

THE  
ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT  
OF THE  
Department of General Administration & Criminal Justice  
OF THE  
Cooch Behar State  
FOR THE  
YEAR 1884-85.



COOCH BEHAR.

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1886.

## BAND.

318. The Band consisted during the year, of an English Band-master, 3 Eurasian Serjents, 7 Eurasian Musicians and 26 Native Musicians. The number of performers was therefore 37 including the Band-master. No Band instruments were purchased during the year. The cost for maintaining the Band was Rs. 16,122. The Band-master, Mr. J. B. Biggs, gave satisfaction.

## PHILKHANA.

319. The number of elephants in the Philkhana at the commencement of the year under report was 41; including the two elephants lent to the Manager of the Chaklajat Estates and not taken into account in the report for 1883-84. During the year the number increased to 54. Of the additional 13 elephants, 12 represented the Maharajah's share of the elephants captured during the Kheda operations which were carried on in the Bhootan Duars under the management of Mr. Shillingford. One elephant was presented to His Highness by a Jotedar named Hedatullah of Pellanepra in the Sub-division of Mathabhanga, but of the 54 elephants 4 died, viz.: 1 Barston, 2 Ramparsad, 3 Sher Bahadoor, 4 Rungmala, and 50 remained at the close of the year. The Philkhana establishment consisted of 1 Jemadar, 2 Naib Jemadars, 1 Weighman and 2 Gola-guards, 1 Clerk, Mahouts, Mates and Charakatas. The old Jemadar Noorbux who is now a pensioner was temporarily recalled for the Kheda operations. The cost of maintaining the Philkhana including the cost of Kheda operations was Rs. 59,584.

## STABLES.

320. The number of horses in the Stable increased to 73 during the year. Out of which 7 died and 7 were sold. The number remaining at the close of the year being 59. The cost of the Stable during the year under report was Rs. 36,784.

321. The unusual increase in the number of State horses was owing to the purchase of the horses belonging to the Government Mule Breeding Firm which was broken up, with the object of opening a regular Tonga Service, from Cooch Behar to Gitaldaha. The Stable was under the management of a European Coach-man on a salary of Rs. 150 during the latter portion of the year.

## POLITICAL.

322. Previous to the installation of His Highness the Deputy Commissioner of Cooch Behar used to grant certificates for licenses for importing arms and ammunition into Cooch Behar and in matters of extradition of offenders a system of reciprocity used to be followed with the surrounding Government Districts. Since the installation there has been no Political Agent for Cooch Behar for more than a year, and the first Political action of the Government of India in their letter No. 10479, dated 22nd March 1884 in which it was ordered that for Commissioner of the Rajshye Division in the absence of any Political Agent the Cooch Behar should ex-officio grant such certificates in future.

## FINANCIAL.

323. The actual accounts of 1884-85, as per abstract annexed to this report, shew that the revenue realized during the year exceeded the estimate by Rs. 43,651, whilst the amount budgetted for expenditure fell short of what was actually incurred on account of expenditure by Rs. 3,87,774. The deficit thus caused was more than covered by sale of a portion of Government stock in the Bank's custody, and, with the aid of certain miscellaneous receipts, the year ended with an available balance of Rs. 3,67,496.

224. Before entering in detail into the causes that have led to the expansion in the general revenue, as above, and the excess of expenditure over budget limit, it is important to notice certain facts in connection with the finances of the State, which shew to what extent our finances have been affected by extraordinary and unavoidable circumstances.