



Report on the Judicial  
Administration in the  
Central Provinces & Berar  
(CIVIL)  
for the Calendar Year  
1932

\* \*

\*

**Agents for the sale of Publications issued by the  
Central Provinces Government**

[NOTE.—Appointments of all official Agents in the United Kingdom and on the Continent for the sale of Government Publications have been terminated with effect from the 1st April 1925.

All publications in future are obtainable either direct from the High Commissioner for India, India House, Aldwych, London, W. C. 2, or through any bookseller.]

**INDIA**

**AKOLA :**

The proprietor, Shri Ramdas Stores,  
Tajnapeth.

**ALLAHABAD :**

Mr. Ram Narain Lal, Publisher, etc.,  
1, Bank Road.

The Superintendent, Nazair Kanun  
Hind Press.

**AMRAOTI :**

Thakur & Co., Booksellers.

**BARODA :**

Mr. M. C. Kothari, Bookseller and  
Publisher, Raopura Road.

**BILASPUR :**

Mr. M. A. Subhan, Bookseller and  
Publisher.

**BOMBAY :**

D. B. Taraporevala, Sons & Co.,  
190, Hornby Road, Fort.

Radhabai Atmaram Sagoon.

Sunder Pandurang, 25, Kalbadevi  
Road.

Thacker & Co., Ltd.

**CALCUTTA :**

The Book Company, 4/4-A, College  
Street.

Butterworth & Co. (India, Ltd.,  
8-2, Hastings Street.

The Indian School Supply Depôt.

M. C. Sircar & Sons, 75, Harrison  
Road.

Newman & Co.

R. Cambray & Co.

S. K. Lahiri & Co.

Thacker, Spink & Co.

**COOCH BEHAR :**

Babu S. C. Taluqdar, Proprietor  
Students & Co.

**ELHI :**

D The Oxford Book and Stationery Co.

**JUBBULPORE. :**

The Manager, General Book Depôt.

**KARACHI :**

The Standard Bookstall.

**LAHORE :**

The Punjab Sanskrit Book Depôt.

Rai Sahib M. Gulab Singh & Sons.

**LUCKNOW :**

The Proprietor, Newal Kishore  
Press.

The Upper India Publishing House,  
Ltd., 41, Aminabad Park.

**MADRAS :**

Higginbotham & Co.

S. Murthy & Co., Post Box  
No. 152.

The Proprietor, The City Book  
Co., Post Box No. 283.

**NAGPUR :**

Aidan Binzani, Proprietors, Karmavir  
Book Depôt Mahal.

G. G. Khot & Sons, Walker Road.

Mr. G. A. Shastri, Bookseller and  
Publisher, Hislop College Road.

The Manager, General Book Depôt.

The Manager, "The Hitavada".

The Proprietor, Bhisey Brothers,  
Booksellers and Publishers.

Mr. D. M. Dhumal, Manager, Ex-  
perimental Book Binding Depot.

**PATNA :**

The Patna Law Press Co.

**POONA :**

The Proprietors, New Kitabkhana.

**RANGOON :**

The Superintendent, American  
Baptist Mission Press.

**SIMLA :**

Thacker, Spink & Co.

**YEOTMAL :**

V. N. Saraswat.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS.

156

	PARA.	PAGE.
General	1	1
A.—TRIBUNALS		
Judicial Commissioner's Court	2	<i>ib.</i>
District Courts	3	<i>ib.</i>
Courts of First Class Subordinate Judges	4	1 & 2
Linked and Touring Courts	5	2
Additional Courts	6 & 7	2 & 3
Village Panchayats	8	3
Training of Officers	9	<i>ib.</i>
B.—ORIGINAL JURISDICTION		
Institution of suits	10	3 & 4
Institutions in Village Panchayat Courts	11	4
Valuation of suits	12	<i>ib.</i>
Small Cause Courts	13	4 & 5
Distribution of suits	14	5
Durations	15	5 & 6
Pending files	16	6
Executions	17	<i>ib.</i>
Insolvency	18	6 & 7
Interlocutory Injunctions and stay orders	19	7
C.—APPELLATE JURISDICTION		
Appeals to Privy Council	20	7
Appellate work in Judicial Commissioner's Court.	21	7 & 8
Appellate work in District Courts	22 & 23	8
D.—MISCELLANEOUS		
The Bar	24	8 & 9
Guardians and Wards Act	25	9
Usurious Loans Act	26	<i>ib.</i>
Copying Branch	27	<i>ib.</i>
Records and Record-rooms	28	<i>ib.</i>
Ministerial Establishment	29	9 & 10
Working of the Nazarat	30 & 31	10
Process Fees	32	<i>ib.</i>
The trial of tenancy suits by Revenue Officers.	33	10 & 11
Buildings	34	11
Furniture and Libraries	35	<i>ib.</i>
Inspections	36	<i>ib.</i>
Judicial Services	37 & 38	<i>ib.</i>

