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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th September 1872.

No. 183. From the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 31st July 1872, No. 1,625 :—

FROM Miscellaneous Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No. 664, dated 26th January 1872, which have been communicated by the Accountant-General, Madras, it appears that "rent of tracts of land taken up for pasturage is carried to Imperial revenue as Land Revenue, Miscellaneous." In 1870-71 "this item amounted to Rs. 1,26,425."

2. I am directed to request that, with reference to the accompanying copy of a Circular to Accountants-General, No. 2,809, dated 16th December 1871, and to Financial Resolution No. 2,808, dated 24th April 1872, which brings the Forest Department under the more immediate control of Collectors, the Government of India may be favoured with an early expression of the opinion of the Government of Madras on the propriety, convenience, or advantage of crediting the said rent as forest-revenue; a large amount of grazing dues, when administered by Forest Officers (and in the Central Provinces when collected even by Civil Officers) being credited as forest-revenues.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND,
28th September 1872.

No. 1,364.

No. 184.
To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Forests, No. 15.

SIR,—In reply to your letter dated 31st July 1872, No. 1,625, I am directed to state that the tracts of land from which the grazing rents referred to are realized are open grass-lands which, under no circumstances, would come under the control of the Forest Department, and that it would not be proper to credit these rents as forest-revenue.

2. I am to add that there is no member of the Forest Department employed in the district to which they pertain.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 2809.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Accounts.

To

THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL, MADRAS.

FORT WILLIAM, *the* 16*th December* 1871.

SIR,

I have the honor to state that a question is under consideration whether revenues from forests managed by district officers, or what are called unreserved forests, and the charges on account of these forests, should not be credited and debited to Forests in Provinces, &c., where they are now adjusted under Land Revenue, or under a Local Fund.

2. To assist in determining this question, I am directed to request that you will be good enough to furnish, in communication with the Conservator of Forests, and with district officers if necessary, a statement for each of the past two years (or for the latest year if it would be troublesome to prepare the return for two years), showing the amount of each principal item and of other items collectively of revenue and charge which would have to be transferred from Land Revenue, or from a Local Fund, to Forests, in the event of an affirmative decision on the question above stated.

3. The question affects principally the revenue from grazing dues, fuel reserves, canal plantations, and the like. Some years since, it was ruled that grazing dues on lands under the control of Civil Officers should be credited as Land Revenue, but that grazing dues controlled by the Forest Department, not by district officers, should be credited as Forest Revenue.

4. It is urged that, under this decision, items of revenue of the same character are variously classed as Forest or as Land Revenue, according as they are administered by Forest or by Civil Officers; whereas the items should be classed solely according to their nature or character, and that thus, if a revenue be derived from forest produce outside reserved forests, which, if realised in such forests, would be credited as forest revenue, it should be so credited even though managed and collected by Civil Officers without reference to the Forest Department.

5. The converse of this proposition is that revenue of the nature of land revenue, such as rents from fisheries, squatters, &c., which, if realised outside reserved forests, would be credited as land revenue, should be so credited even though it be realised within reserved forests by forest officers.

6. Accordingly, you should ascertain from the Conservator of Forests whether any items of Forest Revenue and Charge would require to be transferred to land revenue, if the classification of them were to proceed according to the nature of the items, irrespective of the forest agency by which they may be administered. Should there be such items, I am to request that you will be good enough to state the amount of them for the latest year for which the information can be given.

7. The favor of a reply by the middle of February is requested.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. H. HOLLINGBERY,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

Copy to the Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce, with a remark that this circular is issued as the result of a conference at Simla with the Officiating Inspector General of Forests Major G. F. Pearson.

R H Hollingbery

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

(A true Copy)

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Registrar Civil Courts

O P&S T U W X Z

Revenue 1872 West.

No. 2795

From The Govt of India

Financial Dept

Dated 21st July

Recd 23rd Aug 1872

No. 1625

Forwarding copy of a Circular to the Accts. General and requesting that the Govt of India may be favored with an Expression of the opinion of the Govt of Madras on the proposal for regulating Rents of tracts of land taken up for Plantations as forest revenue.

Wilts. reply

No. 1364 - 28 Sept 72

Govt 15 May 72 No. 161-62.

Forest

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to transmit to you, for the information of the Government of Madras, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India in the Financial Department, No. 2795, dated the 21st July last, forwarding a copy of a Circular addressed by him to the Accountant General, and requesting that the Government of India may be favored with an expression of the opinion of the Government of Madras on the proposal for regulating Rents of tracts of land taken up for Plantations as forest revenue.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

India Office, 18th Sept. 1872

Dft

Sd 1364

R 23 Sept 1872

28 Sept 1872