular course had to be taught in Middle English Schools with the addition of English and the Middle English Examination consisted of all the Middle Vernacular Examination papers plus English.

The scheme of Middle School course needs revision for the purpose and the standard of Middle English Examination should be raised up to that of present class VIII in High English Schools and the public examination at the end of the Middle English course should be compulsory for all boys of class VIII in High Schools.

56. *Matriculation Examination.*—The table below shows the percentage of passes in the Matriculation Examination from all classes of boys' schools for the last two years (percentage being taken against the number of pupils in the top class):—

Area	Government schools		Aided schools		Unaided schools		All institutions	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
Province	66.3	69.3	43.7	51.0	37.0	41.5	51.6	57.7
Assam Valley .. .	63.0	66.1	39.9	53.8	36.5	44.1	47.7	57.8
Surma Valley and Hill Districts ..	69.8	73.3	47.4	49.0	50.0	21.7	56.1	57.5

It may be mentioned here that Sriman Golock Chandra Bhuyan of the Cotton Collegiate School stood first in English in the Calcutta University in the Matriculation Examination of 1940 and was awarded Arun Chandra Medal and Prize by the University.

In the examination of 1941 the results achieved by the Assam boys were of unique distinction—of which the educationists, nay the whole public of Assam, may well be proud. Out of the first ten places as many as four (including the first, second and third) were occupied by Assam boys.

The first position in the University was secured by Sriman Kailash Chandra Bhattacharyya from Nalbari Government Aided High School. This is the first time that an Assamese boy has topped the list of successful candidates at the Matriculation Examination in the whole University.

The second place was occupied by a boy from the Sylhet Government High School, the 3rd from the Shillong Jail Road High School and the sixth from the Sonaram Aided High School.

The boys, the Headmasters and their assistants of these schools deserve congratulation. The only other precedent for such brilliant success in this Province was in 1931, when Habiganj Government High School boys occupied the first, fourth, 8th and 10th places in the University Matric Examination.

57. *Middle School Examination results.*—The table below shows the results of the Assam Middle School Leaving Certificate and Scholarship Examination held in December 1940:—

Groups	Year	Number presented	Number passed	Percentage of success
1	2	3	4	5
I and II	1940-41	1,965	1,229	62·5
	1939-40	1,825	1,132	62·0
I and III	1940-41	2,500	1,778	71·1
	1939-40	2,267	1,578	69·6
I and IV	1940-41	337	240	71·2
	1939-40	309	204	66·0
I and V	1940-41	55	34	61·8
	1939-40	50	22	44·0
I and VI	1940-41	30	25	83·3
	1939-40	10	6	60·0
Total	1940-41	4,887	3,306	67·6
	1939-40	4,461	2,942	65·9

58. *Medical inspection.*—The medical inspection of pupils of Government High Schools continued as in the past. The general opinion is that much good can be expected to result from this if inspections are undertaken according to a plan for which it is necessary to employ separate school medical officers.

59. *Ambulance classes.*—These classes continued to be held in most of the Government High Schools. There is need for extension of such classes and a larger number of boys in our schools should be encouraged to attend and qualify themselves for St. John's Ambulance Certificates.

60. *Manual Training.*—There is provision for Manual Training in the Government High Schools at Sylhet, Karimganj and Dibrugarh.

In Dhubri Government High School, a Hand-work class has been arranged through private efforts and pupils are being trained to turn out useful articles, viz., pen-holders, painting brushes, shuttle cocks, dusters, rulers, toys, etc.

Gardening is done in some schools with satisfactory results. Officers of Agriculture Department often help our teachers with valuable instructions in this direction.

It has become of imperative necessity to arrange for vocational training in all high schools as the University now demands that the candidates for Matric Examination must have gone through a course of vocational training.

61. *Acknowledgment.*—The Inspectors of Schools commend the following Headmasters and Headmistresses for good work.

SURMA VALLEY AND HILL DISTRICTS

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOLS

1. Babu Abinash Chandra Chaudhury.
2. Maulvi Mafizur Rahman.
3. Babu Sarada Charan Ganguli.
4. Maulvi Arshad Ali.
5. Miss Sumati Majumdar.

AIDED HIGH SCHOOLS

1. Babu Sitangshu Sekhor Das, M. A., Headmaster, Aided High School, Sylhet.
2. Babu Digindra Nath Das, M.A., Headmaster, Raja G. C. High School, Sylhet.
3. Babu Satya Bhusan Choudhury, M. A., Headmaster, Rasomoy Memorial High School, Sylhet.
4. Miss M. Choudhury, B.A., B.T., Headmistress, Government Aided Girls' High School, Silchar.
5. Babu Satish Chandra Sikidar, B.A., Headmaster, Jail Road Boys' High School, Shillong.
6. Babu Suresh Chandra Hom Choudhury, M. A., B. T., Headmaster, Bhadeswar High School.

ASSAM VALLEY CIRCLE

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOLS

1. Maulvi Saifuddin Ahmad.
2. Srijut Bharat Chandra Chaliha.
3. Khan Sahib Zahiruddin Ahmad.
4. Srijut Lakheswar Sarma Barua.

AIDED HIGH SCHOOLS

1. Srijut Mani Ram Das, Nalbari.
2. Babu Kshitish Chandra Bose, Tezpur Bengali High School.
3. Maulvi Azizur Rahman, Nazira.
4. Srijut Jnan Chandra Bora, Nowgong Dawson High School.
5. Srijut S. N. Sarma, B.A., B.T., Headmaster, Sonaram Government Aided High School.

CHAPTER V

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

62. *Statistics.*—The table below gives the number of primary schools and pupils in them for the last two years :—

Year	Number of Primary Schools for		All	Number of Pupils in Primary Schools for		All
	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1940-41	7,166	1,106	8,272	368,347	45,085	413,432
1939-40	6,842	1,007	7,849	352,524	40,606	393,130
Increase	+324	+99	+423	+15,823	+4,479	+20,302

The increase in the number of both schools and pupils shows the increasing demand for expansion of primary education. The large number of primary schools which are still awaiting financial assistance is being added to by newer schools cropping up in different localities. This is mainly due to the encouragement given by Government by way of grants given to the local bodies for taking over venture schools in their respective areas.

The divisional reports stress the necessity of a well-planned scheme for the expansion of primary education.

63. *Wastage.*—The following table gives an idea of the continual wastage in the number of pupils in primary schools :—

ENROLMENT

Year	Class A	Class B	Class I	Class II	Class III
1	2	3	4	5	6
1940-41	165,529	86,247	71,022	54,509	35,246
1939-40	162,030	81,786	64,997	50,813	32,845

WASTAGE

Year	Between A & B	Between B & I	Between I & II	Between II & III
1	2	3	4	5
1940-41	75,783	10,764	10,488	15,567
1939-40	72,275	10,974	10,242	14,440

Wastage continues to be large. Its causes and remedies were dealt with in the preceding reports. No further comments appear necessary. It would add to the efficiency of Primary Schools if the classes could be arranged in two grades of Lower Primary—consisting of Classes A, B, I & II and Upper Primary consisting of Classes I, II, III and IV, the latter combining the top two classes of the present Lower Primary Schools with the bottom two classes of Middle English and High English Schools and holding optional English classes in the Classes III and IV. Classes A and B should be separated from the Primary Schools and formed into Nursery and Kindergarten Classes for infants of the age of 3 and 5 years.

