

# **N.-W.F. PROVINCE GOVERNMENT**

**AT WORK**

**(From 7th September 1937 to 7th January 1939).**

Issued by  
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Secretary,  
N.-W.F.P. Legislative Congress Party.

## INTRODUCTORY.

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This pamphlet is issued to acquaint the public with the measures undertaken by the Ministry in this Province, during the period from 7th September 1937 to 7th January 1939. The delay in the issue of the pamphlet, which was largely due to the pre-occupation of the Government with work connected with November Session of the Legislative Assembly, is regretted.

Dated Peshawar,  
the 7th January 1939.

Sd. ABDUL GHAFUOR KHAN,  
Bar-at-Law,  
Secretary,  
N. W. F. P. Legislative Congress Party.

## Annual Report on the Working of the Congress Ministry in the North West Frontier Province for the Year 1937-38.

The Congress Party in this Province accepted office, on 7th September 1937. The Party at the time consisted of only 22<sup>9</sup> members in a House of 50 including the Speaker. The Ministry was formed with the help and co-operation of the members of the Democratic Party and a few unattached members. Subsequently the Party won three bye-elections and the number of members was raised to 22. But in the November Session this strength was, however, reduced to 21 on account of the resignation of M. Samin Jan. The Party accepted office under certain drawbacks, namely, that the Party had only 22 members of its own and they had to take charge of the Administration of a Province that depends on Subvention of a crore of rupees from the Central Government. The Subvention was fixed at figures just enough to keep the Administration running. The Province has an inflexible Revenue of hardly Rs. 80,00,000/- a year. Under drawbacks mentioned above of having not enough money and with a Party strength less than half the members of the whole House, the Ministry have been working for the last year and a few months. Though they have not been able to do what they would have wished to do, yet they have tried to fulfil their election pledges and have done whatever they could under the peculiar circumstances of the Province.

The list, showing the names of the Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, Speaker and Deputy Speaker, is given at Appendix "A", and the names of the members at Appendix "B".

### Legislation.

The Legislative Assembly enacted the following legislation:—

1. The N.-W. F. P. Ministers' and Speaker's Salaries Act, 1937—

The pay of a Minister and the Speaker was fixed at Rs. 500/- a month with Rs. 150/- Motor Car Allowance,

2. The Criminal Procedure (Election offences) (N.-W. F. P. Amendment) Act, 1937—

By passing this Act certain offences relating to election were made cognizable.

3. The N.-W. F. P. Contempt of Courts Act, 1938—

This Act makes contempt of Court committed outside Court punishable by the Judicial Commissioner's Court.

4. The N.-W. F. P. Entertainment Duty and Tobacco Vend Fees Acts, 1938.

5. The Northern India Canal and Drainage (N.-W. F.P. Amendment) Act, 1938.

6. The District Boards and Municipalities Amendment Acts, 1938.

7. The Teri Dues Act.

8. The Indebted Agricultural Relief Act—

This Act was passed during the last Session, though it has not yet received the assent of His Excellency the Governor. This enactment proposes to give relief to indebted agriculturists and is on the lines of the Madras Indebtedness Act recently passed by the Madras Legislature.

### Retrenchment.

1. A permanent cut of Rs. 1,20,000/- was made from the Contingent and Travelling Allowance Grants of the various Departments in the Budget Estimates for the year 1937-38.

2. The Directorate of Agriculture and the Publicity Departments were abolished.

3. The Government fixed new reduced scale of pay for New Entrants and has withdrawn Language and Special Pays.

4. Inams which were granted to certain persons have been resumed.

5. A retrenchment of Rs. 10,000/- has been made in the Stationery grant.

6. The issue of Type-writer to Government Offices was restricted to their barest requirements. As an experimental measure the life of a Type-writer from the previous normal period of 10 years was extended to 15 years.

### Remissions.

1. Remission of land revenue of about Rs. 1,00,000 was granted to the land revenue payers of Rs. 5/- and below.

2. Remission of annas four in the rupee of Kharif 1937, abiana (water rates) amounting to about Rs. 1,00,000/- was granted to the Sugarcane growers in the Peshawar and Mardan Districts.

3. Remission of Rs. 50,000/- in land revenue was granted to the Zamindars of the Mardan District.

4. Suspension of irrecoverable loans of Taccavi amounting to Rs. 60,000/-.

5. The annual instalments paid by Municipal Committee, Dera Ismail Khan, towards the construction of the protective bund loan was reduced by Rs. 64,536/- and its yearly interest from 6 per cent to 3 per cent.

