

Educational (1900) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 215

DATED 22.4.07

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Requesting the S. P. I to report
whether in view of the backward
condition of the Drigas, they may
be permitted to pay half fees
in professional Colleges.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Educational (190 /) Department.

CURRENT No. 524

From

[Name] _____

[Designation] *The Legislative Dept*

[Station] _____

No. *12*

Dated *6. 4.* 190 /.

Enclosures _____

Received *10. 4.* 190 /.

Registered *10. 4.* 190 /.

SUBJECT.

*Coming to the departments of the Secretariat Concerned
for information & guidance legislative questions &
matters.*

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

$$\left[\frac{E.}{\lambda.} \right]$$

50-10-2-91

0-2-01.]

CURRENT NO. 524

GOVERNMENT OF
MADRAS



Legislative DEPARTMENT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT
NOTICES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY

THE 2ND DAY OF APRIL 1901, AT NOON.

READ the following paper:—

Questions and answers at the meeting of the Council

held on the 2nd April 1901.

Mr. G. S. Forbes

Mr. J. T. O R D E R No. 12 dated 6th April 1901.

M.R.B. 1

Rebinder:

Communicated to the departments of the Secretariat

Mr. E. J. SPRING, CHIEF

concerned.

The 2. The attention of the Educational department will be

drawn to the answers given to question XXIX. Presidency is

(True Extract)

The Hon. Mr. R. B. Pattinson, P. O. Box 100, Assistant Secretary.

The Local and Municipal Department.

Revenue Department.

Political Department

Judicial Department.

,, Educational Department.

Public Department.

Public Works (Irrigation Branch)

Marine Department.

KKM
9M



CURRENT NO.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT

Read the following paper:—

GOVERNMENT OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

NOTICES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY,
THE 2ND DAY OF APRIL 1901, AT NOON.

(1) *Additional Members.*

The following gentlemen will take their seats as additional members of
Council:—

The Hon'ble	Mr. G. STOKES.
" "	Mr. G. S. FORBES.
" "	Lieut.-Colonel Sir GEORGE MOORE, <i>Kt.</i> , C.I.E.
" "	Mr. J. THOMSON.
" "	M.R.Ry. P. RAJARATNA MUDALIYAR Avargal, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur.
" "	Mr. H. BRADLEY.
" "	Mr. W. HUGHES.
" "	Mr. F. J. E. SPRING, C.I.E.

(2) *Questions.*

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

I. With reference to the complaint made to His Excellency during his recent visit to Salem by the Sowrashtta Patriot Press, I beg to ask whether it is a fact that the printing work of the Taluk and District Boards in the Presidency is being executed at the city of Madras at selected presses under the supervision of the Accountant-General?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—

I. Yes, so far as regards the printing of the forms of accounts, vouchers, &c.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

II. (a) Whether it is a fact that minors of the Court of Wards undergoing training in Newington in Madras are not permitted to be visited by their friends and relatives without an authority obtained from a member of the Board of Revenue or the Collector?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the minor zamindar of Sholinghur, sent to Newington for education and training, has been sent to a Native regiment at Bellary on Rs. 40 per mensem as a Jemadar without the knowledge of his mother?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes:—

II. (a) The Government has no information on the point. It is within the discretion of the Court of Wards to make such a rule, if it sees occasion to do so.

- (b) There is no minor zamindar of Sholinghur. The Honourable Member, no doubt, refers to the minor zamindar of Shulagiri, who is under the Court of Wards. This minor, who is about nineteen years of age, having expressed a strong desire to embrace a military career, has been permitted by the Court, with the knowledge but not with the approval of his mother, to apply for a commission in His Majesty's Indian Army.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

III. Whether it is a fact that the Government of India contemplate restricting for some time to come all fresh appointments of Deputy Collectors in view to making room for covenanted Civilian Assistants expected to come in large numbers?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

III. The Government has no information in the matter.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

IV. Is Government in a position to furnish any information regarding the establishment of agricultural banks, and will it be pleased to furnish the same if available?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

IV. The subject is under discussion and consideration. G.O., No. 129, dated 19th February 1901, which contains information as to the latest stage of the discussion has been published and will be laid on the table.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

V. (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the correspondence which appeared in the *Madras Times*, dated the 11th October 1900, under the heading of Travancore Backwater?