64. *Expenditure.*—The table below compares the expenditure on primary schools for boys for the last two years :—

Direct expenditure from—					1940-41	1939-40	Increase or decrease
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Government Funds	...	...	...	...	10,03,720	9,41,273	+62,447
Local Bodies Funds	...	...	...	...	3,00,490	3,04,784	—4,294
Municipal Boards Funds	...	...	...	...	50,916	48,602	+2,314
Fees	...	...	...	...	609	957	—348
Other sources	...	...	...	...	1,29,653	1,54,271	—24,618
Total					14,85,388	14,49,887	+35,501

65. *Single-teacher school.*—The following table furnishes the particulars in regard to Single-Teacher Primary Schools subdivision by subdivision :—

SURMA VALLEY AND HILL DISTRICTS

Subdivision	No. of single-teacher schools		Enrolment	
	For boys	For girls	In boys' schools	In girls' schools
North Sylhet	276	155	11,853	5,525
South Sylhet	277	115	12,334	4,259
Sunamganj	295	65	12,582	2,095
Habiganj	330	135	14,112	5,088
Karimganj	202	60	8,400	2,364
Silchar	250	70	11,540	2,425
Hailakandi	115	35	5,957	1,057
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	356	2	8,333	46
North Lushai Hills	167	8	6,468	755
South Lushai Hills	58	...	2,070	...
Total	2,326	645	93,649	23,614

ASSAM VALLEY CIRCLE

Subdivision	No. of single-teacher schools		Enrolment	
	For boys	For girls	In boys' schools	In girls' schools
North Lakhimpur	142	8	5,311	265
Dibrugarh... ..	216	12	7,887	380
Sibsagar	137	29	16,498	2,036
Jorhat	160	22	7,525	1,079
Golaghat	108	14	5,127	589
Nowgong	275	20	12,239	903
Tezpur	104	17	3,913	698
Mangaldai	146	12	4,894	377
Gauhati	346	35	15,612	1,614
Barpeta	288	...	10,921	...
Goalpara	180	18	8,085	665
Dhubri	332	59	14,689	1,838
Garo Hills	227	4	6,415	95
Naga Hills	113	...	4,862	...
Total	2,774	250	1,23,978	10,539
Grand Total	5,100	895	2,17,627	34,153

Single-teacher schools should be turned into Lower Primary Schools and schools with 2 or more teachers may be raised to Upper Primary Schools, as suggested above. In that case our Middle and High Schools could begin from Class V and the Middle Examination could be held at the end of Class VIII instead of Class VI, as at present.

66. *Co-Education in Primary Stage.*—In the Primary Schools 56,284 girls were reading in boys' schools and only 43,418 in girls' schools.

67. *Mass Literacy Campaign.*—The campaign was formally inaugurated on the 11th September 1940. During the year under report as many as 1,784 literacy centres were opened, including 33 centres for women. The number of persons under instruction in these centres was 58,201, of whom 36,065 passed the Literacy tests.

In the 33 centres for women 549 females received instruction and 468 passed the literacy test.

Arrangements were also made for post-literacy work. Study circles and village libraries were organised and equipped with series of simple readers published by the Department specially for those who had just attained literacy. A fortnightly news sheet "Janasiksha" was also published and distributed to the centres and libraries for post-literacy work.

68. *Special features.*—Besides the Mass Literacy movement, the other special features as mentioned in the preceding reports such as Teachers' Unions, Centre meetings, Conferences, Excursions, Sports, Exhibitions of hand-work, etc., continued unabated.

69. *Subdivisional figures.*—The variation of enrolment in boys' vernacular schools in the various subdivisions and the percentage of local income spent by each Local Board on education are given in the following table:—

SURMA VALLEY

Subdivision	Average percentage of local income spent on education for 1939-10	Numerical increase or decrease								Total
		A	B	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
North Sylhet	29.6	-457	107	227	331	172	-11	3	4	376
South Sylhet	33.4	287	438	394	278	260	18	..	-1	1,674
Karimganj	33.1	23	279	93	446	66	-51	-22	40	879
Habiganj	35.2	238	57	511	1.4	88	26	7	-16	1,085
Sunamganj	29.3	789	147	374	189	189	6	-6	2	1,690
Silchar	26.0	-199	-75	479	73	68	9	6	2	363
Halakandi	28.2	-54	105	-3	34	-60	7	13	18	60

ASSAM VALLEY

Subdivision	Average percentage of local income spent on education for 1940-41	Numerical increase or decrease								Total
		A	B	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
North Lakhimpur ..	48.5	-108	90	-57	26	11	67	-26	48	51
Dibrugarh	16.9	94	51	72	86	37	-1	1	15	355
Sibsagar	25.1	-503	81	411	251	-1	-1	57	12	810
Jorhat	34.0	81	190	189	159	88	82	33	16	838
Golaghat	34.2	96	176	245	88	185	-12	22	5	805
Nowgong	41.5	932	419	286	327	163	112	97	20	2,356
Tezpur	32.6	353	131	199	40	130	96	109	10	1,068
Mangalda	26.9	-187	232	103	196	99	-15	23	1	454
Gauhati	35.2	444	352	495	213	232	2	98	18	1,814
Barpeta	39.2	585	100	410	69	219	-10	10	30	1,313
Goalpara	39.2	189	405	225	138	104	20	6	40	1,127
Dhubri	25.1	100	670	539	172	54	-75	67	5	1,532

CHAPTER VI

TRAINING OF TEACHERS

70. *Statistics.*—The following statement gives the percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers in the different classes of institutions for the last two years :

—	1940-41			1939-40		
	Number of Teachers	Number of trained Teachers	Percentage	Number of Teachers	Number of trained Teachers	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Primary—Men Teachers ..	9,613	2,519	26.2	9,161	2,405	26.2
Women Teachers ..	1,129	164	14.5	1,029	144	13.9
Middle—Men Teachers.. ..	2,601	931	35.7	2,473	977	39.5
Women Teachers ..	279	105	37.6	267	94	35.2
High—Men Teachers	1,850	521	28.1	1,640	481	29.3
Women Teachers ..	245	78	31.8	221	90	46.7
Total—Men Teachers.. ..	14,664	3,971	28.2	13,274	3,863	29.1
Women Teachers ..	1,653	347	20.9	1,517	328	21.6
Grand total of Men and Women Teachers.	15,717	4,318	27.4	14,791	4,191	28.3

The total number of trained teachers increased from 4,191 to 4,318 but their percentage fell from 28.3 to 27.4.

