

Disposal of undelivered postal articles at office of Post Master General

38.(1) Every postal article received at the office of the Post Master General under sub-section (3) of section 37 shall be dealt with as follows:-

- (a) if practicable, it shall be redirected and forwarded by post to the addressee; or,
- (b) if it cannot be redirected and forwarded as aforesaid, it shall be opened by some officer, appointed by the Post Master General in this behalf and bound to secrecy, in order to ascertain the name and address of the sender.

(2) If the name and address of the sender are so ascertained, it shall be returned by post to the sender, free of further charge or subject to such further charge as the Government may, by rule, direct.

Final disposal of undelivered postal articles

39. Undelivered postal articles which cannot be disposed of under the foregoing provisions, shall be detained in the office of the Post Master General for such further period (if any), and shall be dealt with in such manner, as the Government may, by rule, direct:

Provided that—

- (a) letters and postcards shall be destroyed;
- (b) money or saleable property, not being of a perishable nature, found in any undelivered postal article, shall be detained for a period of one year in the office of the Post Master General, and, if on the expiration of that period no person has established his right thereto, shall, if money, be credited to the Post Office, and, if saleable property, be sold, the sale-proceeds being credited to the Post Office.

CHAPTER VIII

SHIP LETTERS

Duty of master of ship, departing from any port in Bangladesh, etc., and not being a mail ship, to convey mail bags

40. The master of a ship, not being a mail ship, about to depart from any port in Bangladesh to any port within, or any port or place beyond, Bangladesh shall receive on board any mail bag tendered to him by any officer of the Post Office for conveyance, granting a receipt therefor in such form as the Government may, by rule, prescribe, and shall, without delay, deliver the same at the port or place of destination.

41.(1) The master of a ship arriving at any port in Bangladesh shall, without delay, cause every postal article or mail bag on board which is directed to that port and is within the exclusive privilege conferred on the Government by section 4, to be delivered either at the post office at that port or to some officer of the Post Office authorized in this behalf by the Post Master General.

Duty of master of ship arriving at any port in Bangladesh in respect of postal articles and mail bags on board

(2) If there is on board any postal article or mail bag which is directed to any other place within Bangladesh and is within the exclusive privilege aforesaid, the master shall, without delay, report the fact to the officer in charge of the post office at the port of arrival and act according to the directions he may receive from such officer, and the receipt of such officer shall discharge him from all further responsibility in respect of the postal article or mail bag.

42. The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, declare what gratuities shall be allowed to masters of ships, not being mail ships, in respect of postal articles received by them for conveyance on behalf of the Post Office ; and the master of a ship, not being a mail ship, about to leave any port in Bangladesh as aforesaid shall, if he receives on board a mail bag for conveyance, be entitled to demand and obtain immediately the amount of the gratuity payable under this section in respect of the mail bag and its contents.

Allowance of gratuities for conveyance of postal articles by ships other than mail ships

CHAPTER IX

MONEY ORDERS

43.(1) The Government may provide for the remitting of small sums of money through the Post Office by means of money orders, and may make rules as to such money orders.

Power to maintain money order system and to make rules as to remittances thereby

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may prescribe,—

- (a) the limit of amount for which money orders may be issued;
- (b) the period during which money orders shall remain current; and
- (c) the rates of commission or the fees to be charged on money orders or in respect thereof.