



The Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887

Act 17 of 1887

Keyword(s):

Estate, Land Owner, Holding, Rent, Pay, Land Revenue, Arrear of Land Revenue, Defaulter, Rates of Cesses, Village Cess, Agricultural, Encumbrance, Net Assets

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THE PUNJAB LAND REVENUE ACT, 1887

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

SECTIONS

1. Title, extent and commencement.
2. Repeal.
3. Definitions.
4. Exclusion of certain land from operation of Act.
5. Power to vary limits and alter number of tahsils, districts and divisions.

CHAPTER II

REVENUE-OFFICERS

Classes and Powers

6. Classes of Revenue-officers.
7. Financial Commissioners.
8. Appointment of Commissioners, and of Deputy Assistant and Extra Assistant Commissioners.
9. Appointment of Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.
10. Powers of Revenue-officers.

Administrative Control

11. Superintendence and control of Revenue-officers.
12. Power to distribute business and withdraw and transfer cases.

Appeal, Review and Revision

13. Appeals.
14. Limitation for appeals.
15. Review by Revenue-officers.
16. Power to call for, examine and revise proceedings of Revenue-officers.

Procedure

17. Power to make rules as to procedure.
18. Persons by whom appearances and applications may be made before and to Revenue-officers.

SECTIONS

19. Power of Revenue-officer to summon persons.
20. Mode of service of summons.
21. Mode of service of notice, order or proclamation or copy thereof
22. Mode of making proclamation.

Supplemental Provisions

23. Place of sitting.
24. Holidays.
25. Discharge of duties of Collector dying or being disabled.
26. Retention of powers by Revenue-officers on transfer.
27. Conferment of powers of Revenue-officers.

CHAPTER III

KANUNGOS, ZAILDARS, INAMDARS AND VILLAGE-OFFICERS

28. Rules respecting kanungos, zaildars, inamdars and village-officers.
29. Village-officers' cess.
30. Restriction on attachment or assignment of remuneration of kanungos, zaildars, inamdars and village-officers.

CHAPTER IV

RECORDS

Records-of-rights and Annual Records

31. Record of-rights and documents included therein.
32. Making or special revision of record-of-rights.
33. Annual record.

Procedure for making records

34. Making of that part of the annual record which relates to landowners, assignees of revenue and occupancy tenants
35. Making of that part of the annual record which relates to other persons.
36. Determination of disputes.
37. Restrictions on variations of entries in record.
38. Mutation fees.
39. Penalty for neglect to report acquisition of any right referred to in section 34.

SECTIONS

40. Obligation to furnish information necessary for the preparation of records.

Rights of the Government and presumption with respect thereto and to other matters

41. Rights of the Government in mines and minerals.
42. Presumption as to ownership of forests, quarries and waste lands.
43. Compensation for infringement of rights of third parties in exercise of a right of the Government.
44. Presumption in favour of entries in record-of-rights and annual records.
45. Suit for declaratory decree by person aggrieved by an entry in a record.

Supplemental Provisions

46. Powers to make rules respecting records and other matters connected therewith.
47. Record-of-rights and annual records for groups of estates.

[CHAPTER V.]

48-60C * * * * *

CHAPTER VI

COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE

61. Security for payment of land revenue.
62. Further security for payment of land revenue.
63. Orders to regulate payment of land revenue.
64. Rules to regulate collection, remission and suspension of land revenue.
65. Costs recoverable as part of arrears.
66. Certified account to be evidence as to arrears.
67. Processes for recovery of arrears.
68. Writ of demand.
69. Arrest and detention of defaulter.

1. Omitted by Haryana Act 24 of 1986.

SECTIONS

70. Distress and sale of movable property and crops.
71. Transfer of holding.
72. Attachment of estate or holding.
73. Annulment of assessment of estate or holding.
74. Proclamation of attachment or annulment of assessment and consequences of the proclamation.
75. Sale of estate or holding.
76. Effect of sale on incumbrances.
77. Proceedings against other immovable property of defaulter.
78. Remedies open to person denying his liability for an arrear.

PROCEDURE IN SALES

79. Proclamation of sale.
80. Indemnity to Revenue-officer with respect to contents of proclamation.
81. Publication of proclamation.
82. Time and conduct of sale.
83. Power to postpone sale.
84. Stay of sale.
85. Payment of deposit by highest bidder.
86. Consequences of failure to pay deposit.
87. [Exercise of rights of pre-emption.] Repealed.
88. Time for payment in full.
89. Procedure in default of payment.
90. Report of sale to Commissioner
91. Application to set aside sale.
92. Order confirming or setting aside sale.
93. Refund of purchase-money on setting aside of sale.
94. Proclamation after postponement or on re-sale.
95. On confirmation of sale, possession and certificate to be granted to purchaser.
96. Proceeds of sale.

SECTIONS

CHAPTER VII

RECOVERY OF OTHER DEMANDS BY REVENUE-OFFICERS

97. Recovery of certain arrears through Revenue-officer instead of by suit.
98. Other sums recoverable as arrears of land-revenue.
99. Application of Chapter VI to sums recoverable under this Chapter.

CHAPTER VIII

SURVEYS AND BOUNDARIES

100. Powers of Financial Commissioner to make rules for demarcation of boundaries and erection of survey marks.
101. Power of Revenue-officers to define boundaries.
 - 101-A. Power to fix boundary between riverain estates.
 - 101-B. Effect of fixing a boundary between riverain estates.
 - 101-C. Application for immediate transfer of rights reserved under the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 101-B, upon payment of compensation and procedure there-upon. Award of compensation and extinguishment of rights thereby.
 - 101-D. Order under proviso to section 101-B (1) to cease to apply to rights voluntarily transferred to a land-owner of the estate to which land is transferred by fixing boundary.
 - 101-E. Rights transferred to be liable to all the incidents of tenure of estate to which transfer is made.
 - 101-F. Meaning of expression "collector" in sections 101-A, 101-B and 101-C.
102. Cost of erection and repair of survey marks.
103. Recovery of cost incurred by the Government.
104. Power of Revenue-officers to enter on land for purposes of survey and demarcation.
105. Surveys for purposes of preparation of records.
106. Provision of flag-holders and chairmen for those surveys.
107. Professional surveys.

SECTIONS

108. Penalty for destruction, injury or removal of survey marks.
109. Report of destruction or removal of or injury to survey marks.

CHAPTER IX

PARTITION

110. Effect of partitions of estates and tenancies on joint liability for revenue and rent.
111. Application for partition.
112. Restrictions and limitations on partition.
113. Notice of application for partition.
114. Addition of parties to application.
115. Absolute disallowances of partition.
116. Procedure on admission of application.
117. Disposal of questions as to title in property to be divided.
118. Disposal of other questions.
119. Administration of property excluded from partition.
120. Distribution of revenue and rent after partition.
121. Instrument of partition.
122. Delivery of possession of property allotted on partition.
123. Affirmation of partitions privately effected.
124. Power to make rules as to costs of partitions.
125. Re-distribution of land according to custom.
126. Revenue-officers empowered to act under this Chapter.

CHAPTER X

ARBITRATION

127. Power to refer to arbitration.
128. Order of reference and contents thereof.
129. Nomination of arbitrators.
130. Substitution of arbitrators by parties.
131. Nomination and Substitution of arbitrators by Revenue-officers.
132. Process for appearance before arbitrators.
133. Award of arbitrators and presentation thereof.
134. Procedure on presentation of award.

SECTIONS

135. Effect of award.

CHAPTER XI

SPECIAL JURISDICTION WITH RESPECT TO LAND

136. Power to invest officers making records-of-rights or general re-assessments with powers of Civil Courts.
137. Control over such officers and appeals from and revision of their decrees and orders.

CHAPTER XII

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISION

Revenue Deposits

138. Power to deposit certain sums other than rent.
139. Procedure in case of deposit on account of a payment due to Government.
140. Procedure in case of other deposits.

Execution of Orders of Civil and Criminal Courts by Revenue officers

141. Orders of Civil and Criminal Courts for execution of processes against land or the produce thereof to be addressed to a Revenue-officer.
142. Attachment of assigned land-revenue.

Preservation of attached Produce

143. Preservation of attached produce.

Division of Produce

144. Division of produce.

Miscellaneous

145. Village-cesses.
146. Superior land-owner's dues
147. Substitution of service for payment of land-revenue.
148. Recovery of cost of assessing assigned land-revenue.
149. Penalty for failure to attend within limits of estate in

SECTIONS

obedience to order of Revenue-officer.

150. Prevention of encroachment on common lands.
151. Papers kept by village-officers to be deemed public documents.
152. Costs
153. Computation of periods limited for appeals and applications for review.
154. Restriction on Revenue-officers bidding at auctions or trading.
- 154-A. Licensing of petition writers.
155. Power to make rules.
156. Rules to be made after previous publication.
157. Powers exercisable by the Financial Commissioner from time to time.

Exclusion of Jurisdiction of Civil Courts

158. Exclusion of jurisdiction of Civil Courts in matters within the jurisdiction of Revenue-officers.

THE SCHEDULE--[REPEALED]

[THE PUNJAB LAND REVENUE ACT, 1887.]

(Act No. 17 OF 1887)

[23rd September, 1887]

1	2	3	4
Year	No.	Short title	Whether repealed or otherwise affected by legislation
1887	17	The Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887	<p>Repealed in part, Act 12 of 1891</p> <p>Repealed in part and amended, Act 17 of 1896</p> <p>Repealed in part and amended, Act 4 of 1914, Schedule, Part I</p> <p>Repealed in part (in Punjab), Punjab Act 2 of 1905</p> <p>Amended, Punjab Act 1 of 1899</p> <p>Amended, Act 4 of 1907</p> <p>Amended, Punjab Act 2 of 1912</p> <p>Amended, Punjab Act 5 of 1912</p> <p>Amended, Punjab Act 3 of 1914</p> <p>Amended, Act 18 of 1919</p> <p>Amended Act 38 of 1920</p> <p>Amended, Punjab Act 3 of 1928¹</p> <p>Amended, Punjab Act 7 of 1929¹</p> <p>Amended, Punjab Act 6 of 1934⁴</p> <p>Amended in part, Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937</p> <p>Amended in part, by Punjab Act 13 of 1952⁵</p> <p>Amended in part, by Punjab Act 45 of 1953⁶</p> <p>Repealed in part, by Central Act 1 of 1938</p> <p>Amended in part, by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950</p> <p>Amended by Punjab Act 5 of 1956⁷</p> <p>Extended to the territories which immediately before the 1st November, 1956, were comprised in the State of Patiala and East Punjab States Union by Punjab Act 23 of 1957⁸</p> <p>Amended by Punjab Act 9 of 1958⁹</p> <p>Amended by Punjab Act 26 of 1958¹⁰</p>

1. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Gazette of India", 1887, Part V, page 12.
2. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", 1928, Part V, page 15.
3. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", 1929, part V, page 80.
4. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", 1934, Extraordinary, p. 101.
5. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1952, page 482.
6. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1953, page 1610.
7. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1956, page 430.
8. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1957, page 694.
9. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1958, page 328.
10. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1958, page 1536.

1	2	3	4
			Amended by Punjab Act 16 of 1963 ¹
			Amended by Punjab Act 27 of 1964 ²
			Amended by Punjab Act 5 of 1966 ³
			Amended by Haryana Act 9 of 1967 ⁴
			Amended by Haryana Adaptation of Laws (State and Concurrent Subjects) Order, 1968 ⁵
			Amended by Haryana Act 11 of 1972 ⁶
			Amended by Haryana Act 45 of 1973 ⁷
			Amended by Haryana Act 39 of 1974 ⁸
			Amended by Haryana Act 20 of 1975 ⁹
			Amended by Haryana Act 21 of 1977 ¹⁰
			Amended by Haryana Act 10 of 1980 ¹¹
			Amended by Haryana Act 10 of 1982 ¹²
			Amended by Haryana Act 16 of 1984 ¹³
			Amended by Haryana Act 4 of 1985 ¹⁴
			Amended by Haryana Act 24 of 1986 ¹⁵
			Amended by Haryana Act 9 of 1994 ¹⁶
			Amended by Haryana Act 12 of 1996 ¹⁷

1. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1963, page 376.
2. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1964, page 888.
3. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1966, page 244.
4. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), 1967, page 304.
5. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see "Punjab Gazette", (Extraordinary), dated the 29th October, 1968.
6. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the page
7. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 7.11.1973, page 2044.
8. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 22.11.1974, page 1620.
9. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 22.7.1975, page 870.
10. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the page
11. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 11.3.1980, page 488.
12. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 23.3.1982, page 378.
13. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 13.3.1984, page 305.
14. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 22.3.1985, page 396.
15. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 25.11.1986, page 1336.
16. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 8.3.1994, page 450.
17. For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 1.3.1996, page 526.

ACT NO. 17 OF 1887.

[THE PUNJAB LAND REVENUE ACT, 1887.]

An Act to Amend and Declare the Land Revenue Law of the [Haryana]¹.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend and declare the law in force in the [Haryana]¹ with respect to the making and maintenance of records-of-rights in land, the assessment and collection of land-revenue and other matters relating to land and the liabilities incident thereto, it is hereby enacted as follows :—

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887.

Title, extent and commencement.

²(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Haryana.]

(3) ³It shall come into force ⁴[in the principal territories] on such day as the State Government with the previous sanction of the ⁵[Central Government], may by notification appoint in this behalf ³[and in the transferred territories on the 24th July, 1957.]

12 of (4) [Repealed by the Repealing and Amending Act,
1891. 1891, section 2 and Scheduled].

1. Substituted for the word "Punjab" by Haryana Adaptation of Laws (State and Concurrent Subjects) Order, 1968.
2. Sub-section (2) substituted by *ibid*.
3. The Act came into force on 1st November, 1887, see Notification No. 727, Punjab Gazette, 3rd November, 1887, Part I, page 578.
4. Substituted for the words "into force" by the Haryana Adaptation of Laws (State and Concurrent Subjects) Order, 1968.
5. Added by *ibid*.

Note.—Para 3 (2) of the Haryana Adaptation of Laws (State and Concurrent Subjects) Order, 1968, defines the "principal territories" and "transferred territories" as follows :—

- (a) "principal territories" shall mean part of the territories which, immediately before the 1st November, 1956, were comprised in the State of Punjab and are included in the State of Haryana by the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966.
- (b) "transferred territories" shall mean part of the territories which, immediately before the 1st November, 1956, were comprised in the State of Patiala and East Punjab States Unions and are included in the State of Haryana by the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966.

Repeal. 2. [Repealed by the Repealing Act, 1938, section 2 7 of
and schedule]. 1938.

Definitions. 3. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant
in the subject or context,

(1) "estate" means any area —

(a) for which a separate record-of-rights has
been made ; or

(b) which has been separately assessed to land
revenue, or would have been so assessed if
the land-revenue had not been released,
compounded for or redeemed ; or

(c) which the ¹[State Government] may, by
general rule or special order, declare to be
an estate ;

(2) "land-owner" does not include a tenant or an
assignee of land-revenue, but does include a person to whom
a holding has been transferred, or an estate or holding has
been let in farm, under this Act for the recovery of an arrear of
land-revenue or of a sum recoverable as such an arrear and
every other person not hereinbefore in this clause mentioned
who is in possession of an estate or any share or portion thereof,
or in the enjoyment of any part of the profits of an estate ;

(3) "holding" means a share or portion of an estate
held by one land-owner or jointly by two or more land-owners;

(4) "rent", "tenant", "landlord", and "tenancy", have
the meanings, respectively, assigned to those words in the
Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887;

16 of
1887.

(5) "pay", with its grammatical variations and cognate
expressions, includes when used with reference to rent,
"deliver" and "render", with their grammatical variations and
cognate expressions ;

1. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India
(Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order,
1950.

(6) "land-revenue" includes assigned land-revenue and any sum payable in respect of land, by way of quitrent or of commutation for service, to the ¹[Government] or to a person to whom the ¹[Government] has assigned the right to receive the payment ;

(7) "arrear of land-revenue" means land-revenue which remains unpaid after the date on which it becomes payable ;

¹[(8) "defaulter" means a person liable for an arrear of land revenue or any tax in lie thereof and includes —

(i) a person who is responsible as surety for the payment of the arrear; and

(ii) a headman or any other person who has collected the land revenue or any tax in lieu thereof but has not deposited the same into the Government Treasury ;]

12 of 1891. (9) "rates and cesses" means rates and cesses which are primarily payable by land-owners, and includes—

(a) *Repealed by the Repealing and Amending Act, 1891.*

(b) the local rate, if any, payable under the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, and any fee leviable under section 33 of that Act from land-owners for the use of or benefits derived from such works as are referred to in section 20, clauses (i) and (j) of that Act;

(c) any annual rate chargeable on owners of lands under section 59 of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873²;

(d) the ³[* * * * *] village-officers cesses; and

(e) sums payable on account of village expenses

(10) "village-cess" includes any cess, contribution or due which is customarily leviable within an estate and is neither a payment for the use of private property or for personal service

1. Substituted for the word "Crown" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

2. This must not be confounded with owner's rate imposed under section 37 of Act 8 of 1873.

3. Words, "zaildari and" omitted by Punjab Act 27 of 1964, section 2.

4. Substituted by Haryana Act 45 of 1973.

nor imposed by or under any enactment for the time being in force ;

(11) "village-officer" means a chief-headman, headman or patwari ;

(12) "Revenue-officer" in any provision of this Act, means a Revenue-officer having authority under this Act to discharge the functions of a Revenue-officer under that provision ;

(13) "legal practitioner" means any legal practitioner within the meaning of the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, except a mukhtar ; 18 of 1879.