## APPENDICES

### PRESCRIBED STATEMENTS

No. 25.—Tribunal statement	...	ii & iii
„ 26.—Number of civil cases decided	...	<i>ib.</i>
„ 27.—Number and description of suits instituted	...	iv & v
„ 28.—Number and value of suits instituted	...	<i>ib.</i>
„ 29.—Result of trials of civil suits	...	vi & vii
„ 30.—Result of trials of miscellaneous cases	...	viii & ix
„ 31.—Appeals from decrees	...	x & xi
„ 32.—Miscellaneous appeals	...	xii & xiii

## Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Central Provinces and Berar during the calendar year 1932

**General.**—During the year under report the fall in original litigation was checked and institutions increased. The cadre which had been greatly reduced in the preceding year was not sufficient to cope with the increase: congestion resulted in a number of Courts. Apart from this, congestion must occur in outlying Courts where the work is excessive for one Judge but not sufficient for two. It was found necessary to inform Judges that they were expected to do full day's work but not to injure their health in an attempt to prevent arrears from increasing. As had been anticipated, appellate institutions decreased for the first time for many years: disposals in the Judicial Commissioner's Court exceeded institutions and the steady increase in pending files was checked.

### A.—TRIBUNALS

2. **Judicial Commissioner's Court.**—The number of Judges of this Court continued to be five. The retirement of Sir Charles Findlay, Kt., I.C.S., Judicial Commissioner, who was on leave from the 21st June 1930 took place on the 13th January 1932, and with effect from the same date Sir Robert Macnair, Kt., I.C.S., was confirmed as Judicial Commissioner and Mr. F. H. Staples, I.C.S., as Additional Judicial Commissioner. Mr. Staples proceeded on leave from the 20th June 1932 and Mr. R. E. Pollock, I.C.S., was appointed to officiate in his place. During the absence on leave of Mr. G. L. Subhedar, Mr. Vivian Bose, Government Advocate, officiated for one month, from the 20th June 1932 as Additional Judicial Commissioner. Sir Robert Macnair, Judicial Commissioner, Mr. M. B. Niyogi, Additional Judicial Commissioner, and Mr. F. L. Grille, I.C.S., officiating Additional Judicial Commissioner, were on duty throughout the year.

Statement  
No. 25.

3. **District Courts.**—Three posts of District and Sessions Judges which were held in abeyance because of the abolition of the three civil districts of Bhandara, Saugor and Buldana were abolished with effect from the 7th December 1932. The number of these officers was thereby permanently reduced to nine.

4. **Courts of First Class Subordinate Judges.**—In last year's report the temporary closure of 10 courts of

First Class Sub-judges was noticed. All these Courts were permanently closed from the 16th June 1932. The Courts of the First Class Sub-judges at Mandla and Drug were replaced by Courts of Second Class Sub-judges, with effect from the 5th January and 10th October 1932, respectively. To keep pace with the abolition of Courts, the cadre of the Provincial Civil Service (Judicial) was reduced from 4 to 3 posts in the Select Grade and from 44 to 34 posts of First Class Sub-judges with effect from the 15th April 1932.

5. **Linked and Touring Courts.**—The linked Courts system continued throughout the year between Multai and Betul, Kelapur and Wun and Malkapur and Jalgaon and was introduced from the beginning of the year between Nagpur and Ramtek, Nagpur and Umrer, Sehora and Murwara. From February to October 1932, a First Class Sub-judge was working for one fortnight at Chanda and for the other at Wardha, in order to give relief to the Additional District Judge, Wardha. This arrangement was discontinued from the 1st November 1932 and a full time additional First Class Court was opened at Wardha from the 7th December 1932. The linked court at Seoni-Malwa was abolished from the 1st April 1932 and a Judge at Harda was asked to visit Seoni-Malwa for three days in each month for the trial of petty cases. Second Class Courts at Rehli and Mungeli were temporarily closed in February 1932 and to reduce the inconvenience to the public the system of touring Courts was introduced at these stations. During the year under report this system was in existence at Kamptee, Sakoli, Rehli, Banda, Seoni-Malwa, Lakhnadon, Mahasamund and Mungeli.

6. **Additional Courts.**—Additional Sub-judges of the Second Class spared out of the leave reserve or owing to temporary closure of Courts were utilized to relieve congestion at the following stations :—

Bhandara	...	1-1-1932	to	10-10-1932.
Gondia	...	11-10-1932	to	31-12-1932.
Jubbulpore	{	1-1-1932	to	30-3-1932.
		16-6-1932	to	31-12-1932.
Khandwa	{	1-1-1932	to	30-1-1932.
		16-6-1932	to	31-12-1932.
Balaghat	...	8-8-1932	to	6-9-1932.
Bilaspur	...	18-11-1932	to	31-12-1932.
Amr aoti	...	1-1-1932	to	30-1-1932.
Akola	...	1-1-1932	to	5-2-1932.
Basim	...	16-9-1932	to	31-12-1932.

7. 58 Tahsildars and 45 Naib-Tahsildars exercised civil powers as against 59 and 36, respectively, in the

preceding year. The Tahsildar, Baihar, continued to try money suits not exceeding Rs. 200 in value from his tahsil.

