

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 606

DATED 2nd Feby 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Amend Sanctioning cert and amendments proposed
in Sec 1148 of the ^{revised} Forest Code and transferring
a supplemental list of powers of sanction to the
Financial Dept

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
2454/97	1574	Revenue	23-3-97				

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 456

Issued 21/4/97

Order No. 60687 dated 20.2.97

From

The Board of Revenue
Land Revenue
Forest Branch

No. 570

The proposed amendment of section 148 of the Indian Forest Act is approved, & the list of alterations in the Act's tables of powers of sanction will be transferred to the Financial Dept.

Dated 14 December 1896

Received 16th

Registered 18th

Enclosures

Spare copies

Board (A.R.)
Financial Dept.
Act. Genl.

SUBJECT.

Coming with remarks by A.C. on Accountant General's tables of powers of sanction.

Please see the office draft attached remarks thereon.

22.1.97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	481		21-9-96
	419		25-8-96
	4325		3-11-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE), FOREST No. 570, 14TH DECEMBER 1896.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE).

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 218, dated 16th June 1896.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting to Government statement of additions and alterations proposed to be made to the tables appended to the Accountant-General's letter printed in Government Order, No. 59, dated 22nd January 1896.

READ—again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest Mis. No. 1272, dated 15th September 1896:—

Read—letter from the Collector of Kurnool, dated 4th August 1896, Dis. No. 433-Mag.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding office-note from the District Forest-officer in connection with Government Order, No. 189, Revenue, dated 17th February 1896, and also pointing out certain omissions regarding delegation of powers to various officers.

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 Standing Order No. 238, and secondly with reference to the special power vested in them under section 148 of the Forest Code, Second 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.

3. Mr. Lodge's attention should be drawn to Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 1542, dated 6th November 1889, with regard to his suggestion that the order about rewards in forest cases should specify the source from which the rewards ought to be paid. The Board considers it unnecessary to denote the source in the description of the powers given in the Accountant-General's tables.

4. The other suggestions made by Mr. Lodge relate to the grant of certain further powers to District Forest-officers and do not come within the scope of the present reference. With regard to his last suggestion that District Forest-officers' powers to sanction capital and ordinary works should be included in the tables, Mr. Lodge's

2 BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE), FOREST No. 570, 14TH DECEMBER 1896.

attention should be drawn to Board's Proceedings, Forest No. 284, dated 18th April 1893, and Forest No. 360, dated 14th June 1895, from which it will be seen that District Forest-officers possess no power of sanction apart from the Collector, although they may incur expenditure within certain limits.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Acting 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.

APPENDIX.

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 Government Order, 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.	Government Order, No. 31, Revenue, dated 15th January 1894.

Read—also the following Government Order, No. 481, Revenue, dated 21st September 1896:—

Read—letter from H. O'C. CARDOZO, Esq., Superintendent, Madras Survey, dated 24th March 1896, No. 600.

ABSTRACT.—Reporting that certain additions appear necessary to the statement prepared by the Accountant-General showing the powers exercised by the various officers in respect of establishment, &c.

Read—letter from W. M. STANDEN, Esq., Director of Government Cinchona Plantations, Nilgiris, dated 16th June 1896, No. 62.

ABSTRACT.—Reporting on the subject of delegation of powers in respect of establishment, &c.

Read—also Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 218, dated 16th June 1896.

Order—No. 481, Revenue, dated 21st September 1896.

From the communications received from the Board of Revenue and the Superintendent of Survey, it appears that the following additions are necessary to the Accountant-General's tabular statement of the powers at present exercised by various

BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE), FOREST No. 570, 14TH DECEMBER 1896. 3

officers in respect of establishment, contingent and other charges:—(i) the nine items shown in the first part of the appendix to the Board's Proceedings read above, and (ii) the two items shown below:—

Item of Expenditure.	Head of Department.	Extent of power.	Authority.
10. Temporary Establishment.	Superintendent of Revenue Survey.	To sanction the entertainment of temporary office establishments within the budget grant.	G.O., No. 261, Revenue, dated 2nd March 1880.
11. Budget Allotment ..	Do. ..	To arrange the distribution of expenditure as the exigencies of the department may require within the budget grant.	G.O., No. 588, Revenue, dated 5th April 1881.

