APPENDIX V.

(Letter from K.K. Gandhi to Amalprava Das, Gauhati).

Poona, 10.9.45.

Chiranjivi Amalprava,

I have received your letter. I approve of a budget of Rs.810. The second one also will have to be approved. But a Committee is appointed to examine the scheme on camp; the sum can be granted only after the necessary changes are made in accordance with its advice. The Committee has duly authorised me to deal with Assam affairs; therefore, any lapse or slackness noticed shall have to be attributed to me. But I shall now allow that to happen.

Start buying Muga. As regards the working method, it will be enough to remember the following instructions:

1. Base all your work in the camp on the principle of self-reliance. This means that by the time the camp becomes complete, it should be self-reliant. If this necessitates extending the period of duration of the camp, it does not matter. Perhaps extending will result in gathering of experience. Your working knowledge will be also deeper.

2. Spinning cotton and the full operation associated with the work should be practised with due knowledge and understanding of the process.

3. One of the good handicraft should be taught. Instruction should also be knowledge-based.

4. The basis of self-reliance should be the silk craft.

5. As far as possible, every work should be performed by the camp inmates by themselves. Use of labourers should be minimum.
6. As far as possible workers in the camp should be women.

7. The place of the camp should be in the village or adjacent to it. There should be rapport between their lives and villagers' lives.

I have written these words to explain the ideal. As for the manner of carrying out, you will rely on the instructions received from the office.

I think what I have written is enough. If it is not, please write to me again.

With blessings,

Bapu.

Source: By courtesy of Amalprova Das, Gauhati.