

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Government {1897} of Madras. FINANCIAL.

Recd.

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Enclosures

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G.O., No. 16, 8th January 1897.

JANUARY.

Budget Estimate.

Accepting the — of Land Revenue receipts for 1897-98.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

G.O., No. 758, Revenue, dated 29th December 1896.

Read—again the following G.O., No. 685, Revenue, dated 2nd December 1896 :—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 433, dated 20th November 1896 :—

Resolution—No. 433, dated 20th November 1896.

The Board resolves to submit to Government the revised estimates for 1896-97 and the budget estimates for 1897-98 for all heads of receipts under its control.

2. *Actuals of 1895-96.*—The actuals of 1895-96 under I. Land Revenue, including Government assignments for village service, exceeded the revised estimate for the year as fixed by the Local Government by 6.30 lakhs. The increase was due mainly to the inclusion in the former of advance payments made on account of the instalments falling due in April and May 1896.

3. *Revised estimate for 1896-97.*—*Land Revenue, Shared and Local, Miscellaneous—Village Service Fund.*—The actuals of the first seven months amounted to 144.22 lakhs and to this has to be added the probable collections in the remaining five months.

The probable current demand for fasli 1306 and the portion thereof falling due in the remaining five months are shown in appendix B. The demand relating to permanently-settled estates and whole inam villages is constant and it is only under ryotwar and miscellaneous that fluctuations occur. The Board has generally adopted the demand fixed by Collectors under the last-mentioned head with reference to the prospects of the present season. It will be seen from columns 8 to 16 of the appendix that in the districts noted in the margin * a large falling-off in the demand is anticipated in the current fasli owing to deficient rainfall in the months of September and October and the almost complete absence of rain during the past three weeks of the current month when the standing crops were in great need of it. The probable remissions estimated by the Collectors of the Deccan districts † and Nellore either

Districts.	Demand of fasli 1305 including season remission.	Probable demand adopted for fasli 1306.	Decrease.
[In lakhs of rupees.]			
	RS.	RS.	RS.
* Ganjám ..	9.45	6.44	3.01
Vizagapatam ..	6.08	3.52	2.56
Gódvári ..	48.80	44.45	4.35
Kistna ..	56.76	54.80	1.96
Nellore ..	24.65	14.81	9.84
Cuddapah ..	21.10	16.00	5.10
Anantapur ..	11.87	6.87	5.00
Bellary ..	17.14	6.34	10.80
Kurnool ..	16.80	14.60	2.20

† Cuddapah, Anantapur, Bellary and Kurnool.

agree with those granted in fasli 1301, in which year similar conditions existed or are justified by the comparative increase in the extent of lands lying waste as shown below.

Districts.	Amount of season remission granted in fasli 1301.	Amount of remission anticipated in the current fasli.	Holdings in fasli 1301.		Extent of land left waste.		Holdings in fasli 1304.		Extent cultivated in fasli 1306 up to October 1896.		Extent lying waste.	
			Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
[In lakhs.]												
	RS.	RS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Nellore ..	8.21	8.92	11.22	1.19	1.56	.39	11.94	1.23	7.52	.59	4.42	.64
Cuddapah ..	2.95	4.80	8.04	.81	2.21	.31	10.91	.88	8.19	.47	2.72	.41
Anantapur ..	2.85	4.50	14.81	.36	4.23	.08	15.59	.38	10.29	.29	5.30	.09
Bellary ..	6.92	10.38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kurnool ..	1.87	2.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

The rain of the last few days is reported to have extended to Nellore and for two days a fair rainfall has been recorded. This will materially affect the prospects, and the Collector's estimate of remissions will probably be found to be too high. For the present, however, the Board considers it advisable to retain the figures reported by the Collector.

In Bellary, the estimate is large (10.38 lakhs), but the Board is not disposed to interfere with the Collector's calculation, although the extent of wet waste is not very much in excess of that shown in the accounts of fasli 1301. The Collector has probably taken into account the possibility of partial remissions being granted on withered crops. There is also a large excess of dry waste.

In Ganjám, the rain-fed paddy crops are said to have completely withered and the probable remissions * estimated by the Collector are only slightly in excess of those † granted in fasli 1298—a similarly unfavourable year.