71. *Need for training.*—The need for more trained teachers in our schools cannot be over-emphasised. The immediate establishment of more training centres, both for men and women and the revival of the training class at Shillong continues to be pressing.

72. *Training College.*—As in the preceding year teachers and sub-inspectors of schools were trained in the B. T. class attached to the St. Edmund's College, Shillong.

The facilities offered by the St. Mary's College, Shillong, for the training of women teachers were also availed of by deputing mistresses at Government cost.

73. *Jorhat Normal School.*—There were 160 students on the roll on 31st March 1941, including 56 Gurus deputed for training. Of the Normal class students 60 were stipendiaries, 34 non-stipendiaries and 10 deputed teachers.

In the Normal Final Examination 41 candidates were presented and 34 passed, while in the Guru class examination 47 passed out of 62 presented.

The total direct expenditure on the institution rose from Rs.19,244 to Rs.19,730.

The extra-curricular activities continued as usual.

74. *Silchar Normal School.*—There were 73 students in the Normal classes against 80 of the preceding year. In the Guru class there were 61 students against 60 in the preceding year.

In the Normal Final Examination 34 candidates appeared and 20 passed, while in the Guru Class Examination 51 passed out of 62 presented.

The Educational Commissioner with the Government of India visited the institution in April 1940 and was specially pleased with the Arts and Crafts class of the school.

75. *Training class at Jorhat Christian High School.*—The training class had an enrolment of 9 pupils, of whom 4 were presented at the Guru Training Examination and only 2 passed.

76. *Training classes in the Naga Hills.*—There were two training classes attached to two aided Middle English Schools under the management of the missionaries. One of these classes continued with an enrolment of 10 pupil teachers while the other went out of existence.

Government contributed Rs.600 for this class while the grant for the other was discontinued.

77. *Tura Training School.*—The school continued with 16 pupils, of whom 10 were Government School Teachers. Fourteen candidates were sent up for the Final Examination, of whom 9 passed.

78. *Training of Mistresses.*—Twenty-seven students were enrolled in the training class attached to the Silchar Girls' High School and 32 teachers were under training in the Nowgong Mission Girls' School.

The need for providing facilities for training of more teachers annually continues to be pressing.

CHAPTER VII

SPECIAL EDUCATION

79. *Earle Law College, Gauhati.*—The college completed its 27th year of existence but still on a temporary basis. It is desirable that it should be placed on a permanent footing without further delay.

There were 53 students on 31st March 1941 against 64 in the preceding year.

The total expenditure on the college was Rs.16,535 against the fee income of Rs.5,760.

The examination results were quite satisfactory.

The Prasanna Kumar Tagore Scholarship which is awarded by the Government of Bengal was secured by a student of this College for the year 1939 and that for the year 1938 was also shared by a student of this college with another student of the University Law College. These awards were made after the close of the year under report.

The athletic side of the college continued its activities as usual.

For the first time in the history of the college a Lady, Miss Puspalata Saikia, M.A., became the Secretary of the College Union and the Union functioned quite satisfactorily.

The college building requires extension.

The Principal acknowledges with thanks the good services rendered by the lecturers Mr. T. N. Phukan and Khan Sahib Maulvi Wajed Ali.

The Principal also deserves thanks for his efficient management.

80. *Oriental Education.*—The usual statement regarding Muktabs, Mul'a schools and Tols is appended.

The Assam Sanskrit Association continued to do very useful work within its limited resources, for the advancement of the Sanskrit Education.

It could not hold its Convocation for want of funds. Government have however since recognised the need and provided funds so that the Convocation may be held annually from 1941.

In the year under report there were 96 tols in the Assam Valley and 102 in the Surma Valley with an average enrolment of 13 students.

It is necessary that proper arrangement should be made for their supervision and inspection.

The number of candidates at the different examinations of the Assam Sanskrit Board is increasing steadily. The total number of candidates appeared at the First, Second and the Title examinations was 800 against 783 of the preceding year, and the total number of successful candidates at the different examinations was 419 against 390 of the preceding year.

As in the previous years several female candidates came out successful at the different examinations of the Board.

81. *Government Sanskrit College, Sylhet.*—The Government Sanskrit College at Sylhet completed its 20th year of existence. It provides facilities for the study of Kavya, Smriti and Nyaya. The demand for opening classes in other branches of Sanskrit learning has been insistent.

The teaching of English as an optional subject continued as usual.

The enrolment of the college on the 31st March 1941 was 25 as against 24 of the preceding year.

The total expenditure on the college was Rs.15,282 against Rs.15,173 of the preceding year.

82. *Examination results.*—The table below shows the number of students that appeared in and passed the different examinations of the Assam Sanskrit Association. :—

Examination	Subject	No. appear.d	No. passed
First	Nyaya ... ..	...	...
Second	Ditto	2	2
Title	Ditto	1	1
Title	Kavya	3	2
Title	Smriti	3	2

The above figures show that the examination results of the college were quite satisfactory.

83. *Muslim Education.*—The subject is being dealt with in Chapter IX.

84. *Sanskrit Sanjibani Sabha.*—The Sabha in the district of Kamrup continued its useful work in the field of Sanskrit education.

The Sanskrit College started at Nalbari under the auspices of the Sabha has completed a descriptive catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts found in Assam and compiled biographies of eminent Sanskrit scholars of Assam. It is now busy in other fields of research.

APPENDIX TO CHAPTER VII

Statement showing particulars of Maktabas, Mulla Schools, Tols, etc., for 1940-41

Particulars				Classed in G. T. I as Primary Schools	Classed in G. T. I as other Schools	Classed in G. T. I as unrecognised institutions	Total
1				2	3	4	5
MAKTABS							
1. Institutions	...	{ for boys	...	722	1	68	791
	...	{ for girls	...	168	...	14	182
2. Pupils	...	{ boys	...	36,478	35	3,484	39,997
	...	{ girls	...	8,462	...	564	9,026
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
3. Expenditure from	Provincial Funds	...	...	68,544	...	...	68,544
4. Ditto	District or Local Funds	...	...	43,948	84	...	44,032
5. Ditto	Municipal Funds	...	...	5,966	...	...	5,966
6. Ditto	Fees	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Ditto	Other sources	...	...	3,193	84	5,868	9,145
8. Total Expenditure	...	...	...	1,21,651	168	5,868	1,27,687
MULLA SCHOOLS							
1. Institutions	...	{ for boys	...	58	...	309	367
	...	{ for girls	...	...	...	3	3
2. Pupils	...	{ boys	...	2,414	...	11,113	13,527
	...	{ girls	...	...	...	5,796	5,796
3. Expenditure	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOLS							
1. Institutions	...	{ for boys	...	8	125	...	133
	...	{ for girls	...	...	...	...	...
2. Pupils	...	{ boys	...	219	1,412	...	1,631
	...	{ girls	...	4	14	...	18
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
3. Expenditure from	Provincial Funds	...	...	628	11,671	...	12,299
4. Ditto	Distirict or Local Funds	...	...	990	2,028	...	3,018
5. Ditto	Municipal Funds	...	...	...	1,988	...	1,988
6. Ditto	Fees	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Ditto	Other sources	...	...	692	8,774	...	9,466
8. Total Expenditure	...	...	...	2,310	24,461	...	26,771
Pathsalas	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

CHAPTER VIII

FEMALE EDUCATION

85. *Statistics.*—The table below compares the number of all kinds of institutions for Indian girls together with their enrolment for the last two years.