(b) Is there any truth in the statement that a Cutch merchant and a Muhammadan were murdered by the boatmen during the night journey in the backwater between Travancore and Cochin for the sake of booty?

(c) Is it a fact that there has been a great risk to life and property in the backwater, and, if so, whether any and what steps have been taken in the matter?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

V. The Government has received no information on the subject of the Honourable Member's questions. The internal administration of Travancore rests with the Maharaja of that State, and the Government does not purpose making any enquiries.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

VI. Will Government be pleased to state if it has received any despatch from the Government of India regarding the separation of the executive from judicial functions, and what is proposed to be done?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

VI. Yes; the matter is under consideration.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

VII. (a) Whether it is a fact that the fee payable by each student in the Madras Law College has been raised to Rs. 150 per annum, and that in consequence students are resorting to the Law College in Trivandrum?

(b) Is it a fact that the scale of fees in force in the Madras Law College is three times the Bombay scale?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

VII. (a) The fees payable by the students reading for the degree of B.L. for the last three terms of their course have been raised from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 per annum. There has been no increase of fees payable by students studying in any other class. Government has no information as to the attendance at the Law College in Trivandrum.

(b) Government has no information on the subject.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

VIII. (a) Will Government be pleased to furnish particulars in regard to the occurrence of the accident by fire in a temple at Chidambaram on the 20th May 1900, and state the total number of lives lost, and of the persons seriously injured on the occasion?

(b) Whether the leaf pandals erected in the temple on the occasion of the feast had been previously inspected by anybody and whether sufficient means of egress had been provided?

(c) Whether the examining authorities had been satisfied that all precautions to ensure public safety had been taken in the erection of the pandals, and whether the usual license had been issued by them?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

VIII. A copy of the District Magistrate's report on the accident, which contains the information required, will be furnished to the Honourable Member.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

IX. With reference to my questions Nos. XII, VII and XXXVIII asked at the Council meetings of 7th April, 6th June and 14th November 1899, respectively, and the replies thereto, will Government be pleased to state whether the opportunity afforded by the retirement of Lieutenant-Colonel W. Leapingwell, I.M.S., and the consequent vacancy in the district charge of Kistna will be availed of to provide one of the Senior Civil Assistant Surgeons with a Civil Surgeony?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

IX. The vacancies caused by Lieutenant-Colonel Leapingwell's retirement have already been filled up.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

X. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Municipal Council of Salem has, in submitting its budget estimates for 1901-1902, expressed its inability to make a grant-in-aid of Rs. 450 to the local London Mission school?

(b) Has Government, nevertheless, passed orders directing the Municipal Council to pay the grant?

(c) Is it a fact that the Council's finance is not in a flourishing condition?

(d) Is it a fact that the Collector has declined to recommend to Government the Council's proposals sanctioning certain increments to the salaries of the staff of the Municipal College, while admitting that the staff deserves encouragement?

(e) Has Government, accordingly, disallowed all the increments proposed by the Municipal Council to the staff of the Municipal College?

(f) Had any grant been paid to the local London Mission school by the Municipal Council until 1895 or 1896, and, if not, whether the Council's action had the approval then of the late Director of Public Instruction and the Government?

(g) Whether there has been any and what change of circumstances since 1895 or 1896 to necessitate the orders now passed by Government directing the payment of the grant to the abovenamed institution?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