In Vizagapatam, the wet crops are said to have been lost except under a few river channels and the estimated remission bears nearly the same proportion to the present revenue from wet lands as the remission granted in fasli 1301 bore to the wet revenue of that year.

The anticipated falling-off in revenue in Gódvári and Kistna is due partly to the damages caused by the late floods and partly to the unfavourable character of the season in the upland taluks.

In the marginally-noted districts or parts thereof the season has taken a favourable turn since the date of submission of the Collectors' budget statements, and the Board considers that the demand of fasli 1304 is the lowest figure that can be adopted in the present altered circumstances.

The total probable current demand for fasli 1306 under all items of land revenue comes to 521.98 lakhs, of which 410.08 lakhs will fall due in the five months—November 1896 to March 1897. Adding to this, the opening balance on the 1st November 1896, viz., 2.53 lakhs, the total probable demand for these five months amounts to 412.61 lakhs. The probable collections out of the above demand have been fixed with due regard to the state of the season in the several districts and they amount to 377.37 lakhs. The Board does not anticipate that any large advance payments will be made

(a) Increase due to the assumption of the direct management of the Palkonda taluk.

Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot and Salem.

except in the Southern and West Coast districts and these are estimated at 3 lakhs. Adding to the above figures, the collections made in the past seven months, viz., 144.22 lakhs, the total probable collections for the whole year come to 524.59 lakhs. Deducting from the last-mentioned figure 23.57 lakhs on account of Government contribution to the Village Service fund, the net land revenue collections will be Rs. 5,01,02,000 which has been adopted for the revised estimate.

4. *Budget Estimate for 1897-98.*—According to the foregoing calculation, the probable balance on the 1st April 1897 will be 35.24 lakhs. Adding to this, the probable current demand for the year as shown in column 9 of Appendix C, viz., 561.46 lakhs, the total demand will be 596.70 lakhs. Assuming that the opening balance given above and the portion of the current demand falling due in the first three months—April to June 1897 (column 4 of Appendix C)—will be almost wholly realized, and adopting the percentage of collections attained in the several districts in March 1896, the probable collections for the whole year will be Rs. 5,74,54,000. Deducting from this Rs. 23,11,000 on account of Government assignments for Village Service, the net land revenue collections will be Rs. 5,51,43,000 which has been entered as the budget estimate.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" all Collectors.
" the Accountant-General.

Order—No. 685, Revenue, dated 2nd December 1896.

Land Revenue, No. 66.

XII-B—Interest on Arrears of Revenue.
XXI-D—Scientific and other Minor Departments—Examination Fees
XXIII-B—Stationery and Printing—Sales of Gazettes, &c.
XXIII-C—Stationery and Printing—Other Press Receipts.
XXV-F—Miscellaneous—Miscellaneous.

The estimates of receipts under the heads marginally noted are approved and transferred to the Financial Department.

2. Orders will issue separately on the Land Revenue estimates.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
" Financial Department.
" Accountant-General.

Read—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue),
Mis. No. 5429, dated 7th December 1896:—

Read—Official Memorandum from the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, No. 196, dated 30th November 1896.

Resolution—Mis. No. 5429, dated 7th December 1896.

With reference to the official memorandum from Government read above, two statements are submitted—one showing the actual balance on 1st April 1896 and the actual demand of the three months, April to June 1896, and of the four months, July to October 1896, and the other showing the normal annual demand of each district under Land Revenue, Ordinary revenue and the portion which will fall due in the nine months, July to March. The posting statement called for in paragraph 2 of the memorandum also accompanies these proceedings.

	LAKHS.	
* Permanently-settled and shrotriem	...	
jodi	57.25	
Ryotwari and Miscellaneous	487.78	
Total	545.03	

2. The decrease in the normal demand * for the Presidency distributed among the several districts in statement II as compared with the figure (547.60 lakhs) given in paragraph 1 (clause 4) of the above official memorandum is explained below:—

