

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Maulavi Hafiz Nurul Haqq.

125. (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a leaderette appearing in the *Searchlight* of the 28th January 1921, under the heading "The Champaran Affair"? Article in *Searchlight*, dated 28th January 1921, headed "The Champaran Affair".

(b) Do the Government propose to appoint a commission to inquire into the truth or otherwise of the popular as well as the police version?

(c) If the answer to the above be in affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state if the proposed commission will consist of official or non-official members of this Council or of persons outside of it?

MR. RAINY: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Attention is invited to the answer given to a similar question* asked by Rai Bahadur Purnendu Narayan Sinha.

Swami Vidyanand alias Bishva Bharan Prashad.

126. (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any memorial from the cultivators of villages —

(a) Narad, Tarapatti, Dullipatti, Jaynagar, Malmal and about fifty other villages in the Madhubani Subdivision in the district of Darbhanga, Memorials from cultivators in certain villages in Darbhanga, Bhagalpur and Monghyr districts.

(b) Nawab Bakhar, Pareamedha and other villages in the Supaul Subdivision in the district of Bhagalpur;

(c) Sonbarsa, Narayanpur, Lattipur and about 20 other villages in the Sadr Subdivision of Bhagalpur;

(d) Bathua and nineteen other villages in the Samastipur Subdivision in the district of Darbhanga;

(e) Jhanhara, Bharatkhend and fifty other villages in Monghyr Sadr Subdivision in June, August, September, October and November, 1919, and February, March, April, May, September and October, 1920, regarding their grievances?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state what orders have been passed on those memorials and what steps have been taken to redress their grievances?

MR. HUBBACK: Memorials were received and were forwarded to the Commissioners of the Divisions concerned for disposal. No action was taken on the memorial mentioned under (b) of part (1) of the question as none was called for or necessary.

Rai Bahadur Purnendu Narayan Sinha.

127. Will the Government be pleased to say what capital sums have been spent by the Governor-General in Council upon the construction of Productive and Protective Irrigation Works in this Province? Are the said sums included in the Provincial Loan Account or not (*Vide* Rules 23 and 24, Devolution Rules)? Capital expenditure of construction of Productive and Protective Irrigation Works in Bihar and Orissa.

MR. BREMNER: The total capital expenditure on Productive and Protective Irrigation Works chargeable to the Imperial Heads of Accounts is Rs. 5,97,31,444 to the end of the year 1919-20.

The interest on the capital appears as item 14 on the expenditure side of the new budget. The capital sum is not included in the Loan Account which has to be redeemed in 12 years.

128. Will the Government be pleased to place on the table statistics as to growth of cotton in the last ten years, district by district, showing separately the area grown with *buri kapas*, and the area grown with other varieties of cotton? Statistics about growth of cotton.