**8. Village Panchayats.**—203 Panchayat Courts were established during the year, 37 in the Central Provinces and 166 in Berar: while three were abolished, one in Hoshangabad, one in Bilaspur and one in Buldana Revenue district. The total number of Courts functioning at the end of the year was 363 in the Central Provinces and 406 in Berar. An unusually large number of these Courts, *viz.*, 151, have been established in the Yeotmal Revenue district.

**9. Training of officers.**—Mr. E. A. A. Snelson, I.C.S., remained under training as Sub-judge throughout the year and Mr. R. K. Ramadhyani, I.C.S., was deputed for similar training on the 15th November 1932. Four senior Sub-judges of the Second Class received training as Magistrates of the First Class during the first half of the year; on completion of training three of them were appointed to officiate as Additional District and Sessions Judges, the fourth proceeding on leave. Regular training of this type is of great value to those Sub-judges who have to do Sessions work and it is hoped that a few selected Sub-judges will be given such training every year.

## B.—ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

**10. Institution of suits.**—Institutions under the three main heads for the years 1928 to 1932 are given below :—

Statemen  
No. 27

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
<i>Central Provinces.</i>					
1. Suits for money and movable property.	76,481	76,022	72,220	68,038	71,062
2. Suits under the Rent Law.	12,756	13,848	17,208	25,498	24,862
3. Title and other suits ...	9,227	9,889	8,531	7,094	7,267
<b>Total</b>	<b>98,464</b>	<b>99,759</b>	<b>97,959</b>	<b>100,620</b>	<b>103,191</b>
<i>Berar.</i>					
1. Suits for money and movable property.	48,118	36,900	27,436	28,048	29,417
2. Suits under the Rent Law.	236	189	234	165	182
3. Title and other suits ...	7,456	7,465	5,600	4,368	4,190
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,810</b>	<b>44,554</b>	<b>33,270</b>	<b>32,581</b>	<b>33,789</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>154,274</b>	<b>144,313</b>	<b>131,229</b>	<b>133,201</b>	<b>136,980</b>
Total excluding suits under the Rent Law in the Central Provinces.	141,518	130,465	114,021	107,703	112,118

The number of suits under the Rent Law in the Central Provinces, which are for the most part tried by Revenue Officers, is slightly less than the number for 1931, but is still considerably more than in previous years. The figures in the last line of the above table indicate the amount of work before the regular Civil Courts. The continuous fall in institutions noticeable from the year 1928 appears to have received a check; the figure for 1932 is 4 per cent more than that for 1931 and only 1.7 per cent less than that for 1930. Occurring soon after the abolition of several Courts, this increase in institutions has led to congested files at a few places. It seems probable that institutions will remain steady or continue to rise slowly.

**11. Institutions in Village Panchayat Courts.**—Institutions in Village Panchayat Courts (excluding 5 in Yeotmal district which have not submitted statistics) were 10,468 during the year under review as against 8,787 in 1931 and 7,801 in 1930. The number for 1932 is 7.6 per cent of the number of institutions in the stipendiary Civil Courts. Yeotmal district contributed the largest number, viz., 1,624, and Bhandara came last with only 22. 10,362 suits were disposed of during the year. The decrees of the Panchayat Courts were cancelled by the Deputy Commissioners in 74 cases, as against 32 in 1931 and 56 in 1930.

Statement  
No. 28

**12. Valuation of suits.**—The total value of suits instituted in 1932 was Rs. 4,13,88,448 and the average value per suit was Rs. 302, as against Rs. 4,07,73,182 and Rs. 306, respectively, during the year 1931. Nagpur reports an abnormal increase in the total value by about 40 per cent due to increase in the institutions of suits of higher value. There is a distinct fall in the total and average values of institutions in Berar.

**13. Small Cause Courts.**—The number of suits instituted and their total and average values were as follows :—

	1931.			1932.		
	Number of institutions.	Total value of institutions.	Average value.	Number of institutions.	Total value of institutions.	Average value.
Central Provinces ...	56,707	Rs. 56,72,762	Rs. 100	59,488	Rs. 59,01,456	Rs. 99
Berar ...	21,811	20,05,049	138	22,372	26,44,633	118

The decrease in average value is considerable in Berar. 79,196 suits were tried by summary procedure as against 80,348 in 1931. Of the suits disposed of 16.1 per cent were contested as against 15.5 per cent in the preceding year.

14. Distribution of suits.—The number and percentage of suits disposed of by each class of Courts in 1931 and 1932 were as follows :—

Statement  
No. 29

	1931.		1932.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
District Courts ...	385	·3	367	·3
Courts of 1st Class Subordinate Judges.	4,312	3·2	2,334	1·7
Courts of 2nd Class Subordinate Judges.	51,140	37·5	52,739	39·2
Small Cause Courts	80,348	59·0	79,196	53·8
Total ...	136,185	100·0	134,636	100·0

The number of suits disposed of further decreased by 1,549 due to the smaller number of Courts working. Disposals by First Class Subordinate Judges have decreased by nearly one half : after the closure of several First Class Courts in 1931 and 1932, First Class Sub-judges try few cases which could be disposed of by Second Class Sub-judges.