(14) "agricultural year" means the year commencing on the sixteenth day of June, or on such other date as the ¹[State Government] may by notification appoint for any local area ;

(15) "notification" means a notification published by authority of ¹[State Government] in the official Gazette ;

(16) "incumbrance" means a charge upon or claim against land arising out of a private grant or contract ;

(17) "survey-mark" includes boundary-mark; and

²[(18) "Net-assets" of an estate or group of estates means the estimated average annual surplus produce of such estate or group of estate remaining after deduction of the ordinary expenses of cultivation as ascertained or estimated.

Explanation.—Ordinary Expenses of cultivation include payments, if any, which the land-owner customarily bears whether in kind or in cash either in whole or in part in respect of—

- (1) water rates ;
- (2) maintenance of means of irrigation ;
- (3) maintenance of embankments ;
- (4) supply of seed ;

1. Substituted for the word "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

2. Inserted by Act 3 of 1928.

- (5) supply of manure ;
- (6) improved implements of husbandry;
- (7) concessions with regard to fodder;
- (8) special abatements made for fallows or bad harvests;
- (9) cost of collection of rent;
- (10) allowance for shortage in collection of rent;
- (11) interest charges payable in respect of advances made in cash, free of interest, to tenants for the purposes of cultivation;
- (12) wages or customary dues paid to artisans or menials whose products or labour are utilised for the purposes of cultivation and harvesting;

and the share that would be retainable by a tenant if the land were let to a non-occupancy tenant paying rent, whether in cash or in kind, at the normal rate actually prevalent in the estate or group of estates.]

¹(18-A) "net letting value" of a site put to non-agricultural use means the estimated annual rent of the site remaining after deduction of—

- (i) fair remuneration for the capital invested on building or machinery or both after deducting the depreciation on their value;
- (ii) house-tax property-tax; and
- (iii) maintenance charges not exceeding one month's gross rent, as ascertained or estimated in the manner prescribed.

Explanation.—Where no reliable data regarding the cost of buildings and machinery on a site is forthcoming or is otherwise not available, valuation and depreciation shall be based on the standards of the Public Works Department of the Punjab State.]

²[(19) "Assessment Circle" means a group of estates which in the opinion of the Financial Commissioner, to be recorded in an order

1. New clause (18-A), inserted by Punjab Act 9 of 1958, section 2.
2. Clause (19), inserted by Act 3 of 1928.

in writing, are sufficiently homogeneous to admit of a common set of rates being used as a general guide in calculating the land revenue to be assessed upon them.]

Exclusion of certain land from operation of Act.

4. (1) Except so far as may be necessary for the record recovery and administration of village cesses, nothing in this Act applies to land which is occupied as the site of a ¹[* * *] village and is not assessed to land revenue.

(2) A Revenue-officer may define, for the purposes of this Act the limits of ²[the site of a village] ;

³[Explanation.— For the purposes of this section a site within the limits of a municipality or a notified area shall not be deemed to be the site of a village].

Power to vary limits and alter number of tahsils, districts and divisions.

⁴[5. The ⁵[State] Government may, by notification vary the limits and alter the number of tahsils, districts and divisions into which the ⁶[State] is divided].

CHAPTER II

REVENUE-OFFICERS

Classes and Powers

Classes of Revenue-officers.

6. (1) There shall be the following classes of Revenue-officers, namely—

- (a) the Financial Commissioner ;
- (b) the Commissioner ;
- (c) the Collector ;
- (d) the Assistant Collector of the first grade ; and
- (e) the Assistant Collector of the second grade.

(2) The Deputy Commissioner of a district shall be the Collector thereof.

-
1. The words "town or" omitted by Act 9 of 1958, section 3.
 2. Substituted for the words "any such land" by Act 9 of 1958, section 3.
 3. "Explanation" added by *ibid*.
 4. Substituted for the old section by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.
 5. Substituted by Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, for "Provincial."
 6. Substituted by *ibid* for "provincc".

(3) The ¹[State Government] may appoint any Assistant Commissioner, Extra Assistant Commissioner or Tahsildar to be an Assistant Collector of the first or of the second grade, as it thinks fit, and any Naib-Tahsildar to be an Assistant Collector of the second grade.*

(4) Appointment under sub-section (3) shall be by notification and may be of a person specially by name or by virtue of his office, or of more persons than one by any description sufficient for their identification.

(5) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the jurisdiction of the Financial Commissioner extends to the whole of the territories * * * * * administered by the State ³[Government of Haryana] and of Commissioners and of Collectors and Assistant Collectors to the divisions and districts, respectively, in which they are for the time being employed.

7. (1) There shall be one or more Financial Commissioners, who shall be appointed * * * * * by the State Government.

Financial
Commissioner.

(2) Where more Financial Commissioners than one have been

1 Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

*Vide Punjab Government Notification No. 731, dated 1st November, 1887, all Assistant Commissioners and Extra Assistant Commissioners who have not been invested with the powers of the Assistant Collector of the first grade have been appointed Assistant Collectors of second grade, and,—vide Punjab Government Notification No. 730 of the same date, all Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars have been appointed Assistant Collectors of the second grade.

See also Punjab Government Notification no. 684, dated the 18th September, 1893, appointing all Assistant Commissioners and Extra Assistant Commissioners, who have been invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first or second class under the Criminal Procedure Code and also with powers of a Munsif of the first or second class under the Punjab Courts Act as Assistant Collectors of the first grade.

2. The words "for the time being" were omitted by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.
3. Substituted for the words "Government of Punjab" by the Haryana Adaptation of Laws (State and Concurrent Subjects) Order, 1968.
4. The words "and may be removed" were omitted by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.
5. The words "with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council were repealed by the Decentralization" Act, 1914 (IV of 1914).

appointed, the State Government may make rules¹ as to the distribution among them of business under this or any other Act, and by those rules require any case or class or classes of cases to be considered and disposed of by the Financial Commissioners collectively.

(3) When there is a difference of opinion among the Financial Commissioners as to any decree or order to be made in a case which they are required by rules under the last foregoing sub-section to consider, and dispose of collectively, the following rules shall apply, namely—

(a) where the case is an appeal or a case on review or revision, it shall be decided in accordance with the opinion of the majority of the Financial Commissioners, or, if there is no such majority which concurs in a decision modifying or reversing the decree or order under appeal, review or revision, that decree or order shall be affirmed; and

(b) where the case is not an appeal or a case on review or revision, the matter respecting which there is the difference of opinion shall be referred to the ²[State Government] for decision, and the decision of that Government with respect thereto shall be final.

(4) The expression “Financial Commissioner” in this or any other Act shall, when there are more Financial Commissioners than one, be construed as meaning one or more of the financial Commissioners as the rules for the time being in force under sub-section (2) may require.

(5) The Second Financial Commissioner appointed under section 52 of the ³Punjab Courts Act, 1884, shall be deemed to have had jurisdiction on and after the first day of November, 1884, to make any decree or order or dispose of any other business which might have been made or disposed of by

18 of
1884.

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1. For rules under S. 7 (2), see Notification No. 132. *Punjab Gazettee*. Extraordinary, 1st, March, 1888, p.1.
 2. Substituted for the words “Local Government” by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
 3. See now the Punjab Courts Act. 1918 (Punjab Act 6 of 1918).

the other Financial Commissioner.

8. Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners and Extra Assistant Commissioners shall be appointed¹ * * *²[State Government].

Appointment of Commissioners and of Deputy Assistant and Extra Assistant Commissioners.

9. The²[State Government] shall fix the number of Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars to be appointed,³ * * *

Appointment of Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.

⁴10. Except where the class of the Revenue officer by whom any function is to be discharged is specified in this Act the²[State Government] may, by notification, determine the functions to be discharged under this Act by any class of Revenue-officers.

Powers of Revenue-officers.

Administrative Control

⁵11. (1) The Financial Commissioner shall be subject to the control of the²[State Government.]

Superintendence and control of Revenue-officers.

(2) The general superintendence and control over all other Revenue-officers shall be vested in, and all such officers shall be subordinate to, the Financial Commissioner.

(3) Subject to the general superintendence and control of the Financial Commissioner, a Commissioner shall control all other Revenue-officers in his division.

(4) Subject as aforesaid and to the control of the Commissioner, a Collector shall control all other Revenue-officers in his district.

12. (1) The Financial Commissioner or a Commissioner or Collector may by written order distribute, in such manner as he thinks fit, any business cognizable by any Revenue-officer under his control.

Power to distribute business and withdraw and transfer cases.

1. The words "and may be removed" were omitted by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.
2. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
3. The words "and the Financial Commissioner may make rules for their appointment and removal" were omitted by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.
4. For directions under S. 10, see Notification No. 81. *Punjab Gazette*, Extraordinary, 1st March, 1888, p. 93.
5. For rules under S. 11 (1), see notification No. 132. *Punjab Gazette*, Extraordinary, 1st March, 1888 p. 1.

(2) The Financial Commissioner or a Commissioner or Collector may withdraw any case pending before any Revenue-officer under his control, and either dispose of it himself, or by written order refer it for disposal to any other Revenue-officer under his control.

(3) An order under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) shall not empower any officer to exercise any powers or deal with any business which he would not be competent to exercise or deal with within the local limits of his own jurisdiction.

Appeal, Review and Revision

Appeals.

13. Save as otherwise provided by this Act, an appeal shall lie from an original or appellate order of a Revenue-officer as follows, namely—

- (a) to the Collector when the order is made by an Assistant Collector of either grade;
- (b) to the Commissioner when the order is made by a Collector ;
- (c) to the Financial Commissioner when the order is made by a Commissioner :

Provided that—

- (i) when an original order is confirmed on first appeal, a further appeal shall not lie;
- (ii) when any such order is modified or reversed on appeal by the Collector, the order made by the Commissioner on further appeal, if any, to him shall be final.

Limitation for appeals.

14. Save as otherwise provided by this Act, the period of limitation for an appeal under the last foregoing section shall run from the date of the order appealed against, and shall be as follows that is to say—

- (a) when the appeal lies to the Collector—thirty days ;
- (b) When the appeal lies to the Commissioner—sixty days;
- (c) when the appeal lies to the Financial Commissioner—ninety days.

15. (1) A Revenue-officer may, either of his own motion or on the application of any party interested, review, and on so reviewing modify, reverse or confirm any order passed by himself or by any of his predecessors in office :

Review by Revenue-officers.

Provided as follows—

- (a) when a Commissioner or Collector thinks it necessary to review any order which he has not himself passed, and when a Revenue-officer of a class below that of Collector proposes to review any order whether passed by himself or by any of his predecessors in office, he shall first obtain the sanction of the Revenue-officer to whose control he is immediately subject ;
- (b) an application for review of an order shall not be entertained unless it is made within ninety days from the passing of the order, or unless the applicant satisfies the Revenue-officer that he had sufficient cause for not making the application within that period ;
- (c) an order shall not be modified or reversed unless reasonable notice has been given to the parties affected thereby to appear and be heard in support of the order ;
- (d) an order against which an appeal has been preferred shall not be reviewed.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the Collector shall be deemed to be the successor in office of any Revenue-officer of a lower class who has left the district or has ceased to exercise powers as a Revenue-officer, and to whom there is no successor in office.

(3) An appeal shall not lie from an order refusing to review or confirming on review a previous order.

16. (1) The Financial Commissioner may at any time call for the record of any case pending before, or disposed of by, any Revenue-officer subordinate to him.

Power to call for, examine and revise proceedings of Revenue-officers

(2) A Commissioner or Collector may call for the record of any case pending before, or disposed of by, any Revenue-officer under his control.

¹[(3) If in any case in which a Collector has called for a record and he is of the opinion that the proceedings taken or order made should be modified or reversed, he shall report the case with his opinion thereon for the orders of the Commissioner whose decision shall be final.

(4) The Financial Commissioner under sub-section (1), or Commissioner, under sub-section (2), in any case called for by himself, may pass such orders as he thinks fit :

Provided that he shall not under this section pass an order reversing or modifying, any proceeding or order of a subordinate Revenue-officer and affecting any question of right between private persons without giving those persons an opportunity of being heard :

Provided further that the revisional cases pending before the commencement of the Punjab Land Revenue (Haryana Amendment) Act, 1996, shall be decided by the Financial Commissioner as heretofore.]

Procedure

Power to make rules as to procedure.

17. ¹(1) The ²[State Government] may make rules consistent with this Act for regulating the procedure of Revenue-officers under this Act in cases in which a procedure is not prescribed by this Act.

(2) The rules may provide, among other matters for the mode of enforcing orders of ejectment from, any delivery of possession of, immovable property, and rules providing for those matters may confer on a Revenue-officer all or any of the powers in regard to contempts, resistance and the like which a Civil Court may exercise in the execution of a decree where by it has adjudged ejectment from, or delivery of possession of, such property.

1. For rules under S. 17.(1), see Notification No. 75, *Punjab Gazette*, Extraordinary, 1st March, 1888, p. 51, Notification No. 235, *Punjab Gazette*, Extraordinary, dated 25th May, 1901, p.4.
2. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950
3. Substituted by Haryana Act 12 of 1996.

(3) Subject to the rules under this section a Revenue-officer may refer any case which he is empowered to dispose of under this Act to another Revenue-officer for investigation and report, and may decide the case upon the report.

18. (1) Appearances before a Revenue-officer, and applications to and acts to be done before him, under this Act may be made or done—

- (a) by the parties themselves; or
- (b) by their recognised agents or a legal practitioner :

Provided that the employment of a recognised agent or legal practitioners shall not excuse the personal attendance of a party to any proceeding in any case in which personal attendance is specially required by an order of the officer.

(2) For the purposes of sub-section (1), recognised agents shall be such persons as the ¹[State Government] may by notification declare in this behalf.

(3) The fees of a legal practitioner shall not be allowed as costs in any proceeding before a Revenue-officer under this Act unless that officer considers, for reasons to be recorded by him in writing, that the fees should be allowed.

19. (1) A Revenue-officer may summon any person whose attendance he considers necessary for the purpose of any business before him as a Revenue-officer.

(2) A person so summoned shall be bound to appear at the time and place mentioned in the summons in person or, if the summons so allows, by his recognised agent or a legal practitioner.

(3) The person attending in obedience to the summons shall be bound to state the truth upon any matter respecting which he is examined or makes statements, and to produce such documents and other things relating to any such matter as the Revenue-officer may require.

Persons by whom appearances and applications may be made before and to Revenue-officers.

Power to Revenue-officers to summon persons.

1. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

Mode of service
of summons.

20. (1) A summons issued by a Revenue-officer shall, if practicable, be served (a) personally on the person to whom it is addressed, or, failing him, (b) his recognised agent, or (c) an adult male member of his family usually residing with him.

(2) If service cannot be so made, or if acceptance of service so made is refused, the summons may be served by posting a copy thereof at the usual or last known place of residence of the person to whom it is addressed, or if that person does not reside in the district in which the Revenue-officer is employed and the case to which the summons relates has reference to land in that district, then by posting a copy of the summons on some conspicuous place in or near the estate wherein the land is situate.

(3) If the summons relates to a case in which persons having the same interest are so numerous that personal service on all of them is not reasonably practicable, it may, if the Revenue-officer so directs, be served by delivery of a copy thereof to such of those persons as the Revenue-officer nominates in this behalf and by proclamation of the contents thereof for the information of the other persons interested.

(4) A summons may, if the Revenue-officer so directs, be served on the person named therein, either in addition to, or in substitution for, any other mode of service, by forwarding the summons by post in a letter addressed to the person and registered under Part III of the Indian Post Office Act, 1866¹.

14 of
1866.

(5) When a summons is so forwarded in a letter, and it is proved that the letter was properly addressed and duly posted and registered, the Revenue-officer may presume that the summons was served at the time when the letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post.

Mode of service
of notice, order
or proclamation
or copy thereof.

21. A notice, order or proclamation or copy of any such document, issued by a Revenue-officer for service on any person shall be served in the manner provided in the last foregoing section for the service of a summons.

1. See new Chapter VI of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 (6 of 1898).

22. When a proclamation relating to any land is issued by a Revenue-officer, it shall, in addition to any other mode of publication which may be prescribed in any provision of this Act, be made by beat of drum or other customary method, and by the posting of a copy thereof on a conspicuous place in or near the land to which it relates.

Mode of making proclamation.

Supplemental Provisions

23. (1) An Assistant Collector may exercise his powers under this Act at any place within the limits of the district in which he is employed.

Place of sitting.

(2) Any other Revenue-officer may only exercise his powers under this Act within the local limits of his jurisdiction.

24. (1) The Financial Commissioner, with the approval of the ¹[State Government], shall publish in the ²[Official Gazette], before the commencement of each calendar year a list of days to be observed in that year as holidays by all or any Revenue-officers.

Holidays.

(2) A proceeding had before a Revenue-officer on a day specified in the list as a day to be observed by him as a holiday shall not be invalid by reason only of its having been had on that day.

25. When a Collector dies or is disabled from performing his duties, the officer who succeeds temporarily to the chief executive administration of the district under any orders which may be generally or specially issued by the ¹[State Government] in this behalf shall be deemed to be a Collector under this Act.

Discharge of duties of Collector dying or being disabled.