It is observed that, in item 8 in the Board's appendix, reference is incorrectly made to paragraph 5 instead of to paragraph 6 of S.O. No. 240, New Edition.

2. The following further addition, which has been overlooked by the Board, requires to be inserted in the list:—

Item of Expenditure.	Head of Department.	Extent of power.	Authority.
Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation.	Collectors ..	To sanction estimates for ordinary repairs to minor irrigation works costing not more than Rs. 250 each.	G.Os., No. 4110, Revenue, dated 18th Oct. 1895, and No. 4952, Revenue, dated 7th Dec. 1895.

3. The Superintendent of Revenue Survey suggests that two powers should be conferred upon him which he does not now possess, namely, (1), under *Petty Construction and Repairs*, power to sanction new works and repairs up to a maximum limit of Rs. 1,000, and (2), under *Budget allotments*, power to sanction transfers from one minor head to another within the same major head, provided that the expenditure is entirely under his control. As these powers are already exercised by other heads of departments, such as the Inspectors-General of Police, Prisons and Registration, the Government sees no reason why the Superintendent of Survey should be placed in a different position, and that officer will now be invested with similar authority.

4. The Director of Government Cinchona Plantations similarly requests that he may be given power to sanction works of petty construction and repairs up to a maximum limit of Rs. 1,000. The Director is in a less responsible position than the heads of larger departments, and the Government is therefore not prepared to comply with his request *in toto*. He will, however, be authorized to sanction new works and repairs up to a limit of Rs. 500 per estimate subject to the condition that budget provision has been made.

5. In paragraph 2 of its Proceedings read above, the Board of Revenue requests the extension to its Settlement and Separate Revenue Departments of the power, now exercised by the Land Revenue Department, to sanction the purchase of clocks and time-pieces for the use of subordinate offices, although their cost may exceed Rs. 10 each; and in paragraph 3 the Government is asked to accord formal sanction for the continuance of the existing practice under which charges connected with the purchase and repair of salt-weighing machines are now incurred by the Board in the Separate Revenue Department without reference to Government. The necessary sanction will now be granted in these two cases.

6. A proposal is now under the consideration of Government to confer upon Collectors power to sanction adjustments of the cost of minor irrigation works completed but not paid for in one year from the allotments for the succeeding year—*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 89, Settlement, dated 7th May 1896. If this is accepted, a further addition to the Accountant-General's list will be necessary.

7. The alterations shown in the appendix to the Board's Proceedings should also be carried out in the Accountant-General's list, with the exception of item No. 17. Government Order, No. 4845, Revenue, dated 29th November 1895, to which reference is made, merely relates to the power to sanction charges connected with *criminal* prosecutions and there is no necessity to omit the whole of this entry. All that is required is the deletion of the words "or criminal" in the expression "in a civil or criminal suit." The item as thus modified should be allowed to stand. A further correction in the Accountant-General's list is required in the entries showing the powers of the Superintendent of Revenue Survey and of Conservators of Forests in regard to the purchase of furniture. These officers should both exercise the powers which have been conferred in these matters upon Heads of Departments in Government Order, Nos. 14 and 160, Financial, dated 9th January and 15th February 1895, that is to say, they should be authorized to purchase or sanction the purchase of country articles the cost of which does not exceed Rs. 100 and of European articles the cost of which does not exceed Rs. 10.

8. The Government has recently in Government Order, No. 419, dated 25th August 1896, approved material alterations in the Madras Forest Code which have the effect of modifying the powers exercised by Conservators, Collectors and District Forest-officers and will necessitate additional alterations in the Accountant-General's list.

9. With regard to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Accountant-General's letter, No. 3560, dated 19th December 1895, the Government strongly deprecates any revival of the practice under which Government itself was in the habit of sanctioning—

- (i) temporary appointments of a petty nature,
- (ii) petty recurring charges on account of office rent, and
- (iii) miscellaneous contingent expenditure now sanctioned by the Board of Revenue.

These powers were delegated in each case after careful consideration, and, if such delegation was irregular, it should now be validated by the confirmation of the Government of India, or, if necessary, by the amendment of the Civil Service Regulations and Civil Account Code.