- X. (a) The Honourable Member is referred to paragraph 3 (2) of the Chairman's letter in G.O., No. 349 M., dated 2nd March 1901, in which will be found the Municipal Council's reasons for not making a grant-in-aid to the London Mission school. The Government Order has been placed on the Editors' Table.
- (b), (c), (d) and (e) The answers to these parts of the question are in the affirmative.
- (f) The answer to the former part of this question is that no grant was made up to 1895. The answer to the latter part is the approval either of the Director or of Government was not required for the Council's action.
- (g) In June 1895, the Municipal Council resolved on the payment from 1st January 1895 of salary grants to the London Mission school and Rs. 488 were accordingly paid in the year 1895-96, Rs. 444 in 1896-97 and Rs. 432 in 1897-98. In its budget estimates for 1898-99 and the three succeeding years, however, the Municipal Council omitted the provision for this grant and the reasons for directing its payment will be found in the letters of the Director of Public Instruction, printed in G.Os., No. 405 M., dated 18th February 1898, No. 396 M., dated 18th March 1899, No. 385 M., dated 17th March 1900, and No. 349 M., dated 2nd March 1901, which have been placed on the Editors' Table.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XI. (a) Which of the listed appointments declared open to the Provincial Civil Service are still held by the Members of the Indian Civil Service, and when will those appointments be handed over to the Provincial Service?

(b) Have the claims of all Indian Civilians in this Presidency down to and including Mr. M. D. Bell to a permanent Collectorate or Judgeship been already satisfied? If so, will Government be pleased to hand over to the Provincial Civil Service such of the listed appointments as are now held by the Members of the Indian Civil Service?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XI. No listed appointments declared open to the Provincial Civil Service are now held by members of the Indian Civil Service.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XII. Is it a fact that the following appointments, though not reserved to the Indian Civil Service, are now held by the members of that service?—

- 1 Deputy Commissioner, Salt, Abkari and Customs Department.
- 1 Assistant Secretary to Government.
- 1 Deputy Registrar, High Court.

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XII. The first and second appointments are not now filled by members of the Indian Civil Service; the third is so filled.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XIII. Will Government be pleased to state the number of native Inspectors of Salt, Abkari and Customs revenue of the first and second grade? Have they been superseded by junior European Inspectors in filling up the Assistant Commissioner's appointments? If so, on what grounds?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XIII. There is only one native Inspector in these grades at present. He was superseded on the ground that he was not considered equal to the charge of a sub-division.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XIV. Did the Board of Revenue propose in 1883 to raise the pay of the Collector's English Head Accountant from Rs. 85 to Rs. 100, in view to improve the administration of District treasuries? Was the said proposal incorporated in Mr. Garstin's scheme and approved by Government in its Proceedings, dated 18th March 1884, No. 396, paragraph 12? Will Government be pleased to state when it will give effect to the said proposal?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XIV. The Honourable Member's information is virtually correct. The proposal formed part of a scheme for strengthening the Collectors' office establishments, which scheme has had to give way to more urgent demands on the resources of Government. The Government is not in a position to answer the last of the three questions.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XV. (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the description of the Ryotwari tenure given (1) in the Administration report of this Presidency for 1855-56, (2) in a Return made to the House of Commons by the Home Government in 1857, (3) and in a Review of this Government on the Report of 1857 of the Hon'ble Mr. Ricketts?

(b) Is the said description correct? If so, will Government be pleased to direct the modification of Board's Standing Order No. 1, paragraph 4, so as to bring it into conformity with the said description? If not, in what respects is it incorrect and when did Government discover it?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XV. The Government is familiar with the three descriptions to which the Honourable Member refers. Each if properly interpreted is correct as far as it goes, but neither of the three professes to be a scientific and exhaustive definition. Paragraph 4 of Board's Standing Order No. 1 is not out of harmony with anything in the descriptions quoted.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XVI. (a) With reference to the opinion endorsed by the Madras Agricultural Committee of 1888-89 that a re-valuation of soils at each recurring revision would be fatal to improvement and the remarks of Government noted in the margin, will Government be pleased to state whether the said intention has been carried out in the settlements made subsequent to 1889? If not, why not?

(b) Has the attention of Government been called to a provision contained in the Bombay Land Revenue Code (section 106, Act V of 1879) that "when a general classification of the soil of any area has been made a second time, or when any original classification of any area has been approved by the Governor in Council as final, no such classification shall be again made with a view to the revision of the assessment of such area? Will Government be pleased to undertake legislation on similar lines for this Presidency?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XVI. (a) No: because the Secretary of State and the Government of India directed that the classification or valuation of soils was not to be necessarily regarded as final.

