

RIGHTS AND CONCESSIONS

60. As regards the rights and concessions granted in respect of reserved forests of the division it will be better to mention the same in respect of 3 different areas i. e. the Khalsa portion, Himgiri Ex-Zamindari areas and Hatibari & Nagra Ex-Zamindari areas.

61. In Khalsa areas no rights of any kind exist in the class A reserves but the tenants of the state are permitted as a concession to remove edible roots and fruits and to gather leaves and dry fallen fire wood. ON CONDITION that they turn out when called upto to do so. to extinguish forest fires and to cut the boundary and fire lines. These privileges apply only to the villagers living close to the forests, who are likely to be called upon to assist in Line-cutting (i. e. R. F. boundary line & fire line) and extinguish fires and not to others living at a distance. In addition, they are permitted to pasture cattle at concession rates in nonrestricted areas in the Reserved Forests.

62. In B class reserved forests Nistar paying tenants of the state are allowed to exercise the following rights :-

(a) They may take free of charge for their own personal use only from the annual coupe plough timber, timber of unreserved species and fuel subject to such limitations as may be necessary in the interest of forest management and maintenance of a sustained yield.

(b) Timber of reserved species at the rate fixed for tenants subject to the same limitation as in (a) above.

(c) They may pasture buffalo and cattle in specified areas (not in coppice coupes under 5 years old) and subject to a general limitation imposed by the area available for grazing Goats, sheeps and pigs are expressly excluded from 'B' class reserved forests.

63. Persons other than the less paying tenants are only allowed their free subject to actual requirements and the capacity of the forests to supply. They will pay according to Schedule of Rates for everything else. For plough timber they will pay at a flat rate of three annas for reserved timber and one anna six paise for wood of unreserved species. They may also pasture the stock (except Goats Sheep and pigs) on payment of grazing fees.

64. In Hengiri Ex-Zamindari areas non rights of any description exist in the reserved forests but some concession are granted as under :—

(a) The tenants are allowed free of payment for their personal use edible roots, fruits and creepers.

(b) They are allowed to collect thatch grass on payment of one pice per bundle.

(c) They are allowed green bamboos at the rates of nine annas per hundred and dry bamboos at the rate of seven annas per hundred.

(d) Residents are permitted to graze animals with permits in the reserved forests. Grazing of Sheep, Goats and Pigs is strictly prohibited in the reserved forests.

(e) The villages situated within the reserves and having insufficient nistar forests for grazing are allowed to graze their cattle in the reserved forests.

(f) The raiyats of the estate holding settlement pancha are allowed free timber reserved species from the nistar forests for ploughs and agricultural implements. Such trees are to be marked by the Forest Department staff for a village as a whole and the gauria of the village then distribute the trees proportionately among the raiyats.

65. In respect of Nagra and Hatibari Ex-Zamindari areas no rights whatsoever exists in the reserved forests. As far as the subjects of the state are concerned the people residing in village are permitted as a concession to enter the forests to collect free of charges for their own personal use such items of minor forest products as edible roots, fruits and flowers, leaves and grasses as have not been granted in leases, and where specially permitted to do so the concessions of collecting dry fallen fire wood for fuel. These concessions and easements definitely imply an obligation on the part of these concession holders to cut and clear the Reserve forest boundary lines and fire lines on payments and to assist in extinguishing forest fires without payment, when called upon to do so. Failure to fulfill their obligations may lead to all or any of these privileges being withdrawn.

66. Certain reserved forests called as 'B' class-reserve forests have been set aside to provide requirements of the local population. In them, the tenants whose villages have been allotted to a specific felling series may remove timber of unreserved species free of royalty and timber of reserved species on payment of half royalty for their own domestic use from the annual coupes only and subject to such limitations as the (Divisional) Forest Officer may deem fit to impose in the interest of fair distribution among the applicants. Grazing is permitted in these forests on payment of usual grazing fees subject & silvicultural rules and control.