26. When a Revenue-officer of any class who has been invested under the foregoing provisions of this Act with any powers to be exercised in any local area is transferred from that local area to another as a Revenue-officer of the same or a higher class, he shall continue to exercise those powers in that other local area unless the ¹[State Government] otherwise directs or has otherwise directed.

Retention of powers by Revenue-officers.

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1. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
 2. Substituted for the words "Local Official Gazette" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.

Confere-
ment of
powers of
Revenue-
officers.

27. (1) The ¹[State Government] may by notification confer on any person—

- (a) all or any of the powers of a Financial Commissioner, Commissioner or Collector under this Act; or
- (b) all or any of the powers with which an Assistant Collector may be invested thereunder, and may by notification withdraw any powers so conferred.

(2) A person on whom powers are conferred under sub-section (1) shall exercise those powers within such local limits and in such classes of cases as the ¹[State Government] may direct, and, except as otherwise directed by the ¹[State Government], shall for all purposes connected with the exercise thereof be deemed to be a Financial Commissioner, Commissioner, Collector or Assistant Collector, as the case may be.

(3) If any of the powers of a Collector under this Act are conferred on an Assistant Collector, they shall, unless the ¹[State Government] by special order otherwise directs, be exercised by him subject to the control of the Collector.

CHAPTER III.

KANUNGOS, ZAILDARS, INAMDARS AND VILLAGE OFFICERS

Rules respecting
kanungos,
zaildars,
inamdars and
village-officers.

²28. (1) The ³[State Government] may make rules to regulate appointment, duties, emoluments, punishment, suspension and removal of kanungos, ⁴[* * * * *] and village-officers.

⁵[(2) * * * * *].

Village-officers'
cess.

⁶29. (1) The ¹[State Government] may, by notification, impose on all or any estates in the territories for the time being administered

1. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2. For rules *see infra*.
3. Substituted for the words "Financial Commissioner" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws order, 1950.
4. Words "zaildars, inamdars" omitted by Punjab Act No. 27 of 1964, section 3.
5. Sub-section 2. omitted by Punjab Act No. 27 of 1964, section 3.
6. Substituted by Act 17 of 1896. section 2.

by it a cess, to be called the village-officers' cess, at such rate or rates not exceeding ¹[half an anna] for every rupee of the annual value as it may think fit, for remunerating ²[headmen and chief headmen] in those territories and defraying other expenditure directly connected with the supervision of those officers or with the performance of their duties.

20 of
1883.

(2) 'Annual value' in sub-section (1) has the meaning assigned to that expression in the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883; that is to say :—

- (a) double the land-revenue for the time being assessed on any land, whether the assessment is leviable or not; or
- (b) where, the land-revenue has been permanently assessed or has been wholly or in part compounded for or redeemed, double the amount which, but for such permanent assessment, composition or redemption, would have been leviable; or
- (c) where no land-revenue has been assessed double the amount which would have been assessed, if the average village-rate had been applied :

Provided that, in any tract in which, under the settlement for the time being in force, the improvement of the land due to canal irrigation has been excluded from account in assessing the land-revenue, and a rate has been imposed in respect of such improvement, that rate shall be added to the land-revenue for the purpose of computing the annual value.

(3) The Financial Commissioner may make rules for the collection, control and expenditure of the village-officers' cess.

(4) All cesses now levied in any local area for the purposes mentioned in sub-section (1) shall be deemed to have been lawfully imposed and shall until the village-officers' cess

1. These words were substituted for the words "one anna" by the Repealing and Amending (Rates and Cesses) Act, 1907, (4 of 1907).
2. The words were substituted for the words "village-officers" by *ibid*.

is imposed in that local area under that sub-section, be deemed to be lawfully leviable and, for the purposes of this section, to be that cess.]

Restriction on attachment or assignment of remuneration of kanungos, zaildars, inamdars and village-officers.

30. (1) The emoluments of a kanungo, [¹* *, * *] or village-officer shall not be liable to attachment in execution of a decree or order of any Civil or Revenue Court.

(2) An assignment of or charge on, or an agreement to assign or charge, any such emoluments shall be void unless it is authorised by rules made by the Financial Commissioner in this behalf.

CHAPTER IV

RECORDS

Record-of-rights and Annual Records.

Record-of-rights and documents, included there-in.

31. (1) Save as otherwise provided by this Chapter, there shall be record-of-rights, for each estate.

(2) The record-of-rights for an estate shall include the following documents, namely :—

- (a) statements showing, so far as may be practicable :—
 - (i) the persons who are land-owners, tenants or assignees of land-revenue in the estate or who are entitled to receive any of the rents, profits or produce of the estate or to occupy land therein;
 - (ii) the nature and extent of the interests of those persons, and the conditions and liabilities attaching thereto;
 - (iii) the rent, land-revenue, rates cesses or other payments due from and to each of those persons and to the Government;
- (b) a statement of customs respecting rights and liabilities in the estate;
- (c) a map of the estate; and
- (d) such other documents as the Financial

1. Words "zaildar, inamdar" omitted by Punjab Act No. 27 of 1964, section 4.

Commissioner may, with the previous sanction of the ¹[State Government] prescribe.

32. (1) When it appears to the ²[Commissioner] that a record-of-rights for an estate does not exist, or that the existing record-of-rights for an estate requires special revision, the ²[Commissioner] may by notification direct that a record-of-rights be made or that the record-of-rights be specially revised as the case may be.

Making or special revision of record-of-rights.

(2) The notification may direct that record-of-rights shall be made or specially revised for all or any estates in any local area.

(3) A record-of-rights made or specially revised for an estate under this section shall be deemed to be the record-of-rights for the estate but shall not effect any presumption in favour of the ³[Government] which has already arisen from any previous record-of-rights.

33. (1) The Collector shall cause to be prepared by the patwari of each estate yearly, or at such other intervals as the Financial Commissioner may prescribe, an edition of the record-of-rights amended in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.

Annual record.

(2) This edition of the record-of-rights shall be called the annual record for the estate, and shall comprise the statements mentioned in sub-section (2) clause (a) of section 31 and such other documents, if any, as the Financial Commissioner may, with the previous sanction of the ⁴[State Government] prescribe.

(3) For the purposes of the preparation of the annual record, the Collector shall cause to be kept up by the patwari of each estate a register of mutations and such other registers as the Financial Commissioner may prescribe.

1. Substituted by Government of India (Adaptation of Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2. Substituted by Punjab Act 45 of 1953, for "State Government", the words "State Government" had been substituted by Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, for "Provincial Government" which had been substituted for "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.
3. Substituted for the word "Crown" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
4. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

PROCEDURE FOR MAKING RECORDS.

Making of that part of the annual record which relates to landowners, assignees of revenue and occupancy tenants.

34. (1) Any person acquiring by inheritance, purchase, mortgage, or otherwise, any right in an estate as a land-owner, assignee of land-revenue or tenant having a right of occupancy, shall report his acquisition of the right to the patwari of the estate.

(2) If the person acquiring the right is a minor or otherwise disqualified, his guardian or other person having charge of his property shall make the report to the patwari.

(3) The patwari shall enter in his register of mutations every report made to him under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), and shall also make an entry therein respecting the acquisition of any such right as aforesaid which he has reason to believe to have taken place, and of which a report should have been made to him under one or other of those sub-sections and has not been so made.

(4) A Revenue-officer shall from time to time inquire into the correctness of all entries in the register of mutations and into all such acquisitions as aforesaid coming to his knowledge of which, under the foregoing sub-sections, report should have been made to the patwari and entry made in that register and shall in each case make such order as he thinks fit with respect to the entry in the annual record of the right acquired.

(5) Such an entry shall be made by the insertion in that record of a description of the right acquired and by the omission from that record of any entry in any record previously prepared which by reason of the acquisition has ceased to be correct.

Making of that part of the annual record which relates to other persons.

35. The acquisition of any interest in land other than a right referred to in sub-section (1) of the last foregoing section shall,—

- (a) if it is undisputed, be recorded by the patwari in such manner as the Financial Commissioner may be rule in this behalf prescribe; and
- (b) if it is disputed, be entered by the patwari in the register of mutations and dealt with in the manner

prescribed in sub-sections (4) and (5) of the last foregoing section.

36. (1) If during the making, revision or preparation of any record or in the course of any enquiry under this Chapter a dispute arises as to any matter of which an entry is to be made in a record or in a register of mutations, a Revenue-officer may, of his own motion, or on the application of any party interested but subject to the provisions of the next following section, and after such inquiry as he thinks fit, determine the entry to be made as to that matter.

Determination of disputes.

(2) If in any such dispute the Revenue-officer is unable to satisfy himself as to which of the parties thereto is in possession of any property to which the dispute relates, he shall ascertain by summary inquiry who is the person best entitled to the property, and shall by order direct that that person be put in possession thereof, and that an entry in accordance with that order be made in the record or register.

(3) A direction of a Revenue-officer under sub-section (2) shall be subject to any decree or order which may be subsequently passed by any Court of competent jurisdiction.

37. Entries in records-of-rights or in annual records, except entries made in annual records by Patwaris under clause (a) of section 35 with respect to undisputed acquisitions of interest referred to in that section, shall not be varied in subsequent records otherwise than by—

Restrictions on variations of entries in record.

- (a) making entries in accordance with facts proved or admitted to have occurred;
- (b) making such entries as are agreed to by all the parties interested therein or are supported by a decree or order binding on those parties;
- (c) making new maps where it is necessary to make them.

38. (1) The ¹[State Government] may fix a scale or ²fees for

Mutation fees.

1. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2. For notification fixing a scale of fees under this sub-section, see *Punjab Government Gazette*, 1962, Revenue Department Notification No. 28-RII-61/871, dated 30th January, 1961, as amended by Punjab Government notification No. 6995-R(II)-61/8665, dated the 18th December, 1961.

all or any classes of entries in any record or register under this Chapter and for copies of any such entries.

(2) A fee in respect of an entry shall be payable by the person in whose favour the entry is made.

Penalty for neglect to report acquisition of any right referred to in section 34.

39. Any person neglecting to make the report required by section 34 within three months from the date of his acquisition of a right referred to in that section shall be liable, at the discretion of the Collector, to a fine not exceeding five times the amount of the fee which would have been payable according to the scale fixed under the last foregoing section if the acquisition of the right had been reported immediately after its accrual.

Obligation to furnish information necessary for the preparation of records.

40. Any person whose rights, interests or liabilities are required to be entered in any record under this Chapter shall be bound to furnish, on the requisition of any Revenue-officer or village-officer engaged in compiling the record, all information necessary for the correct compilation thereon.

Right of the [Government] and presumptions with respect thereto and to other matters.

Rights of the Government in mines and minerals.

41. All mines of metal and coal, and all earth-oil and gold washing shall be deemed to be the property of the ³[²Government] for the purposes of the ⁴[State] and ⁵[State] Government shall have all powers necessary for the proper enjoyment of ⁶[the Government's right thereto.].

Presumption as to ownership of forests, quarries and waste lands.

42. (1) When in any record-of-rights completed before the eighteenth day of November, 1871, it is not expressly provided that any forest, quarry, unclaimed, unoccupied, deserted or waste-land, spontaneous produce or other accessory interest in land belongs to

1. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2. Substituted for the word "Crown" by Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
3. Substituted by Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, for "Government".
4. Substituted by Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, for "Province".
5. Substituted by *ibid* "Provincial".
6. Substituted for the words "its rights thereto" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.

the land-owners, it shall be presumed to belong to the '[Government].

(2) When in any record-of-rights completed after that date it is not expressly provided that any forest or quarry or any such land for interest belongs to the '[Government], it shall be presumed to belong to the land owners.

(3) The presumption created by sub-section (1) may be rebutted by showing—

- (a) from the records or report made by the assessing officer at the time of assessment; or
- (b) if the record or report is silent, then from a comparison between the assessment of villages in which there existed, and the assessment of villages of similar character in which there did not exist, any forest or quarry, or any such land or interest ;

that the forest, quarry, land or interest was taken into account in the assessment of the land-revenue.

(4) Until the presumption is so rebutted, the forest, quarry, land or interest shall be held to belong to the '[Government.]

43. (1) Whenever, in the exercise of any right of the '[Government] referred to in either of the two last foregoing sections, the rights of any person are infringed by the occupation or disturbance of the surface of any land, the ²[State Government] shall pay, or cause to be paid to that person compensation for the infringement.

Compensation for infringement of rights of third parties in exercise of a right of the Government.

10 of 1870 (2) The compensation shall be determined as nearly as may be in accordance with the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1870¹.

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1. Substituted for the word "Crown" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
 2. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
 3. See now the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (1 of 1894).

Presumption in favour of entries in records-of-rights and annual records.

44. An entry made in a record-of-rights in accordance with the law for the time being in force, or in an annual record in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter and the rules thereunder, shall be presumed to be true until the contrary is proved or a new entry is lawfully substituted therefor.

Suit for declaratory decree by person aggrieved by an entry in a record.

45. If any person considers himself aggrieved as to any right of which he is in the possession by an entry in a record-of-rights or in an annual record, he may institute a suit for a declaration of his right under Chapter VI of the Specific Relief Act, 1877¹. 6 of 1877

Supplemental Provisions.

Powers to make rules respecting records and other matters connected therewith.

46. The Financial Commissioner may make rules²—

- (a) prescribing the language in which records and registers under this Chapter are to be made;
- (b) prescribing the form of those records and registers, and the manner in which they are to be prepared, signed and attested;
- (c) for the survey of land so far as may be necessary for the preparation and correction of those records and registers;
- (d) for the conduct of inquiries by Revenue-officers under this Chapter; and
- (e) generally for the guidance of Revenue-officers and village-officers in matters pertaining to records and registers mentioned or referred to in this Chapter.

Records-of-rights and annual records for groups of estates.

47. (1) The ³[Commissioner] may direct that a record-of-rights be made for any group of neighbouring estates instead of separately for each of the estates.

1. See now the Specific Relief Act, 1963 (47 of 1963).
2. For rules under section 46 and 106. see Notifications Nos 74, 76 and 78, *Punjab Gazette Extraordinary*, 1st March, 1888, pp. 3, 53 and 81; for amendment of these rules. see *Punjab Gazette*, 1901, Pt III, p. 1030 *ibid*, 1903, Part III, page 1218.
3. Substituted by Punjab Act 45 of 1953. for "Financial Commissioner".

(2) The provisions of this Chapter with respect to a record-of-rights and annual record for an estate shall then, so far as they can be made applicable, apply to a record-of-rights and annual record for a group of estates.

[CHAPTER V]

CHAPTER VI

COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE

61. (1) In the case of every estate, the entire estate and the land-owner or, if there are more than one, the land-owners jointly and severally, shall be liable for the land-revenue for the time being assessed on the estate :

Security for
payment of land
revenue.

Provided that—

(a) the ²[State Government], * ³ * may by notification declare that in any estate a holding or its owner shall not be liable for any part of the land-revenue for the time being assessed on the estate except that part which is payable in respect of the holding; and

⁴(b) when there are superior and inferior land-owners in the same estate, the Financial Commissioner may by rule, or by special order in each case, determine whether the superior or inferior land-owners shall be liable for the land-revenue, or whether both shall be so liable and, if so, in what proportions.

(2) A notification under proviso (a) to sub-section (1) may have reference to any single estate or to any class of estate or estates generally in any local area.

62. (1) The land-revenue for the time being assessed on the estate or payable in respect of a holding shall be the first charge upon the rents, and produce thereof.

Further security
for payment of
land revenue.

(2) Without the previous consent of the Collector, the rents,

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1. Omitted by Haryana Act 24 of 1986.
 2. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
 3. The words "with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council" were omitted by the Devolution Act, 1920 (38 of 1920), s. 2.
 4. For rules of Financial Commissioner under s. 61 see notification No. 76, *Punjab Gazette. Extraordinary*, 1st March 1888, page 53.

profits or produce of an estate or holding shall not be liable to be taken in execution of a decree or order of any Court until the land-revenue chargeable against the rents, profits or produce, and any arrear of land-revenue due in respect of the estate or holding, have been paid.

Orders to regulate payment of land revenue.

63. (1) Notwithstanding anything in any record-of-rights, the Financial Commissioner may fix the number and amount of the instalments, and the times, places and manner, by, at and in which land-revenue is to be paid.

(2) Until the Financial Commissioner otherwise directs, land-revenue shall be payable by the instalments, at the times and places and in the manner by, at and in which it is payable at the commencement of this Act.

Rules of regulate collection, remission and suspension of land revenue.

64. (1) The Financial Commissioner may make rules consistent with this Act to regulate the collection, remission and suspension of land-revenue, and may by these rules determined the circumstances and terms in and on which assigned land-revenue may be collected by the assignee.

(2) Where land-revenue due to an assignee is collected by a Revenue-officer, there shall be deducted from the sum collected such a percentage on account of the cost of collection as the Financial Commissioner may by rule in this behalf prescribe.

(3) A suit for an arrear of assigned land-revenue shall not be entertained unless there is annexed to the plaint at the time of the presentation thereof a document under the hand of the collection specially authorizing the institution of the suit.

Costs recoverable as part of arrears.

65. The costs of any process issued under this Chapter shall be recoverable as part of the arrear of land-revenue in respect of which the process was issued.

Certified account to be evidence as to arrear.

66. A statement of account certified by a Revenue-officer shall be conclusive proof of the existance of an arrear of land-revenue, of its amount and of the person who is the defaulter.