15. Durations.—The average durations in 1931 and 1932 are compared below :—

Year.	Central Provinces.		Berar.	
	Contested.	Un-contested.	Contested.	Un-contested.
<i>Small causes.</i>				
1931 ...	110·1	89·2	138·4	93·5
1932 ...	119·7	96·6	142·4	94·2
<i>Others.</i>				
1931 ...	213·5	88·7	258·7	123·6
1932 ...	227·9	92·0	260·3	127·5
<i>Total.</i>				
1931 ...	159·9	89·0	212·6	101·8
1932 ...	168·3	94·5	208·8	103·7

The slight increase in the durations of all classes of cases may be attributed to the abolition of Courts where work was light and prompt disposal was an easy task. The increase is considerable in Nagpur and Jubbulpore civil



districts. In Nagpur three Courts were without judges for over a fortnight and in Jubbulpore a somewhat larger proportion of contested cases were decided during the year.

#### 16. Pending files.—

		1932.	1931.
Suits at the beginning of the year	...	37,957 *	37,658
Institutions	...	136,930	133,201
Reinstituted	...	3,003	3,264
Total for disposal	...	177,920	174,123
Disposed of	...	144,635	135,185
Balance	...	43,234	37,933

The pending files at the end of 1932 are 14 per cent more than at the end of 1931. This is due to increased institution after diminution of the cadre to a number which would have been barely sufficient had institutions continued to decrease. The increase is shared by all the districts except Jubbulpore where institutions have been less than in the previous year. The number of suits over 6 months old has further increased from 4,905 to 6,133 and the number of suits over one year old from 1,288 to 1,575. The number of Miscellaneous cases pending at the end of the year was 5,181 as against 4,854 in 1931 and of these 117 were over one year old against 81 in 1931. Additional Courts are required at a few places to dispose of arrears that have accrued.

17. Executions.—The total number of applications for execution before the Courts was 185,513 as against 190,389 in the previous year and 140,491 applications were disposed of as against 150,786 in 1931. The pending files rose from 39,603 to 45,022. Applications were wholly infructuous in 57.4 per cent of cases, partly satisfied in 18.4 per cent and fully satisfied in 11.1 per cent, the corresponding figures for 1931 being 59.6, 17.7 and 11.4. The amount realized in execution of decrees was Rs. 29,36,338, as against Rs. 38,09,527 in 1931, indicating a further deterioration in the condition of debtors. Debtors were imprisoned in 174 cases, as against 171 in 1931.

18. Insolvency.—Insolvency petitions presented during the year by debtors decreased from 2,928 to 2,691, while those presented by creditors increased from 493 to 515. The decrease is shared by Berar, Wardha and Nimar. 2,179 petitions were disposed of by order of

\*Excludes one suit, vide foot-note (b) in Statement No. 29.

adjudication, 585 were dismissed under section 25, 40 were withdrawn under section 14, and 291 were disposed of by death or default. Orders of adjudication of 1,326 insolvents were annulled, 739 insolvents were discharged absolutely, 209 conditionally and 15 after the expiry of the period of suspension. Eight insolvents died during the year. The closure of First Class Courts at some outlying stations and the consequent transfer of insolvency work to district headquarters was causing inconvenience and, in order to reduce this, it was decided at the end of the year to invest the Courts of senior Second Class Sub-judges with the power to deal with insolvency petitions in which the debts alleged do not exceed Rs. 2,000.

**19. Interlocutory Injunctions and stay orders.**—As recommended by the Civil Justice Committee, statements and registers were prescribed for collecting information in respect of interlocutory injunctions and stay orders, but it appears that the registers were not properly maintained by several Courts. In Chhindwara the registers were brought into use only from November, and in Wardha from September 1932. Instructions as to the maintenance of the registers are being issued and it is hoped that accurate statistics will be available from next year.

### C.—APPELLATE JURISDICTION

**20. Appeals to Privy Council.**—During the year 7 out of 17 appeals from the decisions of this Court were disposed of by the Privy Council: 3 were dismissed, 3 were allowed and in one the case was remanded. 16 applications for leave to appeal were disposed of during the year, leave being granted in 8 cases: but in 7 of them the certificates were subsequently cancelled on failure of the parties to take further steps.

**21. Judicial Commissioner's Court.**—The table below compares the figures for civil appellate work in the years 1931 and 1932:—

Statements  
Nos. 31 and  
32

	1931.			1932.		
	Institu- tions.	Dispos- als.	Pend- ing.	Institu- tions.	Dispos- als.	Pend- ing..
First Appeals ...	253	226	421	263	254	430
Second Appeals ...	1,151	1,019	1,681	910	996	1,595
Miscellaneous Appeals ...	109	100	85	107	126	66
Total ...	1,513	1,345	2,187*	1,280	1,376	2,091

\*Excludes eleven appeals: *vide* foot-notes (a) in Statement No. 31 and (b) in Statement No. 32.