6. A Remission of Rs. 2,16,000/- was granted by Government in connection with the Kohat loan. This loan originally was granted to sufferers of Kohat riots.

### **Enhancement in the Revenues of the Province.**

The Entertainment Duty Act and the Tobacco Vend Act were passed by the Provincial Legislature to enable Government to levy taxes on entertainments and manufactured tobacco and cigarettes.

### **Judiciary.**

1. The Institution of Honorary Magistrates and Sub-Judges was abolished.

2. The Government made certain re-distribution of places of sitting of Subordinate Judges.

3. Additional Notaries Public and Commissioners of oaths were appointed.

### **Public Works Department.**

#### *1. Drainage.*

(a) Remodelling Drainage Canal, Paharpur, Dera Ismail Khan, at a cost of Rs. 18,000/-.

(b) The Amankot Drainage Scheme in the Peshawar District, which will bring under cultivation an area of 30,000 acres irrigated land, was taken in hand at a cost of Rs. 1,20,000/-.

#### *2. Canals.*

(a) The extension of Shabkadar Civil Canal was done at a cost of Rs. 40,000/-.

(b) Remodelling of Waran Canal, Dera Ismail Khan, was done at a cost of Rs. 20,000/-.

(c) Village Irrigation Channels cost Government Rs. 10,900/ for the current year.

(d) A sum of Rs. 50,000/- was placed at the disposal of the District Authorities of D. I. Khan to improve Rodkahi Irrigation.

#### *3. Buildings.*

(a) Construction of quarters for clerks at Peshawar (part of the Scheme costing Rs. 7,00,000/-) ... Rs. 2,10,000/-.

(b) Construction of a new building for the Government High School, Charsadda ... Rs. 54,000/-.

(c) Construction of Bungalows for officers at a cost of Rs. 3,22,000/-.

#### 4. *Roads and Village Communications.*

(a) Construction of new roads, improvements to existing Cross country roads and reconstruction of bridges from Provincial share in the Road Development Fund of the Central Government at an approximate cost of Rs. 7,00,000/-.

(b) Inter-Village communications met out of the grant of the Central Government, for economic development and improvement of rural areas ..... Rs. 13,000/-.

#### 5. *Electricity.*

The first stage of the Malakand Hydro-Electric Scheme was completed this year—cost for the year being Rs. 9,00,000/-. At present it supplies electricity to the M. E. S., for distribution to the Cantonnments of Peshawar, Nowshera and Risalpur. All the consumers in the Peshawar Civil area have been connected to the Malakand Scheme.

The load connected so far brings in a revenue of Rs. 15,000/- a month. The Scheme includes a programme for rural electrification in villages surrounding Peshawar, Nowshera, Mardan and Charsadda. The Scheme also includes a programme for the use of power for purposes of industries and lift irrigation. It is also proposed to extend the transmission to Kohat the next financial year. There is little doubt that the Malakand Hydro-Electric Project will, by disseminating electrical energy over wide tracts of the Province, add to the prosperity of these tracts and make for the uplift of their populations as similar projects have done elsewhere in this country.

#### **Medical and Public Health.**

1. The construction of Dadar sanatorium for T. B. patients has been taken in hand and which is nearly complete. The estimated cost of the buildings and equipments is Rs. 1,74,400/- of which Rs. 22,100/- have been contributed by various Municipalities in return for admission of patients from their areas. The building has been designed to cater for 64 beds suited to all classes and will involve a recurring expenditure of Rs. 23,034/- per annum on its maintenance. It will be opened to the public by April next.

2. The Scheme of Medical inspection of school children has been extended to schools in selected rural areas.

3. A free grant of Rs. 24,000/- has been given to the Mardan Municipality for the construction of an up-to-date modern district

hospital. The Government have also agreed to advance Rs. 50,000/- to enable them to carry out the scheme of building at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,96,354/-.

4. A new X-ray Department in the Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar, has been built at an estimated cost of Rs. 40,000/-.

5. Female medical aid was extended to Kulachi, Charsadda and Mansehra by the appointment of three Lady Doctors. Apart from this ten more trained Dais have been subsidised in selected villages for attendance on females in labour cases.

6. Three more dispensaries (at Sherwan, Balakot and Turangzai) have been opened by Government.

### **Jail Department.**

1. Rules for the revision of sentences of prisoners are being worked liberally. Releases of prisoners on grounds of illness are expedited.

2. In order to promote Jail industries it has been ruled that the requirements of Government Offices in respect of articles that are manufactured in Jails should invariably be obtained from jails.

