

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

Monday, the 3rd February, 1947.

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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber on Monday, the 3rd February, 1947, at 11-30 A.M., the Hon'ble the Speaker, Mr. Vin-dyeshwari Prasada Varma, in the chair.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Any hon'ble member present who has not taken the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown will kindly do so now. The following member made the prescribed oath of allegiance to the Crown and took his seat :—

The Hon'ble Mr. Jaglal Chaudhuri. (East Central Shahabad General Rural.)

WELCOME TO HON'BLE MEMBERS.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Hon'ble Members, I welcome you all most heartily to this the second session of the Second Bihar Legislative Assembly.

CONDOLENCES.

CONDOLENCE ON THE DEATHS OF MESSRS. ZAHID HUSSAIN AND HARI KISHORE PRASAD, BABU BRAJKISHORE PRASAD AND PANDIT MADAN MOHAN MALVIYA.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : It is now my painful duty to refer to the heavy loss that the province has sustained by the sad demise of two of our colleagues since we met last, namely, Mr. Zahid Hussain and Mr. Hari Kishore Prasad. Mr. Zahid Hussain was a member of the Sitamarhi Bar where he had a flourishing practice. He was elected a member of this Assembly on the Muslim League ticket last year from the Sitamarhi Muhammadan Rural Constituency. He died of heart failure in the afternoon of the 9th September last in the Sitamarhi Court. He was associated with various committees of rural uplift and social welfare and was a prominent member of his locality. His career was full of promise and his death is greatly to be deplored. It is extremely unfortunate

The Hon'ble Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY : (a) The answer is in the affirmative. During the floods of 1930 and 1938, the villages of Godai Diara, Satnagorhi and Maskalaya-Solgorhi were entirely washed away and the inhabitants brought to the neighbouring villages of Kalyani, Maskalay, Phatepur and Patharia.

(b) The flood affected people were allowed by the Santal tenants to construct houses in their Bari lands on receipt of certain consideration. The lands in the Damin area being non-saleable, the settlement thus made by the Santals were regularised by the acquisition of those lands under Section 25A of Regulation II of 1886. Some of the tenants whose lands were thus acquired, however refused to take compensation or to part with their lands and obstructed the court Amin in doing Khanapuri works. These persons only were prosecuted.

(c) Most of the homeless tenants have already been accommodated as stated in clause (b) above. Action is being taken by the Deputy Commissioner of the Santal Parganas to accommodate the remainder in the acquired area. While sanctioning the acquisition Government have already issued instructions to the local officers that Basauri settlements with the flood stricken people after acquisition of these lands should be made at a very reasonable rent. The delay in accommodating these people is reported by the Deputy Commissioner to have been due to the strong opposition of the jamabandi tenants whose lands were acquired for the purpose of settling floodstricken people.

MAINTENANCE CHARGE OF THE BETTIAH HOUSE, PATNA.

141. Mr. MANGAR DHOBI: Will Hon'ble Minister in charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total cost of maintenance charge of Bettiah House, Patna every month.

(b) whether the Patna Bettiah House is meant for private use of the Manager of the Estate?

The Hon'ble Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY :

	Rs.
(a) House rent	115
One Mali	10
One Chaukidar	10
One Sweeper	8
Total	143

(b) The answer is in the negative. The Manager has his own residence in Patna. A house had to be hired in Patna for the period from January 1944 to July 1945 for other officers and staff who had to frequently come to Patna in connection with the litigation then going on with Mrs. Broucke and income-tax cases of the estate. It was thought unsafe to let the estate employees put up in cheap hotels as they had to carry important documents. Till the earthquake of 1934, the estate had hired a house in Patna on Rs. 350 a month and spent Rs. 105 a month on establishment.