As regards the suggestion that the powers given as regards refunds and rewards should be consolidated and unified to some extent, it is observed that the question of revising the rules for the grant of rewards in salt and abkari cases is now pending with the Board, which will, no doubt, consider the Accountant-General's suggestion. The Board has recommended no alterations in the existing rules relating to refunds, and in the absence of any recommendation to that effect, the Government sees no reason to discuss the question. As regards the introduction of greater uniformity in the delegation of powers to Heads of Departments, the Government observes that it would be inexpedient to restrict the larger powers now exercised by the Separate Revenue Department of the Board in petty construction and repairs, and that the status and work of Heads of Departments corresponding with Government through the Revenue Secretariat differ so greatly that it would not be desirable to make the financial powers which they exercise altogether uniform. Any further changes in the Forest Code would, in particular, be objectionable in view of the fact that the code has only recently been drawn up and that material alterations have just been effected in Government Order, No. 419, dated 25th August 1896.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. J. WILSON,
for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (all departments).

- " Inam Commissioner.
- " Superintendent, Survey.
- " Director of Cinchona Plantations.
- " Financial Department, with copy of Government Order, No. 419, dated 25th August 1896.
- " Accountant-General
- " Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

READ—also the following Government Order, Mis. No. 4325, Revenue, dated 3rd November 1896 :—

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

Order—Mis. No. 4325, Revenue, dated 3rd November 1896.

Transferred to the Financial Department with the remark that the recommendation to modify section 148 of the Forest Code so as to enable Collectors and Conservators to purchase country articles, the cost of which does not exceed Rs. 100, is approved.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

- " Financial Department.
- " Accountant-General.

RESOLUTION—Forest No. 570, dated 14th December 1896.

Communicated to all Collectors and Conservators of Forests.

2. In its order of the 3rd ultimo read above, Government has approved the modification of section 148 of the Forest Code so as to permit Collectors and Conservators to purchase country-made articles of furniture up to a limit of Rs. 100; while in paragraph 7 of its first order read above, it directs that Conservators should be authorized to sanction the purchase of European articles; the cost of which does not exceed Rs. 10. The following amendment will accordingly be made in section 148 of the Forest Code :—

Substitute for the first two sentences of clause 2 of the section—

" Outlay for the purchase of furniture may be sanctioned by Collectors, provided the cost of each item does not exceed Rs. 100 in the case of country-made articles and Rs. 5 in the case of articles of European manufacture. Conservators exercise similar powers in regard to the purchase of country-made articles of furniture required for their own offices; but as regards European articles, they are authorized to sanction expenditure up to a limit of Rs. 10 for each article."

3. With reference to paragraph 8 of the first order read above, the Board begs to submit to Government the appended list of further additions and alterations to be made in the Accountant-General's tables circulated with Government Order, No. 59, Financial, dated 22nd January 1896.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To all Collectors.

- " Conservators of Forests.
- To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
- " Accountant-General.
- Copy to the Land Revenue Branch.

Exd. Md. Fahlvan.

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APPENDIX.

