

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

*Tuesday, 1st March, 1921.*

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock.  
The Honourable the President was in the Chair.

## MEMBERS SWORN :

Rai Nishikanta Sen Bahadur, M.L.A.; Mr. Syed Haider Karrar Jafri, M.L.A.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### RANGOON UNIVERSITY BILL.

299. **Mr. P. P. Ginwala :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether before according its administrative approval to the Rangoon University Bill, 1920, the Bill was scrutinised by it in the light of such of the general recommendations of the Sadler Commission, as were applicable to all new Universities of the centralized and residential type to be established in the future, and, if so, which of such recommendations were in respect of the Rangoon University :

- (i) adopted by the Government of India ;
- (ii) suggested as worthy of adoption by the Government of Burma ;  
and
- (iii) adopted by the Government of Burma ?

**Mr. H. Sharp :** Before the Government of India accorded approval to the introduction of the Rangoon University Bill, the question of the extent to which its provisions accorded with the general recommendations of the Calcutta University Commission was carefully considered. The Government of India held that the divergencies in the Bill from those recommendations were largely due to the peculiar conditions prevailing in Burma and that the scheme set forth, as it developed, would, in time to come, conform with the more important of those recommendations. It may also be mentioned that the Government of Burma delayed the submission of the scheme in order that the Commission's recommendations might be considered.

### LEGISLATION FOR THE RANGOON UNIVERSITY.

300. **Mr. P. P. Ginwala :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Sadler Commission did not in paragraph 3 of Chapter L of their report lay it down as a general proposition that it was 'essential that fundamental University legislation should continue to be, for British India, a function of the Imperial Government'?

(b) Has there been any addition or alteration in the cadre, since it was first introduced?

(c) Is the Government aware that these officers are stationed at their respective cantonments since their first appointments, about 10 or 12 years ago?

(d) Will the Government be pleased to extend the usual practice of transference of public servants, after a certain period in the case of these officers also?

**Sir Godfrey Fell:** (a) The present cadre is 3.

(b) No.

(c) One of these officers has been 10 years and 6 months in his present station, the other two have been less than 9 years in their respective stations.

(d) There is nothing to prevent the transfer of these officers; the sole test to be applied is whether the public interest would best be served by transferring them or leaving them where they are.

#### INCOMES IN CANTONMENTS.

**323. Haji Wajihuddin:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to lay a statement on the table of the incomes derived in the principal cantonments in India, from house, water and conservancy taxes, with details showing how much of the same comes from the parts inhabited by the European and the Indian population respectively?

(b) What amount is spent for the upkeep of sanitation, light, road-watering, etc., every year, in the Bazar and on the area outside the Bazar limits?

**Sir Godfrey Fell:** The information asked for by the Honourable Member, so far as it is available, is being collected, and when ready a statement will be laid on the table.

#### HYDRO-ELECTRIC SYSTEM IN MEERUT CANTONMENT.

**324. Haji Wajihuddin:** (a) Is the Government aware that there was a joint scheme under discussion to introduce the Hydro-Electric system into the Meerut Cantonment and Municipality, and that the cantonment has not now joined in the scheme, since tenders are now being invited on behalf of the Municipality only?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to give reasons for this? Is there any separate scheme under consideration to introduce this system into the Meerut Cantonment? If not, then, do the Government propose to take steps at an early date for the introduction of this scheme?

**Sir Godfrey Fell:** Government are aware that a scheme for a joint hydro-electric system for the Meerut Cantonment and the Meerut Municipality has been put forward. The matter is still under the consideration of the Government of India, and it has not yet been finally decided whether the Cantonment authorities should join in the scheme or not.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** Sir, I should like to ask a supplementary question. Is Government aware that a hydro-electric scheme has already been

taken up by the Meerut Municipality and that if the Cantonments did not join in that scheme as partners now, they would not be able to join in later on.

**Sir Godfrey Fell:** Government are fully aware of the fact and the matter is at present under their immediate consideration.

#### WATER TAX IN MEERUT CANTONMENT.

**325. Haji Wajihuddin:** Is the Government aware that there is a water-tax levied in Meerut Cantonment? Is it also aware that house connections of pipe water are not available in this cantonment, and that a part of thickly populated Sudder Bazar has no stand-posts at all? Do the Government propose to consider how far this tax is justified, and what step it should take in the matter?

**Sir Godfrey Fell:** The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

Government has no information regarding the arrangements for the distribution of water in the Meerut Cantonment. The existence of a water-tax imposes no obligation on the Cantonment authority other than to supply sufficient water for domestic purposes at public stand-posts.

The Honourable Member's question will be brought to the notice of the local military authorities, who are primarily responsible for the administration of the Cantonment.

#### ARTICLE IN THE *FATEH*.

**326. Haji Wajihuddin:** Will the Honourable Member in the Education Department please say if the attention of Government has been drawn towards the article published in a daily vernacular organ of Delhi, the *Fateh*, of the 28th January 1921, on page 2 under the heading '*Mohammed Rsoolullah Sullallahowasallam ki Tohin*,' if so, (1) whether the facts are true and (2) has the Government taken or does it intend to take any action in the matter?

**Mr. H. Sharp:** The Government of India have seen the passage in the *Fateh* to which allusion is made. The Government of India do not know for what purpose or by what authority the book in question has been prescribed. It appears from the passage alluded to that it is prescribed for study in certain educational institutions. Such institutions form part of a provincial transferred subject. The Government of India, however, have already suggested to Local Governments and Administrations that if that book figured on the provincial list of prescribed or approved books, the desirability of removing it should be considered.

#### RAILWAY CARRIAGES OF 1ST AND 2ND CLASSES.

**327. Haji Wajihuddin:** (a) Will the President, Railway Board, please say if the Government has ever considered the feasibility of having railway carriages of 1st and 2nd classes to consist of equal numbers of compartments marked for '*Europeans*' and '*Indians*' separately?

(b) Do the Government propose to issue necessary instructions to the various Railway companies in the near future to carry out the above suggestion?