

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2199	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	29-7-	1875
		195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th July 1875.*

No. 799. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department, dated 9th July 1875, No. 1,035:—

ABSTRACT.—*Composition of water-rate with certain Zemindars in the Kistna District.*—Observing that — is desirable, subject to revision when better data are available, and that Government see no reason why the rule which seems to be working unobjectionably in the Godavery Delta should not be applied to the Kistna.

No. 800. ORDER THEREON, 29th July 1875, No. 2,199.

IRRIGATION, No. 77-A.

Account.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer, Kistna, who will take measures for registering the supply of water to these and other Zemindaries and will show each year what this quantity may be against the revenue obtained therefrom.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Major, R.E.,

Offg. Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Kistna.
.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
.. Controller of Public Works Accounts.
.. District Engineer, Godavery.

Ed. E. C. Shunkar.

Spare Copies

37

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th July 1875.*

No. 104. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd June 1875, No. 1,483:—

Read the following letter from G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 3rd April 1875, No. 440:—

I HAVE the honor to reply to Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 1,539, dated 25th February 1875. The Board are aware that the offer of the Devarakota Zemindar to compound the water-tax of his estate has been rejected, and the Nuzid Zemindar's composition for five years has been accepted. This arrangement Major Hasted thinks fair, and I hope to show that it is not liable to the objections he has brought forward.

2. Major Hasted assumes that he will be bound to give as much water to the Zemindar as he asks for; but I am not of the same opinion at all, as it is clear from the Delta Water-tax Rules that the ryots who have received water for a long time have a preferential claim over other ryots who have just commenced to take it. In the case of new cultivation where Zemindari and Government villagers simultaneously apply for water, such as is available can be equitably distributed between them up to the limit, as far as the Zemindari villages are concerned, that has been fixed for them—(Colonel Mullins' Memorandum, paragraph 5.)

3. I cannot imagine a case like that described in Major Hasted's paragraph 5 remaining undetected for any length of time.

4. The fact that the Zemindar alleged his wet to be so largely in excess of the reality would be known and reported very soon, while if the excess is small, say but 100 acres, it will matter little as long as the channels are imperfect, and the exact regulation of water impossible as at present.

5. As the distribution at the head sluice lies with the officers of the Public Works Department, it rests with them to check the wastage of water, as best they can, even in the way it is now done. It is surely better that the water, which would be otherwise wasted, should (as it will perhaps) be now used for extending the irrigation of land. I do not see why the compounding should lead to greater waste.

6. The Public Works Department will, as heretofore, distribute the water as fairly as possible, and any surplus in Zemindari land can be used for fresh cultivation.

7. There will be no loss to Government, because this wasted water brings in nothing now, but there will be a gain to the villagers if they can be induced to utilize it and an increase of wet cultivation.

8. This composition is not a new thing; it has been tried and found to answer in the Godavery District. The object in allowing it is not so much to increase the wet cultivation as to ensure a steady demand and to avoid the necessity (which gives so great an opening to fraud) of having Zemindari lands which are watered measured year by year by a subordinate official, the Revenue Inspector, who is under no adequate supervision. There is no doubt that the Zemindars, as observed by Major Hasted, do charge all their lands higher than the Government. At the same time, that "Tsaudu" is not a mere cry but a

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th July 1875.*

fact is proved by Mr. Master's report on this district. It can be, and has been, overcome, but a Zemindar, who gets 3 or 4 Rupees an acre for dry land, may reasonably hesitate to allow wet cultivation when his best land may be rendered unproductive for a series of years.

9. The composition by the amount of water supplied which Colonel Mullins proposes would be open to this objection on the part of the Zemindar—that when the river is full he would be getting more water than he really wanted for which he would have to pay; that the composition is proposed to him in a way that he cannot understand, having no data by which to judge of the wants of an acre of wet; and that it would leave on his shoulders the burden of paying for the waste which, it is admitted, occurs, and cannot be prevented.

10. Also I am not aware that the data for the last five years are available. I believe no record has been kept of the actual supply.

11. The composition will last for five years. At the end of that time the extent of wet land can be ascertained by actual inspection, and the Collector will be in possession of data on which to assess a fresh composition.

12. Should the Zemindar refuse, the Government can fall back on the method of charging the Zemindari ryots on the actual extent of irrigated lands; and, if Major Hasted's proposition is true that ryots will willingly take water if we give it to them steadily, they will not refuse water for the lands they have converted into wet. Though the Zemindar's assessment be high, we have ample assurance that the ryots can and do continue to pay for and cultivate these lands that are now wet.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G.O., 17th February 1875, No. 308.

2. The offer of Rupees 19,100 by the Zemindar of Nuzid in composition of water-rate has been accepted by the Board under the rules in their Proceedings, dated 13th October 1874, No. 2,980; that of the Zemindar of Devaracotta has been rejected.

3. The Board are of opinion that the inconvenience and risk of loss entailed by the annual measurement of the lands by ill-paid subordinates are so great that composition of the water-rate is a necessity, and at present it does not appear possible to make the composition on any other basis than past average payments, since the Collector states that no record has been kept of the actual quantities supplied. If such data were available, the Board agree with Colonel Mullins that they would form the best basis for a settlement.

