

Litigation Expenditure on Berubari Case

4292. Shri Subman Ghose: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the amount spent by the Government of India on Lawyers' fees and other incidental expenses in defending the Berubari Case in the Calcutta High Court instituted by Prof. Nirmal Bose?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): An expenditure of about Rs. 3,840 as lawyer's fees and a further sum of about Rs. 450 on other charges is anticipated.

**Conciliation Officers (Central)
Dhanbad**

4293. Shri Subman Ghose: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases filed before Conciliation Officers (Central), I and II at Dhanbad during the year 1958; and

(b) the number of cases in which negotiations failed during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Conciliation Officer (Central) I—312 cases; Conciliation Officer (Central) II—259 cases.

(b) 95.

Class IV Employees

4294. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steps are being taken to replace the present system of employing Class IV employees (peons and Jamadars) in the Central Government;

(b) if so, how the matter stands and the number of persons involved;

(c) what are the broad features of the proposed scheme; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken to properly utilise the present employees by making them useful for

other suitable jobs in the Government offices?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). The existing system of peons in personal attendance on officers or separately attached to sections is proposed to be replaced by a messenger service system. Messengers will be pooled for convenient blocks and their work organised on a systematic basis.

The new system is being tried in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Ministry of Defence and the Planning Commission. It will be extended elsewhere also, but the scattered nature of several officers is a handicap.

(d) In these three organisations, the strength of messengers is 176 less than the strength of 669 jamadars and peons admissible according to the prescribed scale. There has been no retrenchment and none is intended. Reduction has been secured by keeping vacancies unfilled and by diverting surpluses to where messengers were needed.

**Use of Fraudulent Weights by
Hawkers in Delhi**

4295. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the hawkers purchasing waste paper in Delhi cheat the public by using fraudulent weights and measures; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken against such persons?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). Sustained efforts are made by the Inspectorate of Weights and Measures of the Delhi Administration to prevent use of fraudulent weights and measures. Under the law, every weight or measure or measuring instrument used in trade must be verified and certified by an Inspector. It is, however, difficult to enforce compliance with the law in the case