Processes for recovery of arrears.

67. Subject to the other provisions of this Act, an arrear of land-revenue may be recovered by any one or more of the following processes, namely :—

1. For rules, *see infra*.

- (a) by service of writ of demand on the defaulter;
- (b) by arrest and detention of his person;
- (c) by distress and sale of his movable property and uncut or ungathered crops;
- (d) by transfer of the holding in respect of which the arrear is due;
- (e) by attachment of the estate or holding in respect of which the arrear is due;
- (f) by annulment of the assessment of that estate or holding;
- (g) by sale of that estate or holding;
- (h) by proceedings against other immovable property of the defaulter.

68. A writ of demand may be issued by a Revenue-officer on or after the day following that on which an arrear of land-revenue accrues.

Writ of demand.

69. (1) At any time after an arrear of land-revenue has accrued a Revenue-officer may issue a warrant directing an officer named therein to arrest the defaulter and bring before the Revenue-officer.

Arrest and detention of defaulter.

(2) When the defaulter is brought before the Revenue-officer the Revenue-officer may cause him to be taken before the Collector, or may keep him under personal restraint for a period not exceeding ten days and then, if the arrear is still unpaid, cause him to be taken before the Collector.

(3) When the defaulter is brought before the Collector, the Collector may issue an order to the officer in charge of the civil jail of the district, directing him to confine the defaulter in the jail for such period, not exceeding one month from the date of the order, as the Collector thinks fit.

(4) The process of arrest and detention shall not be executed against a defaulter who is a female, a minor, a lunatic or idiot.

70. (1) At any time after an arrear of land-revenue has accrued, the movable property and uncut or ungathered crops of the defaulter may be distrained and sold by order of a Revenue-officer.

Distress and sale of movable property and crops.

(2) The distress and sale shall be conducted, as nearly as may be, in accordance with the law for the time being in force for the attachment and sale of movable property under the decree of a Revenue Court constituted under the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887 :

16 of
1887

Provided that, in addition to the particulars exempted by that law from liability to sale, so much of the produce of the land of the defaulter as the Collector thinks necessary for seed-grain and for the subsistence, until the harvest next following, of the defaulter and his family, and of any cattle exempted by that law, shall be exempted from sale under this section.

Transfer of
holding.

71. (1) At any time after an arrear of land-revenue has accrued on a holding the Collector may transfer the holding to any person being a land-owner of the estate in which this holding is situate and not being a defaulter in respect of his own holding, on condition of his paying the arrear before being put in possession of the holding, and on such further conditions as the Collector may see fit to prescribe.

(2) The transfer may, as the Collector thinks fit, be either till the end of the agricultural year in which the defaulter pays to the transferee the amount of the arrear which the transferee paid before being put in possession of the holding, or for a term not exceeding fifteen years from the commencement of the agricultural year next following the date of the transfer.

(3) The Collector shall report to the Financial Commissioner any transfer made by him under this section, and the Financial Commissioner may set aside the transfer or alter the conditions thereof, or pass such other order as he thinks fit.

(4) A transfer under this section shall not affect the joint and several liability of the land-owners of the estate in which it is enforced.

(5) In respect of all rights and liabilities arising under this Act, the person to whom the holding is transferred shall, subject to the conditions of the transfer, stand in the same position as that in which the defaulter would have stood if the

holding had not been transferred.

(6) When the transfer was for a term, the holding shall, on the expiration of the term, be restored by the Collector to the defaulter free of any claim on the part of the Government or the transferee for any arrear of land-revenue or rates and cesses due in respect thereof.

72. (1) At any time after an arrear of land-revenue has accrued, the Collector may cause the estate or holding in the respect of which the arrear is due to be attached and taken under his own management or that of an agent appointed by him for that purpose.

Attachment of
estate or holding.

(2) The Collector or the agent shall be bound by all the engagements which existed between the defaulter and his tenants, if any, and shall be entitled to manage the land and to receive all rents and profits accruing therefrom to the exclusion of the defaulter until the arrear has been satisfied, or until the Collector restores the land to the defaulter.

(3) All surplus profits of the land attached beyond the cost of attachment and management and the amount necessary to meet the current demand for land-revenue and rates and cesses shall be applied in discharge of the arrear.

(4) Land shall not be attached for the same arrear for a longer term than five years from the commencement of the agricultural year next following the date of attachment, but, if the arrear is sooner discharged, the land shall be released and the surplus receipts, if any, made over to the land-owner.

73. (1) When an arrear of land-revenue has been due for a longer period than one month, and the foregoing processes are not deemed sufficient for the recovery thereof, the Financial Commissioner may, in addition to or instead of all or any of those processes, order the existing assessment of the estate or holding in respect of which the arrear is due to be annulled.

Annulment of
assessment of
estate or holding.

(2) The provisions of this section shall not be put in force for the recovery of an arrear of land-revenue which has accrued on land—

(a) while under attachment under the last foregoing section, or

(b) while under the charge of the Court of Wards.

(3) When the assessment of any land has been annulled, the

Collector may, with the previous sanction of the Financial Commissioner, either manage the land himself or through an agent, or let it in farm to any person willing to accept the farm, for such term and on such conditions as may be sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner :

Provided that the term for which land may be so managed or farmed shall not be longer than fifteen years from the commencement of the agricultural year next following the date of the annulment.

(4) At some time before the expiration of that term the Collector shall determine the assessment to be paid in respect of the estate or holding for the remainder of the term of the current assessment of the district or tahsil, and, when that assessment has been sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner, shall announce it to the land-owner.

(5) The land-owner may give notice to the Collector of refusal to be liable for the assessment within thirty days from the date on which the assessment was announced to him.

(6) If notice is so given, the Collector may, with the previous sanction of the Financial Commissioner, take the estate or holding under direct management or farm it for the remainder of the term of the current assessment of the district or tahsil, or for any period within that term which the Financial Commissioner may fix.

(7) When the assessment of a holding is annulled, the joint responsibility of the other land-owners of the estate for the land-revenue of that holding becoming due after the annulment shall be in abeyance until a new assessment takes effect.

(8) The Financial Commissioner may direct that any contract made by the defaulter, or by any person through whom the defaulter claims with respect to any land comprised in an estate or holding of which the assessment has been annulled, shall not be binding on the Collector or his agent or farmer during the period for which the estate or holding remains under the management of the Collector or his agent or is let in farm.

Proclamation of attachment or annulments of assessment, and consequences of the proclamation.

74. (1) When any land is attached under section 72, or when the assessment of any land has been annulled under the last foregoing section, the Collector shall make proclamation thereof.

(2) No payment made by any person to the defaulter before the making of the proclamation on account of rent or any other asset

in anticipation of the usual time for the payment shall, without the special sanction of the Collector, be credited to that person or relieve him from liability to make the payment to the Collector or his agent or farmer.

(3) No payment made after the making of the proclamation on account of rent or any other asset of the estate or holding to any person other than the Collector or his agent or farmer shall be credited to the person making the payment or relieve him from liability to make the payment to the Collector or his agent or farmer.

75. When an arrear of land-revenue has accrued and the foregoing processes are not deemed sufficient for the recovery thereof, the Collector with the previous sanction of the ¹[Commissioner], may, in addition to, or instead of, all or any of those processes, and subject to the provision hereinafter contained, sell the estate or holding in respect of which the arrear is due :

Sale of estate or buildings.

Provided that land shall not be sold for the recovery of—

- (a) any arrear which has accrued while the land was under the charge of the Court of Wards, or was so circumstanced that the Court of Wards might have exercised jurisdiction over it under the provisions of section 35 of the Punjab Laws Act, 1872, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d); or
- (b) any arrear which has accrued while the land was under attachment under section 72 of this Act; or
- (c) any arrear which has accrued while the land was held under direct management by the Collector or in farm by any other person under section 73, after either an annulment of assessment or a refusal to be liable therefor.

76. (1) Land sold under the last foregoing section shall be sold free of all incumbrances; and all grants and contracts previously made by any person other than the purchaser in respect of the land shall become void as against the purchaser at the sale.

Effect of sale on incumbrances.

(2) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall affect—

1. Substituted by Punjab Act 45 of 1953, for the words "Financial Commissioner".

- (a) a tenant's right of occupancy, unless the right was created by the defaulter himself, or
- (b) any lease at a fair rent, temporary or perpetual, for the erection of a dwelling-house or manufactory or for a mine, garden, tank, canal place of workshop, or burial ground, so long as the land continues to be used for the purpose specified in the lease, or
- (c) any incumbrance, grant, contract, or right of occupancy specially saved by order of the Financial Commissioner and proclaimed as hereinafter provided.

Proceedings
against other
immovable
property of
defaulter.

77. (1) If the arrear cannot be recovered by any of the processes hereinbefore provided, or if the ¹[Commissioner] considers the enforcement of any of those processes to be inexpedient, the Collector may, where the defaulter owns any other estate or holding, or any other immovable property, proceed under the provisions of this Act against that property as if it were the land in respect of which the arrear is due :

Provided that no interests save those of the defaulter alone shall be so proceeded against, and no incumbrances created, grants made or contracts entered into by him in good faith shall be rendered invalid by reason only of his interests being proceeded against.

(2) When the Collector determines to proceed under this section against immovable property other than the land in respect of which the arrear is due, he shall issue a proclamation prohibiting the transfer or charging of the property.

(3) The Collector may at any time order in writing withdraw the proclamation, and it shall be deemed to be withdrawn when either the arrear has been paid or the interests of the defaulter in the property have been sold for the recovery of the arrear.

(4) Any private alienation of the property, or of any interest of the defaulter therein, whether by sale, gift, mortgage or otherwise, made after the issue of the proclamation and before the withdrawal thereof shall be void.

(5) In proceeding against property under this section the

1. Substituted by Punjab Act 45 of 1953, for the words "Financial Commissioner".

Collector shall follow, as nearly as the nature of the property will admit, the procedure prescribed for the enforcement of process against land on which an arrear of land-revenue is due.

78. (1) Notwithstanding anything in section 66, when proceedings are taken under this Act for the recovery of an arrear, the person against whom the proceedings are taken may, if he denies his liability for the arrear or any part thereof and pays the same under protest made in writing at the time of payment and signed by him or his agent, institute a suit in a Civil Court for the recovery of the amount so paid.

Remedies open to person denying his liability for an arrear.

(2) A suit under sub-section (1) must be instituted in a Court having jurisdiction in the place where the office of the Collector of the district in which the arrear or some part thereof accrued is situate.

Procedure in Sales.

79. (1) On the receipt of the sanction of the ¹[Commissioner] to the sale of any immoveable property, the Collector, shall issue a proclamation of the intended sale, specifying—

Proclamation of sale.

- (a) the date, time and place of the sale;
- (b) the property to be sold, and, if it is an estate holding, the land-revenue assessed thereon or payable in respect thereof;
- (c) if the property is to be sold for the recovery of an arrear due in respect thereof, the incumbrances, grants contracts, and rights of occupancy, if any, specially saved by order of the Financial Commissioner under section 76, sub-section (2), clause (c) ;
- (d) if the property is to be sold otherwise than for the recovery of an arrear due in respect thereof any incumbrance, grant or contract to which the property is known to be liable; and
- (e) the amount for the recovery of which the sale is ordered.

²(2) * * * * *

1. Substituted for the words "Financial Commissioner" by Punjab Act 26 of 1958.
2. Sub-section (2) repealed by Punjab Act 2 of 1905.

(3) The place of sale specified under clause (a) of sub-section (1) must be either the office of the Collector or some place appointed by the Collector in this behalf and situate in or near the property to be sold.

Indemnity to Revenue-officer with respect to contents of proclamation.

80. A Revenue-officer shall not be answerable for any error, mis-statement or omission in any proclamation under the last foregoing section unless the same has been committed or made dishonestly.

Publication of proclamation.

81. (1) A copy of the proclamation shall be served on the defaulter and be posted in a conspicuous part of the office of the Tahsildar of the tahsil in which the property to be sold is situate.

(2) After a copy of the proclamation has been served on the defaulter and posted in the office of the Tahsildar, a copy thereof shall be posted in the office of the Collector.

(3) The proclamation shall be further published in manner prescribed in section 22 and in such other manner as the Collector thinks expedient.

Time and conduct of sale.

82. (1) The sale shall not take place on a Sunday or other holiday, or till after the expiration of at least thirty days from the date on which the copy of the proclamation was posted in the office of the Collector.

(2) The sale shall be by public auction and shall be conducted either by the Collector in person or by a Revenue-officer specially appointed by him in this behalf.

Power to postpone sale.

83. The Collector may from time to time postpone the sale.

Stay of sale.

84. If at any time before the bidding at the auction is completed the defaulter pays the arrears in respect of which the property has been proclaimed for sale, together with the costs incurred for the recovery thereof, to the office conducting the sale, or proves to the satisfaction of that officer that he has already paid the same either at the place and in the manner prescribed under section 63 or into the Government treasury, the sale shall be stayed.

Payment of deposit by highest bidder.

85. When the highest bid at the auction has been ascertained the person who made that bid shall, on the requisition of the officer conducting the sale, pay to that officer a deposit of twenty-five per

centum on the amount of his bid, and shall, on payment thereof, be declared to be the purchased subject to the provisions of this Chapter within respect to the exercise of any right of pre-emption.

86. If the person who made the highest bid fails to pay the deposit as required by the last foregoing section, the property shall forthwith be put up again and sold, and all expenses attending the first sale, and the deficiency of price, if any, which may happen on the resale, may be recovered from him by the Collector as if the same were an arrear of land-revenue.

Consequences of failure to pay deposit.

87. * * * * *

88. The full amount of the purchase-money shall be paid by the purchaser before the close of the fifteenth day from that on which the purchaser was declared.

Time for payment in full.

89. In default of payment of the full amount of the purchase-money within the period mentioned in the last foregoing section, the deposit referred to in section 85 or section 87, as the case may be, shall, after defraying the expenses of the sale, be forfeited to the Government and may, if the Collector, with the previous sanction of the Commissioner, so directs, be applied in reduction of the arrear and the property shall be resold, and the defaulting purchaser shall have no claim to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may subsequently be sold.

Procedure in default of payment.

90. Every sale of immovable property under this Chapter shall be reported by the Collector to the Commissioner.

Report of sale to Commissioner.

91. (1) At any time within thirty days from the date of the sale, application may be made to the Commissioner to set aside the sale on the ground of some material irregularity or mistake in publishing or conducting it.

Application to set aside sale.

(2) But a sale shall not be set aside on that ground unless the applicant proves to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that he has sustained substantial injury by reason of the irregularity or mistake.

92. (1) After the expiration of thirty days from the date of the sale, if such application as is mentioned in the last foregoing section has not been made, or if such application has been made and rejected,

Order confirming or setting aside sale.

the Commissioner shall make an order confirming the sale, and, if such application has been made and allowed, the Commissioner shall make an order setting aside the sale.

(2) An order made under this section shall be final.

Refund of purchase-money on setting aside of sale.

93. Whenever the sale of any property is set aside, the purchaser shall be entitled to receive back his purchase-money.

Proclamation after postponement or on resale.

94. A sale after a postponement under section 83 and a resale consequent on a purchaser's default section 92, shall be made after the issue of a fresh proclamation in the manner hereinbefore prescribed for under section 89 or on the setting aside of a sale under the sale.

On confirmation of sale, possession and certificate to be granted to purchaser.

95. (1) After a sale has been confirmed in manner aforesaid the Collector shall put the person declared to be the purchaser into possession of the property sold, and shall grant him a certificate to the effect that he has purchased that property.

(2) The certificate shall state whether or not the property was sold for the recovery of an arrear due in respect thereof, and if it was so sold, shall set forth the incumbrances, grants, contracts and rights of occupancy, if any, specified in the proclamation of the sale as specially saved by order of the Financial Commissioner under section 76, sub-section (2), clause (c).

(3) The certificate shall be deemed to be a valid transfer of the property but need not be registered as a conveyance.

(4) Any suit brought in any Court against the certified purchaser on the ground that the purchase was made on behalf of a person other than the certified purchaser shall be dismissed with costs.

(5) The certified purchaser of any immovable property shall be entitled to all rents and profits falling due in respect of the property after the date of the confirmation of the sale and be liable for all instalments of land-revenue and rates and cesses falling due in respect thereof after that date.

Proceeds of sale.

96. (1) When a sale of immovable property under this Chapter has been confirmed, the proceeds of the sale be applied in the first

place to the payment of any arrears including costs incurred for the recovery thereof, due to the ¹[Government] from the defaulter at the date of the confirmation of the sale, whether the arrears of land-revenue, or of sums recoverable as arrears of land-revenue, and the surplus, if any, shall be paid to the person whose property has been sold, or, if the property sold was owned by more than one person, then to the owners either collectively or according to the amount of their recorded interests, as the Collector thinks fit.

(2) The surplus shall not, except under an order of a Court, be paid to any creditor of a person whose property has been sold.

(3) If the proceeds of the sale fall short of such arrears as are referred to in sub-section (1), the balance remaining due from the defaulter may be recovered from him by further proceedings under this Chapter or by any other means authorized by law.

CHAPTER VII

Recovery of other Demands by Revenue-officers.

97. When a village-officer required by ²rules under section 28 to collect any land-revenue or sum recoverable as an arrear of land-revenue satisfies Revenue-officer that the revenue or sum has fallen due and has not been paid to him, the Revenue-officer may, subject to any rules which the Financial Commissioner may make in this behalf, recover it as if it were an arrear of land-revenue.

