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[Despatch Abstract.]

Powers of Sanction Passing orders on com-
munications from the Revenue dept and
the Accountant General ^{on the question} ~~and the request~~ of
the delegation ^{to Heads of depts} of powers of sanction to
purchase articles of Country and Euro-
pean Manufacture within certain
limits.

BACK PAPERS.

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FURTHER PAPERS.

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Government {1897} of Madras.
FINANCIAL.

Recd. }
Regd. } 1897. Enclosures
Spare copies

G.O., No. 14, 8th January 1897.

JANUARY.

Powers of Sanction.

Passing orders on communications from the Revenue Department and the Accountant-General on the question of the delegation to heads of departments of powers of sanction to purchase articles of country and European manufacture within certain limits.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers:—

G.O., Mis. No. 4325, Revenue, dated 3rd November 1896.

Read—the following paper:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest Mis. No. 1272, dated 15th September 1896.

Read—the following paper:—

From C. M. MULLALY, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 4th August 1896, Dis. No. 433-Mag.

With reference to G.O., No. 189-R., dated 17th February 1896, communicating to heads of departments for scrutiny and remarks tables showing the powers of sanction delegated to various officers, I have the honour to forward herewith an office-note from my District Forest Officer for such action as you may deem necessary.

2. The powers granted in the following orders are omitted from the list:—

(1) G.O., No. 31, Revenue, dated 15th January 1894, printed in Board's Proceedings, No. 74, dated 2nd February 1894, empowering Collectors to grant special rewards up to Rs. 10 for good service in regard to forest offences not covered by ordinary rules; and

(2) Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 669, dated 1st December 1892, based on G.O., No. 1017, dated 27th October 1891, authorizing Collectors to sanction refunds of forest revenue in the same way as land revenue refunds.

ENCLOSURE.

Office-note from F. A. LODGE, Esq., District Forest Officer, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Veldurti, 26th April 1896, R.C. No. 383-Mag.

[Reference—Your R.C. No. 383-Magl. of 1896.]

The enclosure to the above is herewith returned.

The list shows a few anomalies. A District Superintendent of Police can sanction new works or repairs up to Rs. 100; the District Forest Officer is limited to Rs. 50 for capital works and allowed Rs. 200 for ordinary works.

The order about rewards in forest cases should state from what source the rewards are to be paid, whether from fines realised, forest funds, or sale-proceeds of produce.

Assistant Commissioners of Salt and Abkari can sanction rewards up to Rs. 25 and Rs. 10 in certain cases; similar powers might be given to District Forest Officers.

Advances to Disbursers.—There is apparently no limit to the Collector's powers. I would suggest "double the limit prescribed for District Forest Officers".

Purchase of Furniture.—Country articles up to Rs. 50, European to Rs. 5. The Collector's general authority under Appendix to Board's Standing Order, No. 238, covers the special case of forests, so the latter need not be separately mentioned.

District Police Superintendents can purchase country articles up to Rs. 25; the same power might be given to District Forest Officer.

The District Forest Officer's powers to sanction capital works to Rs. 50 and ordinary to Rs. 200 are omitted from the list.

Endorsement by A. W. PEET, Esq., Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, dated 13th August 1896, R.C. No. 361.

Forwarded.

Resolution—Forest Mis. No. 1272, dated 15th September 1896.

In continuation of Board's Proceedings, No. 218, Land Revenue, dated 16th June 1896, the Board begs to submit to Government a list of further additions to be made in the tables of powers of sanction submitted by the Accountant-General and printed in those proceedings.

2. The District Forest Officer, Kurnool, points out that Collectors' powers of sanction to purchase furniture are mentioned twice in the Accountant-General's tables—first, with reference to the general authority possessed by them under the appendix to Board's S.O., No. 238, and, secondly, with reference to the special power vested in them under section 148 of the Forest Code, 2nd Edition, so far as the Forest Department is concerned. The District Forest Officer suggests that the latter should be merged in the former. It will be observed, from the alteration proposed in item No. 15 of the appendix to the Board's Proceedings of the 16th June above referred to, that the Collectors' general powers have been recently enlarged so as to permit them to purchase country-made articles up to a limit of Rs. 100 in each case. The Board considers that the powers conferred by the Forest Code on Collectors and Conservators may also be similarly extended and requests the sanction of Government to amend clause 2 of section 148 of the Forest Code accordingly. If this is done, Mr. Lodge's suggestion that the special power vested in Collectors under the Forest Code need not be mentioned separately in the Accountant-General's tables may be adopted.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Ag. Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with a list
(paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Resolution).
" Collector of Kurnool, through the Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle.

List of Additions.

Items of Expenditure.	Head of Department.	Extent of Power.	Authority.
<i>Additions.</i>			
1. Refunds	District Forest Officers ..	To sanction refunds of excess collections of forest revenue.	Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 259, dated 18th June 1891 (paragraph 31), and G.O., No. 1017, Revenue, dated 27th October 1891 (paragraph 21).
2. Rewards	Collectors	To grant special rewards up to Rs. 10 for good service in regard to forest offences not covered by the ordinary rules, subject to the proviso that no rewards should be given for services in connection with forest fires.	G.O., No. 31, Revenue, dated 15th January 1894.