The further fall in institutions was anticipated in last year's report. Disposals were practically the same, criminal work being nearly as heavy as in 1931. The

average durations in First and Second Appeals from original and appellate decrees in 1932 was 568.2 and 555.9 as against 504.0 and 521.8, respectively, in 1931. Increased duration was to be expected in view of the gradual increase in pending files during the years 1930 and 1931. 986 Civil Revisions and 165 Miscellaneous Petitions were instituted during the year and the numbers disposed of were 957 and 176, respectively.

22. District Courts.—The statement below compares the figures for Civil Appellate work in the years 1931 and 1932 :—

		1931.			1932.		
		Institu- tions.	Dispos- als.	Pend ing.	Institu- tions.	Dispos- als.	Pend- ing.
<i>Central Provinces.</i>							
Regular appeals	...	2,449	2,673	1,039	2,225	2,272	992
Miscellaneous appeals	...	325	363	105	375	357	123
Total	...	2,774	3,036	1,144	2,600	2,629	1,115
<i>Berar.</i>							
Regular appeals	...	1,211	1,411	618	959	993	584
Miscellaneous appeals	...	363	330	149	347	308	188
Total	...	1,577	1,741	767	1,306	1,301	772
GRAND TOTAL	...	4,351	4,777	1,911	3,906	3,930	1,887

The number of regular appeals filed during the year decreased by 479, or 13 per cent. The fall, which is shared practically by all the districts, is a natural result of the recent fall in institutions of original cases. The pending files decreased from 1,657 to 1,576 but the number of regular appeals over one year was 133 as against 80 at the end of 1931. For this increase West Berar is chiefly responsible. The number there increased from 29 to 55. The average duration in the Central Provinces fell from 168.9 to 164.9 in spite of the fact that in Chhindwara it considerably increased from 111.5 to 184.5, but Berar shows an increase from 192.5 to 199.9: the increase is due to heavy criminal work.

23. The result of the 3,265 appeals may be summarized thus :—Summarily dismissed in 1.1 per cent, not prosecuted in 8.2 per cent, decrees confirmed in 52.2 per cent, modified in 15.9 per cent, reversed in 14.7 per cent and cases remanded in 7.9 per cent of the appeals.

#### D.—MISCELLANEOUS

24. Bar.—The total strength of the Bar further increased from 1,552 to 1,637. The relations between

the Bench and the Bar continued to be cordial. Five complaints of unprofessional conduct were lodged during the year; of which two were rejected and three remained pending at the close of the year. Two pleaders were struck off the roll and three Barristers and 19 pleaders were suspended for taking part in the Civil Disobedience Movement.

25. **Guardians and Wards Act.**—The number of estates under management rose from 968 to 1,005 during the year. The number relinquished was 66 as against 51 in 1931. Special auditors were employed in a few cases where the estates were big enough to afford the expenses. The necessity of a supervising agency is felt in some districts.

26. **Usurious Loans Act.**—The provisions of this Act appear to be utilized by the Courts, especially in Small Cause Suits. This has had the satisfactory result that creditors, when bonds carry an exorbitant rate of interest, claim a smaller sum in order to avoid payment of unnecessary Court-fee.

27. **Copying Branch.**—The total number of sheets filled in by copyists at headquarters has further gone down from 427,413 to 369,930. The decrease is shared by all the districts except Nagpur and Chhindwara, which got additional work from Bhandara and Balaghat revenue districts, respectively, on the abolition of the Bhandara civil district, and Raipur where the increase was probably due to larger disposals of suits. The total number of sheets filled in at all places was 458,606, as against 507,205 in 1931. The decrease in work had the effect of further reducing section-writing charges to Rs. 1,590 as against Rs. 2,068 incurred in 1931. After scrutinizing the outturns in each district revised standard tasks for copyists were fixed by the Judicial Commissioner. The staff has been and is being reduced at all places where it is found to be in excess of requirements because of either less work or greater outturn.

28. **Records and Record-rooms.**—In June 1932 Saugor records below 15 years old were removed to Jubbulpore. Extension of the Jubbulpore Record-room will be necessary in the near future. Extension is urgently required at Nagpur, Hoshangabad and Chhindwara, in spite of relief afforded by modification of the rules regarding records preserved permanently. Elimination work is reported to be up to date in all districts.

29. **Ministerial Establishment.**—The absorption of surplus hands in clear vacancies and the abolition of posts rendered surplus owing to the permanent closure of

Courts continued throughout the year. In all 44 posts of clerks were abolished during the year. The retention of staff at places which are now visited by touring Judges only for a few days in each month was considered undesirable. Every effort was made to reduce the inconvenience to litigants caused by abolition. Revised scales of pay for new entrants to all grades of the ministerial services were introduced with effect from the 1st March. The reduction in pay in the higher grades of the service is considerable.

30. Working of the Nazarat.—The system of serving processes at longer intervals and the service of special processes through the permanent staff, referred to in paragraph 29 of the last year's report, continued during the year with the result that the process-serving work in almost all the districts has been managed by a smaller number of servers than that sanctioned. 8 posts of process-servers in the Chhindwara district and 7 in the Hoshangabad district were permanently abolished.

