

5 February 1921

**THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES**

(Official Report)

**FIRST SESSION
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1921**



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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 5th February, 1921.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Twelve of the Clock. The Honourable the President in the Chair.

The Honourable the President: Members desiring to take the Oath will please present themselves at the table in the order in which their names are called by the Secretary. They will take the Oath or affirm in the manner prescribed.

MEMBERS SWORN :

Mr. Eardley Norton, M.L.A. ; Rai Sahib Lakshmi Narayan Lal, M.L.A. ; Khan Bahadur Saiyid Muhammad Ismail, M.L.A. ; Rao Bahadur Conjeeveram Krishnaswami Rao, M.L.A. ; and Rai Bahadur Sankata Pershad Bajpai, M.L.A.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY PRESIDENT :

The Honourable the President: The Assembly will now proceed to ballot for the election of a Deputy President. Three candidates having been duly nominated at the previous meeting of the Assembly, the election will be held without further delay. Ballot papers will be circulated by the officials of the Assembly to Members who will vote according to the instructions printed thereon.

You will now proceed to ballot. Each Member having duly filled up his ballot paper will advance to the table and place it in the ballot box with his own hand.

(The Members then proceeded to deposit the ballot papers in the box.)

The Honourable the President: Secretary will now open the box and count the votes.

(After the count.)

The Honourable the President: The result of the election of a Deputy President is as follows :

There have voted for Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha 67, for Dr. H. S. Gour 24, for Sir Deva Prasad Sarbadhikari 22.

I, therefore, declare Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha elected Deputy President.

Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha: I would like to say a word if you will permit me, Sir. I desire to convey to you my sense of profound gratefulness for the signal honour conferred upon me. I have had about 30 years in public life and I have been in this Council for 11 years. But I regard my election to-day as an honour of which I may be justly proud. I have no desire to detain you any longer than to express a hope that I shall be able to justify the confidence reposed in me.

The Honourable the President: Mr. Deputy President, as you have accepted the office to which you have been elected, I may, I hope, be allowed, on behalf of what I think I may call a united Assembly, to welcome you to the duties of your new office.

Gentlemen of the Assembly, certain questions have been brought to my notice relating to the comfort of Members both in regard to the provision made

[The President.]

for them out at Raisina, in hostels and elsewhere. As matters of this kind must of necessity be raised from time to time during the sittings of the Assembly, I think it would be convenient for all of us that there should be an established body through whom suggestions and complaints can be made—a body which will be in the greater part advisory, but may perhaps have other duties entrusted to it. I, therefore, wish to announce this morning that as soon as may be a House Committee—I do not say the name 'House Committee' is necessarily finally approved, but a House Committee similar to that which rules over the affairs of a Club—will shortly be established in order to deal with such matters. As soon as it is established, I hope it will become the practice and the custom of Members to deal through the Committee within the Department or official concerned with their welfare and their comfort.

I would now ask the Government whether they are prepared to make a statement regarding the business which they propose to take at the first meeting after the celebrations next week—the first meeting being held on the 15th February.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FOR 15TH FEBRUARY:

The Honourable Mr. W. M. Hailey : Before I comply with your request, Sir, perhaps you will allow me to say on behalf of Government that the proposal that you have just placed before the Assembly in regard to the constitution of a Committee is entirely acceptable to Government : I may say with confidence on behalf of my Honourable friend in charge of the Legislative Department and my Honourable friend in charge of the Public Works Department that they will welcome the co-operation of such a Committee.

With regard to the business of the House on the 15th, Sir, we propose to introduce a Bill regulating the salary of the Deputy President of the Assembly ; also to introduce a Bill regarding the Indian Tea Cess. And we further propose to deal with the Resolution tabled by Mr. Jannadas Dwarkadas relating to the administration of martial law in the Punjab. I have, I may say, ascertained that that course will be welcome to Mr. Jannadas Dwarkadas.

The Honourable the President : I have to announce, for the information of Members, that a further opportunity for taking the Oath or affirming in the manner prescribed will be given immediately before the formal inauguration of the two Chambers of the Indian Legislature on Wednesday, the 9th, at or about 9-30 or 9-40 A.M. The opportunity will be given successively, first, I understand, as already announced in the other Chamber, to Members of that Chamber, and then to Members of this Chamber in order that they may be present at the inauguration. I would remind Members—and I hope they will remind their Colleagues who have not yet presented themselves—that they will not be permitted to attend the formal inauguration of the Indian Legislature by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught unless they have previously taken the Oath and thereby become full Members of either Chamber.

The further business before the Members of the Assembly this morning is the ballot for Bills and Resolutions which will be taken in an informal manner in this Chamber. I shall vacate the chair, but I would invite Members to remain in their seats until the ballot for Bills and Resolutions has been taken in order that it may be taken smoothly and in an orderly fashion.

This Assembly stands adjourned till Wednesday morning, February 9th, at 9-30 A.M., and thereafter till February 15th, at 11 A.M.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 9th February, 1921.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at a Quarter to Ten of the Clock. The Honourable the President in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN :

Raja Khushalpal Singh ; Mr. Satish Chander Ghosh ; Rai Bahadur Patri Venkata Srinivasa Rao Garu.
