

Revenue Department

Minutes of consultations

8th September 1857

Back Number 6

Order No. 882 dated 2nd Sept 1857

10200000

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 8th September 1857.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched.
No. 6. From H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George ;
to CECIL BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India ; dated 2d Sep-
tember 1857, No. 882.

Sir,

Para. 1. In the Resolution of the Most Noble the Governor General of India in Council, in the Financial Department, dated 8th September 1854, No. 3420, sanction was granted for an additional establishment for the experimental Revenue Survey of the South Arcot District, at a cost of Rupees 41,790 per annum for two years, subject to a full report of progress at the expiration of that period. In pursuance of this order, I am now directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to forward, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying Extracts from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue reporting on the Survey operations to the close of the year ending 31st October 1856, together with Extracts from the Minutes of Consultation of the 9th February

Dated 21st October 1856, No. 3504.
,, 15th May 1857, ,, 1603.

and 4th July last, reviewing those reports.
2. The Governor in Council does not consider it necessary to advert to all the points connected with the subject noticed in the Board's Proceedings, as full information respecting these will be found in the review to which he would solicit the attention of the Government of India. It will be sufficient in this place to recapitulate briefly the extent of work performed, and the charges incurred on its account.

3. The Survey, though originally designed for the South Arcot District, was subsequently extended to Trichinopoly also. During the year ending 31st October 1855, operations were carried on in seven different talooks of the South Arcot District, in which the number of villages surveyed was in all 150, containing an area of 275 square miles, or 1,76,206 acres, of which 83,776 acres were cultivated land. The charges incurred amounted to Rupees 22,254. In the period intervening between the 1st November 1855 and 31st October 1856, the area surveyed was 450 square miles, including both cultivated and uncultivated lands. The operations embraced the talook of Arialoor in the Trichinopoly District, and that of Chettambaram in South Arcot, the former consisting of 179, and the latter of 150 villages. Some progress was also made in the Manargoody talook of the last mentioned District. The number of fields measured was 2,01,332; their extent 2,24,253 acres. The number of Survey Ameen employed was 30; and their average daily work 33.3 fields, with an area of 37 acres.

4. By a Memo. received from the Board dated 20th May 1857, the Government have learnt that the survey of the Manargoody talook would yet occupy two months from that date; thus, the whole of the South Arcot District will have been surveyed in 33 months from the sanction of the Government of India being communicated to Captain Priestley; and considering that, when he arrived at Cuddalore in April 1853, so far from finding a ready organized Department, he could not obtain one man possessed of even the most elementary knowledge of surveying; this, the Government cannot but regard the result attained as very creditable to the Superintendent's energy and ability.

5. The whole area surveyed to the close of October 1856, amounted to 765 miles, viz. 40 miles up to 1854, 275 miles in the year following, and 450 miles in that just expired. The charges incurred during the past two years amounted to Rupees 60,758 including Rupees 2,488 for boundary pillars and other contingencies, and being apportioned on the extent measured in those years, viz. 725 miles, gives an average of Rupees 83.12-10 per mile, which is large in comparison with the Board's previous estimate of Rupees 44-8, and much higher than the cost of the Bengal survey; but consideration is due to the facts that much more minute holdings were separately measured by Captain Priestley, than were surveyed in Bengal or the North Western Provinces, and that Captain Priestley likewise combined the khushrah method with the

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு-1

செய்ப்பணிப்பவர் பெயர் *யா. வி. சிவசுப்ரமணியன்*
செய்ப்பணிப்பவரது தகவல் *11/06*
எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்
செய்ப்பணிக்கு முடிந்த நாள் *11/07*
சரிபார்க்கும் *சு. சிவசுப்ரமணியன்*
முதல் மு.நி.பா.எ. *2ம். நி.பா.எ.*
கையொப்பம் *கையொப்பம்*

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 8th September 1857.

previously traversed boundary, a process by which, it is stated greater accuracy has been obtained.