Recovery of certain arrears through Revenue-officer instead of suit.

98. In addition to any sums recoverable as arrears of land-revenue under this Act or any other enactment for the time being in force, the following sums may be so recovered, namely :—

Other sums recoverable as arrears of land-revenue.

- (a) fees, fines, costs and other charges, including the village-officers' cess payable under this Act;
- (b) revenue due to the Government on account of pasture or other natural products of land, or on account of mills, fisheries or natural products of water, or on account of other rights described in section 41 or section 42 in cases in which the revenue so due has not been included in the assessment of an estate;

1. Substituted for the word "Crown" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

2. For rules under section 97, see notification No. 76, "Punjab Gazette Extraordinary", 1st March, 1883 p. 53.

- ³[(*bb*) dividend payable to the Government on the cumulative redeemable preference shares subscribed by or on behalf of the Government;]
- (*c*) fees payable to district boards or local boards under section 33 of the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, for the use of or benefits derived from such works as are referred to in section 20, clauses (i) and (j), of that Act; 20 of
1883.
- (*d*) sums leviable by or under the authority of the Government as water-rates, or on account of the maintenance or management of canals, embankments or other irrigation works, not being sums recoverable as arrears of land-revenue under any enactment for the time being in force; and
- ¹[(*dd*) a loan advanced by the State Government towards the cost of a house or site under a Government sponsored Housing Scheme together with interest chargeable thereon and costs, if any, incurred in making or recovering the same;]
- ²[(*ddd*) a loan advanced by the State Government to an industrial worker under a Government sponsored scheme for providing relief to industrial workers temporarily thrown out of employment due to hostilities with Pakistan, together with interest, if any, chargeable thereon and costs incurred in making or recovering such loan ;]
- ⁴[(*dddd*) a loan advanced by the State Government sponsored scheme ---

1. Inserted by Punjab Act 5 of 1956.

2. Inserted (w.e.f. 3rd January, 1966) by Punjab Act 5 of 1966, section 4.

3. Inserted by Haryana Act 21 of 1977.

4. Inserted (w.e.f. 25th June 1966). by Haryana Act 9 of 1967, section 2.

Note.—No act, proceeding or order, done, taken or made by the State Government or by any officer of the State Government or by any other authority, in respect of the recovery of any loan referred to in clause (dddd) of section 98 shall be

- (i) to give relief to persons who were uprooted from their homes, profession or trade due to the aggression committed by Pakistan in September, 1965; or
 - (ii) to persons carrying on any profession or trade in any premises where such premises or the goods stocked therein suffered any damage due to arson or any other unlawful act during the anti Punjabi Suba agitation which took place in the month of March, 1966; or
 - (iii) to give relief to such class of persons, who are uprooted after the commencement of the Punjab Land Revenue (Haryana Amendment and Validation) Act, 1967, from their homes, profession or trade due to any war, aggression, internal disturbance or natural calamity, as the State Government may in public interest specify in this behalf ; together with interest, if any, chargeable thereon and costs incurred in advancing or recovering such loan ;]
- ¹[(e) a loan advanced by the State Government to a scholar under the national Loan Scholarships Scheme together with interest, if any, chargeable thereon and costs incurred in making or recovering the same;
- (f) a loan advanced by the Haryana Harijan Kalyan Nigam to the members of Scheduled Castes together with interest, if any, chargeable thereon and costs incurred in making or recovering the same;
- ¹[(g) loan advanced by the State Government to,—
- (i) a student under the Haryana Engineering Education Loan Rules;

Note.— (contd.)

invalid or shall be deemed ever to have become invalid by reason only of the fact that such act, proceeding or order was done, taken or made, as the case may be, on or after the 25th day of June, 1966, and before the commencement of this Act and every such act, proceeding or order shall be deemed to have been done, taken or made under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act, as amended by this Act, *ibid* section 3.

1. Substituted by Haryana Act 45 of 1973 and further substituted by Haryana Act 39 of 1974 and further substituted by Haryana Act 20 of 1975 and further substituted by Haryana Act 10 of 1980.

- (ii) a member of a Scheduled Caste under the Rules for grant of loan for purchase of Evacuee land in Bet and non-Bet areas; or
- (iii) a person under the Rules for the grant of loans for repair of houses in urban areas;

together with interest, if any, chargeable thereon and costs incurred in advancing or recovering the same;]

¹[(h) cost of training recoverable by the State Government from a trainee in an Industrial Training Institute or Centre under the Craftsman Training Scheme and the expenses incurred for its recovery;]

¹[(i) a loan advanced to ex-servicemen individually or as members of co-operative societies from the defunct Special Fund for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen and Haryana Amalgamated Fund for the Welfare of Ex-servicemen, under various schemes or projects;]

(j) sums payable by a person who is surety for the payment of any of the foregoing sums or of any other sum recoverable as an arrear of land revenue ;]

²[(k) loss caused to the Government by its employee through misappropriation ;]

³[(l) sums due from the former Chief Minister or Minister during the terms of their offices except amount taken for house building or car advance.]

Application of
Chapter VI to
sums recoverable
under this
Chapter.

99. (1) The provisions of Chapter VI shall, with respect to any sum mentioned or referred to in this Chapter, apply, so far as they can be made applicable as if the sum were an arrear of land-revenue and the person from whom, either as principal or as surety, it is due were a defaulter in respect of such an arrear.

(2) Unless any such sum is declared by any enactment for the time being in force to be recoverable as if it were an arrear of land-

1. Substituted by Haryana Act 45 of 1973 and further substituted by Haryana Act 39 of 1974 and further substituted by Haryana Act 20 of 1975 and further substituted by Haryana Act 10 of 1980.
2. Inserted by Haryana Act 4 of 1985.
3. Added by Haryana Act 9 of 1994.

revenue due in respect of the land charged therewith, the provisions of section 77 shall apply under sub-section (1) to the recovery thereof.

CHAPTER VIII

SURVEYS AND BOUNDRIES

100. (1) The Financial Commissioner may make rules as to the manner in which the boundaries of all or any estates in any local area are to be demarcated and as to the survey-marks to be erected within those estates.

Power of Financial Commissioner to make rules for demarcation of boundaries and erection of survey marks.

(2) Rules under this section may prescribe, among other matters, the form of survey-marks and the material to be used in their construction.

101. (1) A Revenue-officer may, for the purpose of framing any record or making any assessment under this Act, or on the application of any person interested define the limits of any estate, or of any holding, field or other portion of an estate, and may, for the purpose of indicating those limits, require survey-marks to be erected or repaired.

Power of Revenue-officers to define boundaries.

(2) In defining the limits of any land under sub-section (1) the Revenue-officer may cause survey-marks to be erected on any boundary already determined by, or by order of, any Court, Revenue-officer or Forest Settlement-officer, or restore any survey-mark already set up by, or by order of any, Court or any such officer.

101-A (1) When any two or more estates are subject to river action and the limits of any such estates are by any law, custom, decree or order applicable thereto, liable to vary according as variations may from time to time occur in the course or action of such river, the ³[State Government] may⁴ * * * order a permanent boundary line to

Power to fix boundaries between rivcrain estates.

1. For rules under section 100, see Notification No. 76, "Punjab Gazette Extraordinary", 1st March, 1988, page 57.
2. Section 101-A to 101-F were added by the Punjab Rivcrain Boundaries Act, 1899 (1 of 1899), section 2.
3. Substituted for the words 'Local Government' by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
4. The words "in its discretion" were omitted by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.

be fixed between any such estates or such portion thereof as are liable to river action.

(2) Upon an order being made under sub-section (1) the Collector shall fix a boundary line between such estates or portions of such estates accordingly, and shall demarcate the same, in accordance with the rules (if any) made under section 100 and the provisions of section 101.

(3) Every such boundary line shall be fixed with due regard to the history of the estates and the interests of the persons respectively owing them or possessing rights therein, in such manner as may be just and equitable in the circumstances of each case.

(4) No such boundary line shall be deemed to have been permanently fixed until it has been approved by the Financial Commissioner.

Effect of fixing a boundary between riverain estates.

101-B. (1) Every boundary line fixed in accordance with the provisions of section 101-A shall, notwithstanding any law or custom, or any decree or order of any court of law, to the contrary, be fixed and constant boundary between the estates affected thereby, and the proprietary and all other rights in every holding, field or other portion of an estate situate on each side of the boundary line so fixed, shall, subject to the following proviso, vest in the land-owners of the estate which lies on that side of the boundary line on which such holding, field or other portion of an estate is situate :

Proviso.

Provided that, if by the operation of this section the proprietary or any other rights in any land which at the time a boundary line is fixed is under cultivation, or reasonably fit for cultivation, or yields any produce of substantial value, would be transferred from the land-owners and other right-holders of any one estate to the land-owners of any other estate, the Collector shall, by written order, direct that the rights in such land shall, subject to the provisions of section 101-C and section 101-D not be so transferred unless and until the land, in respect of which any such order is made, ceases to be reasonably fit for cultivation, or to yield any produce of substantial value, and upon any such order being made, the transfer of the rights in such land shall be suspended accordingly :

Provided further that when any portion of the land specified in

any such order ceases to be reasonably fit for cultivation or to yield any produce of substantial value, the order shall, when the Collector in writing so directs, cease to operate as to that portion.

(2) The decision of the Collector as to whether for the purposes of the proviso to sub-section (1) of this section, any land is or is not reasonably fit for cultivation, or does or does not yield any produce of substantial value shall be final.

101-C. (1) When any order has been made under the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 101-B, the land-owners (or any of them) in whom, but for such order, the rights in the land specified therein, would vest, may apply in writing, to the Collector to forthwith transfer the rights, the transfer of which has been suspended by such order, upon payment of compensation for the same.

(2) When an application under sub-section (1) is made, the Collector shall —

- (a) fix a day for the hearing of the application;
- (b) cause notice of the application, and of the day fixed for the hearing thereof to be served on, or proclaimed for the information of, all persons recorded as having rights in the land specified in the order made under the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 101-B, and all other persons interested or claiming to be interested therein;
- (c) upon the day so fixed hearing, or any day to which the hearing may be adjourned, inquire into the rights in the land and award compensation in respect of all rights, found established therein, to the persons severally entitled thereto;
- (d) inform the applicant of the aggregate amount of compensation so awarded and require him to deposit the amount with the Collector on or before a day to be fixed by him in that behalf :

Provided that, notwithstanding anything in this sub-section contained, it shall be lawful for the Collector, in his discretion and at any time before an award of

Application for immediate transfer of rights reserved under the proviso to sub-section 1 of section 101-B upon payment of compensation, and procedure thereupon. Award of compensation and extinguishment of rights thereby.

compensation thereon has been made, to reject any application made under sub-section (1).

(3) In awarding compensation under sub-section (2), the Collector shall be guided by the provisions of section 23 and section 24 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, so far as the same may be applicable to the circumstances of the case.

Act
1 of
1894.

(4) upon the fifteenth day of May next after the whole amount of compensation so awarded has been deposited with the Collector, the order made under the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 101-B, shall cease to operate, and the rights specified therein shall be transferred and vest in the manner prescribed in sub-section (1) of section 101-B, notwithstanding anything in the proviso thereof contained, and the Collector shall proceed to tender the compensation to the persons severally entitled to receive the same under his award. If any such person shall refuse to accept the sum so awarded and tendered to him, it shall be placed to his credit in the public treasury.

(5) When any order made under the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 101-B, shall, under the provisions of sub-section (4) of this section, cease to operate and determine, all rights reserved to any person by such order shall be extinguished.

Order under proviso to sub-section (1) of section 101-B to cease to apply to rights voluntarily transferred to a land owner of the estate to which land is transferred by fixing boundary.

101-D. When any person possessing any rights in any land, in regard to the rights in which an order has been made under the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 101-B, voluntarily transfers such rights to any land-owner of the estate in the land-owners of which, but for such order, such rights would vest under the operation of sub-section (1) of section 101-B, the rights so transferred shall forthwith cease to be subject to such order.

Rights transferred to be liable to all the incidents of tenure of estate to which the transfer is made.

101-E. In every case in which, by the operation of section 101-B or section 101-C or section 101-D, proprietary or other rights in land are transferred from the land-owners and other right-holders of any one estate to the land-owners of any other estate, such rights shall be subject to all the incidents of tenure

and liabilities which, under any law or custom for the time being in force, apply to the rights of the land owners of the estate to which such rights are so transferred.

101-F. For the purposes of sections 101-A, 101-B and 101-C, respectively, the expression "Collector" shall be deemed to include any Revenue-officer appointed by the ¹[State Government] to perform all or any of the functions of a Collector under any of the provisions thereof.]

Meaning of the expression "collector" in sections 101-A, 101-B and 101-C.

102. Subject to any rules which the Financial Commissioner may make in this behalf, survey-marks shall be erected and kept in repair by or at the cost of the persons interested in the land for the indication of the limits of which they are required :

Cost of erection and repair of survey marks.

Provided that the ¹[State Government] may in any case direct that the cost of erection shall be borne by the Government or be paid out of the proceeds of the village-officers' cess.

103. (1) If the persons interested in the land fail to erect or repair a survey-mark within thirty days from the date of their being required by a Revenue-officer to do so, the Revenue-officer may cause it to be erected or repaired.

Recovery of cost incurred by the Government.

(2) Where the Revenue-officer causes a survey-mark to be erected or repaired, he shall, subject to any rules or directions under the last foregoing section, apportion the cost among the persons interested in the land in such manner as he deems just, and certify the same to the Collector.

(3) The Collector may recover the cost as if it were an arrear of land-revenue.

104. Any Revenue-officer, and any person acting under the orders of a Revenue-officer, may, in the discharge of any duty under this Act, enter upon and survey land and erect survey-marks thereon and demarcate the boundaries thereof, and do all other acts necessary for the proper performance of that duty.

Power of Revenue-officers to enter on and for purposes of survey and demarcation.

1. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

Surveys for purposes of preparation of records.

105. (1) When any land is being surveyed in pursuance of rules under section 46, clause (c), any Revenue-officer directing the survey may, by notice or proclamation, require all persons having rights or interests in the land to indicate, within a specified time, by temporary marks of a kind to be described in the notice or proclamation, the limits of those rights or interests.

(2) If a person to whom the notice or proclamation is addressed fails to comply with the requisition, he shall be liable at the discretion of the Revenue-officer to fine which may extend to ten rupees.

Provision of flag-holders and chairman for those surveys.

106. (1) For the purposes of the survey of any land in pursuance of rules under section 46, clause (c), the land-owners shall be bound to provide fit persons to act as flagholders and chairmen.

(2) If the land-owners fail to provide such persons or to provide them in sufficient number, such other persons as a Revenue-officer considers necessary may be employed and the cost of employing them recovered from the land-owners as if it were an arrear of land-revenue.

Professional surveys.

107. (1) If it is necessary to make a survey by other agency than that of Revenue-officers or village-officers, the [State Government] may publish a notification stating—

- (a) the local area to be surveyed and the nature of the survey,
- (b) the names or official designation of the officers by whom the survey is to be made; and
- (c) the kind of survey-marks to be erected by those officers.

(2) From the date of the notification the officers specified therein, and the persons acting under their orders, shall have for the purposes of the survey the powers conferred on Revenue-officers by section 104.

Penalty for destruction, injury or removal of survey marks.

108. (1) If any person wilfully destroys or injures or without lawful authority removes a survey mark lawfully erected, he may be ordered by a Revenue-officer to pay such fine not exceeding fifty

1. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

rupees for each mark so destroyed, injured or removed as may, in the opinion of the Revenue-officer, be necessary to defray the expenses of restoring the same and of rewarding the person, if any, who gave information of the destruction, injury or removal.

(2) The imposition of a fine under this section shall not bar a prosecution under section 434 of the Indian Penal Code.

109. Every village-officer of an estate shall be legally bound to furnish a Revenue-officer with information respecting the destruction or removal of, or any injury done to, any survey-mark lawfully erected in the estate.

Report of destruction or removal or injury to survey marks.

CHAPTER IX

PARTITION

110. (1) A partition of land, either under this Chapter or otherwise, shall not, without the express consent of the Financial Commissioner, affect the joint liability of the land or of the land-owners thereof for the revenue payable in respect of the land, or operate to create a new estate, and if any conditions are attached to that consent, those conditions shall be binding on the parties to the partition.

Effect of partitions of estates and tenancies on joint liability for revenue and rent.

(2) A partition of a tenancy shall not without the express consent of the landlord, affect the joint liability of the co-shares therein for the payment of the rent thereof.

111. Any joint owner of land, or any joint tenant of a tenancy in which a right of occupancy subsists, may apply to a Revenue-officer for partition of his share in the land or tenancy, as the case may be, if—

Application for partition.

- (a) at the date of the application the share is recorded under Chapter IV as belonging to him; or
- (b) his right to the share has been established by a decree which is still subsisting at that date; or
- (c) a written acknowledgement of that right has been executed by all persons interested in the admission or denial thereof.

Restrictions and
limitations on
partition.