Item of expenditure.	Head of department.	Extent of power.	Authority.
ADDITIONS.			
1. Purchase of live-stock and tents.	Conservators Forests.	of To sanction the purchase of live-stock and tents up to Rs. 500.	Government Order, No. 419, Revenue, dated 25th August 1896.
ALTERATIONS.			
For			
2. Write off ..	Collectors ..	To sanction the writing off the accounts of valuable timber or other forest produce, live-stock, tools and plant of the value of Rs. 500 or less.	Section 109 of the Forest Code.
Read			
Write off ..	Conservators Forests.	of To write off timber or other forest produce, live-stock, stores, tools and plant of the value of Rs. 500 or less.	Section 109 of the Forest Code, and Government Order, No. 419 Revenue, dated 25th August 1896.
For			
3. Purchase of furniture.	Conservators Forests.	of To sanction the purchase of furniture, country articles each costing less than Rs. 50 and European articles each costing less than Rs. 5.	Section 148, Forest Code.
Read			
Purchase of furniture.	Conservators Forests.	of To sanction the purchase of country articles, the cost of which does not exceed Rs. 100 each and European articles the cost of which does not exceed Rs. 10 each.	Government Order, No. 481, Revenue, dated 21st September 1893 (paragraph 7).
For			
4. Capital expenditure (Forest Department).	Board of Revenue ..	To sanction all capital expenditure, &c. ..	Section 148, Forest Code.
Read			
Capital expenditure (Forest Department).	Board of Revenue ..	To sanction all capital expenditure as defined in sections 144 and 145 of the Forest Code when the cost of each item exceeds Rs. 2,000 but does not exceed Rs. 10,000.	Government Order, No. 419, Revenue, dated 25th August 1896.
For			
5. Capital expenditure (Forest Department).	Collectors ..	.. To sanction capital expenditure when the value of each does not exceed Rs. 500.	Section 148, Forest Code.
Read			
Capital expenditure (Forest Department).	Conservators Forests.	of To sanction capital expenditure when the cost of each item does not exceed Rs. 2,000.	Government Order, No. 419, Revenue, dated 25th August 1896.
For			
6. Ordinary expenditure (Forest Department).	Board of Revenue ..	To sanction all ordinary expenditure as defined in section 144 of the Forest Code when the value of each work exceeds Rs. 2,000.	Section 148, Forest Code.
Read			
Ordinary expenditure (Forest Department).	Conservators Forests.	of To sanction all ordinary expenditure as defined in section 144 of the Forest Code, provided the budget grant is not exceeded.	Government Order, No. 419, Revenue, dated 25th August 1896.
Omit the following with reference to Government Order, No. 419, Revenue, dated 25th August 1896, and No. 4325, Revenue, dated 3rd November 1896, respectively.			
7. Ordinary expenditure (Forest Department).	Collectors ..	.. To sanction ordinary expenditure when the value of each work does not exceed Rs. 2,000.	Section 148, Forest Code.
8. Purchase of live-stock, furniture and tents.	Do. ..	.. To sanction the purchase of furniture, country-made articles of the value of less than Rs. 50 each and European articles of less than Rs. 5 each in the Forest Department.	Do.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed January 14, 1897.

Proceedings, Forest No. 570, 14th
December 1896.

Communicating to all Collectors and Conservators of Forests, with remarks, Government Order on Accountant-General's tables of powers of sanction.

R.H.
Buy the up to me with
copy of the Forest Code
The Hon: Mr. G. S. S. 24.1.97

Read eno. 456 of 97

Order in no. 606 2-2-96

The Govt. observes that, under existing orders, the Collectors are competent to sanction the purchase of European articles of furniture only in case the cost is "less than Rs 5 each" while in the proposed amendment to Sec 148 of the Madras Forest Code, the Board provides that they should be empowered to sanction the purchase of such articles when ever "the cost of each item does not exceed Rs 5" i.e. of articles costing Rs 5 and less than Rs 5 each. The difference however is not much and the Board's draft of the amendment is accordingly approved

2. The list appended to the B.P. is also defective inasmuch as the sanctioning powers of Collectors in regard to the "purchase of furniture" do not find a place there. Instead of omitting item 8 as therein proposed

H.H.

The difference is so trifling that I submit no mention need be made of it. If this view is approved para 1 of the draft may run thus:-

1. The proposed amendment of sec. 148 of the Madras Forest Code is approved, the list appended to the B.P. will be commd. to the Forest Dept. 24.1.97

Para 2 of the Draft is unnecessary; it overlooks the mention of the powers of Collectors in item 15 of the appt. to B.P. of 16.6.96 (para 25 of G.O. 451 Rev. 21.9.96) There is no need to repeat the item
C. 27/1/97
R. 2/2/97
24.1.97

proposed the following will accordingly be substituted for that item

Item of expenditure	Head of the Dept	Extent of power	Authority
Purchase of furniture	Collector	To sanction the purchase of furniture - country articles, the cost of which does not exceed Rs 100 each and European articles the cost of which does not exceed Rs 5 each	Sec 148, Forest Code

The list as modified with reference to the foregoing remarks will be transferred to the Financial Dept

To

The Board of Rev: Land Rev:
.. Financial Dept
.. Acct General

BMM
19.1.97

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH LITIG

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