

## THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

*The 26th August 1937.*

**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 26th August, 1937 at 11 A.M.

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER THE GANDAK IN PLACE OF THE PRESENT ONE.

**\*7. Mr. BADRUL HASAN :** Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the railway bridge over the Gandak between Hajipur and Sonapur has passed the life-limit assigned to it when it was constructed ;

(b) and if so, whether they propose to induce the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company to build another bridge in place of the present one ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** (a) The bridge was opened to traffic in 1887 and is therefore 50 years old. No life limit was so far as is known assigned to it, but the normal life of a steel work averages 60 years.

(b) The question does not arise.

BRIDGE ACROSS THE GANGES AT PATNA.

**8. Mr. TAJAMUL HUSAIN :** Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have ever considered the necessity of having a bridge across the Ganges at Patna ; and

(b) if not, why not ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** (a) The necessity of having a bridge across the Ganges was considered, but the matter was dropped being prohibitive in cost. The present resources of the Government do not justify a revival of the proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

**Mr. TAJAMUL HUSAIN :** Will Government be pleased to state the year in which the necessity of having a bridge across the Ganges was considered ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** I shall have to consult the file and then I shall give you the year in which it was considered.

**Mr. TAJAMUL HUSAIN :** Will Government be pleased to state the cost of building the bridge ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** The cost has been estimated at something like a crore of rupees.

**Mr. TAJAMUL HUSAIN :** Do Government contemplate the possibility of having an aeroplane service across the Ganges ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** I consider it absolutely impossible.

#### BRIDGE OVER THE DURGAWATI RIVER.

**9. Pandit GUPTESHWAR PANDEY :** Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the hanging bridge on the Durgawati river on the Grand Trunk Road at Durgawati in the district of Shahabad is unsafe for heavy loads, and that the people are put to much difficulty in unloading and reloading carts and motor vehicles to cross the river ;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the affirmative, what steps they propose to take to remove the defects of the bridge ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) A project for a new bridge is under the consideration of Government.

**Pandit GUPTESHWAR PANDEY :** Will Government be pleased to state whether it has been finally decided to remodel the bridge : and if so, when ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** It has not yet been finally decided.

**Chaudhuri SHARAFAT HUSAIN :** Will Government be pleased to state when this project is going to materialise ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** I can give no idea.

DIRECT RAILWAY COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MUZAFFARPUR AND SITAMARHI.

**10. Mr. TAJAMUL HUSAIN :** Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no railway communication direct between Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi and that in the absence of such communication the passengers travelling from Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi, and *vice versa*, are put to great inconvenience ;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the affirmative, whether they propose to take any steps to remove this inconvenience ?

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** (a) Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi are already connected by rail *via* Darbhanga which serves the public for good traffic. As regards direct railway communication, the question was referred to the Railway Board who, in view of the heavy cost of construction and negligible return, would only provide such communication if the provincial Government guaranteed them against loss, which, in the present state of their finances, Government are not prepared to do. The road between Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi, which will be completely reconstructed in a year or so, will allow the travelling public easy access to these two towns by motor buses when the necessity of the proposal will disappear.

(b) There is a resolution of the hon'ble member on the subject, and if it is adopted, Government will forward this to the Railway Board for consideration.

**Mr. TAJAMUL HUSAIN :** Will Government be pleased to state if they are aware that the distance between Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi by rail is 99 miles and direct by road is only 36 miles

**The Hon'ble Mr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** The answer is in the affirmative.

**Mr. TAJAMUL HUSAIN :** Will Government be pleased to state if they are prepared to advise the Railway Board to construct a light railway from Muzaffarpur to Sitamarhi like Bihar-Bakhtiarpur Light Railway ?