31. The percentage of service of summonses and notices ranged from 74 to 81 and that of warrants from 76 to 93 except in Raipur and Nimar, where it was 71 and 69, respectively. The system of checking the work of process-servers by Sale Amins is reported to be working satisfactorily in Jubbulpore, Hoshangabad, Nimar and Raipur districts, but not in Berar. A case of bribe-taking was detected by a Sale Amin in Nimar and the server was dismissed. A process-server at Chhindwara was dismissed for temporary misappropriation of Government money. At Murwara five gold Mohurs deposited with the Nazir were subsequently found missing and the matter is under investigation. Out of 72 cases of obstruction to service and 13 cases of escape from custody, etc., reported from the Jubbulpore, Nimar, Chhindwara and Raipur districts, 47 cases were brought to trial during the year. Conviction was secured in 27, the accused were acquitted in 6, and 14 cases remained pending at the end of the year.

32. Process Fees.—With effect from the 16th June 1932 the fees for service of processes were revised. Scales varying with the value of the suits were prescribed in accordance with the practice in other provinces. The District Judges report that the increase has had little effect on litigation, except perhaps a slight tendency to produce witnesses in Courts instead of summoning them.

33. Trial of Tenancy suits by Revenue officers.—The procedure followed by Revenue Officers in the trial of tenancy suits still continues to be defective. Instructions

are given by District Judges at inspections but without marked effect. With a view to expedite disposal of this class of suits the service of processes by the Tahsil staff instead of the Civil Court staff is under consideration.

34. **Buildings.**—The need for extension of buildings noted in last year's report continues, but nothing could be done in the absence of funds. Extension is also reported to be necessary at Jubbulpore and Balaghat.

35. **Furniture and Libraries.**—There was practically no expenditure on account of furniture during the year. Small sums entirely inadequate for the purpose were spent on Court libraries and the necessity for up to date law books continues to be felt everywhere.

36. **Inspections.**—The Judicial Commissioner inspected the Civil Courts and offices at Bhandara, Balaghat and Buldana and the copying, record-room and Nazarat sections of the office of the District and Sessions Judge, Jubbulpore. He also visited Gondia, Saugor, Sehora, Rehli, Chhindwara, Seoni, Lakhnadon, Amraoti, Basim and Mehkar. Most of the regular Civil Courts were inspected by the District and Sessions Judges during the year. The District Judge, Nagpur, could not inspect 7 such Courts owing to heavy criminal work, the District Judge, Raipur, had to leave 4 Courts uninspected also for want of time, the District Judge, Jubbulpore, 1 Court and the District Judge, East Berar, 3 Courts for want of funds. Some of the Civil Courts presided over by Revenue Officers at outlying stations were not inspected on account of the necessity to economise travelling allowance.

37. Rao Bahadur B. M. Vighnay and Mr. M. A. Amraotkar, District and Sessions Judges, and Rao Bahadur B. V. Samarth, Messrs. V. K. Deshpande, T. D. Dharmadhikari and K. B. Sheorey, Subordinate Judges of the First Class, retired from service during the year. Messrs. D. V. Pandit, Sub-judge, First Class, and K. R. Wyawahare, Sub-judge, Second Class, died on the 12th January and 28th March 1932, respectively.

38. During the year under review a Knighthood was conferred on Mr. R. H. Macnair, I.C.S., Judicial Commissioner. Mr. B. M. Vighnay, District and Sessions Judge, received the title of Rao Bahadur.

K. V. K. SUNDARAM,

*Registrar,  
Judicial Commissioner's Court,  
Central Provinces.*

NAGPUR :  
*The 22nd April 1933.*

---

---

**PRESCRIBED STATEMENTS**  
**(CIVIL)**

—  
**1932**

---

---

**STATEMENT No. 25.—Showing the number of Judicial Divisions and the Central Provinces and Berar on the**

Name of Province.	Judges of Chief Court of Province.	Civil	
		Number of districts.	District Judges.
1	2	3	4
Central Provinces (including Berar).	5	9	9(a)

(a) Do both civil and criminal  
 (b) 176 do both civil and  
 (c) All Panchayat Courts.

**STATEMENT No 26.—Showing the number of Civil cases decided in, and for the**

Name of Province.	Number of cases		
	Original.		Appel
	Regular.	Miscellaneous.	Regular.
1	2	3	4
Central Provinces (including Berar) ..	134,636	20,393	4,515



*the number of officers exercising Appellate or Original Civil Jurisdiction in 31st December 1932.—(Paragraphs 2—9).*

Other Judges.		Remarks.		
Stipendiary.	Honorary.			
5	6	7		
223(b)	769(c)	Grades of Judicial Officers.	Euro-peans.	In-dians.
		Judicial Commissioner ..	1	..
		Additional Judicial Commissioners ..	2	2
		District Judges ..	3	6
		Additional District Judges ..	2	26
		Subordinate Judges, First Class ..	..	4
		Additional Judges to Courts of Subordinate Judges, First Class.	1	16
		Judges, Small Cause Courts ..	..	5
		Registrar, Small Cause Courts ..	..	1
		Subordinate Judges, Second Class ..	..	66
		Extra-Subordinate Judges, Second Class ..	..	24
		Additional Judges to Courts of Subordinate Judges, Second Class.	..	78
		Total ..	9	228

work.  
criminal work.

