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Government {1899} of Madras.

POLITICAL.

Recd. } 1899. *Enclosures*

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G.O., No. 771, 23rd November 1899.

NOVEMBER.

Administration of the Laccadive Islands.

Recording proceedings, Board of Revenue, submitting the report of the Collector of Malabar on the — for fasli 1308.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 275, dated 10th November 1899.

Mr. W. J. H. LeFanu, I.C.S.

Read—the following letter from G. W. DANCE, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Calicut, 9th October 1899, D. No. 156-I.S.L. :—

I have the honour to submit the report on the administration of the Laccadive Islands and Minicoy for fasli 1308.

2. I enclose two statements showing the receipts and charges under the different heads. The total revenue from the Islands, including the proportionate Amindivi compensation of Rs. 3,984, amounted to Rs. 46,615-1-9 against Rs. 69,872-10-9 in the previous year. The total charges, including the peishcush of Rs. 11,383, amounted to Rs. 52,332-3-4 against Rs. 65,426-15-2 in the previous fasli. The decrease under both receipts and charges is due to the falling off in the supply of coir. One thousand five hundred and forty-five candies were sold for Rs. 54,725 in fasli 1307, while in fasli 1308 only 949 candies were sold for Rs. 33,905.

3. The charges include the cost of 750 bags of rice (Rs. 4,953-8-9) sent to Minicoy in April 1899, as the supply in the Island was reported to be insufficient to meet the demand during the monsoon. When the consignment arrived in Minicoy, however, it could find no sale. The S.S. *Thurnscoe* had been wrecked, and had jettisoned 5,000 bags of rice which the Islanders were allowed to take away gratis. I have therefore asked Mr. Austin, who is now visiting the Islands, to see if he can arrange for the sale of the rice in the Laccadives or the Amindivis.

4. The sum of Rs. 651-6-6 due on account of rice supplied in previous years and referred to in paragraph 5 of Board's Proceedings, No. 315, dated 22nd November 1898, was recovered during the fasli. Out of Rs. 4,169-8-10, being the cost of 500 bags of rice supplied in fasli 1307, Rs. 4,061-4-10 were recovered during the current fasli. The balance outstanding is Rs. 108-4-0, *plus* the cost of 750 bags of rice supplied in fasli 1308.

5. The subjoined statement shows the quantity of coir imported from the Islands during the past five years :—

Islands.	Quantities in candies of 560 lbs. each.						Increase or decrease as compared with the average.
	Fasli 1304.	Fasli 1305.	Fasli 1306.	Fasli 1307.	Average.	Fasli 1308.	
Agathi	228	216	189	277	228	222	— 6
Kavarathi	285	368	316	376	336	368	+ 32
Androth	418	268	256	437	345	221	— 124
Kalpeni	381	525	392	414	378	385	+ 7
Minicoy	51	21	..	..	24	..	— 24
Total ..	1,363	1,198	1,153	1,504	1,311	1,196	— 115

The absence of imports of coir from Minicoy is attributed to the effects of the cyclone. Mr. Austin has been asked to ascertain how far this is true. No coir was exported from Androth owing to the bad weather which was experienced in April.

6. Out of 1,159 candies of second class and 37 candies of third class coir imported during the fasli, 918 candies of second class and 31 candies of third class coir were sold. The price averaged Rs. 36-0-1 for second class and Rs. 27-8-0 for third class coir per candy, against Rs. 35-9-9 for second-class coir in the previous fasli. No first-class coir was imported from any of the islands.

7. The cowries have been accumulating here for some years because no purchasers could be found. During the fasli, however, 26 candies 2 maunds and 9 lb. were sold out of the total stock of 29 candies 7 maunds and 17 lbs. They fetched Rs. 921-3-0 or Rs. 35 per candy. The importations during the fasli amounted to 3 candies 5 maunds and 8 lbs. against 9 candies 7 maunds and 11 lbs. in the previous fasli.

