

CHAPTER XI.—VILLAGE SERVANTS.

154. A person in authorised possession of a service grant for the time being for the purpose of rendering service to villagers or the State or its officers or both, is a village servant :

Provided that the village chowkidar or watchman shall be deemed to be a village servant whether he holds a service grant or not.

155. (1) For each village or group of villages there shall be appointed, in manner prescribed, one or more village chowkidars or watchmen.

(2) There shall be such other village servants as may be prescribed.

(3) The village servants existing before the commencement of this Law shall be deemed to have been appointed under this Law.

156. Where the services of any village servant, other than the village watchman, are not considered necessary, or where the services are not being rendered without separate payment, and the continuance of the service grant does not appear necessary, the Darbar may direct that any grant or any class of grants shall be dealt with under the provisions of section 45.

157. (1) The appointment, duties and punishment or removal of village watchmen and other servants shall be as prescribed by rules under this section.

(2) Village watchmen shall continue to receive under this Law such customary remuneration as they were receiving at the commencement of this Law :

Provided that

(a) any ryot or tenant may apply for the commutation of the payment made by him in kind, or partly in cash and partly in kind, to a payment in cash not exceeding one anna per rupee of the land revenue or rent payable by him ;

(b) any payment in cash exceeding the rate of one anna per rupee of land revenue or rent shall cease to be recoverable from the commencement of this Law.

(c) No payment shall be made to any village watchmen who holds a service grant of six acres or more in area.

158. (1) The remuneration of village watchmen shall be payable by all residents of the village, other than village servants or indigent persons who may be exempted, including the village headmen and tenure holders or holders of grants.

(2) The amount payable by residents who are in receipt of incomes from non-agricultural services shall be as prescribed.

159. The Dewan may reduce the amount payable by ryots or tenants on other residents if, in his opinion, the watchman is getting more than an adequate payment.

160. (1) If the amount payable by a ryot or tenant to a village watchman under section 157 is equal or equivalent to one anna per rupee of land revenue the ryot or tenant shall not be liable to pay the remuneration of any other village servant under this Law ; neither shall he be liable to make any contribution towards the cost of the uniform or dress of any village servant.

(2) The payments made by residents of a village to such village servants as graziers or blacksmiths for services rendered to them shall not be deemed to be a payment made under this Law.

(3) No payment which is not being made at the time of the commencement of this Law shall be levied under this section.

161. The remuneration of village watchmen and such other servants as may be prescribed may be recovered on application by a revenue officer as an arrear of land revenue from the person from whom the payment is due.

CHAPTER XII.—ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS AND OFFICERS.

162. The Durbar may divide the State into administrative divisions to facilitate the revenue administration and may alter the limits of any such division or may create new or abolish existing divisions,