

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

Wednesday, the 26th June, 1946.

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 Wednesday, the 26th June, 1946, at 11-30 A.M., the Hon'ble the Speaker, Mr. Vindhye shwari Prasada Verma, in the Chair.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

BLACK-MARKETING OF MISCELLANEOUS GOODS.

*35. Mr. MEHDI HASAN : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Supply and Price Control be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one of the chief causes of black-marketing, specially in miscellaneous goods is the difficulty placed by Railway in transit of goods;
- (b) if the answer is in the affirmative, do Government intend moving Railway authorities to remove the difficulty?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : (a) No. Shortage of transport does affect this point to some extent.

(b) Does not arise.

DEALERS IN WOOLLEN GOODS.

36. Mr. HIRALAL SARAF : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Supply and Price Control Department be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government appointed last year a number of dealers in woollen goods;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the supply position with regard to woollen goods has now improved;
- (c) if answers to clauses (a) and (b) be in the affirmative whether it is still necessary to continue to vest the monopoly of distribution of woollen goods in the hands of a few approved dealers to the exclusion of so many other established long in the trade;
- (d) if answer to clause (c) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to increase the number of approved dealers in order to ensure equitable and widest possible distribution of woollen goods through so many other dealers excluded hitherto?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : (a) The Government of India appointed some dealers for selling Indian woollen goods. Foreign woollen goods come through the trade.

*In the absence of the questioner, the answer was given at the request of Mr. Tajamul Hussain.

DISTRIBUTION OF FOODGRAINS IN THE RURAL AREAS.

616. Mr. Jamuna Prashad Singh* : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Supply and Price Control Department be pleased to state—

(a) what steps or steps Government have taken to see that grains in rural areas are sold at the controlled rates or at the rates which Government purchase by compulsory sale by its levy order ;

(b) whether Government propose to start their own shop for the sale of grains to landless labourers and artisans at the controlled rates in rural areas ;

(c) whether Government have considered the consequence that may result from their withdrawing the surplus grains from South Bihar Bhawli districts by enforcing their order without making any provision for *takavi* seeds, etc., for the tenants who used to get them from the surplus of grains in the hands of the landlords ; if so, what arrangement Government propose to make for them ?

The Hon'ble Mr. Anugrah Narayan Sinha : (a) Each district has a number of Marketing Inspectors whose duty is to assist the local officers in enforcing control rates throughout the district. The difficulties in enforcing control rates in rural areas are, however, very considerable and Government are aware that the existing arrangements are by no means perfect. Government have solicited the help of the public and have appointed Advisory Committees also in all districts and subdivisions and propose to have them in each village.

(b) Yes—to the extent stocks permit.

(c) Government have received no complaints on this account. If there is any genuine difficulty, Government will take suitable action. Sufficient stocks have been left with all cultivators and landlords.

617. Mr. Jamuna Prashad Singh† : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Supply and Price Control Department be pleased to state—

(a) if Government are aware that there has been a complete failure of 'paddy and *rabi* crops in Gobindpore, Pakribarsan and Koivakoh thanas in the subdivision of Nawadah ;

* In the absence of the questioner, answer was given at the request of Mr. Hari Kishore Prasad.

† In the absence of the questioner, answer was given at the request of Mr. Deoki Mandan Prasad.