8. No tortoise shell was imported during the fasli.

9. The balance at the end of the fasli in favour of the Raja is as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Closing balance of fasli 1307	30,996	7	10
Total receipts during fasli 1308	46,615	1	9
Total ...	77,611	9	7
Deduct expenditure during the fasli	52,332	3	4
Balance in favour of the Raja ...	25,279	6	3

Enclosure No. 1.

Statement No. I.—Receipts.

Items.	Agathi.		Kavarathi.		Androth.		Kalpeni.		Minicoy.		Mainland.		Grand total.	
	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Revenue from monopoly articles (coir).	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.
Balance of last year's stock—														
First class ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Second class ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Third class ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Portion of current year's stock sold within the year—														
First class	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Second class ..	170 19 6	6,156 13 10	284 7 13	10,225 8 9	167 14 0	6,048 14 8	294 18 27	10,621 10 9	..	..	..	..	917 19 18	33,053 0 0
Third class ..	2 10 7	82 7 9	11 5 0	301 6 10	6 3 2	165 0 8	11 6 25	303 9 9	..	..	..	..	31 5 6	852 9 0
Cowries	0 5 15	9 11 0	0 0 24	1 8 0	0 12 14	21 14 0	25 7 14	888 2 0	..	..	..	..	26 6 11	921 3 0
Total of monopoly articles ..	173 15 0	6,249 0 7	295 13 9	10,528 7 7	174 9 6	6,235 13 4	331 13 10	11,813 6 6	..	..	..	..	975 11 7	34,826 12 0
Miscellaneous Revenue.														
Cocoanuts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rents	..	1,600 0 0	..	340 0 0	..	293 6 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,233 6 2
Fines	..	11 11 0	..	44 2 9	..	..	..	6 13 3	..	..	..	..	..	62 11 0
Poll-tax	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sundries *	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,508 4 7	..	5,508 4 7
Total of Miscellaneous Revenue.	..	1,611 11 0	..	384 2 9	..	293 6 2	..	6 13 3	..	..	..	5,508 4 7	..	7,804 5 9
Receipts other than ordinary.														
Proportionate Amindivi compensation ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,984 0 0	..	3,984 0 0
Loans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total of receipts other than ordinary.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,984 0 0	..	3,984 0 0
Grand Total ..	173 15 0	7,860 11 7	295 13 9	10,912 10 4	174 9 16	6,529 3 6	331 13 10	11,820 3 9	..	..	..	9,492 4 7	975 11 7	46,615 1 9

* The details of items under sundries are given below :—

	RS. A. P.
1. Arrears recovered on account of rice supplied in previous years	651 6 6
2. Value of rice recovered from the Minicoy rice contractor on account of rice entrusted to him for sale in May 1898	3,900 0 0
3. Value of rice recovered from the Minicoy Islanders during the fasli ..	22 12 8
4. Advances recovered from the pay of the Hospital Assistants deputed to Minicoy.	916 12 5
5. Sale-proceeds of flotsam and jetsam	2 5 0
6. Fine remitted by the Agathi Islanders	15 0 0
Total ..	5,508 4 7

Enclosure No. 2.

Statement No. II.—Charges.