4. With reference to the Collector's objections to this method, the Board presume that the composition would be at a certain rate per thousand cubic yards, and that the Zemindar would be entitled to refuse supply in excess of his wants, and to demand that it should be regulated accordingly. They do not suppose that the Zemindars would be found incapable of understanding a composition of the kind if the relation of the actual quantity sent down the channels to their past payments were explained to them. But there is a further objection, viz., that agreement would first have to be arrived at as to the quantity to which the Zemindars should be entitled without charge for the cultivation of the manual wet.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th July 1875.*

5. The Nuzid composition should stand, and the Collector shows that no very formidable evils can result from it. If it be true that no record is kept as to the quantity supplied for the irrigation of defined tracts, the Board think that this should at once be remedied.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed.) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 105. ORDER THEREON, 9th July 1875, No. 1,035.

Irrigation, No. 3.

THESE papers refer to a proposal for compounding with Zemindars in the Kistna District for periods of five years for water-tax for their estates on an average of payments during preceding five years.

2. Objection is taken by the District Engineer and Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the following grounds:—

(1.) That if, as is anticipated, irrigation in the Zemindaries be considerably extended, Government will obtain no direct return for such extension.

(2.) That there is no water to spare at present, and even Government lands are awaiting the development of works for a supply.

(3.) That modification of works will be necessary if Zemindaries are to be largely supplied, their requirement having been originally estimated as small, and that the obtaining of sanction and funds for such works is doubtful, owing to the absence of a direct money return, and that consequently in entering into composition Government will be promising what they may not be able to perform.

3. As regards the first objection the Government consider that the composition must always have reference to the system of works existing at the time of compounding, and must not include additional provision of water derivable from any extension of the system so as to command new areas previously destitute of supply.

4. It cannot be said that there is no direct return to Government; the return is not immediate, but the fact that it is deferred must be regarded as compensated by the stimulus which the system is calculated to give to extension, of which the benefit will accrue to Government at each succeeding period of renewed composition. Indirectly there is the benefit from getting rid of the risk of decrease and of the difficulty of ascertaining from year to year what the area of cultivation beyond the "mamul wet" really is.

5. The second objection, the possible deficiency of water, must determine the acceptance or otherwise of the offer to compound in each individual case. As pointed out by the Collector in paragraph 2 of his letter of the 5th April 1875, No. 440, the rules provide for preferential claims of those whose supply is of long standing, and it must be taken for granted that those engaging for a subsequent supply do so on the understanding that the water will only be available after satisfying existing claims. Of course, cases might occur when remission might have to be made when a decided failure occurred.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th July 1875.*

5. As regards the third point raised it depends on the assumption that the proposed system of composition is on the whole calculated to diminish the profit, whereas it has already been shown that this is not the case.

6. In the earlier stages of such undertakings composition is desirable, subject to revision when better data are available. The rule seems to be working unobjectionably in the Godavery Delta, and the Government see no reason why it should not be applied to the Kistna.

(True Extract.)

Alfred J. J. J.

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Public Works Department.
.. the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th July 1875.

5. posed sys
it has alr
6. to revisi
tionably
be applic

G.O. 12 July 1875 No 275479
" 7th Oct 1875 No 161679

P. W. 1875 Sept.
No: 4798

Cont. of 1875

REVENUE.

The BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated July, 9th.
Res. 243

G. O. 9th July 1875, No. 1,055

JULY.
Nos. 104-105.

Comparison of the data of the Delta
data in the Board of Revenue. Observing that —
the data of the Board of Revenue when latter data or
available, and that the Board of Revenue can no longer
the rule which is to be working and judgment
ably in the Delta. Delta should not to apply
to the Delta.

12799

cc - 27-7-75 Res 29-7-75

Sept 6th 1875 29-7-75 Res 31-7-75

Sb. 2197.29-7-75.

Public Works Dept.

No 2199

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 29th July 1875

Read the following

Pro. of the Revenue
Department

G.O. No 1035 of 9th July 1875

Communicated to
the Superintending
Engineer, Kistna who
will take measures
for registering the supply
of water to these and
other Zemindaries and
will show each year
what this quantity

4B

4

Supg Engr Kistna — 6
Chief Engr for Irrig. 5
Cont. of P. W. Accts. 5
S. & Godavery. 9
SC with 1 copy of Res. order to
each. C. Secy. 16-8-75.

Cobl. of 1875: *Attadras*
PUBLIC WORKS.

Mr. J. P. Thompson
Kearney
Nebraska

iii

100

1994

6. O. 25 July 1973. No.

No. 795-500

Composition of water rate with
certain Zemindars in the Muz.
Ctr:— Propo: of the Revenue
Dept: observing that— is
desirable, subject to revision
when better data are available
& that Govt: see no reason why
the rule which seems to be
working unobjectionably
in the Godavari Delta should
not be applied to the Nistur
command with instructions to be
sent to the Nistur Muz.

10008-08425