Kind of Institution	1940-41		1939-40		Increase or decrease	
	Number of institutions	Number of scholars	Number of institutions	Number of scholars	Institutions	Scholars
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arts Colleges	4	163	2	108	2	55
High Schools	20	5,815	16	5,135	4	680
Middle English Schools	35	5,014	31	4,931	4	83
Middle Vernacular Schools	31	3,809	28	3,469	3	310
Primary Schools	1,106	45,085	1,007	40,606	99	4,479
Special Schools	35	867	11	381	24	486
Unrecognised institutions	165	6,792	174	6,933	—9	—141
Total	1,396	67,545	1,269	61,563	+127	+5,982

During the year under report the number of institutions for Indian girls increased from 1,269 to 1,396 and their enrolment from 61,563 to 67,545 pupils.

This marked increase in the number of institutions and scholars is a clear indication of the rapidly awakening interest in female education.

The number of Arts Colleges for women increased from 2 to 4 and their enrolment from 108 to 163 students.

Besides, 146 girls were reading in men's colleges.

The number of high schools for Indian girls increased from 16 to 20 and their enrolment from 5,135 to 5,815. There were only two Government High Schools for girls—one at Dibrugarh and the other at Sylhet. They continued with an enrolment of 362 and 469 pupils respectively against 365 and 459 pupils of the preceding year.

The number of middle and primary schools for girls and the number of pupils in them increased considerably.

There were 4 Government Middle English Schools with an enrolment of 822 pupils against 3 Government Middle English and 1 Government Middle Vernacular School with 730 pupils of the preceding year.

The number of Government primary schools remained at 4 as in the previous year with an enrolment of 95 pupils.

The total direct expenditure on different classes of recognised institutions for Indian girls rose from Rs.4,92,751 to Rs.5,23,761, of which Government contributed Rs.2,93,881.

For the maintenance of the four aided colleges for women Government contributed Rs.11,600 out of the total direct expenditure of Rs. 6,070 against Rs.6,000 and Rs.28,295 respectively of the preceding year.

The total direct expenditure on the two Government high schools at Dibrugarh and Sylhet amounted to Rs.49,303.

Besides Government contributed Rs.77,801 towards the cost of maintenance of aided high schools.

The total cost per pupil in a Government girls' high school was Rs.59-5-3.

86. The table below compares the enrolment class by class of recognised primary and secondary schools for Indian girls for the last two years :—

Year	A	B	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	Total
1940-41	22,618	10,701	8,408	6,306	5,268	1,978	1,533	1,130	661	460	358	293	59,714
1939-40	21,322	9,545	7,351	5,515	4,695	1,711	1,309	1,084	586	426	329	268	54,141
Increase	1,296	1,156	1,057	791	573	267	224	46	75	34	29	25	5,573

The increase is all-round.

87. The table below gives the number of girl scholars in all institutions recognised and unrecognised for the last two years :—

Girl scholars.

Number of girls reading in

Year	Arts Colleges		High schools		Middle schools		Primary schools		Special schools		Total of recognised institutions		Unrecognised institutions.		Grand total of all institutions	
	For males	For females	For males	For females	For males	For females	For males	For females	For males	For females	For males	For females	For males	For females	For males	For females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1940-41	146	163	239	5,892	3,869	8,579	56,281	43,418	327	867	60,865	58,919	13,223	6,444	74,088	65,363
1939-40	151	108	115	5,203	3,752	8,282	52,917	39,073	187	381	57,122	53,047	13,925	6,454	71,047	59,501
Increase or decrease.	-5	+55	+124	+689	+117	+297	+3,367	+4,345	+140	+486	+3,743	+5,872	-702	-10	+3,041	+5,862

It will be seen that the number of girls reading in institutions for males is far in excess of that in institutions for females.

88. The table below gives the number of boys reading in girls' schools for Indians for the last two years :—

Year	Number of boys reading in Girls'				
	High schools	Middle English schools	Middle Vernacular schools	Primary schools	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1940-41	220	238	6	1,667	2,131
1939-40	178	113	5	1,533	1,829
Increase	+42	-125	+1	+134	+302

89. The table below compares the percentage of girls at school to total population for the last two years :—

Year	Sylhet	Cachar	Khasi and Jaintia Hills	Lushai Hills	Goalpara	Kamrup	Darrang	Nowgong	Sibsagar	Lakhimpur	Garo Hills	Naga Hills
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1940-41	3.0	3.0	5.4	4.5	2.4	1.9	2.2	3.0	3.0	1.7	3.1	0.8
1939-40	2.8	2.8	6.1	4.2	2.1	2.2	1.9	2.6	2.8	1.5	2.6	0.8
Increase or decrease ..	+0.2	+0.2	-0.7	+0.3	+0.3	-0.3	+0.3	+0.4	+0.2	+0.2	+0.5	..

There has been an all-round increase in percentage except in the Khasi Hills and the Kamrup Districts.

90. *Expenditure.*—The table below gives the expenditure on different classes of recognised institutions for Indian girls for the last two years :—

Year	Arts Colleges	Secondary schools	Primary schools	Special schools	All recognised institutions
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1940-41	26,070	1,96,761	1,71,100	14,206	4,08,137
1939-40	28,295	2,87,968	1,64,564	11,924	4,92,751
Increase or decrease ..	-2,225	-91,207	+6,536	+2,282	-84,614

91. Miss S. Sen, the Inspectress of Schools, Assam, writes as follows :—

“ The Deputy Inspectors of both Valleys report that the progress of girls' education is very rapid in their respective areas.

During the year under report the number of girls' schools in both Valleys has increased greatly. In Assam Valley the number has risen from 379 to 446 and in the Surma Valley from 714 to 781. The enrolment in girls' schools in Assam Valley has increased nearly by 4,000 and in Surma Valley by more than 2,000 over that of last year.

There are still very many venture and unrecognised girls' schools in villages in both Valleys, which have been waiting to be taken over by the Board. I wish that these schools may not have to wait too long and that when the Boards take over new schools every year, girls' schools get their fair share in the inclusion in the list of schools to be taken over. Girls' schools can now reasonably claim to have equal share with the boys' schools in obtaining Government's and Board's help.