112. Notwithstanding anything in the last foregoing section—

- (1) places of worship and burial grounds held in common before partition shall continue to be so held after partition, unless the parties otherwise agree among themselves and record their agreement and file it with the Revenue-officer;
- (2) partition of any of the following properties, namely :—
 - (a) any embankment, watercourse, well or tank, and any land on which the supply of water to any such work may depend ;
 - (b) any grazing ground ; and
 - (c) any land which is occupied as the site of a town or village and is assessed to land revenue, may be refused if in the opinion of the revenue-officer, the partition of such property is likely to cause inconvenience to the co-sharers, or other persons directly or indirectly interested therein, or to diminish the utility thereof to those persons;
- (3) the fact that a partition on the application of a joint owner of land would render necessary the severance into two or more parts of the land comprised in the tenancy of a tenant having a right of occupancy may, unless the tenant assents to the severance, be a sufficient reason for the disallowance of the partition in so far as it would affect that tenancy; and
- (4) the fact that the landlord objects to the partition of a tenancy may be sufficient reason for the absolute disallowance of the partition thereof.

Notice of
application for
partition.

113. The Revenue-officer, on receiving the application under section 111, shall, if it is in order and not open to objection on the face of it, fix a day for the hearing thereof, and—

- (a) cause notice of the application and of the day so fixed to be served on such of the recorded co-sharers as have not joined in the application, and, if the share of which partition is applied for is a share in a tenancy, on the landlord also; and

- (b) if he thinks fit, cause the notice to be served on or proclaimed for the information of, any other persons whom he may deem to be directly or indirectly interested in the application.

114. On the day fixed for the hearing, or on any day to which the hearing may be adjourned, the Revenue-officer shall ascertain whether any of the other co-sharers desire the partition of their shares also, and, if any of them so desire, he shall add them as applicants for partition.

Addition of parties to application.

115. After examining such of the co-sharers and other persons as may be present on that day, the Revenue-officer may, if he is of opinion that there is good and sufficient cause why partition should be absolutely disallowed, refuse the application, recording the grounds of his refusal.

Absolute disallowances of partition.

116. If the Revenue-officer does not refuse the application under the last foregoing section, he shall ascertain the question, if any, in dispute between any of the persons interested distinguishing between—

Procedure on admission of application.

- (a) questions as to title in the property of which partition is sought; and
- (b) questions as to the property to be divided, or the mode of making the partition.

117. (1) When there is a question as to title in any of the property of which partition is sought, the Revenue-officer may decline to grant the application for partition until the question has been determined by a competent Court, or he may himself proceed to determine the question as though he were such a Court.

Disposal of questions as to title in property to be divided.

(2) Where the Revenue-officer himself proceeds to determine the question, the following rules shall apply, namely :—

- (a) If the question is one over which a Revenue Court has jurisdiction, the Revenue-officer shall proceed as a Revenue Court under the provisions of the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887.

- (b) If the question is one over which a Civil Court has jurisdiction, the procedure of the Revenue-officer shall be that applicable to the trial of an original suit by a Civil Court and he shall record a judgement and decree containing the particulars required by the Code of Civil Procedure to be specified therein.
- (c) An appeal shall lie from the decree of the Revenue-officer under clause (b) as though that decree were a decree of a ¹[Subordinate Judge] in an original suit.
- (d) Upon such an appeal being made, the ²[District Court] or ³[High Court], as the case may be, may issue an injunction to the Revenue-officer requiring him to stay proceedings pending the disposal of the appeal.
- (e) From the appellate decree of a ²[District Court] upon such an appeal, a further appeal shall lie to the ³[High Court] if such a further appeal is allowed by the law for the time being in force.

Disposal of other questions.

118. (1) When there is a question as to the property to be divided, or the mode of making a partition the Revenue-officer shall, after, such inquiry as he deems necessary, record an order stating his decision on the question and his reasons for the decision.

(2) An appeal may be preferred * * * ⁴ from an order under sub-section (1) within fifteen days from the date thereof, and, when such an appeal is preferred and the institution thereof has been certified to the Revenue-officer by the ⁵[authority to whom the appeal has been preferred] the Revenue-officer shall stay proceedings pending the disposal of the appeal.

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1. Substituted for "District Judge" by the Punjab Courts Act, 1918 (6 of 1918), section 49.
 2. Substituted for "Divisional Court" by the Punjab Courts Act, 1918, section 49.
 3. Substituted for the words "Chief Court" by Act 18 of 1919.
 4. The words "to the Commissioner" were repealed by the Decentralization Act (4 of 1914).
 5. Substituted for the word "Commissioner" by *ibid.*

(3) If an applicant for partition is dissatisfied with an original or appellate order under this section, and applies for permission to withdraw from the proceedings in so far as they relate to the partition of his shares, he shall be permitted to withdraw therefrom on such terms as the Revenue-officer thinks fit.

(4) When an applicant withdraw under the last foregoing sub-section, the Revenue-officer may, where the other applicants if any desire the continuance of the proceedings, continue them in so far as they relate to the partition of the shares of those other applicants.

119. When any such property as is referred to in section 112, clause (2), is excluded from partition, the Revenue-officer may determine the extent and manner to and in which the co-sharers and other persons interested therein may make use thereof, and the proportion in which expenditure incurred thereon and profits derived therefrom, respectively, are to be borne by and divided among those persons or any of them.

Administration of property excluded from partition.

120. (1) The amount of revenue to be paid in respect of each of the holdings into which land has been divided on a partition, and the amount of rent to be paid in respect of each of the portions into which a tenancy has been so divided, shall be determined by the Revenue-officer making the partition.

Distribution of revenue and rent after partition.

(2) The determination of the Revenue-officer, as to the revenue to be paid in respect of each holding, shall, where the estate in which the holding is situate is subject to a fixed assessment, be deemed to be an order under section 56, sub-section (1).

(3) Where new estate have been created at a partition and the land-revenue has been fraudulently or erroneously distributed among them, the [State Government] may, within twelve years from the time of discovery of the fraud or error, order a new distribution of the land-revenue among the several estates on an estimate of the assets of each estate at the time of the partition to be made conformably to the best evidence and information procurable respecting the same.

121. When a partition is completed, the Revenue-officer shall cause an instrument of partition to be prepared, and the date on which

Instrument of partition.

1. Substituted for the words "Local Government" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

the partition is to take effect to be recorded therein.

Delivery of possession of property allotted, on partition.

122. An owner or tenant to whom any land or portion of a tenancy, as the case may be, is allotted in proceedings for partition shall be entitled to possession thereof as against the other parties to the proceedings and their legal representatives, and a Revenue-officer shall, on application made to him for the purpose by any such owner or tenant at any time within three years from the date recorded in the instrument of partition under the last foregoing section, give effect to that instrument so far as it concerns the applicant as if it were a decree for immovable property.

Affirmation of partitions privately effected.

123. (1) In any case in which a partition has been made without the intervention of a Revenue-officer, any party thereto may apply to a Revenue-officer for an order affirming the partition.

(2) On receiving the application, the Revenue-officer shall inquire into the case, and, if he finds that the partition has in fact been made, he may make an order affirming it and proceed under sections 119, 120, 121 and 122, or any of those sections, as circumstances may require, in the same manner as if the partition had been made on an application to himself under this Chapter.

Power to make rules as to costs of partitions.

124. The Financial Commissioner may make rules for determining the costs of partitions under this Chapter and the mode in which such costs are to be apportioned.

Re-distribution of land according to custom.

125. When by established custom any land in an estate is subject to periodical redistribution a Revenue-officer may, on the application of any of the land-owners, enforce the redistribution according to the custom, and for this purpose may exercise all or any of the powers of a Revenue-officer in proceedings for partition.

Revenue-officers empowered to act under this Chapter.

126. The Revenue-officer by whom proceedings may be taken under this Chapter shall be a Revenue-officer of a class not below that of Assistant Collector of the ¹[second grade].

CHAPTER X

ARBITRATION

Power to refer to arbitration.

127. (1) Any Revenue-officer may, with the consent of the

1. Substituted by Haryana 10 of 1982.

parties refer to arbitration any dispute arising before him in any matter under this Act.

(2) A Collector or any Assistant Collector of the first grade may, without the consent of the parties, refer to arbitration any dispute before him with respect to—

- (a) any matter of which an entry is to be made in any record or register under Chapter IV ;
- (b) any matter relating to the distribution of an assessment under section 56;
- (c) the limits of any estate or of any holding, field or other portion of an estate; or
- (d) the property to be divided at a partition or the mode of making a partition.

128. (1) In referring a dispute to arbitration a Revenue-officer shall make an order of reference, and specify therein the precise matter submitted to arbitration, the number of arbitrators which each party to the dispute is to nominate, the period within which arbitrators are to be nominated, and the period within which the award is to be delivered.

Order of reference and contents thereof.

(2) The number of arbitrators which each party may nominate must be the same and must not exceed two.

(3) If from any cause arbitrators are not nominated, or an award is not delivered, within the period fixed therefor in the order of reference, the Revenue-officer may from time to time enlarge that period, or may cancel the order of reference.

129. (1) When an order of reference has been made, the parties may each nominate the number of arbitrators specified in the order, and the Revenue-officer shall nominate one other arbitrator.

Nomination of arbitrators.

(2) The Revenue-officer may, for reasons to be recorded by him, make an order disallowing any nomination made by either party and requiring the party to make another nomination within a time to be specified in the order.

(3) An order under the last foregoing sub-section shall be final.

130. If an arbitrator nominated by a party dies, desires to be discharged or refuses or becomes incapable to act, the party may nominate another person in his stead.

Substitution of arbitrators by parties.

Nomination and
Substitution of
arbitrators by
Revenue-officers.

131. In any of the following cases, namely,—

- (a) if either of the parties fails to nominate an arbitrator under sub-section (1) of section 129 within the period fixed in the order of reference; or
- (b) if the nomination of an arbitrator has been disallowed under sub-section (2) of section 129, and another arbitrator is not nominated within the time specified in the order under that sub-section or, having been so nominated, his nomination is also disallowed; or
- (c) if a party entitled to nominate an arbitrator in the place of another arbitrator under section 130 fails to nominate him within one week from the date of the communication to him of a notice requiring him to make the nomination; or
- (d) if an arbitrator nominated by the Revenue-officer dies, desires to be discharged or refuses or becomes incapable to act;

the Revenue-officer may nominate a person as arbitrator.

Process for
appearance
before
arbitrators.

132. (1) The Revenue-officer shall, on the application of the arbitrators, issue the same processes to the parties and witnesses whom the arbitrators desire to examine as he may issue in any proceeding under this Act before himself.

(2) Any such party or witness shall be bound to appear before the arbitrators in obedience to a process issued under sub-section (1) either in person or by agent, as the arbitrators may require.

(3) The person attending in obedience to the process shall be bound to state the truth upon any matter respecting which he is examined or makes statements, and to produce such documents and other things relating to any such matter as may be specified in the process.

Award of
arbitrators and
presentation
thereof.

133. (1) The arbitrators shall make an award in writing under their hands concerning the matters referred to them for arbitration, and state therein their reasons therefor, and any arbitrator dissenting from the award made by a majority of the arbitrators shall state the grounds of his dissent.

(2) The arbitrators shall present the award to the Revenue-officer in person unless that officer permits them to present it by agent.

134. (1) When the award has been received, the Revenue-officer shall, if the parties are present, consider forthwith any objections which they may have to make thereto, and, if they are not present fix a date for the consideration thereof.

Procedure on presentation of award.

(2) Where a date has been fixed for the consideration of an award, the Revenue-officer shall on that date, or on any subsequent date to which an adjournment may be made, hear any objections which the parties may have to make to the award.

(3) The Revenue-officer may also, if he thinks fit, question the arbitrators as to the grounds of their award.

135. (1) The Revenue-officer may accept, modify or reject the award, recording his reasons for doing so in his decision, respecting the dispute which was referred to arbitration.

Effect of award.

(2) An appeal shall lie from the decision as if arbitrators had not been appointed.

CHAPTER XI

SPECIAL JURISDICTION WITH RESPECT TO LAND

136. (1) The ¹[State Government] may by order published in the official Gazette, invest any Revenue-officer making or specially revising records-of-rights in any local area in pursuance of a notification under section 32 or making a general re-assessment of land-revenue in any local area in pursuance of a notification under section 49 ²{or any Revenue-officer in a Colony}, or any Revenue-officer to whose control that officer is subject, with all or any of the powers of any Court Constituted under the ³Punjab Courts Act, 1884, for the purpose of trying all or any specified classes of suits or appeals relating to land arising in the local area.

Power to invest officers, making records-of-rights or general re-assessment with powers of Civil Courts.

18 of 1884.

1. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2. Inserted by the Colonization of Government Lands (Punjab) Act, 1912 (Punjab Act 5 of 1912), "S. 8".
3. See now the Punjab Courts Act, 1918 (Punjab Act 6 of 1918).

(2) The ¹[State Government] may cancel an order under sub-section (1) wholly or in part.

(3) While an order or any part of an order under that sub-section continues in force, the powers conferred thereby shall be exercised by the officers invested therewith and not otherwise.

(4) Any cases pending before that officer under the order or a subsisting part of the order at the time of cancellation thereof may be disposed of by him as if the order or that part of it continued in force, unless the ¹[State Government] directs, as it is hereby empowered to do, that those cases shall be transferred for disposal to the Courts by which they would have been disposed of if the order had not been published.

Control over such officers and appeals from and revision of their decrees and orders.

137. (1) The ¹[State Government] may by notification direct that the provisions of this Act with respect to the superintendence and control over Revenue-officers shall, subject to any modification of these provisions which the ¹[State Government] thinks fit, apply to any Revenue-officer, except the Financial Commissioner, who has been invested with the powers of a Civil Court of any of the classes specified in clauses (a), (b), (c) and (d), of section 17 of the ²Punjab Courts Act, 1884, and that appeals shall lie from his decrees and orders to, and his decrees and orders be subject to revision by, a Revenue-officer invested under the last foregoing section with the powers of a Court which would be competent under the ²Punjab Courts Act, 1884, to hear appeals from, or revise, such decrees and orders if they had been made by a Court with the powers of which the Revenue-officer who made them has been invested.

(2) In the absence of any such notification a Revenue-officer invested under the last foregoing section with the powers of any such Civil Court as aforesaid shall, with respect to the exercise of those powers, be deemed to be such a Civil Court for the purposes of the ²Punjab Courts Act, 1884.

18 of 1884.

18 of 1884.

1. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2. See now the Punjab Courts Act, 1918 (Punjab Act 6 of 1918).

CHAPTER XII

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.

Revenue Deposits.

138. (1) In either of the following cases, namely :—

- (a) when a headman or other land-owner, or an assignee of land-revenue, to whom any sum other than rent is payable on account of a liability under this Act, refuses to receive the sum from, or to grant a receipt therefor to, the person by whom it is payable;
- (b) when the person by whom any such sum is payable is in doubt as to the headman or other land-owner, or the assignee of land revenue, entitled to receive it;

Power to deposit certain sums other than rent.

that a person may apply to a Revenue-officer for leave to deposit the sum in his office, and the Revenue-officer shall receive the deposit if, after examining the applicant, he is satisfied that there is sufficient ground for the application, and if the applicant pays the fee, if any, which may be chargeable on any notice to be issued of the receipt thereof.

(2) When a deposit has been so received, the liability of the depositor to the headman or other land-owner, or the assignee of land-revenue for the amount thereof shall be discharged.

139. If the deposit purports to be made on account of any payment due to the ¹[Government] it may be credited accordingly.

Procedure in case of deposit on account of a payment due to Government.

140. (1) A Revenue-officer receiving a deposit purporting to be made on any other account shall give notice of the receipt thereof to every person who has reason to believe claims or is entitled to the deposit, and may pay the amount thereof to any person appearing to him to be entitled to the same, or may, if he thinks, fit, retain the deposit pending the decision of a Civil Court as to the person so entitled.

Procedure in case of other deposits.

1. Substituted for the word "Crown" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

(2) No suit or other proceedings shall be instituted against the ¹[Government], or against any officer of the ¹[Government], in respect of anything done by a Revenue-officer under this section, but nothing in this sub-section shall prevent any person entitled to receive the amount of any such deposit from recovering it from a person to whom it has been paid by a Revenue-officer.

Execution of Orders of Civil and Criminal Courts by Revenue-officers.

Orders of Civil and Criminal Courts for execution of processes against land or the produce thereof to be addressed to a Revenue-officer.

141. Orders issued by any Civil or Criminal Court for the attachment, sale or delivery of any land or interest in land, or for the attachment or sale of the produce of any land, shall be addressed to the Collector or such Revenue-officer as the Collector may appoint in this behalf, and be executed by the Collector or that officer in accordance with the provisions of the law applicable to the Court issuing the orders and with any rules consistent therewith made by the Financial Commissioner with the concurrence of the High Court and the previous sanction of the ²[State Government].

Attachment of assigned land-revenue.

142. (1) Notwithstanding anything in any other enactment for the time being in force, an order issued by any Court for the attachment of assigned land-revenue shall require the person by whom the revenue is payable to pay it to the Collector, and the Collector to hold it subject to the orders of the Court.

(2) A payment to the Collector under sub-section (1) shall be an effectual discharge to the person making it.

Preservation of attached Produce.

Preservation of attached produce.

143. (1) The attachment of the produce of any land in pursuance of an order of any Court or other authority shall not prevent the person to whom the produce belongs from reaping, gathering or storing it or doing any other act necessary for its preservation.

(2) The attaching officer shall do or cause to be done all acts necessary for the preservation of the produce if the person to whom it belongs fails to do so.

