

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

The 28th September, 1939.

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 Thursday, the 28th September, 1939, at 11-30 A.M., the Hon'ble the Speaker, Mr. Ramdayalu Sinha, in the Chair.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE UNION BOARD OF MAHNAR.

1. **Mr. NIRAPADA MUKHARJI :** Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was an election of the members of the Union Board of Mahnar within the jurisdiction of the Mahnar Police-station, in the district of Muzaffarpur, on the 16th September, 1939;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the affirmative, whether there was any trouble in conducting the election in a proper and legal way;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Sub-Deputy Magistrate, deputed to conduct the aforesaid election, submitted a report to the Subdivisional Officer mentioning that the Sub-Inspector of Police failed to maintain order and left the polling-station, in consequence of which, there was confusion and disorder, and the election could not be conducted in a proper and legal way;

(d) whether, in the circumstances stated in clause (c), Government propose to direct a re-election of the members of the aforesaid Union Board, and a sifting enquiry into the conduct of the aforesaid Sub-Inspector of Police responsible for so handling the situation?

Mr. BINODANAND JHA : (a) and (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) and (d) Petitions have been filed by private individuals before the District Magistrate to set aside the election, and as the same are under investigation, Government do not propose to make any definite statement about the subject matter of the case at this stage.

Khan Bahadur HAJI SHAIKH MAHMUD HASSAN KHAN : Who collected the money : was it not the Subdivisional Officer ?

Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY : I have got no information of that.

Mr. SUKHLAL SINGH : What is the basis of the information of the hon'ble member ?

(No answer.)

SELECTION OF THE MENIAL STAFF FOR THE CAMP OFFICE.

95. Mr. SHYAM NARAYAN SINGH : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. F. A. Betterton, late Irrigation Secretary, passed an order in the year 1933 that peons belonging to the Ranchi side should be given preference over others in the matter of selection of the menial staff for the camp office; if so, whether the aforesaid order was taken into consideration while making the selection of peons for the camp office this year; if not, why;

(b) whether it is a fact that one temporary contingent coolie has been sent to the camp office this year in preference to other permanent peons, specially those coming from the Ranchi side who had expressed their desire to go to the camp office;

(c) whether it is a fact that the aforesaid contingent coolie is also a private servant of the Head Assistant, who took him to the camp office for his personal comforts;

(d) whether it is a fact that coolies are not eligible for deputation to the camp office;

(e) if the answer to clauses (b), (c) and (d) be in the affirmative, what action, if any, do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : (a) The replies to both parts of this question are in the affirmative. One peon of the district of Ranchi was left at Patna, as his conduct had not been satisfactory.

(b) The reply is in the affirmative. Of four peons of the district of Ranchi three were brought to Ranchi and none had expressed his desire in writing to accompany the camp office to Ranchi.

(c) The reply is in the negative.

(d) The contingent coolie, referred to, was acting as a peon in a leave vacancy and it is not unusual for such temporary peons to be brought to Ranchi and there is no rule against it.

(e) As explained above, no further action is called for.