For encouragement of girls' education in villages, time is overdue for establishment of more girls' middle schools there and it is absolutely necessary that girls' schools should be staffed with trained mistresses. Provision should be made for properly housing the girls' schools.

There is now a girls' high school in every Subdivisional Headquarters town excepting Mangaldai and North Lakhimpur. It is hoped that in a year or two the existing Middle English School for girls at North Lakhimpur will be raised to a High School. But as no proper hostel with sufficient accommodation is attached to any Girls' High School, girls not residing in the town cannot get enough benefit out of these schools. It is therefore very necessary that each girls' high school should be provided with a good-sized hostel under a proper superintendent."

92. *Requirements.*—It is, however, necessary to stress the need for more adequate provision of funds for maintenance of all kinds of institutions for girls and for their proper supervision.

The problem of training of women teachers remained unsolved.

The need for immediate strengthening of the inspectorate for girl's schools can hardly be overstressed.

93. *Examination results.*—The table below gives the different examination results of girls for the last two years:—

Examination	1940-41		1939-40	
	Number of examinees	Number passed	Number of examinees	Number passed
1	2	3	4	5
Matriculation	279	161	219	158
Middle English	392	277	414	264
Middle Vernacular	240	146	214	130
Primary	3,549	2,949	3,292	2,632
Needle Work Diploma— Primary	2,961	1,847	2,068	1,298
Middle	664	599	554	483

94. *Co-Education.*—The total number of girls reading in all grades of recognised schools for boys was 73,942 while the number of girls in girls' schools for Indians was 65,200.

In the Primary Schools 56,284 girls were reading in boys' schools and only 43,418 in girls' schools.

A good deal of economy in expenditure and efficiency in teaching could be secured in Primary Schools if trained mistresses were available for and appointed in all Primary Schools, allowing girls and boys to read together up to the Primary stage.

CHAPTER IX

EDUCATION OF SPECIAL CLASSES

I. ANGLO-INDIANS AND EUROPEANS

95. *General.*—The number of Anglo-Indian and European institutions remained at 4 with an enrolment of 725 against 660 of the preceding year. The total expenditure was Rs.3,11,919, of which Rs.61,190 was met from provincial revenues, Rs.1,58,895 from fees and Rs.91,834 from other sources.

96. *Pinemount School.*—The Pinemount School at Shillong is the only Government institution for Anglo-Indians and Europeans in the Province. It also admits Indian girls as boarders and day pupils.

The enrolment of the school rose from 103 to 114, of whom 70 were boarders.

The total expenditure on the institution was Rs.64,469 of which Rs.36,254 was in direct and Rs.28,215 in indirect charges. The fee income amounted to Rs.29,259.

The examination results of the school were excellent as will appear from the statement below :—

Examination	Number sent up	Number passed	Number secured Honours
1	2	3	4
Cambridge School Certificate	4	4	...
Cambridge Junior	9	7	...
Trinity College Examination in Music (Theoretical) ...	16	16	10
Ditto ditto ditto (Practical) ...	9	9	7
Associated Board Examination (Practical)	1	1	...
Ditto ditto (Theoretical)	1	1	1

The health of the school was very good throughout the year. The children took great interest in games as usual under the supervision of Miss G. Gantzer. The pupils were also enthusiastic about Guiding and Blue Birding under the Guide Captains—Misses Plummer and Gantzer, and Wise Bird—Miss Q. Dunn.

The construction of an additional dormitory with dressing and bath rooms for about 25 boarders is an urgent need of the school.

The establishment of a Domestic Science Department should receive immediate attention of Government.

97. *Loreto Convent, Shillong*.—There were 119 pupils on the rolls against 100 of the preceding year. The number of boarders was 64.

The examination results were excellent, as will appear from the following statement :—

Examinations	Number presented	Number passed	Number secured Honours
1	2	3	4
Cambridge School Certificate	16	9	...
Cambridge Junior	11	7	...
Trinity College of Music	7	7	5
Royal School of Music	2	2	...
Royal Drawing Society	32	32	32

The physical training of the children received special care through drill, country dancing and games.

The health of the pupils was excellent throughout the year.

The total expenditure on the school was Rs.52,764, of which Government contributed Rs.4,800.

98. *St. Agnes School, Haflong*.—The number of pupils on the rolls was 64 against 60 of the preceding year. The examination results of the school were satisfactory. Three candidates were presented at the Matriculation Examination and two passed. Similarly candidates did well at the Trinity College of Music (Theoretical and Practical), the Pitman's Commercial and the Needle Work Diploma Examinations.

The Girl Guides and Blue Birds were enthusiastic as usual.

Physical Culture, Domestic Science, Country Dancing continued to be carried on with zest by the pupils.

99. *St. Edmund's College, Shillong.*—The total enrolment of the College was 428 against 399 of the preceding year. The distribution of the enrolment in the different departments of the institution was as noted below :—

	1940-41	1939-40
B. T. Class	78	89
College Department	81	70
School Department	269	240

The results of the various examinations were quite satisfactory. In the Cambridge School Certificate Examination 18 boys were presented and 16 were successful and in the Junior Cambridge Examination 21 boys appeared and 16 passed.

At the B. T. Examination 78 students appeared and 57 passed, of whom one student stood second in the Calcutta University and four secured distinctions.

The general state of health of the college was quite good. The students and the pupils took keen interest in outdoor games as usual.

II.—MUSLIM EDUCATION

100. This portion of the report has been written by Maulvi Nazmal Hussain Chaudhury, the Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muslim Education, Assam.

General.—The general progress of the Muslim community in the field of education has been satisfactory during the year under report. The total number of pupils under instruction in all classes of schools was 198,520 as against 175,109 in the previous year. This records an increase of 23,411 or 13·4 per cent. whereas the general rate of increase as recorded by all communities is 10·8 per cent. The enrolment in the Mass Literacy Centres alone have however contributed an increase of 16,072 over the last year's figures. Mass Literacy Centres are still in an experimental stage and it is too early to say how far the percentage of increase in this kind of institutions constitutes a real progress in education. The progress of the community in some other stages of education has also been quite satisfactory as compared with the general rate of progress. The following table shows the percentage of increase of the general school population and of the Muslim pupils in the year under review.—

	General	Muslim
All grades of schools	10·8 per cent.	13·4 per cent.
Recognised „	11·3 „	18·9 „
Secondary „	5·5 „	8·9 „
Primary „	5·2 „	7·5 „

In the unrecognised schools however there has been a fall of 2,879 or 8·0 per cent. in the province. Whereas the Inspector of Schools, Assam Valley Circle records an increase of 14·4 per cent. in the case of boys and 10·5 per cent. in the case of girls. The decline in the Surma Valley may be due to the closure of certain venture schools.

Proportion of Muslims to the total number of scholars.—The table below gives the figures of the last two years showing the proportion of Muslim pupils to the total school population at the different stages of instructions :—

Year	Secondary stage		Higher stage		Middle stage	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1940-41 ...	22·5	9·8	19·2	7·2	24·4	11·5
1939-40 ...	21·9	9·8	19·9	7·6	22·6	11·1
Increase or decrease	+·8	...	—·7	—·4	+·8	+·4

This shows a proportionate decline in the higher stage only.