-
1. Substituted for the word "Crown" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
 2. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

(3) When sale of produce follows on its attachment, the purchaser shall be entitled, by himself or by any person appointed by him in this behalf, to enter on the place where the produce is and do all that is necessary for the purpose of preserving and removing it.

Division of Produce.

144. In either of the following cases, namely,—

Division of
produce.

- (a) where land-revenue is paid by division or appraisalment of the produce;
- (b) where a superior and an inferior land-owner, or two or more share-holders in a holding or tenancy, are jointly interested in any produce, and either or any of the land-owners, or tenants, as the case may be desires the assistance of a Revenue-officer for the purpose of dividing or appraising the produce;

16 of
1887.

the provisions of the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887, with respect to the division or appraisalment of produce shall apply so far as they can be made applicable.

Miscellaneous—

145. (1) At any of the following times, namely,—

Village-cesses.

- (a) when a record-of-rights is being made or specially revised for an estate;
- (b) when the local area in which an estate is situate is being generally re-assessed and before the assessment has been confirmed;
- (c) at any other time on an order made with respect to any estate by the ²[State Government].

1. For rules of the Financial Commissioner under section 145, see Notification No. 76, *Punjab Gazette Extraordinary*" 1st march, 1888, page 53.
2. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, and resubstituted for the words "Government of Punjab" by the Haryana Adaptation of Laws [State and Concurrent subjects].

* * * * * 1 * * * * *

a Revenue-officer shall prepare a list of village cesses, if any, levied in the estate which have been generally or specially approved by the ³[State Government], or the title to which has, before the passing of this Act, been judicially established.

²(2) * * * *

(3) The ³[State Government] may impose on the collection of any village-cess comprised in the list such conditions as to police or other establishments connected with the village, market or fair in or on account of which the cess is levied, as it thinks fit.

(4) The ³[State Government] may declare whether any cess, contribution or due levied in an estate is or is not a village-cess.

(5) A declaration of the ³[State Government] under the last foregoing sub-section shall be conclusive, and shall not be liable to be questioned in any Court.

Superior
landowner's
dues.

146. Where a superior land-owner is entitled to receive in respect of any land from an inferior land-owner dues in kind or in cash of fluctuating quantity or amount, the Collector may—

- (a) on the application of both land-owners;
- (b) with the previous sanction of the ³[State Government], on the application of either of them ;

commute those dues into a fixed percentage of the land-revenue payable by the inferior land-owner in respect of the land.

Substitution of
service for
payment of land-
revenue.

147. (1) The ³[State Government] may * * * * * authorise the remission of land-revenue in whole or in part in consideration of the person, liable therefor undertaking to render in lieu thereof such public service as may be specified in an agreement to be approved by the ³[State Government] and executed by that person.

1. The words "with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council" were repealed by the Devolution Act, 1920, (38 of 1920), section 2 and Schedule I.
2. Sub-section (2) of section 145 repealed by Act 17 of 1896, s. 3.
3. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, and resubstituted for the words "Government of Punjab" by the Haryana Adaptation of Laws [State and Concurrent subjects].
4. The words "with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council" were omitted by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.

(2) The '[State Government] may, ² * * * * * cancel any remission authorised, and agreement made under sub-section (1).

(3) If a land-owner bound by an agreement under that sub-section to render public service in lieu of paying land-revenue fails to render the service to the satisfaction of the Collector, the Collector may determine the portion of the land-revenue remitted which is represented by the service in respect of which the land-owner is in default, and with the previous sanction of the Financial Commissioner, recover that portion as if it were an arrear of land-revenue due in respect of the land for the land-revenue whereof the service was substituted.

148. (1) When land of which the land-revenue has been assigned in whole or in part is re-assessed, the assignee shall be liable to pay such a share of the cost of making the re-assessment as the Financial Commissioner may determine to be just.

Recovery of cost of assessing assigned land-revenue.

(2) That share may be recovered by the Collector by deduction of the amount thereof from the land-revenue due to the assignee.

149. If a person required by a summons, notice, order or proclamation proceedings from a Revenue-officer to attend at a certain time and place within the limits of the estate in which he ordinarily resides, or in which he holds or cultivate land, fails to comply with the requisition, he shall be liable at the discretion of the Revenue-officer to a fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

Penalty for failure to attend within limits of estate in obedience to order of Revenue-officer.

150. (1) Where land which has been reserved for the common purposes of the co-shares therein has been encroached on by any co-sharer, a Revenue-officer may, on the application of any other co-sharer, eject the encroaching co-sharer from the land and, by order proclaimed in manner mentioned in section 22, forbid repetition of the encroachment.

Prevention of encroachment on common lands.

(2) The proceedings of the Revenue-officer under sub-section (1) shall be subject to any decree or order which may be subsequently passed by any Court of competent jurisdiction.

1. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

2. The words "with the like sanction" were omitted by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937.

Papers kept by village-officers to be deemed public documents.

151. (1) Any record or paper which a village-officer is required by law, or by any rule under this Act, to prepare or keep shall be deemed to be the property of the Government.

(2) A village-officer shall, with respect to any such record or paper in his custody, be deemed for the purposes of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, to be a public officer having the custody of a public document which any person has a right to inspect. 1 of 1872.

Costs.

152. (1) A Revenue-officer may give and apportion the costs of any proceedings under this Act in any manner he thinks fit.

(2) But if he orders that the cost of any such proceeding shall not follow the event, he shall record his reasons for the order.

Computation of periods limited for appeals and applications for review.

153. In the computation of the period for an appeal from, or an application for the review of, an order under this Act, the limitation therefor shall be governed by the Indian Limitation Act, ¹[1908]. 9 of 1908

Restriction on Revenue-officers bidding at auctions or trading.

154. (1) A Revenue-officer, or a person employed in a revenue-office, shall not—

(a) purchase or bid for, either in person or by agent, in his own name or in that of another, or jointly or in shares with others, any property which any Revenue-officer or Revenue-Court in the district in which he is employed has ordered to be sold; or,

(b) in contravention of any rules made by the ²[State Government] in this behalf, engage in trade in that district.

(2) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall be deemed to preclude any person from becoming a member of a company

1. Substituted by Punjab Act 3 of 1928, section 15, "1877".

2. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

6 of 1882. incorporated under the Indian Companies Act, 1882, ¹[the Indian Companies Act, 1913], or other law.

³[154A. (1) No person shall practise as a petition writer in a Revenue Court or an office of a Revenue-officer unless he has obtained a licence under the rules made under this Act.

Licensing of
petition writers

(2) Any person, who contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1), shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty rupees.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section,—

- (a) “Revenue Court” means a Revenue Court and includes a Revenue Officer, having authority under the provisions of this Act or any other law for the time being in force, to discharge the functions of a Revenue Court under that provision;
- (b) “Revenue Officer” means a Revenue Officer or such other authority as the State Government may, by notification declare, having authority under the provisions of this Act or any other law for the time being in force, to discharge the functions of a Revenue Officer under that provision.]

155. (1) The Financial Commissioner may, in addition to the other rules ²which may be made by him under this Act, make rules consistent with this Act and any other enactment for the time being in force—

Power to make
rules.

- (a) fixing the number and amount of the instalments, and the times and places and the manner by, at and in which any sum other than rent or land-revenue which is payable under this Act or of which a record has been made thereunder is to be paid ;
- (b) fixing the dates on which profits are to be divisible by headmen or other persons by whom they are realized on behalf of co-sharers;

1. Inserted by Punjab Act 3 of 1928, section 16 see now the Companies Act, 1956.

2. For rules under section 155, see *Punjab Gazette Extraordinary*, 1st March, 1888, pp 3: 53, 86, *Punjab Gazette*, 1890, Part I p. 103 *ibid* 1901; Part III p. 1030, *ibid*, 1906, Part, I, p. 1057. Part II, p. 1411.

3. Inserted by Haryana Act 16 of 1984.

- (c) prescribing the fees to be charged for the service and execution of processes issued by Revenue-officers and Revenue-Courts, the mode in which those fees are to be collected, the number of persons to be employed in the service and execution of those processes, and the remuneration and duties of those persons;
- ¹(d) regulating the procedure in cases where persons are entitled to inspect records of Revenue-officers, or records or papers in the custody of village-officers, or to obtain copies of the same, and prescribing the fees payable for searches and copies ²[including postage and any prescribed additional charges when a copy is supplied by post];
- (e) prescribing forms for such books, entries, statistics and accounts as the Financial Commissioner thinks necessary to be kept, made or compiled in revenue-offices, or submitted to any authority;
- ²(f) declaring what be the language of any of those officers and determining in what cases persons practising in those offices shall be permitted to address the presiding officers thereof in English;³
- ⁴(ff) declaring the persons who shall be permitted to act as petition writers in the Revenue Courts and offices of Revenue Officers;
- (fff) regulating the issue, suspension and revocation of licences to the persons declared as petition writers under clause (ff) and the conduct of business by them and the scale of fees to be charged by them ; and
- (ffff) specifying the authority competent to—
- (i) issue, suspend or revoke licences;
 - (ii) impose a penalty under sub-section (2) of section 154A; and

1. For rules under section 155 (1) (d), see Financial Commissioner notification No. 28-R11-61/725, dated the 30th January, 1961.

2. Added by Punjab Act 45 of 1953.

3. Omitted by Haryana Act 16 of 1984.

4. Inserted by Haryana Act 16 of 1984.

(iii) hear appeals against the orders passed by the competent authority specified for the purposes of sub-clauses (i) and (ii) ;]

¹(g) generally for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2) Until rules are made under clauses (a) and (b) of sub-section (1) the sums therein referred to shall be payable by the instalments at the times and places, and in the manner by, at and in which they are now payable.

(3) Rules made by the Financial Commissioner under this or other section of this Act, shall not take effect until they have been sanctioned by the ²[State Government] * * * ³ * * *.

156. The power to make any rules under this Act is subject * * * ⁴ * * * to the condition of the rules being made after previous publication⁵.

Rules to be made after previous publication.

157. All powers conferred by this Act on the Financial Commissioner may be exercised from time to time as occasion requires.

Powers exercisable by the Financial Commissioner from time to time.

Exclusion of Jurisdiction of Civil Courts.

158. Except as otherwise provided by this Act—

(1) A Civil Court shall not have jurisdiction in any matter which the ²[State Government] or a Revenue-officer is empowered by this Act to dispose of or take cognizance of the manner in which the ²[State Government] or any Revenue-officer exercises any powers

Exclusion of jurisdiction of Civil Courts in matters within the jurisdiction of Revenue-officers.

1. For rules under section 155 (1) (f) and (g), see notification No. 76, *Punjab Gazette (Extraordinary)*, 1st March, 1888, p. *ibid*, 1906, Part III, p.1411, Amended,—*vide* Notification No. G.S.R. 130/P.A. 17/1887/ s. 155/Amd. (4)/64, dated the 4th May, 1964.
2. Substituted for the words "Provincial Government" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
3. The words "and rules under clause (c) of sub-section (1) shall not take effect until they have also been conferred by the Governor-General in Council" were repealed by the Decentralization Act, 1914, (4 of 1914).
4. The words "to the control of the Governor-General in Council and" were omitted by the devolution Act, 1920 (38 of 1920).
5. For provision concerning the making of rules after previous publication see General Clauses Act, 1897 (10 of 1897), Section 23.

vested in it or him by or under this Act; and in particular—

(2) A Civil Court shall not exercise jurisdiction over any of the following matters, namely,

- (i) any question as to the limits of any land which has been defined by a Revenue-officer as land to which this Act does or does not apply ;
- (ii) any claim to compel the performance of any duties imposed by this Act or any other enactment for the time being in force on any Revenue-officer as such;
- (iii) any claim to the office of kanungo ¹[* * * * *] or village-officer, or in respect of any injury caused by exclusion from such office, or to compel the performance of the duties or a division of the emoluments thereof,
- (iv) any notification directing the making or revision of a record-of-rights;
- (v) the framing of a record-of-rights or annual record, or the preparation, signing or attestation of any of the documents included in such a record;
- (vi) the correction of any entry in a record-of-rights, annual record or register of mutations;
- (vii) any notification of the undertaking of the general re-assessment of a district or tahsil having been sanctioned by the ²{State Government};
- (viii) the claim of any person to be liable for an assessment of land-revenue or of any other revenue assessed under this Act;
- (ix) the amount of land revenue to be assessed on any estate or to be paid in respect of any holding under this Act;

1. The words "Zaildar, inamdar" omitted by Punjab Act No. 27 of 1964, Section 5.

2. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, and the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

- (x) the amount of, or the liability of any person to pay, any other revenue to be assessed under this Act, or any cess, charge or rate to be assessed on an estate or holding under this Act or any other enactment for the time being in force;
- (xi) any claim relating to the allowance to be received by a land-owner who has given notice of his refusal to be liable for an assessment, or any claim connected with, or arising out of, any proceedings taken in consequence of the refusal of any person to be liable for an assessment under this Act;
- (xii) the formation of an estate out of waste-land;
- (xiii) any claim to hold free of revenue any land, mills, fisheries or natural products of land or water;
- (xiv) any claim connected with, or arising out of, the collection by the Government, or the enforcement by the Government of any process for the recovery of land-revenue, or any sum recoverable as an arrear of land-revenue;
- (xv) any claim to set aside, on any ground other than fraud, a sale for the recovery of an arrear of land-revenue or any sum recoverable as an arrear of land-revenue;
- (xvi) the amount of, or the liability of any person to pay any fees, fines, costs or other charges imposed under this Act;
- (xvii) any claim for partition of an estate, holding or tenancy, or any question connected with, or arising out of, proceedings for partition, not being a question as to title in any of the property of which partition is sought;
- (xviii) any question as to the allotment of land on the partition of an estate, holding or tenancy, or as to the distribution of land subject by established custom to periodical re-distribution or as to the distribution

of land-revenue on the partition of an estate or holding or on a periodical re-distribution of land, or as to the distribution of rent on the partition of a tenancy;

¹[(xviii-a) any question connected with or arising out of or relating to any proceedings for the determination of boundaries of estates subject to river action under sections 101-A, 101-B, 101-C and 101-D, respectively, of chapter VIII];

(xix) any claim to set aside or disturb a division or appraisement of produce confirmed or varied by a Revenue-officer under this Act;

(xx) any question relating to the preparation of a list of village cesses or the imposition by the ²[State] Government of conditions on the collection of such cesses;

(xxi) any proceeding under this Act for the commutation of the dues of a superior land-owner;

(xxii) any claim arising out of the enforcement of an agreement to render public service in lieu of paying land-revenue; or

(xxii) any claim arising out of the liability of an assignee of land-revenue to pay a share of the cost of collecting or re-assessing such revenue, or arising out of the liability of an assignee to pay out of assigned land-revenue, or of a person who would be liable for land-revenue if it had not been released, compounded for or redeemed to pay on the land-revenue for which he would but for such release, composition or redemption be liable, such a percentage for the remuneration of a ³[* * * * *] village officer as may be prescribed by rules for the time being in force under this Act.

⁴THE SCHEDULE.

1. Clause (xviii-a) was added by the Punjab Riverain Boundaries Act, 1899 (Punjab Act 1 of 1899), s. 3.
2. Substituted for the word "Provincial" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
3. The words "zaildar, inamdar or" omitted by Punjab Act No. 27 of 1964, section 5.
4. Repealed by Central Act 1 of 1933, section 2 and Schedule.



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LEGISLATIVE SUPPLEMENT

	CONTENTS	PAGES
PART-I ACTS		
	THE PUNJAB LAND REVENUE (HARYANA AMENDMENT) ACT, 2017 (HARYANA ACT NO. 12 OF 2017).	153—155
PART-II ORDINANCES		
	NIL	
PART-III DELEGATED LEGISLATION		
	NIL	
PART-IV CORRECTION SLIPS, REPUBLICATIONS AND REPLACEMENTS		
	NIL	

PART – I**HARYANA GOVERNMENT****LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT****Notification**

The 10th April, 2017

No. Leg.12/2017.— The following Act of the Legislature of the State of Haryana received the assent of the Governor of Haryana on the 21st March, 2017 and is hereby published for general information:-

HARYANA ACT NO. 12 OF 2017**THE PUNJAB LAND REVENUE (HARYANA AMENDMENT) ACT, 2017**

AN

ACT

*further to amend the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887,
in its application to the State of Haryana.*

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Haryana in the Sixty-eighth Year of the Republic of India as follows :-

1. This Act may be called the Punjab Land Revenue (Haryana Amendment) Act, 2017. Short Title.
2. In clause (c) of section 13 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887 (hereinafter called the principal Act), - Amendment of section 13 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.
 - (a) in item (ii), for the sign “.” existing at the end, the sign “;” shall be substituted; and
 - (b) after item (ii), the following items shall be added, namely:-
 - “(iii) no authority except the first appellate authority shall remand the case to the lower authority to decide the case afresh; and
 - (iv) no appeal shall lie against any interim order passed by a Revenue- officer under this Act.”.
3. For section 16 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:- Substitution of section 16 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

“16. Power to call for, examine and revise proceedings of Revenue-officer.-

(1) The Commissioner may call for the record of any case pending before, or disposed of by any Revenue-officer under his control and pass such orders, as he thinks fit.