*the receipts and charges of the Courts in the Central Provinces and Berar year 1932.*

decided.	Remarks.
late.	
Miscellaneous.	
5	6
791	

**STATEMENT No. 27.—Showing the number and description of Civil  
for the**

Class of Tribunal.	Suits for money or movable property.	Suits under the		
		Arrears of rent with or without ejectment.	Enhancement or abatement of rent.	For ejectment or recovery of possession alone.
1	2	3	4	5
<b>COURTS IN THE INTERIOR</b>				
Unpaid Tribunals ..	..	..	..	..
Paid Sub-Divisional Tribunals ..	17,565	24,976	..	..
Small Cause Courts ..	81,860	..	..	..
District Courts other than Chief Courts of districts.	960	68	..	..
Chief Courts of districts ..	94	..	..	..
Total ..	100,479	25,044	..	..

**STATEMENT No. 28.—Showing the number and value of suits  
for the**

Class of Tribunal.	Number of suits			
	Value not exceeding Rs. 10.	Value Rs. 10 to Rs. 50.	Value Rs. 50 to Rs. 100.	Value Rs. 100 to Rs. 500.
1	2	3	4	5
<b>COURTS IN THE INTERIOR</b>				
Unpaid Tribunals ..	..	..	..	..
Paid Sub-Divisional Tribunals ..	5,158	16,212	7,678	15,098
Small Cause Courts ..	3,132	28,440	22,586	26,757
District Courts other than Chief Courts of districts.	79	108	55	80
Chief Courts of districts ..	..	..	2	4
Total ..	8,369	44,760	30,321	41,939

*Suits instituted in the Civil Courts in the Central Provinces and Berar year 1932—(Paragraph 10).*

Rent Law.		Title and other suits.					Grand Total.
All other suits under the Rent Law.	Total.	Suits for immovable property.	Suits for specific relief.	Mortgage suits.	Other suits not falling under any of the preceding heads.	Total.	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	24,976	4,634	1,422	3,827	363	10,246	52,787
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81,860
..	68	299	145	489	27	960	1,988
..	..	56	42	116	37	251	345
..	25,044	4,989	1,609	4,432	427	11,457	136,980

*instituted in the Civil Courts in the Central Provinces and Berar year 1932—(Paragraphs 12 and 13).*

instituted in the different courts.

Value Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000.	Value Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 5,000.	Value above Rs. 5,000.	Number of suits the value of which cannot be estimated in money.	Total number of suits instituted.	Total value of suits.
6	7	8	9	10	11
..	..	..	..	..	..
4,913	3,728	..	..	52,787	1,58,57,744
945	..	..	..	81,860	85,46,089
228	898	540	..	1,988	58,74,367
..	5	334	..	345	1,11,10,248
6,086	4,631	874	..	136,980	4,13,88,448

STATEMENT No. 29.—*Showing the General Results of the Trial of Civil  
Berar for the*  
CIVIL SUITS—

Class of Tribunal.	Number of suits before the Courts.			
	Pending at the beginning of the year.	Instituted during the year.	Revived during the year.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
<b>COURTS IN THE INTERIOR</b>				
Unpaid Tribunals ..	..	..	..	..
Paid Sub-Divisional Tribunals ..	(a) 16,689	52,891	1,630	71,210
Small Cause Courts ..	(a) (b) 19,091	81,817	1,243	102,151
District Courts other than Chief Courts of districts.	(a) 1,647	1,923	105	3,675
Chief Courts of districts ..	510	349	25	884
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>(b) 37,937</b>	<b>136,980</b>	<b>3,003</b>	<b>177,920</b>

(a) The difference between column 11 of the statement for the year 1931 and column 2 of the  
(b) Excludes one suit wrongly shown as pending in column 11 of the statement for the

*Cases in the Courts of Original Jurisdiction in the Central Provinces and year 1932.*

(Paragraphs 14—16).

Number of suits disposed of (excluding transfers).					Pending at the close of the year.	Pending for more than a year.	Average duration of suits.		Remarks
Without trial.	Without contest.	With contest.		On reference to arbitration.			Average duration in days of contested suits.	Average duration in days of uncontested suits.	
6	7	Judgment for plaintiff.	Judgment for defendant.	10	11	12	13	14	15
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
6,401	35,801	8,622	1,880	35	18,471	830	222	95	
10,465	55,999	11,444	1,283	5	22,955	144	125	96	
298	1,063	790	171	12	1,341	349	328	164	
53	116	163	31	4	517	252	642	293	
17,217	92,979	21,019	3,365	56	43,284	1,575	179	97	

statement for the year 1932 is due to the transfer of suits from one class of Tribunal to another, year 1931.