### **Police.**

1. The Provincial Police Training Centre at Hangu has been still further developed and now undertakes the training of Police officers in the Intermediate, Upper, and Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors. The accommodation at the Centre was increased at a cost of Rs. 90,000/-. Three more Police stations were constructed for purposes of protection in the rural areas.

2. The Police Budget has been reduced from Rs. 33,02,934/- in 1937-38 to Rs. 32,61,277/- in 1938-39. The Government took great interest in the prevention of corruption and in the improvement of the relations between the public and the Police. Eight Police Officers were dismissed for corruption during the current year.

### **Forests.**

1. The severance of the connection of the Forest Department with the Punjab and the separation of the Forest Cadre (both Provincial and Subordinate) from that of the Punjab was decided upon by the Government.

2. All complaints for corruption are carefully examined by the Government and action taken accordingly.

### **Veterinary.**

1. Opening of twenty-two more touring dispensaries, bringing the total number to 160.

2. A sum of Rs. 5,200/- was sanctioned by Government over and above the sanctioned allotment for the year 1938-39 to meet the cost of certain repairs and construction of Veterinary dispensaries.

3. One more post of Veterinary Assistant Surgeon was sanctioned by Government in 1938-39 raising the total number to 17 in all.

4. 12 more permanent posts of Veterinary Stock Assistants were sanctioned raising the total cadre of the Subordinate Staff to 57.

5. 10 more scholarships @ Rs. 30/- p. m. each were sanctioned by Government.

6. 157 more stud bulls, 2 stud camels; 10 Pushti Koh rams, 4 she goats of Angora breed imported from U. S. A., and 9 more Dhanni cows were located in suitable places.

### **Agriculture.**

1. Organization of a Fruit Show at Tarnab Farm for the first time.

2. Dehydration of fruit was tackled with and it was quite a success.

3. The marketing of fruit from Tarnab Agricultural Farm was better organised this year.

4. In order to cope with the fruit pests and to demonstrate proper methods of pruning, thinning and grading of fruit, a party of expert staff has been organized this year, to take up spraying, rat-killing, pruning, thinning and grading of fruit in Zamindars' orchards.

5. 40 different centre depots for the supply of pure seeds to the Zamindars were opened this year. 17 village demonstration farms have been opened throughout the Province.

6. Eight Scholarships of Rs. 25/- p. m. each are to be awarded this year to students undergoing Agriculture Course at Islamia College, Peshawar.

### **Co-operative Societies.**

66 new Societies have been started. Apart from these the Shaikh Mohamdi Grapes Sale Society, the Frontier Egg Grading and Marketing Association and Barseem Sale Society at Amankot worked with success during the current year. The staff gave much of its time to propaganda work, directed towards thrift and savings and the giving up of un-necessary expenditure on ceremonies and rituals prevalent amongst the agriculturists in this Province. The staff also carried on extensive propaganda to dispel illiteracy from the people. Loans to the extent of Rs. 2,45,560/- were advanced.



## Industries.

1. The Provincial Government have approved a proposal to erect a Sugar Factory at Takht Bhai. The Government buying shares amounting to Rs. 2,00,000/-.

2. The Provincial Government have agreed to grant permission for the erection of a Tanning Factory at Peshawar subject to the following conditions : -

(a) that 80 per cent of the unskilled labour employed in the Factory shall be inhabitants of the Province;

(b) that in the allotment of shares preference shall be given to Frontier Capital.

(c) that 10 per cent of the total share shall be set aside for the labourers.

(d) that 5 per cent of the net profit of the Company shall be spent for the comfort and betterment of the labourers.

3. The Provincial Government have started the industrial survey of the Province.

4. 5 students have been granted stipends of Rs. 20/- p. m. each for four years to undergo industrial training in schools of other Provinces.

5. The Government has started a Hand-loom Weaving Institute and has so far spent : -

(a) Rs. 9,000/- on the purchase of Wool Carding and Spinning Set;

(b) Rs. 17,000/- on the purchase of Woollen Raising and Finishing Plant.

(c) Rs. 15,000/- on the purchase of Hand Woven Cotton Cloth Finishing Calender.

## Rural Uplift.

Rs. 3,00,000/- from the total Government of India's Grant for Rural Reconstruction was set apart by the Government for the rural areas to be used for the following schemes : -

- (a) Demonstration Plots.
- (b) Fruit Cultivation.
- (c) Consolidation of Holdings.
- (d) Drinking Water Supplies.
- (e) Inter-village Communications.
- (f) Rural Sanitation
- (g) Village Irrigation Channels.

Besides the above grant the Provincial Government have further sanctioned a grant to the tune of Rs. 1,50,000/- for financing the Water Supply Schemes in the dry districts of the Province.

