1266 — 293 1A

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th August 1872.

No. 241. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Financial Department, (Separate Revenue, Stamps,) dated Simla, 20th August 1872, No. 2,044:—

Read again—

Paragraph 4 of Financial Resolution No. 102, dated 11th January 1872, calling for a statement from each Government showing the rates of discount allowed to licensed vendors for the sale of general stamps.

Read the following replies:—

Letter from Government of Bombay, No. 514, dated 3rd February 1872.
" Chief Commissioner of Mysore, No. 5,447-18 F, dated 13th February 1872.
" Government of Punjab, No. 202, dated 26th February 1872.
" " of Madras, " 439 " 11th March "
" Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, dated 16th March 1872.
" Government of the North-Western Provinces, No. 64 A, dated 22nd March 1872.
" Resident at Hyderabad, No. 95, dated 25th March 1872.
" Chief Commissioner of Ajmere, No. 335, dated 1st April 1872.
" " of British Burmah, No. 509—83, dated 13th April 1872.
" " of Oudh, No. 1,724, dated 20th May 1872.
" Government of Bengal, No. 2,200, dated 27th May 1872.

RESOLUTION.—In reviewing the Stamp Revenue Administration Report of the Central Provinces for the year 1870-71, it was observed that the value of stamped papers sold for Bills of Exchange or Hundis at Nagpore, during the year in question, amounted only to Rs. 8,132, while in the preceding year the income from this source alone had amounted to Rs. 20,719.

2. This remarkable decrease was explained by the fact that formerly all purchasers of Hundi Stamps at Nagpore were entitled to a discount of 6¼ per cent., and this led to large purchases being made by the merchants of Nagpore for transmission to other places where the rate of discount was lower.

3. This practice was put a stop to during the year 1870-71, and hence the large falling off in receipts from Hundi Stamps—a falling off which was, no doubt, made up for by increased receipts at those places to which the stamp procured in Nagpore used to be transmitted.

4. The Governor-General in Council, with a view to rendering impossible any proceedings of this nature that might be carried on in other parts of the country, called for a statement from each local Government and Administration showing the rates of discount actually in force.

5. From the replies now received it appears that the rates of discount actually in force in the several Presidencies and Provinces are as follow:—

Bengal.

Impressed Stamps and Bills of Exchange ...	At head-quarters and sub-divisional stations...	3 per cent.
	In the interior of districts ...	4 "
Adhesive Stamps...	In Calcutta	3½ "
	In the interior	6¼ "

North-Western Provinces.

Impressed Stamps	Where sold by Government officers	3 per cent.
	At other places	5 ,,
Adhesive Stamps	Not exceeding 8 Annas in value	6¼ ,,
	5 Rs.	4 ,,
	50 ,,	2 ,,

Punjab.

Impressed Stamps	Where sold by Government officers	3 per cent.
	At other places	5 ,,
Adhesive Stamps	Not exceeding in value 8 Annas each	6¼ ,,
	5 Rs.	3⅛ ,,
	50 ,,	1 9/16 ,,

Oudh.

Impressed Stamps	At head-quarters stations	3 per cent.
Adhesive Stamps	At other places	5 ,,
		6 ,,

Central Provinces.

Both Impressed and Adhesive	Not exceeding in value 1 Rupee each	6¼ per cent.
	Above 1 Rupee	3⅛ ,,

Bombay.

Impressed Stamps	Where sold by Government	3 per cent.
	At other places	5 ,,
Adhesive Stamps	Not exceeding in value 8 Annas each	6¼ ,,
	5 Rs. each	4 ,,
	50 ,, ,,	2 ,,

Madras.

Impressed Stamps	At district treasuries	3 per cent.
Adhesive Stamps	At taluq treasuries	4* ,,
		6¼ ,,

Ajmere.

Impressed Stamps	Where sold by Government officers	3 per cent.
	At other places	5 ,,
Adhesive Stamps	Not exceeding in value 8 Annas each	6¼ ,,
	5 Rs.	4 ,,
	50 ,,	2 ,,

British Burmah.

The rates are not uniform in all the districts, but generally they are—

Impressed Stamps	Rs. 4 and Rs. 2.
Adhesive Stamps	Rs. 6¼, Rs. 4, and Rs. 2.

6. It will be seen that these rates are not on the whole very dissimilar, and inasmuch as the conditions on which they must depend vary from province to province, the Governor-General in Council is unwilling to lay down one rule for all, which, however carefully framed, would necessarily be more or less unsuited to the circumstances of particular districts.

* In the new Rules the rate is 5 per cent.

7. His Excellency in Council, however, desires that the several local Governments should bear in mind the importance of uniformity in the rates as far as possible, in order to prevent stamps being purchased in one part of the country for transmission to another, and wherever differential rates render such a trade possible, it should be carefully watched against.

8. The rates of discount in many places appear high, and the Governor-General in Council desires that attention be paid to this matter, in order that a suitable reduction may be made where the remuneration received by the vendors appears unnecessarily large.

9. It is observed with satisfaction that the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah has called upon the Commissioners of Divisions to report whether there is any reason why the rates of discount should not be rendered uniform throughout all the districts under his control, and His Excellency in Council desires that the final decision of the Chief Commissioner in this matter may be communicated to the Government of India.

ORDER.—Ordered that the foregoing Resolution be communicated to the several local Governments for information and guidance.

(Signed) D. BARBOUR,
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 242. ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1872, No. 1,266.

Separate Revenue, No. 17.
Stamps.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue whose attention is drawn to paragraph 8 of the Resolution of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

11-12-12
18.12.24 II

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J Baubon

Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Dated August 30th.

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G. O.

...ust 1872, No. 1,2...

...e of General Stamps.—Resolu...
...the Government of India regarding the ...
...iscount allowed to licensed vendors for ...
...le, communicated to the Board of Reven...

AUGUST.

Nos. 241-242.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

SEPARATE REVENUE.

Stamps.

To

No. 2044.

Dated Simla, 20th *August* 1872.

Received 28th " "

Communicating Resolution regarding rates of discount allowed to licensed vendors for the sale of general stamps.

Read — No. 1266 - 30 Aug.

No. 1266.

To the Secretary to the Govt. of India, Financial Department.

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward herewith a Resolution passed by this Board on the 30th ultimo, regarding the rates of discount to be allowed to licensed vendors for the sale of general stamps.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
W. H. Smith
Secy. to Board of Revenue, &c.

Allahabad, 30th August 1872.

No. 241-242