(b) The Government is aware of the provision quoted. The Government has no intention of moving the legislature to enact a similar provision in Madras.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XVII. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table—

- (i) G.O., No. 162, Revenue, dated 18th March 1898;
- (ii) G.O., No. 396, Revenue, dated 26th June 1899;
- (iii) Board's Proceedings, No. 135 (Revenue Settlement), dated 25th May 1899; and
- (iv) a copy of the rules now in force in this Presidency regarding the redemption of land revenue?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XVII. (i), (ii), (iii). G.O., No. 396, Revenue, dated 26th June 1899, will be laid on the table, but not the other two papers quoted.

- (iv) The only rule in this Presidency regarding the redemption of land revenue is that no redemption shall be permitted in perpetuity without the previous sanction of the Government of India.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XVIII. What is the extent of arable land now lying waste in this Presidency? What is the average assessment per acre of such land? Whether Government has any, if so, what measures under contemplation for bringing the said land under cultivation?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XVIII. Statistics regarding culturable waste including fallows will be found in the compilation of Agricultural Statistics of British India, copies of which are on sale with Messrs. Higginbotham & Co., Madras. Information regarding the average assessment on the total extent of assessed waste is not available and cannot be easily compiled. The Government has no special measures under contemplation for bringing culturable waste under cultivation. As the Honourable Member is aware, the ryots or pattadars of a village have the privilege under the *darkhast* rules of extending their holdings by the addition of such portions of the "assessed waste" as they may apply for on the condition of paying the assessment. If no pattadars apply for such land, the first applicant among strangers is accorded the same privileges.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XIX. (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a communication that appeared in the *Hindu* of the 26th February 1901 under the heading "The Outlook in North Arcot District" and to the hardships said to have been caused by the remission rules as at present worked? How long has the order that every application for remission should bear a court-fee stamp of one anna been in force?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the papers relating to the rules that no remission should be granted?—

- (1) in the case of portions of fields;
- (2) in the case of mamool waste; and
- (3) in cases in which the yield is more than one-sixteenth of an ordinary crop.

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XIX. (a) The Government has read the article referred to. It was ruled in 1870 that applications for remission should bear a court-fee stamp of one anna under the Court Fees Act.

- (b) The rules will be found in the Board's Standing Order. The Government cannot engage to supply the Honourable Member with all the papers in which the discussions regarding the rules have been from time to time raised.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XX. Will Government be pleased to order the publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and in the District Gazettes of a copy of the letter of His Excellency the Governor-General giving his assent to the Madras Irrigation Cess Act, 1900, and to instruct Collectors of districts to draw the attention of the taluk and village officers to the condition that no charge should be made for percolation, except in cases in which the supply of water is full and constant?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XX. This Government has no authority to publish the Governor-General's letter with regard to the Act referred to.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XXI. (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the Resolutions of the Government of India, Public Works Department, No. 264 I., dated 28th March 1899, and No. 247 C. W. I., dated 21st March 1899, published in the *Gazette of India*, dated 1st April 1899, from which it would appear that the average rate levied in the Punjab for the use of water for irrigation, including owners' rate and indirect revenue, was, according to the figures for 1897-98, Rs. 3 per acre, or one-ninth of the value of the crop; and that the average rate levied in Bengal was Rs. 1.88 per acre or one-twelfth of the value of the crop?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what the average rate levied in this Presidency is and what proportion of the value of the crop the said rate represents?

(c) Will Government be pleased to take steps to insert the said information in the future annual reports on the irrigation works in this Presidency?

The Hon'ble Mr. Hughes :—

XXI. (a) Yes; the word one-twelfth in the last line of this part of the question is apparently a misprint for one-twentieth.

- (b) and (c) The Honourable Member is referred to the administration reports of the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, which give such information as is available.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XXII. (a) With reference to the answer to question No. XXVII at the meeting of this Council on the 6th June 1899, will Government be pleased to state the effect of the outlay on "improvements to the Colair lake" in 1896-97 and 1897-98, and the measures since adopted towards completing the said project?

