

# THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

*The 10th May, 1938.*

**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 10th May 1938, at 11 A.M., the Hon'ble the Speaker, Mr. Ram Dayalu Sinha, in the Chair.

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## SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

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DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TENANTS AND THE LANDLORDS OVER THEIR RESPECTIVE SHARES IN EACH MAUND OF THE PRODUCE UNDER THE BIHAR TENANCY (AMENDMENT) ACT.

**5. Mr. JAMUNA PRASHAD SINHA :** (a) Are Government aware that disputes in many villages are going on about the landlord's share in each *maund* of produce under the recent Bihar Tenancy (Amendment) Act and that landlords say that the said share is with wages, while the tenants say that the said share is besides wages in the grain which is ready in the *Khalian* or thrashing floor for the purpose of and at the time of division ?

(b) Are Government aware that crops in many villages are still lying in the *Khalian* or fields and have not yet been divided on account of the above misunderstanding ?

(c) Have Government issued any instruction to the District Officer or taken any other steps in connection with the above matter, if so, what ; if not, why ?

**6. (a)** Is it a fact that District Magistrates and the Subdivisional Officers are not receiving any application for reduction of rent under section 112A of the Bihar Tenancy (Amendment) Act ?

(b) Are Government aware that both the District Officers and the public are under the impression that applications for reduction of rent would be filed before officers to be deputed under section 112 of the Bihar Tenancy (Amendment) Act for the purpose and that the public are waiting for the deputation of the said officers ?

(c) Is the Hon'ble the Prime Minister aware that for some months past an agitation has been carried on by a few people, specially by one Sj. Nagendra Nath Rakshit, for the creation of a separate province to be composed of the Chota Nagpur division, along with the Santal Parganas district of the Bhagalpur division?

(d) Is the Hon'ble the Prime Minister aware that a memorial on this subject was presented to Mahatma Gandhi at Delang, and that the said Sj. Nagendra Nath Rakshit submitted later a representation, in Calcutta, to Sj. Subash Chandra Bose, the President of the Indian National Congress?

(e) Has the Hon'ble the Prime Minister received any communication on the subject of the said memorial, and the said representation, either from Mahatma Gandhi, or from Sj. Subash Chandra Bose, or the Working Committee of the Congress? If so, for what purpose, and with what instructions, if any?

(f) Have copies of the said memorial and the said representation been also submitted to the Hon'ble the Prime Minister by either the memorialists, or by the said Sj. Nagendra Nath Rakshit?

**9. Dr. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA :** (a) Will the Hon'ble the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether he has any information as to the credentials of the said Sj. Nagendra Nath Rakshit, entitling him to pose as the representative, or the accredited spokesman, of the public of Chota Nagpur, in general, or of the aborigines in particular, either on the ground of his public services in any representative capacity, or of racial affiliation with any one of the aboriginal tribes of Chota Nagpur and the Santal Parganas? If so, will the Hon'ble the Prime Minister be pleased to make a statement about Sj. Rakshit's claim to represent the people of Chota Nagpur, or even the aboriginal population?

(b) Is Sj. Nagendra Nath Rakshit the same person who contested in the last Council of State election, and was defeated, standing at the bottom of the list, as an unsuccessful candidate, or is he a different person?

**10. Dr. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA :** (a) Will the Hon'ble the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether (in view of the agitation set up for the constitution of Chota Nagpur and the Santal Parganas as a separate province) he has examined, or got examined the question in its historical, administrative, economic, financial and political aspects; and, if so, with what results?

(b) If the results of his examination of the subject have satisfied the Prime Minister that the said proposed province composed of Chota Nagpur and the Santal Parganas would not be conducive to the well-being of the people of the said territories, will the Hon'ble the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether his Government is prepared to resist the proposal? If not, why not?

(c) Is the Hon'ble the Prime Minister aware that the agitation set up by Sj. Nagendra Nath Rakshit has already provoked counter-demonstrations both in the Santal Parganas and in Chota Nagpur—reports of which have appeared in the press—and also evoked condemnation in the provincial press? If so, is the Hon'ble the Prime Minister prepared to issue a communique on this subject expressing clearly the view, and the attitude, of his Government? If not, why not?

**Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY :** 8, 9 and 10. Sir, the answers to the short notice question of Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha are not ready yet.

**Dr. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA :** Sir, I shall seek your permission to put my short notice questions as it is possible I may not be here on the 23rd when the Assembly will meet again. I formally put the questions now, and Government can give the replies when it suits their convenience.

**Mr. TAJAMUL HUSAIN :** May I know, Sir, whether a member is permitted under the rules to ask questions now for the answers to be given after a few days?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** There is a way out. Questions may be put and an *ad-interim* reply given that answers are not ready and will be supplied later on. Government have already given such reply in this case.

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## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

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PREPARATION OF THE YEAR BOOK FOR 1935-36 AND 1936-37.

**390. Dr. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA :** (a) Are Government aware that ever since the creation of Bihar and Orissa as a Province (in 1912) an annual publication, formerly called the "Administration Report" and later designated "Bihar and Orissa in . . ." was being issued? If so, for which year was the last issue of the series published and who was the writer of it?

(b) If the last year for which the said publication was issued was 1934-35, is the report dealing with the year 1935-36 in course of preparation; if so, when it is likely to be issued, and who is the officer in charge of preparing it?

(c) Do Government appreciate that the value of such a publication depends very much on its being issued promptly, soon after the end of the calendar or the financial year?