

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES.

The 18th December, 1937.

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

The Council met in the Council Chamber in the Secretariat Conference room at Patna, on Saturday, the 18th December, 1937, at 11.30 A.M., the Hon'ble the President in the Chair.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE 'STAR OF INDIA' BY GOVERNMENT.

5. Khan Bahadur SAIYID MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will Government be pleased to state whether they are subscribing to the *Star of India*, Calcutta; if not, why?

The Hon'ble Mr. SHRI KRISHNA SINHA: The answer is in the affirmative.

RETRENCHMENT IN PROVINCIAL EXPENDITURE.

6. Mr. SAIYID MOBARAK ALI: Will Government be pleased to state if they propose retrenchment, if any, in the existing provincial expenditure; if so, will they give its details?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA: Government are examining measures of retrenchment. As in many cases orders have not yet been passed, it would be premature to give details.

Mr. SAIYID MOBARAK ALI: Will Government be pleased to mention the measures about which they have decided to effect retrenchment?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA: Sir, the whole matter is under investigation. So far as travelling allowance rules are concerned, Government has circulated the file to the various heads of departments for their opinion. We want to adopt the practice which has been lately adopted by the United Provinces Government. If that measure is adopted, there will be a considerable amount of retrenchment. So far as the special pay and special allowance are concerned, that matter is under investigation. We have had to face certain difficulties because certain special pay cannot be touched under the Government of India Act. I do not think it will be proper to convey the details to the House at this stage.

Mr. SAIYID MOBARAK ALI: May I know if there are other measures also than the two mentioned?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : In the first instance, the various departments have been asked to send suggestions of their own accord what retrenchments they propose and we have not received replies from all the departments. Some of them have replied but unless we get full information on the subject, I think the hon'ble member will agree that it would not be fair to give the information.

ORGANISATION OF KISAN RALLY.

7. Khan Bahadur SAIYID MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will Government be pleased to state who was responsible for organising the Kisan rally in Patna on the 23rd August, 1937, and again on the 26th of November, 1937 ?

The Hon'ble Mr. SHRI KRISHNA SINHA : It is understood that the organisers were the Provincial Kisan Sabha.

Mr. GUR SAHAY LAL : May I know from Government whether the members of the Kisan Sabha are the same as the workers of the Congress Party ?

The Hon'ble Mr. SHRI KRISHNA SINHA : Not all the members.

Mr. GUR SAHAY LAL : May I know whether it is a fact that the majority of the Kisan Sabha workers are the same as the Congress workers ?

The Hon'ble Mr. SHRI KRISHNA SINHA : A large number of them are, but I cannot say the majority.

Mr. GUR SAHAY LAL : May I know whether the Congress workers were separate from the Kisan Sabha so far as this rally is concerned ?

The Hon'ble Mr. SHRI KRISHNA SINHA : The Congress had nothing to do with this rally. Where a Congressman is also a member of the Kisan Sabha, he did so on behalf of the Provincial Kisan Sabha.

Mr. SAIYID MUHAMMAD HAFEEZ : Is it a fact that some hon'ble members belonging to the Congress Party, who are members of the Bihar Legislative Assembly, were also found in the Kisan rally ?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : The answer is in the affirmative.

Mr. SAIYID MUHAMMAD HAFEEZ : May I know how many of them ?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : I have not kept any record of that.

Mr. SAIYID MUHAMMAD HAFEEZ : Did any of the Hon'ble Ministers go to the rally ?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : Yes, Sir, three of them but with a different purpose.