(b) Is it a fact that only Rs. 22,000 have yet been spent on the said improvements out of the amount of Rs. 75,000 sanctioned in G.O., No. 468, dated 1st June 1896? Whether the said expenditure has resulted in bringing about twenty thousand acres under cultivation, yielding a direct revenue of about a lakh of rupees, and whether there is a fair prospect of bringing nearly sixty thousand acres under cultivation, if the full amount sanctioned be spent?

(c) In view of the very great importance of the project as affecting the well-being and prosperity of the tract around the lake, independent of its profitable character, will Government be pleased to make due provision for its early completion?

The Hon'ble Mr. Hughes :—

XXII. (a) As to the effect of the outlay on improvements to the Colair lake in 1896-97 and 1897-98, the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, reported in August 1899 that the openings formed to give free access to the main outlet of the Colair lake worked well and a strong flow of water was constantly passed through this outlet (the Perantala Kanama) which was scouring slightly. The head of the opening through the weeds still, however, required clearing to make a good communication with the open water and the channel itself for about a mile below the site of the old weir wanted widening. Estimates for these works were stated to be under preparation.

It is rather with a view to protecting existing marginal wet lands from damage by submergence and thereby reducing remissions that the works carried out and proposed were designed and it is not believed that any considerable extent of land will be reclaimed by improvements on the scale proposed.

(b) and (c) G.O., No. 468 I., dated 1st June 1896, did not sanction an outlay of Rs. 75,000 on the improvements to the lake. There is no information available as to the increase of cultivation or revenue resulting from the outlay already incurred. Much of the land is very unfavourably situated for irrigation. All that can be done is to clear silt in the channels and make the best possible use of the water. This is being attended to.

But the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, computed that Rs. 15,000 a year for five years might be wanted.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XXIII. (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the collective petition submitted by the ryots and cultivators of Srirangapuram and fourteen other villages in the Bapatla and Terali taluks in the Kistna district in October 1900, complaining that the alteration recently made in the "duty" of water has interfered with the efficient irrigation of their lands under the Srirangapuram branch of the Commamur canal? If so, whether any and what orders have been passed on the said petition?

(b) Is it a fact that the "duty" of water is now worked at 90 acres per cubic foot per second, instead of 60 acres as formerly? Will Government be pleased to lay before the Council the papers relating to this change?

(c) Whether this duty is to be enforced uniformly, or whether it is to be varied with reference to any considerations, such as the state of the season, the kind of crop and the physical characteristics of the soil? If variable, whether any and what weight was given in determining the "duty" to the character of the soils irrigated by the Srirangapuram channel? Is it true, as stated in the petition, that the lands under the said channel have had a short supply of water from the beginning of the year (1900), in spite of the enormous floods in the river and that "many a land could not be transplanted in time and that the lands transplanted and seed-beds withered"?

The Hon'ble Mr. Hughes :—

XXIII. (a) Yes. The matter was enquired into and the petitioners were informed in November 1900 that steps had been taken to obviate complaints of short supply of water in future.

(b) Prior to 1899 no specified duty was exacted from any of the channels of the Kistna Delta. In that year an experiment for increasing the duty was started. It appears to have been successfully conducted under the Srirangapuram channel. Last year when the freshes were very late and the rainfall deficient a similar experiment appears to have resulted in complaints of short supply of water. In such a case there will always be complaints, as all the ryots try to complete their cultivation in a shorter time than usual. Steps have however, as already stated, been taken to obviate complaints of short supply in future.

A copy of Circular Memorandum No. 32-G., dated 28th July 1894, circulating a note on certain experiments carried out by Mr. Chatterton, Professor of Engineering, College of Engineering, Madras, on the duty of water in the Kistna delta will be sent to the Honourable Member, if desired, for perusal and return.

