

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

Friday, the 14th May, 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 Friday, the 14 h May, 1948, at 5-30 P. M., the Hon'ble the Speaker, Mr. Vindhyeshwari Prasada Varma, in the Chair.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

NUMBER OF COMMUNIST WORKERS ARRESTED OR PUT UNDER DETENTION IN THE PROVINCE SINCE MARCH 1948.

62. Mr. HARINATH MISHRA : Will the Hon'ble the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of communist workers that have been arrested or put under detention in the Province since March, 1948 ;

(b) the names of the communist offices that have been searched since March, 1948, with incriminating materials, if any, found during the searches ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government contemplate banning the communist party in the Province ;

(d) the action Government have taken or proposed to take against the Communist Party ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRINATH VERMA : (a) 13.

(b) So far as information is available the following C. P. I. offices were searched :—

Bettiah, Motihari, Chapra, Sonapur, Monghyr, Jamaipur, Bhagalpur, Bogusarai, Koldiha, Katihar, Darbhanga, Gaya, Ranchi, Sasaram, Dehri (Public Works Department Union Office), Patna, Janashakti Press, Patna, Muzaffarpur town.

Dhanbad, Alkusa-Nayadih Balliery Collieries Union Offices at Kenduadih, Bhowrah Colliery Union Office at Jorapokhar, Giridih Coal Workers' Union Office, Mica Mazdoor Union Office, Balram Workers' Union Office Amlabad, Manbhum.

A wireless set bearing No. BC-348-K-serial no. 1357, Signal Corps United States Army was recovered from the C. P. I. Office Bettiah.

A copy of the prescribed book entitled "Operation Asylum" was found at the C. P. I. Office Bettiah and Motihari.

(c) and (d)—It will not be in the public interest to disclose the course of action Government propose to follow.

Action already taken by Government is known to the hon'ble members from the reply to (a).

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SETTLEMENT OF KHAMSAHAL LAND FOR BUILDING HOUSES IN PATNA.

71. Mr. JADUBANS SAHAY : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge* of Revenue Department be pleased to state—

(a) if it is a fact that the Government, during the last session of the Assembly at Ranchi, had stated that lands for building houses in Patna were allotted to Mr. Justice Manohar Lal, Mr. P. R. Das and Dr. Raghunath Saran ;

(b) if it is a fact that the order of the Government regarding the aforesaid settlement has not been communicated to them ;

(c) whether Government propose to take immediate steps for finally settling the lands with them ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRINATH VERMA : (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

Dr. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA : How long is it likely to be under the consideration of Government ? Million years ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : As long as it would be necessary.

Mr. JAMUNA PRASAD SINGH : Were these lands settled with these three persons lying useless at the hands of the Khas Mahal ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : The lands had not been in use.

Mr. JAMUNA PRASAD SINGH : Was any advertisement made about the settlement of these lands before the lands were settled with them ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : No advertisements were made.

Mr. JAMUNA PRASAD SINGH : What is the reason ? Is it a fact that advertisements are generally given by the Khas Mahal Officers before such lands are settled with the public ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : This was not a question of general settlement. Certain gentlemen had applied for certain pieces of land and Government considered that they should be given those lands in the Khas Mahal.

Mr. JAMUNA PRASAD SINGH : How many persons had applied for settlement of these lands ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : I want notice of the question.

*In the absence of the questioner, the answer was given at the request of Mr. Shyam Nandan Sahaya.

Mr. JAMUNA PRASAD SINGH : On what grounds did Government consider that these lands should be settled with these persons?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : That is a matter for Government to decide. Government thought that these lands should be settled with the gentlemen in the interest of the town of Patna.

Mr. JAMUNA PRASAD SINGH : Will Government state the reasons?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : Government have already stated the reasons.

Mr. JAMUNA PRASAD SINGH : What are those reasons?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : In the interest of the town of Patna Government have settled these lands with these gentlemen.

Mr. MUHAMMAD NAUMAN : May I know whether it was in the public interest to settle these lands with the particular individuals?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : Government considered that it was desirable to settle the lands with these gentlemen.

Mr. MUHAMMAD NAUMAN : Had the public any information about the settlement of lands in Patna so that they could also apply?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : One can always apply.

Mr. SAIYID AMIN AHMAD : Did Government give an opportunity to others also (the general public) to apply for these lands?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : There was no question of a general land settlement.

Mr. SAIYID AMIN AHMAD : When lands have already been allotted to these gentlemen why is the matter then under further consideration?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : There are many other things which have got to be settled, e.g., terms and rate of salami.

Mr. SAIYID AMIN AHMAD : There cannot be any question of terms being settled now as the settlement has already been made.

The Hon'ble the Speaker : In the answer given the word "allotted" has been used.

Mr. SAIYID AMIN AHMAD : Will the Hon'ble Minister state why no further communication has been made to the gentlemen concerned?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : I have already answered that point when I said that Government are considering the terms and conditions of settlement and the rate of salami to be paid and when Government come to a final decision on these points further communication will be sent to the gentlemen concerned.

Mr. SAIYID AMIN AHMAD : For how many months have the Government been considering these points?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : The matter was not of such great importance that Government should have given their first attention to it.

Mr. SAIYID AMIN AHMAD : I want to know how many months they have already taken in considering these points.

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : I want notice.

Mr. SAIYID AMIN AHMAD : How long would Government take to finish this matter ?

The Hon'ble the Speaker : That has already been answered.

Mr. MUHAMMAD ABDUL GHANI : Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state whether it is the practice of Government to allot lands to persons without settling the terms and conditions of such settlement ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : An allotment is not a final settlement.

ELECTION OF ONE BABU BALESHWAR SINGH IN A BYE-ELECTION TO THE ROSERA MUNICIPALITY AND NON-ISSUE OF NOTICES OF THE MUNICIPAL MEETINGS TO HIM.

72. Mr. JAINARAYAN VENEET : Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Local Self-Government Department be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Babu Baleshwar Singh of Rosera was declared duly elected by the Returning Officer as a member of the Rosera Municipality (Darbhanga) on 5th April, 1947, in a bye-election and his name was duly published in the *Bihar Gazette* on the 25th May, 1947;

(b) whether it is a fact that since 25th May 1947 many meetings of the said municipality have been held but no notice has since been given to Babu Baleshwar Singh of any such meeting;

(c) whether it is a fact that in spite of non-receipt of the notice Babu Baleshwar Singh attended the meeting of the Rosera Municipality held in the month of January 1948 but still his presence was ignored and his attendance was not noted;

(d) whether it is a fact that Babu Baleshwar Singh addressed a letter to the District Magistrate, Darbhanga in this connection whereupon the District Magistrate directed the Chairman of the Rosera Municipality to give notice regularly to Babu Baleshwar Singh in future of its meeting but to no effect;

(e) if the answers to clauses (a) (b), (c) and (d) be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to take action in this matter?

The Hon'ble Mr. BADRI NATH VERMA : a) The bye-election results of municipalities are published by the local officers. The name of Babu Baleshwar Singh was duly published in the *Bihar Gazette* on the 28th May, 1947, by the Commissioner of Tirhut Division.