(2) The Collector may also call for the record of any case pending before, or disposed of by any Revenue-officer under his control and if he is of the opinion that the proceedings taken or order made should be modified or reversed, he shall report the case with his opinion thereon for the orders of the Commissioner, whose decision shall be final:

Provided that he shall not pass an order reversing or modifying any proceeding or order of a subordinate Revenue-officer and affecting any question of right between private persons without giving them an opportunity of being heard.”.
4. After sub-section (5) of section 20 of the principal Act, the following sub-section shall be added, namely:- Amendment of section 20 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

“(6) If it is not possible to serve summons in accordance with any of the modes, as provided in sub-sections (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) then,-

 - (a) summons may be sent by the Revenue-officer by whom it is issued whether within or out of the State by post, courier service, fax message or by electronic mail service;
 - (b) where the person is confined in prison, the summons may be delivered by post, courier service, fax message or by electronic mail service to the officer-in charge of the prison for service to the person;
 - (c) where the person resides out of India and has no agent in India empowered to accept service, the summons may be addressed to the person at the place

where he is residing or may be sent to him by post, courier service, fax message or by electronic mail service, if there is postal communication between such place and the place where office of such Revenue-officer is situated; and

- (d) where the Central Government, by notification in the Official Gazette, has declared in respect of any foreign country that summons shall be served on the person actually and voluntarily residing or carrying business or personally working for gain in that foreign country through an officer of the Government of foreign country, as specified by the Central Government, the summons may be sent to such officer through the Ministry of Government of India dealing with foreign affairs or in such other manner, as may be specified by the Central Government and if such officer returns any such summons with an endorsement purporting to have been made by him that the summons have been served on the person, such service shall be deemed as evidence of service.”.

Substitution of section 111 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

5. For section 111 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-

“111. Application for partition.- Any joint owner of land or any joint tenant of a tenancy in which a right of occupancy subsists, may apply to a Revenue-officer for partition of his share in the land or tenancy, as the case may be, with the proposed plan of partition indicating the quality and location of the land in question alongwith the reasons for partition and copy of the latest Jamabandi, if,-

- (a) on the date of application, the share is recorded under Chapter IV as belonging to him; or
- (b) his right to the share has been established by a decree which is still subsisting at that date; or
- (c) a written acknowledgement that right has been executed by all persons interested in the admission or denial thereof.”.

Amendment of section 113 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

6. For clauses (a) and (b) of section 113 of the principal Act, the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:-

- “(a) cause notice of the application and of the day so fixed to be served on such of the recorded co-sharers, as have not joined in the application to submit their replies and plans of partition with cogent reasons and if the share for which partition is applied for is a share in a tenancy, on the landlord also; and
- (b) if he thinks fit, cause the notice to be served on any other person whom he may deem to be directly or indirectly interested in the application to submit their replies and plans of partition with cogent reasons.”.

Insertion of section 115A in Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

7. After section 115 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

“115A. Settlement of disputes by conciliation.- (1) Where it appears to the Revenue-officer that a settlement may be acceptable to both the parties to the partition, he shall formulate the terms of settlement and submit the same to the parties for their suggestions. After receiving their objections or suggestions, the Revenue-officer shall re-formulate the terms of settlement possible in the prevailing situation and refer the same for conciliation with the intervention of the elders where the property is situated and if the settlement is agreed upon by both the parties through a written deed, the Revenue-officer shall pass an order in accordance with such deed. The orders so made by the Revenue-officer shall be final and a partition deed shall be issued accordingly.

(2) If no settlement is reached under sub-section (1), the Revenue-officer shall within a period of four months after the date of making reference for conciliation but not later than six months from the date of initiation of conciliation proceedings, pass such order on merits, as he may deem appropriate in the circumstances of the case after hearing the parties.”.

8. For section 118 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-

Substitution of
section 118 of
Punjab Act XVII
of 1887.

“118. Disposal of other questions.- (1) When there is a question as to the property to be divided or the mode of making a partition, the Revenue-officer shall, after such inquiry, as he deems necessary, record an order stating his decision on the question and the reasons for the decision.

(2) An appeal may be preferred against an order under sub-section (1) within fifteen days from the date thereof and when such an appeal is preferred and the institution thereof has been certified to the Revenue-officer by the authority to whom the appeal has been preferred, the Revenue-officer shall stay proceedings pending the disposal of the appeal. The appellate authority shall pass final order in the matter and shall not remand the case in any manner. There shall be no second appeal or revision.”.

KULDIP JAIN,
Secretary to Government, Haryana,
Law and Legislative Department.

PART I
GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, PUNJAB
NOTIFICATION

The 10th December, 2020

No.24-Leg./2020.-The following Act of the Legislature of the State of Punjab received the assent of the Governor of Punjab on the 7th day of December, 2020, is hereby published for general information:-

THE PUNJAB LAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2020
(Punjab Act No. 21 of 2020)

AN

ACT

further to amend the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Seventy-first Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 2020. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), for section 13, the following section shall be substituted, namely:- Substitution of section 13 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

“13.(1) Save as otherwise provided by this Act, an appeal shall lie from an original or appellate order of a Revenue Officer as follows, namely:-

- (a) to the Collector when the order is made by an Assistant Collector of either grade;
- (b) to the Commissioner when the order is made by a Collector;
- (c) to the Financial Commissioner when the original order made by a Collector is reversed by the Commissioner in appeal:

Provided that –

- (i) when an original order is confirmed on appeal, a further appeal shall not lie;
- (ii) when any such order is modified or reversed on appeal

by the Collector, the order made by the Commissioner on further appeal, if any, to him shall be final;

- (iii) no order of remand shall be passed by the appellate authority except where it is established from the record that a necessary party was not duly served;
- (iv) no appeal shall lie against any interim order passed by a Revenue Officer under this Act;

Explanation.-An order passed under sub-section (1) of section 116 and section 117 shall not be an interim order:

- (v) in partition proceedings, the Revenue Officer shall not proceed further in case an appeal has been filed against an order passed under sub-section (1) of section 116 or section 117 or section 118.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, the appeals pending before the Financial Commissioner under sub-section (1) prior to the commencement of the Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 2020, shall be decided and disposed of as heretofore."

3. In the principal Act, in section 14, after clause (c), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely :-

Amendment of section 14 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

" Provided that -

- (i) the period of limitation for an appeal against the order passed by the Assistant Collector under sub-section (1) of section 116 or section 117 shall be fifteen days before the Collector and thirty days before the Commissioner; and
- (ii) an appeal shall be decided by the appellate authority within sixty days from the date the respondent puts in appearance after notice or is proceeded against ex parte."

4. In the principal Act, after section 15, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

Insertion of new section 15-A in Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

"15-A. Clerical or arithmetical error in an order may, at any time be corrected by the Revenue Officer who passed the order or by this successor either of his own motion or on the application of any party, and an intimation of such correction shall be made to the parties free of any charges and also to the concerned Revenue Officer for its implementation."

5. In the principal Act, for section 16, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-

Substitution of
section 16 of
Punjab Act XVII
of 1887.

“16. (1) The Financial Commissioner, may at any time, on his own motion, or on an application made to him by any aggrieved person within ninety days of the passing of any order, call and examine the record of any case pending before, or disposed of by any Revenue Officer, subordinate to him for the purpose of satisfying himself as to the legality or propriety of such order or proceedings and may pass such order in relation thereto as he may deem fit.

(2) No revision shall lie against an order in respect of which an appeal is maintainable.

(3) A person aggrieved by any order of which revision has been sought, shall state the illegality and impropriety of the order impugned:

Provided that: -

- (i) the Financial Commissioner shall not pass an order reversing or modifying any proceedings or order of a subordinate Revenue Officer and affecting any question of rights between the parties, without giving them an opportunity of being heard;
- (ii) except against an order under section 118 passed in appeal, or against issuance of instrument of partition under section 121, no application for revision shall lie against an order relating to partition proceedings under Chapter IX;

Explanation.- If a revision petition has been filed against an order under section 118 passed in appeal, no such petition shall lie against an instrument of partition issued under section 121;

- (iii) the period of limitation for filing a revision petition against an order under section 118 passed in appeal, or against issuance of instrument of partition under section 121 with respect to partition of land shall be sixty days from the date of order; and
 - (iv) such revision shall be decided within one hundred and twenty days from the date the respondent puts in an appearance after notice or is proceeded against *ex parte*.
- (4) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, the cases

called for by the Commissioner under sub-section (1) prior to the commencement of the Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 2020, shall be decided and disposed of by the Revenue Officer as heretofore.

(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 2011 (Punjab Act No. 15 of 2011) and the Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 2012 (Punjab Act No. 5 of 2013), the revision applications pending before the Financial Commissioner shall be disposed of by him in accordance with the provisions contained herein.”

6. In the principal Act, in section 20, for sub-sections (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-

Amendment of
section 20 of
Punjab Act XVII
of 1887.

“(2) If service cannot be so made, or if acceptance of service so made is refused, the summons may be served by affixing a copy thereof at the usual or last known place of residence of the person to whom it is addressed, or if that person does not reside in the district in which the Revenue Officer exercises his jurisdiction and the case to which the summons relates has reference to land in that district, then by affixing a copy of the summons on some conspicuous place in or near the estate wherein the land is situate.

(3) If the summons relates to a case in which persons having the same interest are so numerous that personal service on all of them is not reasonably practicable, it may, if the Revenue Officer so directs, be served by delivery of a copy thereof to such of those persons as the Revenue Officer nominates in this behalf and by publication of the contents thereof in a daily Punjabi newspaper having wide circulation for the information of the other persons interested.

(4) The summons may also be served through Short Message Service (SMS) or Whatsapp, email, or through other electronic mode at the phone number or email id, as may be approved by the State Government which shall be available or otherwise known, or made known, to the Revenue Officer:

Provided that if service is effected through any of the above modes, a printout of the communication shall be placed on the record and the applicant or the appellant, as the case may be, shall provide proof to the satisfaction of the Revenue Officer of the genuineness of the phone number or email id being that of the recipient.

Explanation. - An affidavit filed by the applicant shall be sufficient proof regarding the genuineness of the phone number or email id to which the communication is sent as being that of the recipient.

(5) A summons may, if the Revenue Officer so directs, be served on the person named therein, either in addition to, or in substitution for, any other mode of service, by forwarding the summons by post in a letter addressed to the person and registered under Chapter VI of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 (Central Act VI of 1898), or sent through a reputed courier agency notified by the Government in this regard.

(6) When a summons is so forwarded in a letter, and it is proved that the letter was properly addressed and duly posted and registered, the Revenue Officer may presume that the summons was served at the time when receipt of its delivery is furnished:

Provided that in case of a letter sent through registered post, its delivery may be presumed after thirty days if it is not received back undelivered within this period.

(7) A summons may also be served on the person named therein by publication of the contents thereof in a daily Punjabi newspaper having wide circulation, as may be approved by the State Government.

(8) A summons may also be served by uploading it on such website as may be notified.

(9) Any of the modes of service provided in sub-sections (2), (3), (4), (5), (7) or (8) may be adopted simultaneously in addition to the mode provided in sub-section (1)."

7. In the principal Act, for section 21, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-

“21. A notice, order or publication or copy of any such document, issued by a Revenue Officer for service on any person shall be served in the manner provided in the last forgoing section for the service of a summons.”

Substitution of section 21 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

8. In the principal Act, section 22 shall be omitted.

Omission of section 22 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

9. In the principal Act, for section 110, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-
- Substitution of section 110 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.
- “110. A partition of land, either under this Chapter or otherwise, shall not, without the express consent of the Financial Commissioner, affect the joint liability of the land or of the land owners thereof for the revenue payable in respect of the land, or operate to create a new estate, and, if any conditions are attached to that consent, those conditions shall be binding on the parties to the partition.”
10. In the principal Act, for section 111, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-
- Substitution of section 111 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.
- “111. (1) Any joint owner of land, may apply to a Revenue Officer for partition of his share in the land, if,-
- Application for partition.
- (a) on the date of application, the share as owner is recorded under Chapter IV as belonging to him; or
- (b) his right to share as owner has been established by a decree which is still subsisting at that date.
- (2) The applicant shall with his application for partition, file as many copies of the application as the number of respondents.”
11. In the principal Act, in section 112,-
- Amendment of section 112 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.
- (i) in clause (2), after sub-clause (a), the following sub-clause shall be inserted, namely:-
- “(aa) any common path, common water course or such like place, used for common purpose;” and
- (ii) clauses (3) and (4) shall be omitted.
12. In the principal Act, for section 113, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-
- Substitution of section 113 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.
- “113. (1) The Revenue Officer, on receiving the application under section 111, shall, if it is in order and not open to objection on the face of it, fix a day for the hearing thereof, and-
- Notice of the application and addition of parties for partition.
- (a) cause a notice of the application on the day so fixed to be served on the respondent and on such of the recorded co-sharers.
- ”

as have not joined in the application to submit their replies specifying therein if any of them desires partition of his share and if he so desires add him as an applicant; and

- (b) if he thinks fit, cause a notice to be served on any other person whom he may deem to be directly or indirectly interested in the application.

(2) The reply to the application for partition shall be filed by the respondent within thirty days of his appearance in response to the notice issued under clauses (a) or (b) of sub-section (1).

(3) A party that has been proceeded against ex parte may join the proceedings of the case from the stage at which it is pending on the date he joins."

13. In the principal Act, for sections 114 and 115, the following sections shall be substituted, namely:-

"114. The Revenue Officer after examining such of the co-sharers and other persons, as may be present on that day, may, if he is of the opinion that there is good and sufficient cause, why partition should be absolutely disallowed, refuse the application, recording the grounds of his refusal.

115. (1) Before proceeding to adjudicate the partition amongst the parties, the Assistant Collector shall make an effort in the first instance, through conciliation and mediation, to settle it by mediation and conciliation and for this purpose he may either refer the case to the Mediation and Conciliation Centre in the District or to a panel of three respectable persons out of whom one each shall be nominated by the applicants and the respondents respectively and the third shall be nominated by the Assistant Collector:

Provided that where parties agree for mediation then proceedings in pursuance thereof shall be concluded by the mediators within thirty days of entering the reference and such period may with the mutual consent of the parties be extended by another fifteen days.

(2) In case the parties do not agree for mediation or in the event of failure to resolve the matter by mediation and conciliation, the Assistant Collector shall record a finding to this effect and proceed to continue with the partition amongst the parties.

Substitution of sections 114 and 115 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

(3) The Collector or the Commissioner before whom the matter is taken up or is pending, after satisfying himself of there being a likelihood for an agreement on the partition amongst the parties by mediation and conciliation may in the manner as provided for in sub-section (1) refer the matter for mediation, which shall be decided in the same manner:

Provided that in case the matter is referred to a panel, the third mediator shall be nominated by the Collector or the Commissioner, as the case may be.

(4) In the event of failure to resolve the dispute by conciliation and mediation within thirty days, the Collector or the Commissioner who made the reference, shall record a finding to this effect and proceed to decide the matter amongst the parties.

(5) A Revenue Officer may accept, modify or reject the settlement reached at in the mediation, recording his reasons for doing so in his decision in respect of the matter which was referred for mediation and conciliation."

14. In the principal Act, section 115-A, shall be omitted.

Omission of section 115-A of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

15. In the principal Act, for sections 116, 117 and 118, the following sections shall be substituted, namely:-

Substitution of sections 116, 117 and 118 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

"116. (1) The Revenue Officer, on the application not being refused or the conciliation not being successful and upon a question of title being raised, shall by recording reasons within thirty days decide whether such question is involved between the applicant and the respondent.

(2) In case a question of title is involved between the applicant and the respondent, the Revenue Officer shall decline to grant the application for partition until the question has been determined by a court of competent jurisdiction and if no such question is involved, he shall proceed with the partition.

117. The Revenue Officer after making such enquiry including that of visiting the spot, wherever necessary, and taking into account relevant factors such as possession of parties on the land, its location and quality, finalize the mode of partition specifying therein the property to be divided.

"118. (1) The Revenue Officer shall allot specific portions of the land to
Land to be the applicant in accordance with the mode of partition.
allotted to the applicant and
others.

(2) After an order has been passed under sub section (1), the Revenue Officer shall proceed to prepare the instrument of partition under section 121 irrespective of any party withdrawing from the proceedings.

Explanation.- Non-appearance of any party shall be construed as his withdrawing from the proceedings."

16. In the principal Act, in section 120,-

(i) after sub-section (1), the following Explanation shall be inserted, Amendment of section 120 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.
namely:-
"Explanation.- In case the area of land under tenancy is reduced as a result of partition, the rent payable by the tenant shall be proportionately decreased."; and

(ii) sub-section (3) shall be omitted.

17. In the principal Act, for section 121, the following section shall be substituted, namely:- Substitution of section 121 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

"121.(1) When a partition is completed, the Revenue Officer shall
Instrument of cause an instrument of partition to be prepared at the
partition. expiry of sixty days from the order passed under section 118 and it shall take effect after thirty days of its first copy being issued.

Explanation.- A partition shall be taken to be complete on an order passed under section 118.

(2) An instrument of partition shall be amended or modified in the event of an order passed under section 118 is set aside, modified or reversed in appeal, review or revision."

18. In the principal Act, for section 122, the following section shall be substituted, namely:- Substitution of section 122 of Punjab Act XVII of 1887.

"122. An owner to whom any land is allotted in proceedings for partition
Delivery of shall be entitled to possession thereof as against the other
possession of parties to the proceedings and their legal representatives,
property and a Revenue Officer shall, on application made to
allotted, on him for the purpose by any such owner at any time
partition.