Items.	Agathi.		Kavarathi.		Androth.		Kalpeni.		Minicoy.		Mainland.		Grand total.	
	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.	Quantity or weight.	Amount or value.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Charges on account of monopoly articles.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.
Coir—														
First class	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Second class	218 2 14	6,287 14 0	342 11 25	10,011 9 7	213 1 5	6,119 2 6	338 1 16	9,790 10 1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Third class	3 10 7	76 8 7	12 19 22	284 11 10	7 3 2	155 9 8	13 0 14	283 12 7	..	..	..	..	1,111 17 4	32,209 4 2
Freight paid on Government coir (second class)	..	..	12 16 8	25 10 0	0 15 0	1 8 0	33 18 3	67 12 10	..	..	..	..	36 13 17	800 10 8
Cowries	0 2 21	5 4 0	..	..	0 0 13	0 15 0	3 2 2	122 14 6	..	..	..	..	47 9 11	94 14 10
Total charges of monopoly articles ..	221 15 14	6,369 10 7	368 7 27	10,321 15 5	220 19 20	6,277 3 2	388 2 7	10,265 2 0	..	..	..	..	3 5 8	129 1 6
Miscellaneous charges.													1,199 5 12	33,233 15 2
Cocoanuts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sea Customs charges ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Travelling allowances, contingencies ..	..	3 0 0	..	5 3 0	..	16 7 6	..	5 10 6	..	..	..	127 15 11	..	127 15 11
Visit to the Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23 11 6	..	54 0 6
Sundries *	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Establishment salary ..	..	216 0 0	..	403 15 9	..	150 6 6	..	580 0 0	..	55 13 0	..	5,420 0 6	..	5,420 0 6
Total of miscellaneous charges	..	219 0 0	..	409 2 9	..	166 14 0	..	585 10 6	..	55 13 0	..	707 0 0	..	2,113 3 3
Special payments.												6,278 11 11	..	7,715 4 2
Repayment of loans ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peishcash arrears ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Municipal-tax on behalf of Raja	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,383 0 0	..	11,383 0 0
Total of special payments ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand Total ..	221 15 14	6,588 10 7	368 7 27	10,731 2 2	220 19 20	6,444 1 2	388 2 7	10,850 12 6	..	55 13 0	..	17,661 11 11	1,199 5 12	52,332 3 4

* The details of items under sundries are given below :—

	RS. A. P.
1. Amount advanced to the Hospital Assistant Thomman	200 0 0
2. Value of eighteen bags of rice sent to the Minicoy Hospital servants to be recovered subsequently	117 9 0
3. Fine refunded to an Agathi Islander as per Collector's order, dated 9th March 1899	15 0 0
4. Cost of sending 750 bags of rice to Minicoy	4,953 8 9
5. Cost of 15 bags of rice supplied to the Gumastah of Minicoy to be recovered from him subsequently	93 12 0
6. Cost of repairing the Kalpeni Amin's cutcherry	40 2 9
Total ..	5,420 0 6

Resolution—No. 275, dated 10th November 1899.

The Board begs leave to submit to Government the report of the Collector of Malabar on the administration of the Laccadive Islands during the year ending 30th June 1899.

2. The total receipts (Rs. 46,615) show a fall of Rs. 23,258 when compared with those of the previous year. This was chiefly due to the decrease in the quantity of coir imported and sold during the year, caused by the fact that a portion of the year's supply from the island of Androth was not brought to the mainland owing to the bad weather experienced in April last. Moreover, the supply of fasli 1307 was abnormally large in consequence of the import during that year of a quantity of the previous year's coir from the islands of Androth and Agathi. The average price realized per candy for second-class coir (which forms the bulk of the import) rose from Rs. 35-9-9 in fasli 1307 to Rs. 36-0-1 in the year under report owing apparently to increased demand in the local market. The monopoly price paid to the islanders averaged Rs. 28-12-1 per candy against Rs. 33-2-5 in the previous year, the decrease being chiefly due to the fall in the value of rice which forms part of the monopoly payment.

3. The expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 52,332 against Rs. 65,427 in the previous year, and the falling off was mainly due to the decrease under monopoly payments explained in paragraph 2 *supra*.

4. The net result of the financial administration of the year was a deficit of Rs. 5,717 and the balance at the end of the fasli in favour of the Raja was Rs. 25,279.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. FRANCIS,
Acting Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Political Department.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" " Collector of Malabar.

ORDER—No. 771, Political, dated 23rd November 1899.
Recorded.

(True Extract.)

G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

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

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

POLITICAL

Revenue (1899) Department.

CHIEF SECRETARY
18 NOV. 1899
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

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Board of Revenue (Land Revenue)
Accts Genl
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From The Board of Revenue,
Land Revenue, Madras.

No. 275

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4-5

[Despatch Abstract.]

Administration of the Laccadive Islands

Recording proc. Board of Rev., submitting the report of the Collr. of Malabar on the —— for fasli 1308.