

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

Tuesday, the 16th March, 1948

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 Tuesday, the 16th March, 1948 at 11 A.M., the Hon'ble the Speaker, Mr. Vindhayeshwari Prasada Varma, in the Chair.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

CONDUCT OF THE HEADMASTER OF THE PATNA COLLEGIATE SCHOOL IN REMOVING THE PORTRAIT OF MAHATMA GANDHI FROM A CLASS-ROOM AND SUBSTITUTING IT WITH THAT OF CLIVE.

13. Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA : Will the Hon'ble Minister of Education be pleased to state—

(a) if his attention has been drawn to a news published in one of the local English dailies in its issue of the 7th March, containing two serious allegations against the conduct of the Headmaster of the Patna Collegiate School, viz., (a) that he removed Gandhiji's portrait from a class-room and put up in its place a portrait of Clive, and (b) that he threatened certain students who had attended Gandhiji's funeral in Delhi with expulsion from school ;

(b) if he has had any enquiry made into the truth or otherwise of the aforesaid report ;

(c) if the answer to clause (b) be in the negative, the reasons for not ordering an inquiry immediately ;

(d) if the answer to clause (b) be in the affirmative, the result of the inquiry ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : Sir, with your permission, on behalf of the Hon'ble Education Minister, I propose to answer the question.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Yes, please.

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

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(b) An enquiry is being made.

(c) The question does not arise.

(d) The result of the enquiry will be made known as soon as received.

Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA : In view of the fact that the incident occurred at least ten days ago and in the town of Patna, may I know why the enquiry has been delayed ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : The delay is regretted.

Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA : Will Government be pleased to make a statement after they have received the report and considered it ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : As soon as the report is received, the House will be in a position to know it, and then if it is pleased to raise any supplementary questions, that will be open to it.

Dr. PURNA CHANDRA MITRA : What is the name of the Headmaster of the School ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : I do not know the name, but if the hon'ble member wants to know it he will be pleased to give me time.

Dr. PURNA CHANDRA MITRA : Why was he not suspended before the enquiry ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : Government did not consider it sufficiently justifiable to suspend the Headmaster before an enquiry was made.

Dr. PURNA CHANDRA MITRA : Was it not a great disobedience on the part of the Headmaster ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : I am unable to answer it.

Pandit DHANRAJ SHARMA : Will Government be pleased to state if the boys proceeding to Delhi had obtained the permission of the Headmaster for participating in the funeral of Gandhiji ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : Government have no information.

Pandit DHANRAJ SHARMA : Will Government be pleased to state if the boys absented themselves from the school without the knowledge of the Headmaster, the Headmaster was justified in taking disciplinary action against them ?

The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA : Government have no information.