	LAKHS.
(1) Decrease due to the adoption of the probable increment remissions for fasli 1306 instead of the average of the remissions expected to be granted during the period of the future Provincial contract as reported in Board's Proceedings, No. 4930, dated 3rd November 1896 (vide columns 37 and 38 of the posting statement)	1.14
(2) The adoption of the amount of deductions in favour of religious institutions as sanctioned in the latest year in the place of the average disbursements in past years adopted by Government.	0.19
(3) The exclusion of the receipts from (1) sale-proceeds of waste and tank-bed lands, accretions, Government gardens, &c., (2) chank rent or rents, &c., of fisheries, and (3) the minor items shown under detailed account I-B (vide note at foot of columns 18 to 24 of the posting statement)	1.24
Total decrease	2.57

3. The Board takes this opportunity to report that, in view of the reduction in the probable remissions for fasli 1306 anticipated by the Collectors of Nellore and Bellary owing to the recent rains, the revised and budget estimates for the current and ensuing years may be raised by 4.54 and 4.26 lakhs, respectively. A memorandum showing the alterations to be made in Appendices A, B, C and D to Board's Proceedings, No. 433, dated 20th November 1896, is enclosed.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three statements and a memorandum.

Order—No. 758, Revenue, dated 29th December 1896.

Miscellaneous.

In its proceedings disposed of in the Government Order read again above, the Board of Revenue submits its estimates of receipts under "Land Revenue," and in the second paper it proposes to make certain alterations therein with reference to subsequent reports from the Collectors of Nellore and Bellary in which they reduce their previous estimates of the amount of season remissions likely to be granted during the current year.

2. *Actuals of 1895-96 and Revised Estimate for the same year.*—In paragraph 2 of its first proceedings, the Board states that the actual collections during 1895-96 under "Land Revenue" (including those credited to Local Funds, Village Service Fund) exceeded the revised estimate for the same year by 6.30 lakhs and that this increase was mainly due to collections having been made in advance in that year on account of instalments falling due in the current year, i.e., in April and May 1896. This explanation appears to be correct but incomplete, as it accounts for a difference of 2.62 lakhs only. The following calculation shows that advance collections in 1895-96 on account of the current year could not have exceeded this figure (2.62 lakhs).

* The balance outstanding on 1st April 1896 and the demand which fell due in the

	LAKHS.
* Balance on 1st April 1896	21.45
Demand of April—June 1896	123.91
Do. July—October 1896	4.23
Total	149.59

seven months, April to October 1896, aggregated 149.59 lakhs.* Of this, 144.22 lakhs were collected during the same period and .22 lakhs were written off as irrecoverable, so that the balance on the 1st November 1896 should have been 5.15 lakhs. The actual balance on that date, however, is reported to have been 2.53 lakhs. The difference between these two figures is 2.62 lakhs, and it is this amount that must have been collected by anticipation in the year 1895-96. The attention of the Board is drawn to the inadequacy of the explanation furnished in view to the remaining factors, which contributed to the increase, being investigated.

3. *The Revised Estimate for 1896-97.*—The budget estimate for the current year was fixed at 538.00 lakhs, and the Board now proposes to reduce the figure to 505.56 lakhs, which will result in a decrease of 32.44 lakhs. In order to ascertain the cause of this large decrease, it is necessary to examine the method by which the budget and revised estimates for the current year have been arrived at. The current demand which falls due in the financial year 1896-97 is made up of—

- The demand of fasli 1305 (year ending 30th June 1896) falling due in April—June 1896, and
- The demand of fasli 1306 (year ending 30th June 1897) falling due in July 1896 to March 1897.

To obtain the total demand of the year, arrear and current, the arrear demand at its beginning, i.e., on the 1st April 1896, should be added to the sum of the foregoing items. The probable collections have been calculated on the assumption that, before the close of the year, the whole of the realizable portion of the opening balance and of the demand of the three months, April—June 1896, and 95 or other percentage of the demand of the nine months (July 1896 to March 1897) will be realized. From the total collections thus estimated, a deduction is made for transfer to the Village Service Fund, the balance being the estimate required.