6. It will be seen that the expectation held out to this Government of an annual survey of 720 square miles of fields, or 800 square miles including unbroken waste, jungle, &c., has not been realized. In the original estimate it was calculated that each Ameen would measure about 25 fields per diem, with an average extent of 60 Acres for the whole. The failure to attain the estimated standard as to extent, is owing partly to the working days having been about 200 instead of 260 as reckoned in the original estimate, but chiefly to the survey Ameens having been required, under circumstances which will be found explained in the Board's proceedings, to measure each distinct cultivated plot, whereas, according to the original plan, it was proposed that two or more of these small patches of cultivation should be clubbed together, to form a separate number for measurement: Captain Priestley was of opinion that if the fields had been of the size contemplated, the area surveyed during the year 1855-56 would have been about 700 square miles. The work performed was however in excess of that of the previous year, and greatly in excess of that done in 1854, and so far the result is satisfactory; but remembering that the full strength of the establishment had not been put forth for a whole year continuously until the one now past, no fair comparison can be drawn, between 1856 and the two previous years. But considering, in the abstract, the amount of work done and its cost, this Government think with the Board that their estimate of Rs. 44-8 per mile, will not be much exceeded ultimately, when operations on an enlarged scale are systematically undertaken.

7. There is however one point, which the Governor in Council desires me prominently to bring to the notice of the Government of India; and that is, the satisfactory result of the operations, as far as correctness goes, the amount ascertained by traverse varying only 0.72 per cent. from that measured by the Ameens.

8. In conclusion, I am directed to add that of the sum of Rs. 41,790 sanctioned by the Government of India for the survey operations, there remained at the close of October 1856 an unexpended balance of Rs. 18,262, which was reduced by the expenditure of the succeeding months to Rs. 1,635 on the 1st April 1857. It is however to be observed that the expense of surveying the four dry talooks in Trichinopoly, (an operation which was sanctioned in order that the surveying parties might not remain idle during the time when the state of the cultivation, and of the season, in South Arcot, rendered the continuance of the work there impossible) has been entirely defrayed from the amount sanctioned for South Arcot. The Board have promised to submit a detailed statement of the expenditure since the close of the second year which has not yet been received, but the Government have no doubt that on the completion of the survey, the sanctioned amount will not have been exceeded. The reassessment of the land will be made under the directions of the Superintendent of settlement for the General survey.

*Copy
Dispt 1/11*

To H. H. Esq. No. 882.

Cecil Beaton Esq.

*Secretary to the Government
of India.*

Sir,

*Paras. In the resolution of
the most noble the Governor
General of India in Council
in the Financial department
dated 3rd September 1854 No. 3420
Sanction was granted for an
additional establishment for
the experimental Revenue
Survey, of the South Arcot
District, at a cost of Rupees
40,000 per annum for two years,
subject to a full report of
progress at the expiration of
that period. In pursuance
of this order, I am now directed
by the Right Honorable the
Governor*

*A
1/11*

Governor in Council to forward, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying extracts from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue reporting on the survey operations to the close of the year ending 31st Oct^r 1856, together with extracts from the Minutes of Consultation of the 9th February and 1st July last, reviewing ~~the details furnished in~~ those reports.

dated 21st Oct^r 1856 - 22nd 350.
" 15th May, 1857 - 1603.

2. The Governor in Council does not consider it necessary to advert to all the points connected with the subject noticed in the Board's Proceedings, as full information respecting these will be found in the review to which he

would

Survey operations in 1854-55.

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would attract the attention of the Government of India. It will be sufficient in this place to recapitulate briefly the extent of work performed and the charges incurred on ^{its} that account.

3. The survey, though originally designed for the South Arcot District, was subsequently extended to ^{the} Trichinopoly also. During the year ending 31st Oct^r 1855, operations were carried on in seven different talooks of the South Arcot District, in which the number of Villages surveyed was in 1850, containing an area of 275 square miles or 176,206 acres of which 83,796 acres were cultivated land. The charges incurred amounted to Rs. 22,254.