(c) A special officer is now employed in ascertaining the extent of land irrigable in each village under each channel in the Kistna district. Pending the completion of his investigations nothing can be definitely settled about the duty of water in the delta under varying conditions of soil, crop or season.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XXIV. With reference to G.O., No. 436, Revenue, dated 7th July 1899, paragraph 13, is it the intention of Government that the extra charge of one rupee per acre should be levied only in cases in which it will operate as an inducement to ryots to accept the consolidated wet rate? If so, will Government be pleased to issue instructions to the District officers not to levy such rate in cases where Government is not in a position to impose a consolidated rate?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XXIV. The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. This being so, the second part of the question requires no reply.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XXV. What is the extent of land placed under the special dry rate of Rs. 7 in the Gódávri delta? What is the increase obtained by the introduction of this rate? What portion of the extent is under cocoanut gardens and what portion under ordinary crop?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XXV. If the Honourable Member will refer to the Board's Proceedings from which he quotes he will find most of the information for which he asks.

The extent is mentioned in paragraph 23. The increase is mentioned by the Collector in the paragraph from which the Honourable Member quotes.

Information as to the extent under cocoanut gardens is not available.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XXVI. (a) With reference to the remarks made by the Board of Revenue in paragraphs 12 to 16 of its Proceedings, No. 488, dated 8th July 1897 (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), will Government be pleased to state (1) whether there was an error in converting the local measure called "Kuncham" into imperial seers; (2) whether, by reason of that error, the prices entered in the price lists on which the Board's scheme was based were above the correct prices by 10 per cent.; (3) and whether Government accepts as sufficient the grounds urged by the Board in paragraph 16 for refusing to make any deduction for the said error in calculating the commutation rate?

(b) Is it a fact that due allowance was made for errors of a similar nature in connection with South Arcot settlement and Kistna resettlement?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XXVI. (a) (1) The Government found no such error to have been established: and was further of opinion that had such an error been established it would not have warranted a lower commutation rate than that estimated for the purposes of the resettlement of Gódávri. This being so clauses (2) and (3) of the question require no further answer.

(b) Certain errors were allowed for in estimating commutation rates in connection with the South Arcot settlement and the resettlement in Kistna (Gudiváda taluk).

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu :—

XXVII. (a) Whether, in the introduction of the resettlement in the Gódávri delta, any lands have been transferred to higher classes and any villages to higher groups than those in which they were placed by the late Mr. Clerk, by whom the original scheme was submitted? If so, what is the extent of such land, what are the reasons for such transfer, and what is the increase of revenue obtained thereby?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a detailed statement showing the financial results of the scheme introduced in connection with the resettlement of the ryotwari lands (1) in the Gódvári delta, (2) in the upland taluks and (3) in the portion of the Kistna district brought under resettlement? What is the increase over the assessment (1) with a 4-rupee water-rate and (2) with a 5-rupee water-rate introduced in 1895? What is the increase due to the enhancement of water-rate from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 in the case of inam and zamin lands in the said deltas?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes:—

XXVII. (a) In the course of hearing objection petitions the Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Settlement has authority and may often have occasion to correct errors in classification and grouping.

The Government has before it no information as to the extent to which this authority has been used. If in any case it has been wrongly used, the persons concerned have the usual right of appeal.

(b) The final report on the introduction of resettlement into the Gódvári district has not yet been made; and the information desired by the Honourable Member is, therefore, not at present available.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu:—

XXVIII. (a) Is the kudivaram rate paid to the licensees who manufacture salt and deliver it into store at the Chinna Ganjam factory only Rs. 10-12-0 per garce? Did those licensees submit any petitions to the officers of the Salt Department in 1896 and 1897 complaining of the inadequacy of the said rate, if so, with what result?

(b) Whether the said licensees were informed by the Assistant Inspector, Kanuparti Circle, in his memorandum No. 1744, dated 6th October 1897, that they would be paid the same rates as the licensees delivering salt at the Kanuparti factory, and the rate since paid to them has been 8 annas less than the Kanuparti factory rate?

