

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

OVERTIME ALLOWANCES TO CLERKS OF THE G. P. O.

196. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether under Government sanction overtime allowance used to be paid to clerks of the Calcutta G. P. O. for the disposal of inward foreign parcel mail articles on account of there being no permanent staff for the work?

(b) Is it not a fact that the payment of overtime allowance has been suspended and the work is being managed by auxiliary hands drafted from different departments?

(c) In view of the possibility of drawing from other departments clerks to do auxiliary work in the Foreign Post Department twice in a week, are not the departments from which clerks are so drafted for auxiliary work actually overstaffed? If so, do Government propose to abolish the superfluous appointments? If not, will the drafting of auxiliary hands be stopped?

Mr. G. R. Clarke: (a) The inward foreign parcel mails formerly arrived in Calcutta in the evening and, in order to prevent delay in their delivery, overtime work had to be resorted to and paid for; but there was also a permanent staff sanctioned for the Foreign Parcel Department.

(b) Yes; but there is also a permanent staff sanctioned for the Foreign Parcel Department.

(c) The inward foreign parcel mails now arrive in Calcutta usually in the morning on a week day. Under the arrangements now in force, no clerk belonging to another Department of the General Post Office is required to work in the Foreign Parcel Department for more than one day in each month and, if the arrangements were discontinued, no reduction in the staff of the Departments from which the auxiliaries are drawn would be possible. As the arrangements do not cause any dislocation of work in the other Departments nor any hardship to the clerks who are employed as auxiliaries in the Foreign Parcel Department, Government do not propose to discontinue the practice. It may be mentioned that the permanent staff of that Department has recently been strengthened.

WORK IN CONNECTION WITH THE INWARD FOREIGN PARCEL MAIL.

197. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether in Bombay the inward foreign parcel mail articles are disposed of by auxiliary hands requisitioned from other departments or by permanent staff attached to the Foreign Parcel Department?

(b) If the work in connection with inward foreign parcels in Bombay is done by a permanent staff attached to the Foreign Parcel Department, do the Government propose to adopt the same system in Calcutta?

Mr. G. R. Clarke: (a) In the Bombay General Post Office the inward foreign parcel mails are disposed of by the permanent staff of the Foreign Parcel Department assisted by extra clerks on overtime allowances.

(b) As stated in reply to the Honourable Member's question No. 196, Government do not propose to make any change with regard to the arrangements in force in the Calcutta General Post Office.

ORDERLY PEONS FOR INSPECTORS OF POST OFFICES.

198. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state when orderly peons were sanctioned for Inspectors of Post Offices and when and why they were withdrawn?

Mr. G. R. Clarke: Orderly peons for Inspectors of Post Offices were sanctioned from various dates up to 1908. They were withdrawn during 1923-24 as a measure of retrenchment.

RECOVERY OF MUNICIPAL AND *Halkhuri* TAXES FROM POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH STAFF OCCUPYING GOVERNMENT QUARTERS.

199. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether postmasters are not required to live in the Post Office quarters in the interest of the Department? Is municipal and *halkhuri* tax recovered from them?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state if municipal and *halkhuri* tax is recovered from telegraphists living in quarters provided for them?

Mr. G. R. Clarke: (a) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative and to the second part in the negative.

(b) Yes.

TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENDITURE AND STAFF OF CERTAIN POST OFFICES IN CALCUTTA.

200. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state what was the total monthly expenditure of the old Simla and Beadon Street T. S. Os. in Calcutta and what is the total monthly expenditure of the new Beadon Street T. S. O.?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the amounts of house rent paid for the old Simla and Beadon Street Post Offices and the new Beadon Street Post Office?

(c) What is the amount of house rent paid for the Barabazar P. O.?

(d) What is the number of (a) the clerical staff and (b) the postmen's staff (1) of Barabazar and (2) of new Beadon Street T. S. Os.? Are not the rates of house rent of the Barabazar locality higher than that of Beadon Street? If so, why is the house rent of the new Beadon Street P. O. so much in excess of that of the Barabazar P. O.?

(e) Has not the amalgamation of the Simla and Beadon Street P. O. increased the delivery area of the Beadon Street Post Office to a very great extent, and is not the delivery of postal articles delayed by the amalgamation?

Mr. G. R. Clarke:

(a) Simla T. S. O.	...	Rs.	
Beadon Square T. S. O.	...	4,958	a month-
(This was the correct name).	...	5,049	"
Beadon Street T. S. O.	...		
(b) Simla	...	10,984	"
Beadon Square	...	150	"
Beadon Street	...	225	"
(c) Rs. 490 a month.	...	1,500	"
(d)			

		Clerical staff.	Postmen.
Bara Bazar	...	78	125
Beadon Street	...	51	100