

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

Thursday, the 1st April, 1948.

Proceedings of the Bihar Legislative Assembly assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Patna on Thursday, the 1st April, 1948, at 11-30 A. M., the Hon'ble Mr. Vindhyashwari Prasad Varma in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ACQUISITION OF LAND AT JAMTARA IN THE DISTRICT OF SANTAL PARGANAS

*87. Mr. GAURI SHANKAR DALMIA : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Revenue Department be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. W. G. Archer took about Rs. 11,000 (Eleven thousand) for the benefit of Jamtara in the Santal Parganas from Mr. Gopi Nath Paul for the acquisition of a plot of land at Jamtara in the district of the Santal Parganas ;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the affirmative, how has the money been spent, and if it has not been spent, then why so ?

The Hon'ble Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY : (a) It is not a fact that Mr. W. G. Archer took about Rs. 11,000. It was Mr. V. K. R. Menon, Deputy Commissioner, who took Rs. 12,500 for the benefit of Jamtara subdivision from Mr. Gopi Nath Paul for the acquisition of a plot of land at Mihijam in Jamtara subdivision.

(b) Out of the above sum Rs. 5,505-5-5 was given by Mr. N. L. Bhagat, Deputy Commissioner, to the Girls' M. E. School, Jamtara, for its building. Out of the said sum Rs. 3,761-7-3 has been spent over the building and the balance is with the Managing Committee. The balance out of Rs. 12,500 is with the Deputy Commissioner of Santal Parganas. The school committee of the J. B. C. H. E. School have by their resolution requested the Deputy Commissioner to pay the balance for the improvement of the H. E. School.

PERSONS SERVING UNDER THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AT PRESENT BELONGING TO EACH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE.

88. Mr. BASUDEVA PRASAD SINHA : Will the Hon'ble Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons serving under the Provincial Government at present belonging to each district of the province separately ;

* In the absence of the questioner, the answer was given at the request of Mr. Jagannath Singh.

Mr. RAJKISHORE SINGH : When Biharis are not appointed in the office of the Accountant-General, Bihar, will Government be pleased to request the Central Government to appoint Biharis in the office of the Accountant-General, Bihar ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : This is a request for action.

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : Will Government be pleased to state if in view of the better interest of the natives of the province they do not consider it desirable to obtain the information asked for from the Central Government ?

The Hon'ble Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY : That information can be obtained if the hon'ble member insists.

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : Will Government be pleased to state if they have taken any interest in respect of proper representation of Biharis in the office of the Accountant-General, Bihar ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : This does not lie within the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government to suggest to the Central Government to appoint Biharis in the offices subordinate to the Central Government. But it has always been insisted that Biharis should be taken in larger number and it is also a fact that great interest has been taken in this respect by the Provincial Government.

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : In view of the answer just given that interest is always taken in the appointment of Biharis, may I enquire if the Government are aware that there has been a large influx of people from other provinces in the office of the Accountant-General during the last eight or nine months ; if so, what step has been taken to safeguard the interests of Biharis in the office of the Accountant-General, Bihar ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : A large number of refugees came from the Eastern Pakistan and they had to be provided for in the office of the Accountant-General, Bihar, which is under the control of the Central Government.

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : Will Government be pleased to state if they consider it desirable that all those refugees should dump only in Bihar ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : This is not the fact.

HAZARIBAGH DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION.

92. Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Local Self-Government Department be pleased to state —

(a) the date on which the elections to the Hazaribagh District Board were held ;

(b) the date on which the votes were counted and the names of the candidates declared elected by the Returning Officer ;

(c) the date on which the names of the elected members were published in the Gazette ;

(d) the names of the members nominated and the date on which the nominations were made ;

(e) if the names of the elected members have not yet been published, the reasons for withholding publication for such a length of time ?

The Hon'ble Pandit BINODANAND JHA : (a) Elections in general constituency were held between 16th June 1947 to 24th June 1947. Names for special constituency (Mining Interest) were received by Government on 10th February 1948.

(b) In general constituency votes were counted and published by the Returning Officers on the 28th June, 1947, and in special constituencies names were sent by Deputy Commissioner, Haseeribagh, on the 8th February, 1948.

(c) The 19th February, 1948.

(d) The names of nominated members were published on the 15th March, 1948.

(e) Does not arise.

Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA : Will Government be pleased to state why they took such a long time to publish the names of the members ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : So far my information goes the file was mislaid.

Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA : Has action been taken against the officer who mislaid the file ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : Action has been taken.

Mr. PURUSHOTAM CHOHAN : What action has been taken against the officer ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : The clerk concerned has been reprimanded.

Mr. RAMESHWAR PRASAD SINHA : Why unusual delay was made by the Deputy Commissioner in forwarding the proposals for nominations to represent the special constituency ?

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The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : I do not accept this proposition.

Mr. RAMESHWAR PRASAD SINHA : May I know from Government why the Deputy Commissioner forwarded his proposal so late as in February 1948, when the result of the general elections was published in June 1947?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : Some further action was necessary to complete the publication of the result of the elections.

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