(c) What are the kudivaram rates paid by Government in the different factories and by what considerations are they regulated? Will Government be pleased to revise them, in view of the rise in wages and the high prices of food-grains, and to order the payment, pending such revision, to the Chinna Ganjam licensees of such rates as Government may deem equitable?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes:—

XXVIII. (a) The answer is in the affirmative. The rate of kudivaram is Rs. 10-12-0 a garce. The licensees submitted a petition in June 1897 asking that the then existing rate of Rs. 10 might be raised. The Government sanctioned an increase of As. 12 per garce.

(b) The Government is not aware of the communication referred to. The rate of kudivaram paid at Chinna Ganjam is eight annas less than the rate at Kanuparti.

(c) A statement showing the rates of kudivaram paid in the Government factories in 1900 will be given to the Honourable Member. The rates are fixed on a consideration of the circumstances of each locality. The rates are subject to revision from time to time. The Government sees no reason to make any immediate change.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu:—

XXIX. Will Government be pleased to extend to the Uriyas, in view of their backward condition, the concession granted to the Muhammadans in regard to the rate of fees levied from them in the Law, Medical and Engineering Colleges?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—

XXIX. The Government will take the matter into consideration.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. G. VENKATARATNAM PANTULU Garu:—

XXX. In view of the recent changes introduced in the curriculum of the lower secondary examination, whether any, if so, what instructions have been issued to make corresponding changes in the rules and conditions under which the lower secondary scholarships are awarded?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—

XXX. No changes have been introduced in the curriculum of the lower secondary examination.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal:—

XXXI. Will the Government be pleased to state what is the state of the famine in this Presidency? In which districts are there test relief works and how many people are obtaining relief there at present?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes:—

XXXI. The latest summary of information regarding the state of the season will be found in the weekly telegrams to the Government of India which are published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

State relief is being administered at present in the district of Cuddapah only, where some 3,000 weavers are being given employment at their craft; and where a tank work has been started at Chintagunta on the intermediate system in order to test the need for further relief measures. This test work was attended by 851 persons during the week ending 23rd March.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal:—

XXXII. (a) Is it a fact that the Collector of Madras, in view the more readily to obtain information in regard to the levying of the income-tax, has issued a circular notice or order calling upon the merchants from the other provinces of India carrying on business in Madras, to keep their accounts in English or Tamil or Telugu?

(b) Is such a notice or order legal and proper?

(c) Has the Government received any representation complaining of the hardship of such a notice or order?

(d) In view that compliance with such a notice or order would entail on the merchants the additional expense of engaging clerks for the purpose and that keeping accounts in a language which the merchants do not understand might make them victims of fraud, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of directing the recall of such notice or order?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes:—

XXXII. The Government has no information on the subject, and it has received no representations complaining of any hardship of the kind indicated.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal:—

XXXIII. Will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of causing special investigations to be made into the prospects of the indigo and sugar-cane industries of Southern India on lines similar to those that have been recently adopted in Behar?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes:—

XXXIII. This Government has no official information as to the objects or the results of the enquiries made by the Behar Commission.

With regard to sugarcane, enquiries have been proceeding in this Presidency during the last three years as to the extent to which the crop is affected by malignant rusts, and what remedies are feasible. The enquiries made in this direction are described in the papers included in G.Os., No. 127, Revenue, dated 3rd March 1898, No. 173, Revenue, dated 1st March 1900, No. 395, Revenue, dated 27th April 1900, and No. 1081, Revenue, dated 25th October 1900, which have been placed on the editors' table and are available to the public. The Government has also approved a proposal that the Agricultural department should undertake the cultivation of the cane in small plots for the purpose of experiment and demonstration. Analyses of the juice of the chief varieties of cane grown in different localities in the Presidency are at present being conducted by an expert chemist.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXXIV. (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the article in the *Madras Times* of the 18th March 1901 headed "Drilled Wells"?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it will consider the desirability of its making investigations on lines suggested in the article?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to direct the preparation of a detailed report of the artesian well-sinking experiments made in this Presidency and lay it on the table?

The Hon'ble Mr. Hughes :—

XXXIV. (a) The attention of Government has not been drawn to the article referred to.

(b) No useful purpose would be served by ordering an investigation of the kind asked for.