**STATEMENT No. 30.—Showing General Results of the Trial of Civil  
and Berar for**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Class of Tribunal.	Number of cases before the courts.			
	Pending at the beginning of the year.	Instituted during the year.	Revived during the year.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
<b>COURTS IN THE INTERIOR</b>				
Unpaid Tribunals ..	..	..	..	..
Paid Sub-Divisional Tribunals ..	(a)2,623	12,368	56	15,047
Small Cause Courts ..	(a)983	4,945	15	5,943
District Courts other than Chief Courts of districts.	(a)698	1,821	12	2,531
Chief Courts of districts ..	508	1,326	3	1,837
Chief Courts of the Province ..	42	174	..	216
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>4,854</b>	<b>20,634</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>25,574</b>

(a) The difference in column 11 of the statement for the year 1931 and column 2 of the

(b) No case of contempt of Court under Chapter XXXV of the Code of

(c) Insolvency petitions are not taken into

*Cases in the Courts of Original Jurisdiction in the Central Provinces  
the year 1932.*

161

CASES.—(Paragraph 16.)

Number of cases disposed of (excluding transfers).					Pending at the close of the year.	Pending for more than a year.	Average duration of cases.		Re- marks
Without trial.	Without contest.	With contest.		On re- ference to arbitration.			Average duration in days of contested cases.	Average duration in days of uncontested cases.	
6	7	Judgment for plaintiff.	Judgment for defendant.	10	11	12	13	14	15
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
6,325	2,609	1,756	1,420	..	2,937	21	134	65	
2,704	820	761	603	..	1,055	4	112	57	
996	387	336	205	..	607	31	167	90	
716	307	169	125	..	520	54	218	82	
92	13	28	21	..	62	7	204	67	
10,833	4,136	3,050	2,374	..	5,181	117	137	66	

statement for the year 1932 is due to the transfer of cases from one class of Tribunal to another. Criminal Procedure was disposed of by Civil Courts during the year.  
account for purposes of this statement.

**STATEMENT No. 31.—Showing the Business of the Civil Appellate**

**APPEALS FROM DECREES.—**

Class of Tribunal.	Number of appeals before the Courts.			Appeals from			
	Pending at the beginning of the year.	Instituted and re-instituted during the year.	Total.	Appeals disposed of			
				Dismissed or not prosecuted.	Con-firmed.	Modi-fied.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
<b>COURTS IN THE INTERIOR</b>							
<b>Appeals from Original Decrees.</b>							
Chief Appellate Courts of dis-tricts.	1,657	3,184	4,841	305	1,704	518	
<b>COURTS AT THE PRESIDENCY OR SEAT OF GOVERNMENT</b>							
Chief Court of Province.	Appeals from original de-crees.	421	263	684	46	112	56
	Appeals from appellate de-crees.	(a) 1,681	910	2,591	404	405	43
	<b>Total</b>	2,102	1,173	3,275	450	517	99
<b>Grand Total</b>	3,759	4,357	8,116	755	2,221	617	

*Note.*—There were no references under section 27  
(a) Ten appeals of 1931 were



*Courts in the Central Provinces and Berar for the year 1932.*

(Paragraphs 21—23).

decrees. (excluding transfers).		Pending at the close of the year.	Pending for more than a year.	Average duration of appeals.		Remarks.
Reversed.	Remanded.			Average duration in days of contested appeals.	Average duration in days of uncontested appeals.	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
479	259	1,576	133	178	155	
28	12	430	197	607	362	
100	44	1,595	876	768	265	
128	56	2,025	1,073	729	282	
607	315	3,601	1,206	294	223	

of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.  
cancelled during the year.

**STATEMENT No. 32.—Showing the Business of the Civil Appellate**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Class of Tribunal.		Number of appeals before the Courts.			Appeals disposed of		
		Pending at the beginning of the year.	Instituted and re-instituted during the year.	Total.	Dismissed or not prosecuted.	Confirmed.	Modified.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>COURTS IN THE INTERIOR</b>							
<b>Appeals from Original Decrees.</b>							
Chief Appellate Courts of districts.		254	722	976	127	280	22
<b>COURTS AT THE PRESIDENCY OR SEAT OF GOVERNMENT</b>							
Chief Court of Prov. in c.	Appeals from original decrees.	49	(a)87	(a)136	34	(a)42	7
	Appeals from appellate decrees	(b)36	20	56	11	12	1
	<b>Total</b>	85	107	192	45	54	8
<b>Grand Total</b>		339	829	1,168	172	334	30

(a) Includes two appeals under section 30 of the Workmen's Compensation  
 (b) One appeal of 1931 was cancelled during the year 1932 and hence the

*Courts in the Central Provinces and Berar for the year 1932.*

## APPEALS—(Paragraphs 21—23).

(excluding transfers).		Pending at the close of the year.	Pending for more than a year.	Average duration of appeals.		Remarks.
Reversed.	Remanded.			Average duration in days of contested appeals.	Average duration in days of uncontested appeals.	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
137	99	311	16	153	103	
3	4	46	7	258	166	
5	7	20	5	343	269	
8	11	66	12	284	192	
145	110	377	28	171	121	

Act, 1923.

number of appeals pending at the close of the previous year has been reduced by one.