

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 14th March, 1924.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

RAILWAY CONNECTION BETWEEN GAYA AND SHERGHATI.

779. ***Rai Hari Prasad Lal:** Do the Government propose to call for opinion on the subject of a paying Railway connection between Gaya (E. I. R.) and Sherghati, with extension to Raniganj (Gaya), from the persons and bodies mentioned in my previous question, and lay a report of the opinions so received on the table when available?

Mr. C. D. M. Hindley: The Honourable Member is referred to the answer given by the Honourable Sir Charles Innes yesterday in reply to his question No. 756.

INDIAN TROOPS SERVING ABROAD.

780. ***Shaikh Mushir Hosain Kidwai:** Will the Government inform the House as to the number of Indian troops serving abroad, stating the places they are garrisoning?

Mr. E. Burdon: A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing the numbers of Indian troops employed abroad, and the places at which they are employed.

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| Persian Gulf | 6 British officers. 314 Indian other ranks. |
| Aden | 16 British officers. 42 British other ranks. 1,040 Indian ranks. |
| Malay States | 12 British officers. 762 Indian ranks. |
| South China | 12 British officers. 762 Indian ranks. |

In addition to the above, there are 123 Indian ranks serving as Consular Guards in Persia, Afghanistan and Abyssinia.

Indian troops are also employed in Palestine and Iraq but, as stated in reply to a question put by another Honourable Member, details of these cannot be given.

EXPENDITURE INCURRED DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS ON THE C. I. DEPARTMENT, THE EXCISE DEPARTMENT AND THE PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT.

781. ***Rai Hari Prasad Lal:** (i) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the annual expenditure over the maintenance of the (a) C. I. Department, (b) Excise Department and (c) Publicity Department, during the last 10 years?

**ALLEGED DEFAMATORY REMARKS MADE BY THE INCOME-TAX OFFICER
IN HIS ORDERS AGAINST A NUMBER OF ASSESSEES.**

799. ***Lala Duni Chand:** Will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that the I. T. O. Amritsar made defamatory remarks in his orders against a number of assesseees, and later on had to expunge them?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Government have no information on the subject.

PROSECUTION OF AN INCOME-TAX OFFICER IN THE PUNJAB.

800. ***Lala Duni Chand:** Is it a fact that the Commissioner of Income-tax, Punjab, asked certain gentlemen not to prosecute a certain income-tax officer as such action would bring discredit to his Department?

The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett: The Government have no information on the subject.

DISMISSAL OF ARJAN SINGH.

801. ***Mr. Chaman Lal:** (a) Are the Government aware of the case of one Arjan Singh, clerk, Rawalpindi Post Office, who was dismissed by the Postmaster, Rawalpindi, on the charge that he brought a false complaint against the Postmaster of using abusive language against him?

(b) Are the Government aware that the matter was inquired into by the Deputy Postmaster General of Punjab. Will the Government be pleased to state what was his finding and what order was passed by the Postmaster General?

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee: Government have no official information regarding this case, which has not come up to them on appeal.

Mr. Chaman Lal: May I take this opportunity of thanking the Honourable Member, Mr. Clarke, for having re-instated this man?

**INADEQUACY OF WARM CLOTHING FOR THE MENIALS OF THE DELHI
G. P. O.**

802. ***Mr. Chaman Lal:** (a) Are the Government aware that the postmen, letterbox peons and packers of the Delhi G. P. O. who have to perform their official duties commencing from 4 A.M. and 6 A.M. up to 6 P.M. and 9 P.M. in winter are inadequately clothed?

(b) Are the Government also aware that other departments give warm clothes including a coat to day-time menials and great coats in addition to those whose duties extend into the night?

(c) Are Government aware that want of adequate clothing causes serious hardships and dissatisfaction among the men who are often handicapped in performance of their official duties?

(d) Will the Government therefore be pleased to state what steps are proposed to be taken to remove the dissatisfaction created by this inadequacy of clothing?

The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee: (a) Warm clothing is not supplied to postmen and menials stationed at places in the plains including Delhi. Woollen jerseys are however supplied to keep the men warm during winter.