

THE POST OFFICE ACT, 1898**CONTENTS****CHAPTER I**

PRELIMINARY

SECTIONS

1. Short title, extent, application and commencement.
2. Definitions
3. Meanings of “in course of transmission by post” and “delivery”.

CHAPTER II

PRIVILEGE AND PROTECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT

4. Exclusive privilege of conveying letters reserved to the Government.
5. Certain persons expressly forbidden to convey letters.
6. Exemption from liability for loss, misdelivery, delay or damage.

CHAPTER III

POSTAGE

7. Power of fix rates of inland postage.
8. Power to make rules as to payment of postage and fees in certain cases.
9. Power to make rules as to registered newspapers.
10. Power to declare rates of foreign postage.
11. Liability for payment of postage.
12. Recovery of postage and other sums due in respect of postal articles.
13. Customs duty paid by the Post Office to be recoverable as postage.

SECTIONS

14. Post Office marks *prima facie* evidence of certain facts denoted.
15. Official mark to be evidence of amount of postage.

CHAPTER IV

POSTAGE STAMPS

16. Provision of postage stamps and power to make rules as to them.
- 16A. Use of Franking Machine and Power to make rules as to it.
17. Postage stamps to be deemed to be stamps for the purpose of revenue.

CHAPTER V

CONDITIONS OF TRANSMISSION OF POSTAL ARTICLES

18. Re-delivery to sender or delivery to another addressee at the request of the sender of postal article in course of transmission by post.
19. Transmission by post of anything injurious prohibited.
20. Transmission by post of anything indecent, etc., prohibited.
21. Power to make rules as to transmission by post of postal articles.
22. Power to postpone dispatch or delivery of certain postal articles.
23. Power to deal with postal articles posted in contravention of Act.
24. Power to deal with postal articles containing goods contraband or liable to duty.
- 24A. Power to deliver such articles to Customs authority.

SECTIONS

25. Power to intercept notified goods during transmission by post.
26. Power to intercept postal articles for public good.
27. Power to deal with postal articles from abroad bearing fictitious or previously used stamps.
- 27A. Prohibition of transmission by post of certain newspapers.
- 27B. Power to detain newspapers and other articles being transmitted by post.
- 27C. Procedure for disposal by High Court Division of applications for release of newspapers and articles so detained.
- 27D. Jurisdiction barred

CHAPTER VI

REGISTRATION, INSURANCE AND VALUE-PAYABLE POST

28. Registration of postal articles.
29. Power to make rules as to registration.
30. Insurance of postal articles.
31. Power to require insurance of postal articles.
32. Power to make rules as to insurance.
33. Liability in respect of postal articles insured.
34. Transmission by post of value-payable postal articles.
35. Power to make rules as to value-payable postal articles.
36. Power to give effect to arrangements with other countries.

CHAPTER VII

UNDELIVERED POSTAL ARTICLES

SECTIONS

37. Power to make rules as to disposal of undelivered postal articles.
38. Disposal of undelivered postal articles as office of Postmaster General.
39. Final disposal of undelivered postal articles.

CHAPTER VIII

SHIP LETTERS

40. Duty of master of ship, departing from any port in Bangladesh, and not being a mail ship, to convey mail bags.
41. Duty of master of ship arriving at any port in Bangladesh, in respect of postal articles and mail bags on board.
42. Allowance of gratuities for conveyance of postal articles by ships other than mail ships.

CHAPTER IX

MONEY ORDERS

43. Power to maintain money order system and to make rules as to remittances thereby.
44. Power for remitter to recall money order or alter name of payee.
45. Power to provide for the issue of postal orders.
46. Power to give effect to arrangements with other countries.
47. Recovery of money order paid to the wrong person.
48. Exemption from liability in respect of money orders.

CHAPTER X

PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE

Offences by Officers of the Post Office

SECTIONS

49. Penalty for misconduct of person employed to carry or deliver mail bags or postal articles.
50. Penalty for voluntary withdrawal from duty, without permission or notice, of person employed to carry or deliver mail bags or postal articles.
51. Penalty for making false entry in register kept by person employed to carry or deliver postal articles.
52. Penalty for theft, dishonest misappropriation, secretion, destruction, or throwing away, of postal articles.
53. Penalty for opening, detaining or delaying postal articles.
54. Penalty for fraud in connection with official marks and for receipt of excess postage.
55. Penalty for fraudulently preparing, altering, secreting or destroying Post Office documents.
56. Penalty for fraudulently sending unpaid postal articles.
57. [Omitted]

Other Offences

58. Penalty for contravention of section 4.
59. Penalty for contravention of section 5.
60. Penalty for breach of rules under section 16.
61. Penalty for contravention of section 19 or 20.
62. Penalty for defiling or injuring post office letter-boxes.
63. Penalty for affixing without authority thing to, or painting, tarring or disfiguring, post office or post office letter-box.

SECTIONS

64. Penalty for making false declaration.
65. Penalty for master of ship failing to comply with the provisions of section 40 or 41.
66. Penalty for detention of letters on board vessel arriving in port.
67. Penalty for detaining mails or opening mail bag.
68. Penalty for retaining postal articles wrongly delivered or mail bags.
69. Penalty for unlawfully diverting letters.

General

70. Penalty for abetting, or attempting to commit, offences under Act.
71. Property in cases of offences to be laid in the Post Office.
72. Authority for prosecutions under certain sections of Act.

CHAPTER XI

SUPPLEMENTAL

73. [Omitted]
74. General power to make rules and provisions as to rules under Act.
75. Delegation of powers, other than rule-making powers, to Director General.
76. [Repealed]
77. [Omitted]

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.—INLAND POSTAGE RATES.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE.—[Repealed]