

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

The 30th 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 Monday, the 30th May 1938, at 11-30 A. M., the Hon'ble the Speaker, Mr. Ram Dayalu Sinha, in the Chair.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE :

Mr. W. H. Meyrick.

STARRED QUESTION No. 1.

Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY : Sir, I would not be able to answer the starred question.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY : Sir, I beg to lay on the table the information in answer to short notice questions nos. 8 and 9 which were put by Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha on the 10th May, 1938.

REPLY GIVEN IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS BY LORD STANLEY TO THE QUESTION ON THE FORMATION OF NEW PROVINCES IN BRITISH INDIA.

8. Dr. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA : (a) Has attention of the Hon'ble the Prime Minister been drawn to the reply given in the House of Commons by Lord Stanley (the Under-Secretary of State for India) to the question put by Mr. Gary, M.P., on the 2nd May, on the formation of new provinces in British India ?

(b) If so, has the Hon'ble the Prime Minister noticed that Lord Stanley said " that the initiative for creating new provinces rested with the Crown, and that Lord Zetland did not regard it in the interest of India to embark on a policy of creation of new provinces at the present time".

Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA: (a) The school has got two teachers who are competent to teach through the medium of Hindi and it was decided to employ another graduate with the same qualifications provided that some Hindi-reading students joined the school by the 20th January, 1938.

(b) Three students came and sought admission. They were given admission forms but later they did not turn up.

(c) Does not arise.

ENCROACHMENT UPON GAIRMAZAROOA LANDS IN VILLAGES FOR TURNING THEM INTO ARABLE LANDS BY INFLUENTIAL VILLAGERS.

436. Mr. SHIVANANDAN RAM: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in many villages, public *gairmazarooa* lands have been encroached upon and turned into arable field by influential persons of the villages;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY: (a) Government have no information.

(b) It is for the village community to take steps.

RESTORATION OF SMALL STREAMS IN THE DISTRICT OF SARAN TO THEIR ACTIVE CONDITION.

437. Mr. GORAKH PRASHAD : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are, in the district of Saran, small streams which used to take water from the Gandak, and passing through several villages joined at Sitalpur, the Mahi which falls into the Ganges at Sonapur;

(b) whether sluice gates were made in the western embankments of the Gandak for the supply of water to these streams which used to be utilised for the purposes of irrigation by the cultivators of a large number of villages through which these streams passed;

(c) whether it is a fact that for years these sluice gates are kept closed and are not opened even on the application of the rural people with the result that these streams have become practically dead to the great disadvantage and loss to a large number of people;

(d) what steps, if any, they propose to take for restoring the streams to their active condition?

Mr. JIMUT BAHAN SEN : (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) Yes, the streams are fed from sluices in the Gandak right embankment.

(c) It is a fact that these sluice gates are kept closed but they are opened as occasion demands on receipt of application from the villagers. Their regulation is done by the Civil S. D. O., Gopalganj. The streams are not dead but they are not in their original condition. The natural and artificial channel deteriorated as the demand for water diminished with the abolition of the indigo factories the owners of which used to regulate the supply. The earthquake of 1934 also contributed to some extent to further deterioration. These channels work only when the water level in the river Gandak is high.

(d) As the demand is so small Government do not propose to take any action as the expense does not appear justified. Only one application was received for opening sluices in 1937 and owing to rain water was actually not required.

ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTION PASSED AT THE PATNA FLOOD CONFERENCE.

438. Mr. W. H. MEYRICK: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) what action they propose to take on the resolutions passed at the Patna Flood Conference held at Patna during November, 1937 ;

(b) whether they intend levelling some *bundhs* and leaving some in disrepair ; if so, whether they have considered the desirability of first undertaking a profile survey of North Bihar in order to ascertain what effect such action will have on the country generally ?

Mr. JIMUT BAHAN SEN : (a) The matter is still under the consideration of Government.

(b) A complete *bundh* survey of the Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Farbhanga districts has already been made and Government consider the information collected is sufficient to enable them to draw conclusion from.

Mr. W. H. MEYRICK : Arising out of (b) will Government be pleased to state whether the information collected will be published ?

Mr. JIMUT BAHAN SEN : I ask notice of the question. But for the information of the member I say that the report of the Flood Conference has been published.

CONSTANT CLOSING OF THE STATION GATE OF THE PAKUR STATION.

439. Mr. BRIJLAL DOKANIA* : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is only one railway gate on the main public road at the Pakur station on the East Indian Railway ;

*In the absence of the questioner, the answer was given at the request of Mr. Budhinath Jha.