

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES; 1947.

Friday, 14th March, 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 at Patna on Friday, the 14th March 1947, at 11-30 A. M., the Hon'ble the Speaker, Mr. Vindhyeswari Prāsada Varma, in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

PROHIBITION IN PATNA AND GAYA.

235. Mr. SHIVANANDAN RAM : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that total prohibition is going to be introduced in the districts of Patna and Gaya ;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the affirmative what action are Government going to take for the employment of the *Todi-bendora*?

The Hon'ble Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY : (a) The answer is in negative.

(b) The question does not arise.

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : Will Government be pleased to state if they at all propose to introduce prohibition in Bihar?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : We have already decided to introduce it and we have taken the first steps in this direction.

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : When do they propose to put their decision into effect?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : With regard to the inter-province?

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : With regard to the very introduction of prohibition in any part of the province.

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : I have already submitted that Government have taken the necessary steps in this direction. We have provided for the conversion of outstills into distilleries. That is a step in the direction of prohibition. Further steps will be taken as soon as we consider that is necessary.

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : Will the Hon'ble Finance Minister kindly tell us if they followed this policy of progressive realisation of prohibition when they were in office last time ?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : The hon'ble member may be aware of what we did then. He himself being a journalist must have kept himself in touch with events that took place in the province during the last several years.

Mr. MURLI MANOHAR PRASAD : Will Government be pleased to state if they remember that the introduction of prohibition was an integral part of the Congress election manifesto ?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : It is even today. There is no difference in policy that guided us then and that guides us now.

Mr. HARI NATH MISHRA : Are Government aware that the Government of U. P. are going to introduce prohibition in many of their districts from April, 1947 ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : This is out of order.

Mr. DIP NARAYAN SINHA : Are Government prepared to introduce even partial prohibition in the districts of Patna and Gaya ?

An Hon'ble MEMBER : And Shahabad ?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : The matter is under the consideration. We have not decided one way or the other, but a decision will be taken soon.

Mr. PURUSHOTTAM CHOHAN : May I know if the industrial areas will be given the first priority in the scheme of prohibition ?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : So far as the industrial areas are concerned, the conversion of the outstill system will itself be a very good step in the direction of prohibition in the industrial areas.

Sardar HARIHAR SINGH :

इस conversion के बारे में गवर्नमेंट चौर भौ कुछ करना चाहती है-या काम जतम हो गया ।

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :

गवर्नमेंट सब कुछ करना चाहती है वष तज की बाबकारी की चावदनी (excise revenue) बलकुल खतम न हो जाय ।

Pandit BUDHINATH JHA :

मे जानना चाहता हूँ कि conversion का मतलब क्या है ? क्या जहाँ कहीं out-till को दूकानें हैं वहाँ distillery कायम कर दी जायगी ?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :

जरूरी नहीं है। हो भी सकती है। और नहीं भी हो सकती। Outstill नहीं रहेगा।

REPRESENTATION ON THE ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

236. Mr. RAMGHULAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Supply and Price Control Department be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the circular of the Supply and Price Control Department makes provision for only such members of the Legislature who are residents of the area concerned for inclusion of their names on the local, district or subdivisional Advisory Committee; if so, will Government be pleased to state how many members have been thus debarred from serving on the Advisory Committees under the circular in question;

(b) whether it is a fact that the provision of the circular has been relaxed in case of the members of other constituencies residing at Patna so as to enable them to serve on the Advisory Committee of Patna district;

(c) if so, will Government be pleased to state why such individual distinction between the residents of Patna and other town has been made;

(d) whether Government are prepared to do away with this distinction in the near future?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : (a) Yes. About 65 members have not been taken in the Advisory Committee. Some of them are reluctant to serve therein.

(b) Yes.

(c) Members residing in Patna have been allowed to serve in the Committee as they expressed their desire to do so.

(d) Yes. If and when any such request is made.

Mr. HARI NATH MISHRA : May I know why some members are reluctant to serve in the Advisory Committee?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : The hon'ble member will kindly ask those members who are reluctant to serve in the Advisory Committee.

Mr. HARI NATH MISHRA : I want to know if you know it.

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : It is not known to us.