

ORIGINAL PAGE

SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT

OF THE

WESTERN DUARS,

IN THE

DISTRICT OF JALPAIGURI

1889 - 1895

D.H.E. SUNDER



CALCUTTA:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1895.

48a. The Government forests are separated into two divisions which are made up as follows :-

49. The following statement shows the result of the working of the reserved forests during each of the last twelve years :-

JALPAIGURI DIVISION				BUXA DIVISION			
Year	Revenue	Expenditure	Net receipt	Year	Revenue	Expenditure	Net receipt
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				
1882-83	11,805	17,057	...	1882-83			
1883-84	8,077	14,660	...	1883-84			
1884-85	8,993	16,550	...	1884-85			
1885-86	7,835	20,589	...	1885-86			
1886-87	12,421	20,483	...	1886-87			
1887-88	12,060	14,293	...	1887-88			
1888-89	14,328	12,262	2,066	1888-89			
1889-90	24,636	15,666	8,969	1889-90			
1890-91	31,998	15,967	16,031	1890-91			
1891-92	23,697	25,656	...	1891-92			
1892-93	29,189	29,618	...	1892-93			
1893-94	40,185	25,705	14,480	1893-94			

50. *The above figures speak for themselves.* They show that year after year Government is losing money in the upkeep of these forests. I have no desire to impute blame to anybody for this; but I do wish to observe that if the rates for timber and other forest produce were reduced, and if more facility was afforded to the public for obtaining timber without trouble and delay, managers of tea gardens and others would not be compelled, as they are at pressure to supply their requirements of wood for tea boxes by procuring it from Japan and Burma, or of fuel, by burning Runigunge coal. What is wanted for removal of some of the difficulties which planters and the public generally suffer from at present are (1) opening of good cart roads leading into every forest; (2) speedy measurement of timber when purchased, instead of the present delay and obstruction caused by Forest Rangers; (3) prevention of present unnecessary harassment and intimidation of people who reside in the vicinity of forests by Rangers, Foresters and Forest guards; and (4) greater supervision by gazetted officers in charge of forest divisions, and closer touch with planters and the people generally.

SECTION VI - WILD ANIMALS

51. *Mammals* - The following is a list of the larger mammals found in the

English Name	Native name	Scientific name	Remarks
1	2	3	4
The Bengal monkey	Bandor	Macacus rhesus	Found in the Buxa forests and Buxa hills
The common Indian sloth-bear	Bhaluk or Bhaloo	Ursus labiatus	Found in the waste-lands of Alipur and Bhalka tahsils, and in the forests east of the Jaldacca river
The Himalayan black bear	Bhaloo	Do. Tibetanus .	Ditto
The hog-badger	Khud-Khudi Bhaluk	Arctonyx collaris	Seen in the waste-lands of Alipur tahsil. Is eaten by Meches and Garos
The otter	Udh	Lutra nair	Found all along the small hill streams. They are captured in nets. Skins are collected and sold at Jalpesh mela.
The tiger	Go-bagha	Felis tigris	Used to be very common throughout the district. Are becoming scarce owing to increase of cultivation. The flesh is eaten by Sonthals. The largest tiger hitherto shot in the district measured 10'2".
The leopard	Nokra bagh.	Felis pardus	Found throughout the district.
The clouded leopard	Felis nebulosa	Found only in the Buxa hills, but very rare.
The leopard cat	Hapa	Felis bengalensis	Common in the district
The jungle cat	Bhar-beli	Felis chaus	Ditto
The civet cat	Goindari	Viverra zibetha	Ditto
The lesser civet cat	Dalgoinda	Viverra Malaccensis	Ditto
The jackal	Sial	Canis Aureus	Ditto
The wild dog	Kuhak	Canis (cuon) Rutilans	Seen in the forests.
The Indian fox	Khak-siali	Vulpes Bengalensis	Common throughout the district
The porpoise	Sissu	Platanista Gangetica	Found only in the Tista river.
Crocodile	Gharial	Found in the Mujnai river.
The black squirrel	Pankiraj	Sciurus Giganteus	Found only in the forests east of Buxa. Is getting rare.
The orange-bellied grey squirrel	Ditto	Sciurus Lokriah	Ditto
The common Indian squirrel	Dhorea	Sciurus Palmaram	Common in the district.
The Indian porcupine	Cheda	Hystrix	Ditto. Is eaten by Meches, Garos, and Rajbansis.
The hispid hare	Khagra-kata indoor	Lepus hispidus	Found in the district, but rare.
The hare	Shesha	Lepus Ruficaudatus	Common in the district.
The elephant	Hati or Bonua hati	Elephas Indicus	Found throughout the forests.

English Name	Native name	Scientific name	Remarks
1	2	3	4
Rhinoceros	Hati gera	Rhinoceros Indicus	Found in the forests ; also in swampy khas lands. Are becoming scarce. Meches, Garos, and Rajbansis eat the flesh.
Ditto	Kuku gera	Rhinoceros Sondaicus	Body rough and tuberculated. It has a very bad temper.
Ditto	Sheng Shengi gera	Rhinoceros Malayan	Is small and ill-tempered. Shot in Dalgao forests, but very rare.
The wild pig	Jungly soor or Bonnuia soor	Sus Indicus	Common throughout the district. The flesh is eaten by Rajbansis, Meches and Garos.
The pigmy hog	Thaguri soor	Porcula salvania	Found in the forests and waste lands bordering on them in the Alipur and Bhalka tahsils.
The Indian antelope	Talesar harin	Antelope bezoartica	A few may be seen in the waste lands of Falakata, Alipur and Bhalka tahsils.
The bison	Ban-goru	Gavaeus gaurus	Found in the reserved forests.
Ditto	Mithun	Gavaeus frontalis	Found along the foot of the hills between Toorsa and Rydak rivers.
The wild buffalo	Jungli bhais	Bubalus arni	Seen in the forests of the Bhalka and Alipur tahsils. Are now getting rare.
The sambhar	Ghous	Rusa aristotelis	Found in the forests and khas lands east of the Toorsa river.
The spotted deer	Chital or Boro khatiya	Axis maculatus	Seen in the forests north of Bhalka and Alipur tahsils.
The hog deer	Khatia	Axis porcinus	Common in the district.
The swamp deer	Bara singha	Rucervus Duvaucellii	Ditto
The barking deer	Sokra	Cervulus aureus	Common in the reserved forests.

Duars :-

English Name	Native name	Scientific name	Remarks
1	2	3	4
The Indian pea-fowl	Maur	Pavo cristatus	Common in the district, especially in the jungle lands east of the Jaldacca and Toorsa.
The Kallige pheasant	Kallige	Gallophasis albocristatus.	Common in the forest north of Mcenglas and also in the Buxa hills.
The Moonal do	Bhap	Lophophorus Impeyanus.	Found between Buxa and Schinchula, but rare