Employment of Muslims.—During the year under report there were 4704 Muslims in educational employment out of a total strength of 18,187. This represents 25·9 against 23·4 per cent. in the preceding year.

The total number of vacancies that occurred during the year was 2,167, of which 562 or 26·0 per cent. were filled up by Muslims.

Islamic Instructions in Public Schools.—There was a substantial increase of 208 schools in the number of vernacular and anglo-vernacular schools, imparting instructions in the Islamic courses as the table below shows :—

			Surma Valley	Assam Valley	Total
1940-41	...	...	949	225	1,204
1939-40	...	...	775	221	996

This shows that the Muslim community is eager for religious instructions in the Primary and Middle stages. But the difficulties are still enormous as it was noted in the last Annual Report, and have to be fought against to overcome. The Muktabs or Muslim Primary Schools which combine religious instructions with the Primary courses, are not properly encouraged by the Local Boards while the ordinary primary schools are still averse to the introduction of Islamic course. The Inspector of Schools, Surma Valley, in his report on the Muslim Education notes as follows :—

“Islamic instruction continues in many Public Schools with very little outside help. The Local Boards are not ready to spend anything for this. It is an accepted principle that the educational progress of a country depends to a very large extent upon their progress in Primary Education, but the present system of aiding muktabs through the Local Boards is a failure from the point of view of Muslim Community. The Inspector suggests provision of direct Government grant for the Muktabs as a remedy for this and it seems to be quite reasonable. Pending a satisfactory solution of the problem of aiding Muktabs or Muslim Primary Schools, the local inspecting officers can do much if they take a special interest in the formation of Islamic classes in the vernacular schools with considerable number of Muslim pupils and staffed with qualified Muslim teachers. They can also persuade the Local Boards to keep this point in view in appointing teachers in Primary Schools under their control. Muslim teachers with qualifications to teach the ordinary Primary courses as well as the elementary Islamic instructions are available in sufficient number in these days.”

SENIOR AND HIGH MADRASSA

The number of Senior Madrassas following the orthodox course increased from 7 to 8. Of these 7 are in the Surma Valley and 1 in the Assam Valley. The number of independent High Madrassas following the reformed Madrassa course stood at 4, of which 1 is in the Surma Valley and 3 in the Assam Valley. Besides High Madrassa Sections are added to the Government Madrassa, Sylhet and the Jingabari Madrassa in the Surma Valley and to the Rangia High School in the Assam Valley. In this way the number of High Madrassas comes up to 7 as against 6 in the previous year.

MIDDLE ENGLISH AND MIDDLE MADRASSA

The number of Middle English and Middle Madrassas stood at 129 as against 112 in 1939-40 showing an increase of 17. The following table gives the detail of madrassas for the last two years :—

Classes of institutions	Senior and High Madrassas		Middle English Madrassas		Middle Madrassas	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1930-41	1939-40
Government	1	1	1	1	...	..
Aided	11	9	101	89	23	15
Un-aided ... ..	...	1	3	2	1	5
Total	12	11	105	92	24	20

The High Madrassas.—Most of the non-Government High Madrassas are finding it difficult to maintain an efficient staff of teachers according to their requirements for recognition by the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Dacca, for want of funds. Besides there are numerous un-recognised Madrassas in both the valleys following authorised and unauthorised courses. It is necessary to recognise them and bring them into line with the other schools following the approved courses. More money is needed for this as well as for the development of the High Madrassas. Some of the Middle Madrassas that have been brought into the aided list also need larger grant to improve their efficiency.

GOVERNMENT MADRASSA, SYLHET

About the Government Madrassa, Sylhet the Inspector of Schools, Surma Valley and Hill Districts reports that the enrolment of the Madrassa increased from 352 to 394. It will appear from the sub-jointed table that the increase has been shared by all the branches excepting the High Madrassa Section which met with a slight decline of 4 pupils only.

Year	No. of pupils in the Middle English Madrassa Classes	No. of pupils in the High Madrassa Classes	No. of pupils in the Senior Madrassa Classes	No. of pupils in the Title Classes	Total
1940-41 ...	83	49	198	64	394
1939-40 ...	77	53	185	37	352
Increase or decrease.	+6	—4	+13	+27	+42

The following table gives the result of the Madrassa in the various examinations for the last two years:—

Year	Madrassa Final Examinations			High Madrassa Examinations			Junior Madrassa Examinations		
	No. appeared	No. passed	Per cent of success	No. appeared	No. passed	P. C. of success	No. appeared	No. passed	P. C. success
1939-40 .	31	27	87.0	8	8	100.0	6	5	83.3
1940-41 .	34	27	79.4	14	11	78.5	5	5	100.0

The results are on the whole satisfactory. The expenditure of the Madrassa during the year under report was Rs.41,742 against Rs.45,659 in the previous year. The difference was probably due to the fact that the post of the Principal was vacant for some time. The sports section of the Madrassa continues its activities as before. The prejudice against games seems to be disappearing. The Madrassa foot-ball team participated in numerous competitive matches.

The discipline in the Madrassa was quite normal.

The results of the Middle School Leaving Certificate and Scholarship Examination in the Madrassa Group :—

Group	Year	No. appeared	No. passed	Per. cent. of success
I and IV Middle English Madrassa...	1939-40	339	204	66·0
	1940-41	323	223	69·0
I and V Middle Madrassa ...	1939-40	50	22	44·0
	1940-41	57	34	59·6

SPECIAL OFFICERS

If the Government mean to encourage Islamic education through Madrasas, Muktabs and the general schools, as they do, it is necessary that the special inspecting agency should be strengthened. The task for the Deputy Inspector of Schools for Muslim Education, Surma Valley was beyond his capacity as the number of institutions to be inspected, had considerably increased in the past few years. There are 8 Senior and High Madrassas, 67 Middle English and 19 Middle Madrassas, besides 609 Muktabs in the Division at present. The number of High, Middle and Primary Schools have also increased. Many of these institutions have arrangement for Islamic instruction, which need inspection and encouragement, as the Inspector of Schools, Surma Valley and Hill Districts reports. Besides there is a large number of unrecognised Muktabs and Madrassas, many of which can be brought on to the list of recognised schools if properly looked after. The inspection and supervision of these institutions are undoubtedly beyond the capacity of a single officer. I agree with the Inspector of Schools, Surma Valley and Hil Districts when he says that the appointment of at least one officer in the rank of Sub-Inspector is urgently needed if the present policy of the Government for furthering the progress of Muslim Education is to be continued. It is also necessary that the status of the Deputy Inspector of Schools for Muslim Education, Surma Valley should be raised to that of an Assistant Inspector of Schools so that he may visit High and Senior Madrassa as well as High Schools. As my predecessor, Khan Bahadur Aatur Rahman observed in the last report on the progress of Muslim Education that appointment of a Deputy Inspector of Schools for Muslim Education in Assam Valley is urgently needed for supervision and encouragement of the Madrassas which are considerably increasing in that Valley also.