4. The subjoined statement shows the details of the calculations described in general terms in the foregoing paragraph:—

No.	Items.	Budget Estimate for 1896-97.	Revised Estimate for 1896-97.
LAKHS OF RUPEES.			
1	Arrear demand, i.e., outstanding balance for realization, on 1st April 1896.	23.19	21.45
2	Current demand { (a) Portion of the demand of fasli 1305 (555.88 lakhs) which fell due in the three months, April—June 1896	120.04	123.91
	{ (b) Portion of the demand of fasli 1306 (558.62 lakhs) falling due in the nine months, July 1896—March 1897	438.58	419.97
3	Total	581.81	565.33
4	Collections { (a) Already made in April—June 1896	..	133.96
	{ (b) Do. July—October 1896	..	10.26
	{ (c) To be made in November 1896—March 1897	..	381.91
	Total	560.93	526.13
5	Add—Advance collections on account of the year 1897-98	..	3.00
6	Deduct—Transfers to Local Funds, Village Service Fund	22.93	23.57
	Estimate	538.00	505.56

5. *Items 1 and 2 (a)—Opening Balance and three months' demand.*—To proceed to examine the statement, item by item. The demand, as actually ascertained under these two heads taken together, amounted to 145.36 lakhs, as against an estimate of 143.23 lakhs, giving an increase of 2.13 lakhs. This increase does not call for remarks.

6. *Item 2 (b)—Nine months' demand.*—The next figure which calls for examination is the nine months' demand. The Board anticipates a decrease of 18.61 lakhs under this head in the previous estimate of 438.58 lakhs. To understand this decrease, it is necessary first to examine the demand for fasli 1306 (year ending 30th June 1897). The net demand of this year has now been estimated by the Board of Revenue at 530.78 lakhs against its previous estimate of 558.62 lakhs. This results in a decrease of 27.84 lakhs.

7. *Settlement increase excluded.*—The present estimate for the revenue year includes 3.34 lakhs, as the probable receipts form the introduction of the revised settlement into the Gódvári district. But as orders have not yet been passed on the scheme submitted by the Board of Revenue, it is unlikely that it will be introduced in the current year. The anticipated increase will therefore be excluded for the purpose of the revised estimate. The Board's present estimate for the whole revenue year will then be 530.78—3.34 or 527.44 lakhs, and the difference to be explained will be raised to 31.18 lakhs.

8. *Remissions.*—One cause of the difference above referred to is obviously the larger amount of season remissions anticipated by certain Collectors and the Board of Revenue. The Government considers that this part of the subject has not been adequately dealt with by the Board; no information has been furnished as to the amount of remissions assumed in preparing the budget estimate as likely to be granted in the current year or as to the data on which Collectors have framed their present estimates. The subjoined statement compares the remissions anticipated in nine districts during the current year with those granted in fasli 1305, to the demand of which the assumed demand for fasli 1306 closely approximates:—

Districts.	Remissions in fasli 1305.	Probable remissions in fasli 1306.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Ganjám	.01	3.00
Vizagapatam	..	2.56
Gódvári	.89	1.75
Kistna	1.41	1.96
Nellore	.93	3.00
Cuddapah	.23	4.80
Anantapur	.58	4.50
Bellary	.42	7.50
Kurnool	.15	2.00

Total ... 4.62 31.07

Increase ... 26.45 lakhs.

9. *Comments on the remission figures.*—In Ganjám and Vizagapatam, the north-east monsoon having totally failed, the Collector's estimates of remissions will be accepted. The Board points out that in the former district rainfed paddy crops have completely withered, and that in the latter wet crops have been lost except under a few river channels. Rainfed paddy lands having been classed as "dry" at settlement cannot claim remissions in ordinary times, but during the current year an exception will be made if the Board considers it necessary. Remissions are anticipated in the Gódvári district partly on account of the damages caused by the late floods, and partly owing to the unfavourable character of the season. The probable amount likely to be remitted on the former ground has not been stated by the Board. The Collector's estimate is probably based on his proposals in connection with the recent floods, and disallowed by the Board and Government (*vide* G.O., No. 706, dated 9th December 1896). The Collector of Kistna also anticipates remissions, but evidently the loss will

Districts.	Fasli 1301.	Fasli 1306.
Nellore	8.21	3.00
Cuddapah	2.95	4.80
Anantapur	2.85	4.50
Bellary	6.92	7.50
Kurnool	1.87	2.00

be made up to some extent by increase under other heads. In Nellore and the four Deccan districts, the estimate of remissions appears to be very high. The Board compares the remissions to be granted in the current year in these districts, with those granted in fasli 1301 and apparently considers them to be fairly accurate. But looking to the estimate first