M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1085 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 19th August 1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 3. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th July 1859, No. 2959.

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 23rd July 1859, R. D., No. 985.

The Board beg to explain that the D. C. B. statements for June are always later than usual, owing to the exact demand not being known, until the settlement accounts are closed.

2. The Board, on this occasion, particularly requested the Collectors to expedite the submission of their statements as much as possible, and apprehending some delay, owing to the month being the last of the Fusly, they called for a return of the *collections* in anticipation of the regular statement.

3. The Board hoped to have been enabled, by the aid of the Telegraph, to have given this limited, though important, information by the 8th or 10th instant, but the delay of the Cuddapah return rendered this impossible.

Rajahmundry.
Guntoor.
Nellore.
Cuddapah.
Bellary.
South Arcot.
Tanjore.
Tinnevelly.
Salem.

4. The regular D. C. B. statements are now due from the districts noted in the margin.

5. The Board have repeatedly impressed on the Collectors the necessity of being regular and expeditious in the despatch of these returns, and, some time since, they called for information, as to the exact time the post took between each talook station and the Collector's office. From these the Board calculate, that, with five exceptions the statements from the districts should under all ordinary circumstances, reach their office by the 10th or 12th of each month. The exceptions are Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Coimbatore, and, probably Canara. From the first three of these the statements cannot be expected before the 15th, while that from Coimbatore, will be two or three days later. This is owing to defective postal arrangements, the post from one talook—Collegal—which is only 112 miles distant, taking no less than eight days to reach Coimbatore. The Collector has addressed the Post Master General on the subject, and the Board hope some improvement may be effected speedily. The delay in Kurnool is owing to a similar cause, the post from one talook, distant only 106 miles, taking six days. If the talook posts were placed in a proper state of efficiency, the Board might receive every statement by the 15th of each month. From Canara, no reply has yet been received; but, from the great length of the district, the Board apprehend some delay. In the above computation, the Board have taken the number of days required for a letter to reach the Collector from his talook, and the time ordinarily taken up for transit to Madras, allowing two days for examination, &c., of the accounts in the district, the chance of missing a post, &c. The Board's own statement is prepared in anticipation of the returns, so far as the entries of the previous year are concerned.

6. The greater delay which now occurs in the submission of these statements is also owing to another cause. When these statements were first framed, the talook collections, up to about the 20th of each month, were *alone* entered. This enabled a Collector to receive all his talook statements before the end of the month. Last year, however, an alteration was made, and the talook collections up to the end of the month, now appear in the statements. This change of practice causes a delay of as many days as the talook post takes to reach the Collector's office.

7. The Board have informed the Collectors of the latest dates on which they expect these statements to be posted, and hope this will ensure greater punctuality in future.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, 13th August 1859, No. 1085.

In these Proceedings the Board of Revenue in reply to the order of Government of July 23d, No. 985, explain the cause of the delay in submitting the Statements of collections of Revenue for June.

2. It is represented that as the Statements sent up by the Collectors include the demand as well as the collections, those for June are always late; because they give the settled demand for the year, which in many Districts is not ascertained till some time after the end of June. The Governor in Council observes however that the Statement submitted to Government gives the collections only; and it is to be regretted that it did not occur to the Board to procure that information in the usual detail, in anticipation of the ordinary District Returns.

3. It appears that those Returns are still due from nine Districts. The Governor in Council cannot believe that there can be good ground for this backwardness; and the Board will be pleased to report the cause assigned in each case, with their opinion of its sufficiency.

4. The Board will also give their consideration to the very late period at which the yearly settlement is now made in many Districts. It appears to Government that it might be, and ought to be, completed in every district at a much earlier date. The Board will carefully investigate the real causes of this delay, and report to Government what they are and how far and by what means they may be obviated.

5. Among the causes of the delay in the submission of the district monthly Returns, the Board allude to the inefficient arrangements of the táluq Post in many Districts; and they mention two instances, one in Coimbatore and the other in Kurnool. In the former case the Colligal Post takes eight days to reach Coimbatore, distant only 112 miles; and in the latter, the Post from one táluq, name not mentioned, takes six days to travel 106 miles to Kurnool. Delays of this nature, even to a much lower degree, are fatal to efficient administration; and His Excellency in Council resolves to bring these two instances to the particular notice of the Post Master General in the hope that improved arrangements may be made.

6. Independently of the necessities of the Government administration, it is obvious that a postal service thus conducted neither deserves nor will obtain the confidence and patronage of the public. Better arrangements and a more liberal expenditure where required, would probably, therefore, be even economically wise; while it would at the same time tend to make the Post office more what it ought to be as a public convenience and a civilizing agent.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

N° 1085

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 13th August 1859.
Read the following
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue -

Submitting the explanation called for by Govt with reference to the cause of the delay in the submission of the demand & Collection Balance Statements for June 1859.

(Here enter 30 July/59 N° 295

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3 It appears that those Returns are still due from nine Districts. The Governor in Council cannot believe that there can be good ground for this backwardness, and the Board will be pleased to report the causes assigned in each case, with their opinion of its sufficiency.

4. The Board will also give their consideration to the very late period at which the yearly settlement is now made in many Districts. It appears to be, that it might be, and ought to be, completed in every district at a much earlier date. The Board will carefully investigate the real causes of this delay

delay, and report to Govt. what they are and how far and by what means they may be obviated.

5. Among the causes of the delay in the submission of the District Monthly Returns, the Board include the insufficient arrangements of the ~~Taluq~~ many Taluq Post in ~~every~~ Districts; and they mention two instances, one in Coimbatore and the other in Kurnool. In the former case the Collegal Post takes eight days to reach Coimbatore, distant only

only 112 miles; and in the latter, the Post from one Taluq, name not mentioned, takes six days to travel 106 miles to Kurnool. Delays of this nature, even to a much lower degree, are fatal to efficient administration; and His Excellency in Council resolves to bring these two instances to the particular notice of the Post Master General in the hope that improved arrangements may be made.

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6 Copies
To
The Board of Revenue Dec 15
Post Master General "

Rec.d 29th July/59 Nos. 5-6.

Revenue 1859 Dep.t.

Pro: of Govt. 19th August

No 1085.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.

Dd 13th August/59.

From Off.g Post Master 24th Aug/59

Cs No 1557.

Pro: of the Bd of Rev.e 4/21st March/60

Cs No 729 in Pro: 7th May No 721.

No 384.

Passing observations on the explanations offered of the delay in the submission of the Statements of Collections of Revenue for June 1859 - Two instances of the inefficient arrangements of the taking Post in the Coimbatore and Kurnool Districts, to be brought to the notice of the Post Master General.

Read 5 x 6