

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	720	Press
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Dated	8	4 18 65.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd April 1865.*

No. 22. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd December 1864, No. 8,200.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 12th December 1864 No. 2,243, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—Directing certain changes in the arrangements under which the Survey and Settlement of the Presidency are being carried out.

1. Ordered to be communicated to all Collectors.
2. With reference to paragraph 16, the Board observe that the Godavery, Kistna, Kurnool Cuddapah, Trichinopoly, and Salem Districts, have been or will be settled by the Special Department. Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Nellore, and Tinnevely Districts, are ordered to be settled by the Collectors. Malabar and Canara are not field assessed Districts.
3. There remain, therefore, Bellary, Madras, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tanjore, Madura, and Coimbatore, from which special reports are required under the order in paragraph 16. In ascertaining the gross and net produce, and its value according to the commutation rate adopted, the Collectors will be guided by the instructions laid down in paragraphs 9 to 11 of the Government Order, and they will be careful to state how the area was determined in the cases on which the general deductions may be based, and to submit the fullest available return of prices, with full explanation of the grounds on which they have determined their allowance for cultivation expenses, &c., and their commutation rate. In the column of Remarks in the Statement of prices they will note the years of which the circumstances were exceptional. The field experiments should be made in at least three villages in each Talook of each District, and the area operated on should not be less than a quarter of an acre in each case. Several experiments must be instituted in each recognized class of soil in each village, and if the number of villages above-mentioned is not sufficiently large to obtain a fair average for the Talook, in consequence of its including many marked diversities of soil and situation, the number must be increased.
4. The Government have remarked, as a principal defect in the present system, that the experiments for ascertaining the productive powers of land are limited to not more than two seasons for each District, and the Board observe that the period in each season, during which these experiments can be made, is very short; but they do not understand that the Government propose to allow more than two seasons (if so much) to elapse before the reports now called for are required to be submitted.
5. As the experiments now to be made cannot be so carefully supervised as when made by the Officers of the Settlement Department, whose attention was concentrated on the work, while the Officers now to be employed have numerous other duties to distract them, and as the number of the experiments is not likely to be larger, unless the submission of the District Reports is deferred for a considerable time, the Board cannot anticipate that the results of this rough investigation will be conclusive or satisfactory; but the Collectors must use every endeavor to attain accuracy as far as possible. They will have the facts ascertained in each experiment thrown into a brief Abstract Statement in the annexed form, and submit it with their Report.

[illegible]

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

6. The Collectors of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Nellore, and Tinnevely, will communicate with the Director of Revenue Settlement, and report, with as little delay as possible, on the points noticed in paragraph 15. The Board, however, observe that no revised field settlement can be introduced, or the proposals even satisfactorily tested, until the Survey Department has furnished the field areas, and that in Ganjam and Vizagapatam, the Survey has not yet been introduced, while in Nellore and Tinnevely some time must yet elapse before the field areas can be supplied.

7. The Board do not see reason at present to think that any increase in their own establishment will be required under the proposed plan, as they presume that the detail work now performed in the Director's Office will hereafter be done in the Districts, and that the Collectors' reports will reach the Board in much the same form as do now the reports from the Director's Office.

(A true Extracts.)

[Signature]
Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

„ All Collectors.

„ R. E. Master, Esq., Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. J. Wright.

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12th December 1864

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No. 23346

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

To All Collectors, &c.

Dated 23rd December 1864.

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No. 8,200.

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