(c) The results of the experiments made have been printed and placed at the disposal of the public press. The Honourable Member, and any one interested, can obtain copies of the orders passed.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXXV. In view of the desirability of constructing at least one good harbour in the West Coast of this Presidency, will the Government be pleased to have surveys made of the chief ports there for the purpose of selecting the best site available there, and making an estimate of the cost of establishing one such harbour?

The Hon'ble Mr. Hughes :—

XXXV. The question of selecting the best site available for a harbour on the West Coast and thereafter of estimating the cost of rendering it capable of receiving and sheltering vessels for trade purposes is now engaging the attention of the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXXVI. Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is its intention to publish official reports of the tours of His Excellency Lord Ampthill as was done in regard to the tours of some of his predecessors?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XXXVI. It is not the case that Government has ever published official reports of the tours of Governors and there is no intention of doing so now. Very full accounts of the tours of His Excellency Lord Ampthill were published in the newspapers from day to day.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXXVII. (a) Is it a fact that Mr. R. F. Austin, I.C.S., Head Assistant Collector of Malabar, assaulted certain worshippers in a Hindu temple on account of the noise made by the beating of tom-tom?

(b) What were the exact circumstances of the incident?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to state what notice it has taken of the conduct of Mr. Austin in this connection?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XXXVII. The Government is not in possession of any official information regarding the incident alluded to by the Honourable Member.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXXVIII. Will the Government be pleased to state whether it has received representations from the people of Malabar in reference to the resettlement of the district that is going on and will it place them and the orders passed thereon on the table including all official reports?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XXXVIII. It is the settlement of the district, not a resettlement, that is now in progress. Petitions with reference to the settlement have been received. These were fully considered before final orders on the settlement were issued. They will be found printed with G.Os., Nos. 883, Revenue, dated 29th August 1900, and 167, Revenue, dated 22nd January 1898, which have been published. With the first order are also printed all the official reports on the subject which the Government has made available to the public. A copy of these orders will be supplied to the Honourable Member. A petition from the janmis and others has been received since the issue of orders on the scheme of settlement; it in the main reiterates the arguments of the former petitions and the orders passed on it will be made available to the public when issued.

(3) Acts assented to by His Excellency the Governor.

The Secretary will announce the assent of His Excellency the Governor to the following Acts which were passed by the Council at the meetings held on the 31st March and 3rd April 1900 :—

1. An Act to amend the Madras Harbour Trust Act, 1885.
2. An Act to amend the Madras Proprietary Estates' Village Service Act, 1894, and the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, 1897.
3. An Act to amend Madras Act VII of 1865.
4. The Madras Local Boards Act Amendment Act, 1900.

(4) Act disallowed by His Excellency the Governor.

The Secretary will also announce that His Excellency the Governor has withheld his assent to the Hindu Gains of Learning Act which was passed by the Council at the meeting held on the 26th January 1900.

(5) Acts assented to by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General.

His Excellency the President will announce the assent of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General to the following Acts :—

1. The Madras Coffee-stealing Prevention Act Amendment Act, 1900.
2. An Act to amend the Madras Harbour Trust Act, 1885.

- (6) *Petitions, etc.*

G.O., No. 718, Revenue, dated 25th November 1898, referred to in the answer to question No. III asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 30th March 1900.

(7) *Financial Statement.*

C. J. WEIR,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

READ AGAIN G.O., No., dated 190 .

” ” ” ” ” 190

READ ALSO :—

C. No. 524, From the Legislative Department, No. 12, dated 6-4-1901.

" " ? " " , " , " 190

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ” 190

desp
22/4/01

ORDER No. 215, dated 22 - 4 - 1901.

This.

The I. P. S. will be request-
ed to report whether, in view
of their backward condition of
the ^{Drigad} ~~Drigad~~ may be permitted
to pay half fees in pro-
fessional colleges.

11/4/01

HP

22. 4. 1

20.

The D.P. 9. 26/4

26/4

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

190 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED _____
 190 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

M.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only.