

## THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATE.

*Monday, the 24th 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 Monday, the 24th May, 1948, at 5-40 P.M., the Hon'ble Mr. Vindhyeshwar Prasada Varma in the Chair.

### SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

VACANCY OF A POST OF LECTURER OF MIDWIFERY IN THE PRINCE OF WALES MEDICAL COLLEGE, PATNA.

**70. Mr. RAMASIS THAKUR :** Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Local Self-Government Department be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Lecturer of Midwifery in the Prince of Wales Medical College, Patna, has been lying vacant since the 15th August, 1947 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said post is a cadre post (Bihar Medical Service) ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Hospital for Women is understaffed with the result that the working of the hospital is not going on satisfactorily ;

(d) if the answer to clauses (a) to (d) be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to take any step to appoint a Lecturer of Midwifery in the Prince of Wales Medical College immediately ?

**The Hon'ble Dr. ANUGRAH NARAYAN SINHA :** (a) Yes, Sir, since the 24th March, 1948.

(b) Yes.

(c) There is dearth of suitable qualified persons.

(d) No.

(e) The post will be filled up shortly.

**The Hon'ble the Speaker :** The question is :

That in sub-clause (2) of clause 19 of the Bill, for the words, brackets, letter and figure "clause (a) of section 4" the word and figure "section 3" be *substituted*.

The motion was adopted.

## HOURS OF SITTING OF THE ASSEMBLY

**Mr. Shyamnandan Sahaya :** हुजुर, अब नव बज रहा है आज assembly बन्द किया जाय । कल एक घंटे में सब काम हो जायगा ।

**\*Mr. Chandreshwar Narain Sinha :** I have to make one submission with regard to the time at which we should sit to-morrow. You have just now expressed that we should sit from 11 or 11. 30 in the morning. We have of late been sitting in the afternoon at about 5. 30 p. m. My request is that that may be maintained so far as this Bill is concerned for a day or two. The departure to sit at 11. 30 will be very inconvenient. After all the season has not changed and there are various other reasons too. My appeal to the Deputy Leader of the House would be that it would be profitable if we sit at 5. 30. to-morrow instead of 11. If this request is acceded to, I will not mention anything further, but if it is not agreed to, I may have to give a few reasons which I avoid at the present moment. As the Rai Bahadur has pointed out, this Bill is not going to take a long time. We have done most of the things, there are only one or two amendments. I hope the Deputy Leader would agree to sit from 5. 30 to-morrow.

**The Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Ballabh Sahay :** We should from 11 to-morrow. I have an engagement to-morrow. Also we have a cabinet meeting in the afternoon.

**The Hon'ble the Speaker :** We usually sit from 11.30. However, Sir Chandreshwar Prasad Narsin Sinha has made a request in his connection.

**The Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Ballabh Sahay** It is not a question of request. As the Rai Bahadur has said, the matter will be quickly finished. If we sit from 11 or 11. 30 we can

\*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble member.

finish before 1 and we can have rest then. Moreover, as I have said I have made an engagement and also we have a Cabinet meeting.

**Mr. Chandreshwar Narain Prasad Sinha :** I would like to make a few observations. The Hon'ble the Revenue Minister says that he has made an engagement. I would very humbly submit to you, Sir, that he should not have made any engagement and probably he will agree with me for the simple reason that you have fixed three days for the consideration of the matter before the House, viz. the 24th, 25th and the 26th. It would not have been possible for anybody to anticipate that the matter would be finished only in one day. Secondly, he should not have anticipated as to what time would be fixed by you for tomorrow. Already we have been sitting at 5. 30. Therefore, he should not have made any engagement under the circumstances. It is rather disrespect to the house and to you, Sir which he should not have done. Sir the Leader of the House has been keeping quiet but there is a limit to keeping quiet. He is a very senior Member of the Cabinet, a senior member of the House and a senior public man, and I would put it to him whether the amendments which we are now likely to consider are or are not of a serious character? The Upper Chamber have, in my opinion, interfered with the decision of this house very unjustly and how this has been done, we do not know. It is not unknown to the parliamentary practices that many of the things have to be done outside the House. But we do not know how an understanding was arrived at. The Hon'ble the Leader of the House, the Prime Minister is not present to-day and may not be present to-morrow. If he were to arrive at that time, it will not give us time to understand from him how the changes have been done. It must be that there were some discussions outside the House when the Bill was in the Upper Chamber, and before we start expressing our views precisely with regard to these amendments, it would be necessary that we know things which not only occurred in the other House but things which were discussed outside. For these reasons, you will agree with me that time must be allowed. This cannot be done if the House does not sit sometime in the evening tomorrow. You will agree with me that the members of the parties agreed to certain principles. Those principles have now been interfered with. Therefore, in the interest of the province, we should have at this stage an opportunity to parely on the matter and therefore I am now asking you : Are you now or the Leader of the House going to refuse this modest demand ours to have the opportunity of parleying with Government? If they say, they do not believe

