

**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 They were withdrawn during 1923-24 as a measure of retrenchment.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:**

		Rs.	
(a) Simla T. S. O.	...	...	
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

Government have no information on which a comparison can be made between the rates of house rent prevailing in the two localities. The estimate for a departmental building was 4 lakhs in the Beadon Street office area. The Barabazar T. S. O. building was occupied on a lease for 10 years in 1916, that is, before the rise in rents in Calcutta took place.

(e) The delivery area of the Beadon Street T. S. O. coincides with the delivery areas of the Simla and Beadon Square T.S.Os. taken together. The amalgamation has not resulted in delay in the delivery of postal articles.

WORKING HOURS, INCREASE OF LEAVE RESERVE, ALLOWANCES, ETC., OF  
POSTAL EMPLOYEES.

201. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will Government be pleased to state what action is proposed to be taken on the recommendations of the Joint R. M. S. Conference of the Deputy Postmasters-General R. M. S. and Sorting and representatives of the All-India (including Burma) Postal and R. M. S. Union held in the Calcutta office of the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs in April 1923 under the chairmanship of the Deputy Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, specially with reference to the under-mentioned items:

- (a) The present standard of 36 and 30 hours per week for day and night work in R. M. S. Sections to include work done at record offices and the periods of attendance at railway stations, for these two classes of work 6 hours per week to be held a fair average.
- (b) In stationary mail offices the standard for day work to be 42 hours per week and for night work 35 hours per week and for work partly by day and partly by night 30 hours per week, inclusive of office duty.
- (c) The increase of leave reserve to 30 per cent. with a view to reduce the number of double duties to a minimum.
- (d) The sorters doing double duty in stationary mail offices to be entitled to double duty allowance.
- (e) Double duty allowance for R. M. S. officials in sorting offices or those resting at outstations or headquarters to do double duty at the same station to be entitled to double duty allowance.
- (f) Overtime allowance for R. M. S. officials in travelling sections detained on duty for more than an hour.
- (g) Increase of double duty allowance.
- (h) Diem allowance to cover expenses at outstations.
- (i) Increase of the number of mail vans.
- (j) The scale of pay in the R. M. S. to be the same as in the Post office (1) in the time scale and (2) in the selection grades up to Rs. 250—350.
- (k) House allowance for R. M. S. menials where house allowance is paid to post office menials.

The Honourable **Mr. A. C. Chatterjee:** The Director-General has carefully considered the recommendations of the Railway Mail Service Conference referred to. Of the 24 items, 3 have been accepted, 7 were not accepted by the Deputy Postmasters-General, 4 were rejected by the Director-General, and 10 are under further consideration.