NEED FOR A CONFERENCE

The necessity of summoning a conference of Muslim Educationists to examine the principle and policy at present pursued in respect of Muslim Education and to recommend changes particularly in the direction of reforming the Madrassa courses has been urged from time to time. A review of the position has become all the more necessary in view of the changes in the matriculation syllabus of the Calcutta University. The best course to adopt would perhaps be to appoint a committee of experts to examine the condition of Muslim Education in all its aspects, to invite public opinion and to submit recommendation to Government for their consideration.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

My predecessor, Khan Bahadur Maulavi Aatur Rahman, observed as follow in his last report. "The help I received from Maulavi A. Wahed, the Deputy Inspector of Schools for Muslim Education, Surma Valley, is of inestimable value. He is an officer whose services to the department have proved indispensable and should receive due recognition". I fully endorse the view.

Khan Bahadur Aatur Rahman has earned the credit of placing Islamic culture of Assam on a sound footing, and his valuable services in the cause of Muhammadan Education deserves recognition.

III.—EDUCATION OF HILL TRIBES

101. *Statistics.*—The table below compares the enrolment in the primary and secondary schools in the Hill Districts for the last two years :—

	Primary		Secondary	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	12,871	14,719	4,941	4,954
Lushai Hills	9,679	9,515	943	952
Garro Hills	7,560	6,998	915	1,159
Naga Hills	5,112	4,563	531	1,092

There was an increase in the enrolment in all the primary schools in the hill districts except in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills where it records a decline.

There was also a slight decline in the enrolment in all the secondary schools.

102. *Khasi and Jaintia Hills.*—The policy of taking over of the control of primary education in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills is continuing. A Government High School was started at Jowai towards the close of the year.

103. *Lushai Hills.*—The question of improvement of education in the Lushai Hills is receiving consideration of Government.

104. *Garro Hills.*—The Tura Government High School attained its full-fledged high school status during the year under report.

105. *Naga Hills.*—The Government Middle English School is developing into a high school.

106. *Mikirs.*—The number of Government Primary Schools for Mikirs increased from 38 to 41 with the same enrolment of 1,332 as in the preceding year. In the Golaghat subdivision the number of recognised Mikir schools of all grades rose from 18 to 21 and their enrolment from 458 to 594.

107. *Miris.*—There were 152 Primary Schools for Miris with an enrolment of 5,112 against 80 and 3,294 respectively of the preceding year.

108. *Khamtis.*—There was one primary school in the North Lakhimpur subdivision with an enrolment of 77 pupils.

109. *Akas and Daflas.*—Eleven Aka boys attended the Nevill Combined Middle School at Charduar in the Balipara Frontier Tract.

110. *Other Hill tribes.*—For the education of other hill tribes there were some primary schools in Sadiya and Lakhimpur Frontier Tracts. Besides these there were other schools in Sadiya and in Joypur area of the Dibrugarh subdivision which were attended by Abors, Mismis, Singphoes, Khamtis and Nagas receiving vernacular education along with other boys of the plains.

111. The table below gives the expenditure on education on the various hill districts during the year 1940-41, exclusive of Colleges and European Schools.—

District	Charge	Expenditure from—					Total
		Government Funds	Board Funds	Municipal Funds	Fees	Mission and other sources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Khasi and Jaintia Hills	Direct ..	96,879	..	7,779	54,545	92,310	2,51,513
	Indirect ..	55,086	..	139	165	7,343	62,733
	Total ..	1,51,965	..	7,918	54,710	99,653	3,14,246
2. Lushai Hills	Direct ..	12,443	..	..	3,057	27,010	42,510
	Indirect ..	1,529	..	..	..	6,103	7,632
	Total ..	13,972	..	..	3,057	33,113	50,142
3. Garo Hills	Direct ..	86,924	..	..	7,816	10,709	1,05,449
	Indirect ..	17,763	..	..	..	..	17,763
	Total ..	1,04,687	..	..	7,816	10,709	1,23,212
4. Naga Hills	Direct ..	31,858	..	..	654	3,742	36,254
	Indirect ..	3,635	..	..	17	702	4,354
	Total ..	35,493	..	..	671	4,444	40,608
5. Mikir Hills (Sibsagar)	Direct ..	4,247	..	..	..	..	4,247
	Indirect ..	290	..	..	..	..	290
	Total ..	4,537	..	..	..	..	4,537
6. Mikir Hills (Nowgong)	Direct ..	11,862	..	..	..	..	11,862
	Indirect ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	11,862	..	..	..	..	11,862

112. The table below compares the number and enrolment of Tea Garden Schools for the last two years:—

Year	Number of Schools			Total	Number of pupils
	A Class	B Class	C Class		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1940-41	10	71	466	547	21,646
1939-40	10	71	403	484	25,000

113. *Factory Schools.*—The Morkang Salek Factory Primary School at Sadiya continued with an enrolment of 97 pupils.

The Assam Saw Mills and Timber Company, Limited, maintained a Middle English School at Morkang Salek with an enrolment of 35 pupils. It has not yet received departmental recognition.

The Assam Oil Company at Digboi continued to maintain 2 Middle English, 3 Primary and 2 special schools.

114. *Jains*.—The Jains school at Fansibazar, Gauhati, has been converted into a Middle English School with an enrolment of 129 pupils against 123 of the preceding year.

Besides, there were 30 Jain pupils reading in public schools in the Assam Valley and 25 in the Surma Valley.

115. *Depressed Classes*.—The children of the depressed classes are freely admitted in all public schools in the Province. The Ramkrishna Mission and the Harijan Sangha have some schools for these Classes in Sylhet and Cachar.

There were 3 primary schools at Jorhat, Dibrugarh and Tezpur specially intended for the children of sweepers with an enrolment of 97 pupils.

In the Sibsagar subdivision there were 5 depressed class schools and four Harijan schools.

116. *Jail Schools*.—There were schools for prisoners in Sylhet, Silchar, Jorhat, Tezpur, Dibrugarh, Gauhati and Nowgong Jails.

117. *Schools for Defectives*.—Provision was made as usual for the education of the defectives by means of scholarships tenable at the Deaf and Dumb School and the Blind School in Calcutta. There were 17 holders of Deaf and Dumb scholarships of Rs.18 a month each and 6 holders of Blind scholarships of Rs.15 a month each.

The Sylhet Deaf and Dumb School continued as an aided institution with an enrolment of 15 pupils against 12 of the preceding year.

There were 2 Government scholarship-holders of Rs.9 a month each.

Thanks to the kind initiative taken by Lady Reid, 24 free seats have been reserved for the blind children of Assam in the Blind School, Calcutta, since the close of the year under report.