in anything like that, they are not prepared to give us the opportunity to parley on an important matter like this, it is absolutely different.

**\*The Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Ballabh Sahay :** On a personal explanation. My friend is absolutely wrong in saying that I showed disrespect to the House. The time when the House sits usually is 11 and therefore, I fixed up the engagement at 5 in the evening. Therefore if I did so, it was no disrespect to the House.

I only said that I have got personal engagement tomorrow in the afternoon and the Cabinet will also meet at 5 p. m. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister did not mean any disrespect to you when he wanted the House to meet in the forenoon.

Another point that I have mention is that my hon'ble friend Sir C. P. N. Sinha says that we must have ample time to discuss this important measure. If we want to have ample time, let us sit all 11. 30 tomorrow. That will give us ample time. If we sit at 5. 30 p. m. and adjourn at 9 p. m. or 9. 30 p. m. with the usual interval in the middle, the result will be that we shall get very little time. Therefore, Sir, if we want really to discuss the matter in the House we ought to sit at 11-30. tomorrow.

So far as my parleying is concerned, I wish he had not brought in this delicate matter. If Sir C. P. N. Sinha had parleyed with the members of the Cabinet or with the Hon'ble the Prime Minister, there was ample time for it. His contention is absolutely untenable. You, Sir, may fix any time you like in consultation with the Leader of the House, and I am prepared to even cancel my engagement and sit at 5. 30 p. m. But I would not show any disrespect to you.

**The Hon'ble Dr. Anugrah Narayan Sinha :** Sir, the request made by the Opposition Leader has put us into some difficulty. No doubt the opinion of the majority members of this House appears to be in favour of to-morrow's sitting to begin at 11-30 A. M., but at the same time the reason which has been advanced by my friend Sir C. P. N. Sinha needs consideration and a very careful consideration. My friend the Revenue Member is, on the other hand, insistent that the business of the House should not be prolonged and should start just at the usual hour of 11.30 A. M. I do not know what to say. I have to go by the wishes of the members of this House. But I know

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\*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Minister

that it is your privilege and your right to fix the time for the meeting and to adjourn it at any hour you like. If you think that the House should sit at 5.30 P. M., you are at liberty to do so and everyone of us has got to adjust himself accordingly. Whatever engagements we may have will have to be cancelled when your command issues that the House will meet at such and such hour. I, therefore, leave the entire matter in your hands. You have heard the Leader of the Opposition and my friend the Revenue Minister. You have also heard the whispering on this side of the House and on that side. Now you can come to any conclusion and I shall loyally and faithfully obey your command in this respect.

**The Hon'ble the Speaker :** In such small matters the majority should not insist not to concede to the wishes of the minority, and when it comes to me for decision I have a weakness for the minority, and I cannot but accommodate the leader of the minority group. Whatever the difficulties of the majority people in this matter may be, whatever inconveniences may be caused to them, they have to face them, and the engagements have got to be cancelled in order to accommodate the minority. That is the principle which I have learnt from my Prophet Leader Mahatma Gandhi. Therefore, I declare that the meeting to morrow should be held from 5.30 P. M. up to 9.30 P. M. positively.

The Assembly then adjourned till 5-30 O'clock, in the evening, on Tuesday, the 25th May, 1948.

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