See

In the period intervening between
the 1st November 1855 and
31st October 1856, the area survey-
ed was 450 square miles,
including both cultivated
and uncultivated lands.
The operations embraced
the talook of agricultural in
the Trichinopoly District,
and that of Chettambouram
in South Arcot, the former
consisting of 179, and the
latter of 150 villages. Some
progress ^{was} also ~~has~~ made
in the Mamurgoody talook
of the last mentioned District.
The number of fields measured
was 201,332; their extent 224,233
acres. The number of survey
amen employed was 30, and
their average daily work 33.3
fields, with an area of 37
acres.

By

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Now as 3
4. By a Memo: received
from the Board dated 20th May
1857, the Government have learned
that the survey of the Mamur-
goody talook would get occupy
two months from that date.
Thus, the whole of the South Arcot
District will have been surveyed
in 33 months from the sanction
of the Government of India being
communicated to Captain Dierthy
and considering that, when he
arrived at Madras in April
1853, so far from finding a
ready organized department
he could not obtain one man
possessed of even the most
elementary knowledge of
surveying, this Government
cannot but regard the
result attained as in the highest
^{degree} creditable to the Superin-
tendent's energy and ability.

The

that each Amcew would
measure about 25 fields
per diem, with an average
extent of 60 Acres for the
whole ~~25~~ fields. The failure
to attain the estimated
standard as to extent, is
owing partly to the working
days having been about
200 instead of 250 as was
reckoned in the original
estimate, but chiefly to
the Survey Amcew having
been required, under cir-
cumstances which will
be found explained in
the Board's proceedings,
to measure each distinct
cultivated plot, whereas
according to the original
plan, it was proposed
that

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that two or more of these
small patches of culti-
vation should be clubbed
together to form a separate
number for measurement.
Captain Priestly was
of opinion that if the
fields had been of the
size contemplated, the
Area surveyed during
the year 1855/56 would
have been about 700
square miles. The work
performed was however
in excess of that of the
previous year, and greatly
in excess of that done in
1854, and so far the result
is satisfactory, but re-
membering that the full
strength of the establishment
had not been put forth for

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a whole year continuously
until ^{see note} during the past,
no fair comparison can
be drawn, between 1856
and the two previous
years. But considering,
in this abstract, the amount
of work done and its cost,
this Government think
with the Board that their
estimate of Rs 44.3 per
mile, will not be much
exceeded ultimately,
when operations on an
enlarged scale are
systematically under-
taken.

7. There is however
one point, which the
Governor in Council
desires me prominently
to

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to bring to the notice of
the Government of India,
and that is, the satisfactory
result of the operations,
as far as correctness goes,
the amount ascertained
by traverse varying only
0.72 per cent from that
measured by the Ancients.

8. In conclusion I am
directed to add that of
the sum of Rs 4,790 some-
times by the Government
of India for the survey
operations, there remained
at the close of Oct.
1856 an unexpended
balance of Rs 18,262,
which was reduced by
the expenditure of the
preceding month to
Rupees 1632 on the 1st April
1857. It is however to be
observed

showed that the expense
of surveying the four
dry Tulooks in Tichine
poly, an operation which
was sanctioned in order
that the surveying parties
might not remain idle
during the time when
the state of the cultiva-
tion, and of the season,
in South Arcot, rendered
the continuance of the
work there impossible) has
been entirely deprayed
from the amount sanc-
tioned for South Arcot.
The Board have promised
to submit a detailed
statement of the ex-
penditure since the
close of the second
year which has not
yet

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yet been received but the
Government have no
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pletion of the survey,
the sanctioned amount
will not ^{be} exceeded.
The reapeportionment of the
land will be made
under the directions
of the Superintendent
of Settlement for the
General Survey -

For Geo. 2: Sept 1857

ES

(Attest)

Adm. Secy.

Revenue 1857 Department
D. to Com. 8th September.

N^o 882.

Secretary to the
Govt. of India.

21st September 1857.

From the Off^{ce} Under Secy to the Govt
of India d^{td} 31st Oct 57 C. N. 1380

Forwarding the Extracts from
the Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue reporting on the sur-
plus operations to the close of
the year ending 31st October
1856 together with the order
of the 1st February & 4th July last
concerning these reports.

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c 26th Aug^r 21st Sep.