

THE BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

The 20th December, 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 Monday, the 20th December, 1937, at 11 A.M., the Hon'ble the Speaker in the Chair.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ALLEGED HARASSMENT OF EKKAWALAS AT ARRAH.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a policeman unnecessarily abused and insulted an *ekkawala* in presence of Sardar Harihar Singh, M.L.A., and Babu Mukutdhari Singh, Managing Director of the Nawashakti Publishing Company, Limited, at the Arrah railway station;

(b) whether the policeman, when demanded to do so, refused to give his name and number to Sardar Harihar Singh, M.L.A.;

(c) whether Sardar Harihar Singh, M.L.A., reported the matter to the Superintendent of Police, Arrah, for action;

(d) if the answer to the above questions be in the affirmative, what action has been taken in the matter;

(e) whether it is a fact that the police at Arrah has become vindictive from that day and is unnecessarily harassing *ekkawalas*;

(f) whether it is a fact that a complaint has been filed with the Subdivisional Officer against Mr. Deonath Singh, Sub-Inspector of Police, Arrah town, and one or two policemen for mercilessly beating one *ekkawala*, Garihan Mian, in the thana?

Mr. KRISHNA BALLABH SAHAY: (a), (b) and (c) The Superintendent of Police received a letter from Sardar Harihar Singh, M.L.A., alleging that a policeman had insulted an *ekkawala*.

(d) The Superintendent of Police ordered an enquiry into the matter.

(e) There has been friction in Arrah over traffic work but Government have no information that the police are harassing *ekkawalas*.

(f) The answer is in the affirmative.

* In the absence of the questioner, the answer was given at the request of Mr. Vishwanath Singh.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : That is a request for action.

Mr. JAMUNA KARJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the reason why they will not place the report on the table ?

(No answer.)

SCARCITY OF DRINKING WATER IN SOUTH-WEST PURNEA.

44. Mr. DHEER NARAYAN CHAND : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the people and cattle of South-West Purnea have been suffering much from the scarcity of drinking water after the last earthquake due to the destruction of wells, tanks and rivulets ;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to provide the people of the affected areas with sufficient sources of drinking water ?

Mr. BINODANAND JHA : (a) Government are aware that as a result of the last earthquake wells and tanks, etc., were damaged causing scarcity of drinking water in the area affected.

(b) Government have already made special grants to local bodies, including the district board of Purnea, for restoration of works damaged by the last earthquake, on properly prepared estimates.

APPOINTMENT OF SUBDIVISIONAL DEPUTY INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

45. Mr. RAMDIN TEWARI : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) since when the posts of subdivisional inspectors of schools have been created in the Education Department ;

(b) how many subdivisional inspectors there are in the province at present ;

(c) whether Government have considered if those posts can be abolished without any loss of efficiency in the work of the department ?

Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA : (a) Since 1st April 1925.

(b) There are 29 subdivisional deputy inspectors of schools.

(c) Government have considered this question, but they find that it is not possible to abolish these posts without loss of efficiency in the supervision of primary education.

Mr. RAM PRASAD : Arising out of (b), will Government be pleased to state the number of depressed-class subdivisional deputy inspectors of schools ?

Mr. SARANGDHAR SINHA : I must ask for notice, Sir.