### **Local Self-Government.**

The District Boards and Municipal Committees' Amendment Acts were passed to do away with the nominated element and the ex-officio Chairmen and Presidents. The Government have approved the system of Joint electorate with reservation of seats for the minorities in the District Boards, Municipalities and Notified Area Committees in the Province. The Government have under their consideration a proposal to do away with the nominated element in the Notified Areas with the exception of ex-officio President. The Government have issued preliminary Notifications regarding the establishment of Village Councils on an experimental basis in the Districts of Peshawar, Mardan and Dera Ismail Khan.

### **Revenue Department.**

1. The institution of Zaildars was abolished and Inams resumed.

2. Total prohibition was introduced in the Dera Ismail Khan District. In other Districts certain restrictions on private possession of excisable articles were imposed and excise fees raised to discourage consumption thereof.

### **Education.**

1. One school was raised to the status of a high school. Five full vernacular middle schools and five lower middle schools were converted into Anglo-Vernacular Middle Schools; as well as five English teachers were provided in the District Board vernacular lower middle schools.

2. The Government opened 50 more District Board primary schools for boys and 65 posts of additional pupil teachers were created in order to extend facilities for primary education to areas where they did not exist.

3. One District Board primary school for girls was raised to the status of a full vernacular middle school.

4. 10 District Board primary schools for boys were raised to the status of Anglo-vernacular lower middle schools.

5. The Government opened 8 new District Board primary schools for girls.

6. Five stipends for Rs. 20/- p. m. each have been sanctioned during the current year for students to undergo training at technical and industrial schools.

7. The Government have sanctioned the increase of the number of girls middle school scholarships of the value of Rs. 5/- p. m. each from 5 to 6 and that of the ordinary scholarships of the value of Rs. 4/- p. m. each from 117 to 138.

8. Three Theology schools and the Azad A. V. Middle School, Utmanzai, have been accorded recognition and a maintenance grant sanctioned for the latter.

9. The post of the Director of Public Instruction was provincialised, which has resulted in a considerable saving. The post of the Inspector of Vernacular Education has also been kept in abeyance, Government saving thereby about Rs, 9,000/- per annum.

10. The Provincial Government sanctioned the following additional grant-in-aid to the institutions noted against each:—

1937-38.

1. Rs. 10,000 ... Non-recurring for B.Sc. Agricultural classes at the Islamia College, Peshawar.

1938-39.

2. Rs. 23,000 ... Non-recurring for B.Sc. Agricultural classes at the Islamia College, Peshawar.

3. Rs. 11,160 ... Non-recurring for B.Sc. Agricultural classes at the Islamia College, Peshawar.

For two years from 1-4-1938.

4. Rs. 7,000 ... Recurring maintenance grant for V. B. College, D. I. Khan.

#### Miscellaneous.

1. The Provincial Government appointed an Enquiry Committee to go into the Bannu Raid of 23rd July 1938.

2. A sum of Rs. 20,000/- was distributed as a relief amongst those who suffered in the Bannu Raid.

3. A sum of Rs. 2,000/- was distributed as a relief to those who suffered due to the flood in River Siran and Taccavi Loans to the extent of Rs. 10,000/- were also sanctioned.

From the perusal of the report it will be seen that the Congress Ministry in this Province and the Congress Party are actively considering ways and means of implementing their pledges to the electorates; and all will agree that the Party and the Ministry are honestly endeavouring to do their best for their people.

Peshawar,  
7th January 1939.

(Sd.) ABDUL GHAFOOR KHAN, Bar-at-Law,  
Secretary,  
N.-W.F.P. Legislative Congress Party.

## Appendix 'A'

### I. Speaker.

The Hon'ble Malik Khuda Bakhsh Khan, B. A., LL. B.

### II. Deputy Speaker.

Nawabzada Allah Nawaz Khan, Bar-at-Law.

### III. Ministers.

1. The Hon'ble Doctor Khan Sahib, Premier.
2. The Hon'ble Lala Bhanju Ram Gandhi, B. A., LL. B.,  
Minister, Finance.
3. The Hon'ble Qazi Atta Ullah Khan, B. A., LL. B., Minister,  
Education.
4. The Hon'ble Khan Muhammad Abbas Khan, Minister,  
Industries.

### IV. Parliamentary Secretaries.

1. Khan Abdul Ghafoor Khan, Bar-at-Law.
2. Arbab Abdul Ghafoor Khan.
3. R. B. Lala Chiman Lal, B. A., LL. B., Advocate.
4. Khan Amir Muhammad Khan.