CHAPTER X

DISCIPLINE, PHYSICAL AND MORAL TRAINING

118. *Discipline*.—Discipline was generally good throughout the year. There were, however, a few instances of indiscipline in the form of strikes which were settled locally.

119. *Physical Training*.—Physical training continues to be received with great enthusiasm both by the teachers and the students.

The Divisional and Subdivisional reports are unanimous that Physical Training has greatly improved the discipline, health and habits of the pupils in general.

Several training camps were organised as usual during the year.

Training camps for women teachers were also organised by the Physical Instructress.

120. *Midday meal*.—As in the previous years the system of providing a midday meal was in existence in some schools in both the Valleys.

121. *Boy Scouts*.—The scout movement is progressing steadily as will appear from the following figures:—

	1940	1941
Commissioners	68	74
Scouters	908	1,006
Scouts 1st class	174	402
Scouts 2nd class	938	1,069
Tenderfoot	6,283	6,977
Cubs 1st star	85	97
Cubs 2nd star	456	745
Tenderpad	7,953	8,385
King's Scouts	21	30

The Association was given a Government grant of Rs.5,000 against the total expenditure of Rs.8,285 for the year under report.

122. *Girl Guide*.—The Provincial Secretary, Girl Guide Association reports as follows:—

“ There has been an increase in the number of Guides and Bluebirds from 883 to 1,000. There has been a great improvement in smartness and efficiency. In Shillong Guiders have come forward noticeably to undertake civic duties.

Guides have made all the Air Raid Precaution lamp shades for Shillong. All Guides have helped in knitting and sewing for Red Cross comforts and hospital supplies. Guides have been predominant in volunteering for the Auxiliary Nursing Service. There was one Guider's Training Camp held in Umtyngar, our Camp site near Shillong, in April; a big Rally to welcome the Provincial Commissioner at Jorhat in February; a Guides' Sale of Work to which most of the Companies in the Plains contributed, held in Shillong in October; and a Farewell Rally to the Provincial Commissioner in Shillong in October. Guiding has started in the Lushai Hills. We are glad to welcome Mrs. Crosfield as Camp Adviser."

123. *Junior Red Cross*.—As in the previous years Junior Red Cross groups were organised in nearly every high and middle schools and in some primary schools in both the Valleys.

124. *Games and Sports*.—Interest in organised games and sports is continually on the increase. Inter-School and Inter-Valley Tournaments were organised with great enthusiasm and success.

125. *Social and other activities*.—Social and other activities in our schools continued as usual.

In the Assam Valley Co-operatives Stores of the Jorhat Normal and the Dibrugarh Government High Schools continued to supply books and stationery at cheaper rates. New stores were also started in the Dhubri and the Goalpara Government High Schools during the year under report.

In the Surma Valley school boys continued to render praiseworthy social services in the eradication of water-hyacinth, attending the sick, rendering help to the distressed people and in propaganda work for prevention of epidemics. Habiganj Government High School has made a grand success of the School Co-operative Stores.

Students' debating societies are also in existence in all high schools.

CHAPTER XI

TEXT-BOOK COMMITTEES AND LIBRARIES

126. *Central Text-Book Committee*.—During the year under report one meeting was held in December 1940; for want of funds meetings could not be held more than once, though it is desirable that the committee should meet at least twice a year.

The holding of the Text-Book Committee meetings in continuation with the Assembly session on account of economy in expenditure greatly handicaps the publication of the list of text-books in good time before the school session begins. The committee should be allowed to meet independently in convenient time, which will ensure better working.

The appointment of a whole-time Secretary is essentially necessary. In the absence of such an officer, the Inspector of Schools, Assam Valley Circle, had to be called a few days earlier to arrange for the preliminaries of the meeting.

As many as 519 books were received for consideration as text-books and 46 books were received for consideration as prize and library books.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee a Reader for Class VI in Bengali was prepared and published by the Department during the year under report under the supervision of late Dr. S. C. Gupta, M.A., Ph.D., Inspector of Schools, Surma Valley and Hill Districts. The Department lost the valuable services of an able and learned officer at the sudden and premature death of Dr. S.C. Gupta.

Besides the Central Text-Book Committee, there are committees such as the Khasi and Jaintia Hills and the Garo Hills Committees.

Text-Books for other Hill areas are arranged by the Director in consultation with the District Officers.

127. *Libraries*.—The circulating library in the Assam Valley continued its excellent work in removing illiteracy. Certain financial contributions were received from the Director of Industries, the Commissioner of Divisions, the Hon'ble Minister of Education, His Excellency the Governor of Assam and the Chairman of the Sibsagar Local Board.

In the Surma Valley Libraries except in Government High Schools still remain inadequately supplied with books. In some subdivisions efforts were, however made to organise circulating libraries.

The need for a whole-time Librarian in Government High and Normal schools is urgently pressing.

128. *Magazines*.—The magazines either in print or in manuscripts continued to be an educational feature of almost all the institutions.

The Normal Schools at Jorhat and Silchar continued to publish the quarterly magazines "Probhat" and "Siksha Savak" respectively.

129. *Government Public Library*.—The Assam Government Public Library is the only Government Library in the Province. It is now housed in a rented building.

215 books were added to the list during the year under report, thus raising the total number of books and publications to 6,401 exclusive of Government printed reports and other publications.

3,284 books were issued to members of the Library during the year under report. The number of newspapers and periodicals subscribed during the year was 24 in all.

130. *The Assam Provincial Museum*.—This is the only regular Museum in the Province. It was formally opened by His Excellency Sir R. N. Reid, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.C.S., on the 21st April 1941.

The new building of the Museum cost approximately Rs.20,000, of which Government paid Rs.10,000 and the balance was met by public contribution out of which Rs.8,000 was paid by Rai Bahadur Naupat Rai Kejia of Dibrugarh.

131. *Assam Sahitya Sabha*.—The Sabha is doing very valuable work in the field of Assamese literature. It received a Government grant of Rs.1,000 against the total expenditure of Rs.1,166 during the year under report.

132. *Sreehatta Sahitya Parishad*.—The Parishad has a fine building of its own. It was formally opened by Dr. Kalidas Nag of the Calcutta University in March in 1941. Its library contains as many as 1,956 volumes of books and manuscripts.

It has now the nucleus of a museum as well. During the year under report it received a grant of Rs.500 from Government against the total expenditure of Rs.873.

133. *Muslim Sahitya Sangsad, Sylhet*.—The Sangsad was started in 1936 with the object of promotion of Bengali language and literature and encouragement of Islamic culture in and through Bengali literature. The Sangsad conducts a monthly magazine, "Al-Islah". It has a library and has collected some copper coins and stone inscriptions. The total expenditure of the Sangsad for the year amounted to Rs.928 against an income of Rs.969 including the Government grant of Rs.500.

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S. C. ROY,

Director of Public Instruction, Assam.