M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-32.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1453 Press ~~Mis.~~

~~55-59~~

Dated 27-10, 1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

G.O. No. 1455 Recd 27.10.1859

Read the Report, Inclosures &c.

(1)

[H.S. Despatched from the Secretary's Office, 29.9.1859 attached]

(2)

MASULIPATAM,
12th October 1859.

Letter From G. N. TAYLOR, Esq.
Inám Commissioner.

To J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq.
Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit for the information of the Government a brief Report of the Proceedings of the Inám Commission during the first month of its operation. I have delayed the transmission of this paper in consequence of the non-receipt of Reports from the Deputy Collectors, extracts of which I was desirous of enclosing in my own.

2. Although I arrived at Masulipatam on the 12th August, it was not till towards the close of the month that the necessary preliminary arrangements were completed. Matters were fairly in train, however, by the beginning of September; the several Deputy Collectors had proceeded, with their newly formed establishments, to the táluqs assigned to them respectively, and the Inám investigation may be said to have actually commenced.

3. Notwithstanding the difficulties which naturally presented themselves at the threshhold of an undertaking like the present, I am decidedly encouraged by the reception which the Commission has met with in this district. Rapid progress, unchecked by obstacles of any kind, was not to be expected at first starting; but the obstacles are of a less formidable character than could have been anticipated, and they are gradually disappearing as the aim and intention of the Government become better and more generally known. Ignorance and mistrust formed the chief barriers to our early progress: the liberal terms of the settlement, and the benefits resulting therefrom, could not be brought home to the Inámdárs without the most patient discussion and careful explanation of the rules.

4. It was my first care to assemble as large a body of the Inámdárs as could be called together at the principal station of the district, and with the aid of my Special Assistants and Deputies to explain, to each and to all, the aim and objects of the Commission. Emissaries from the neighbouring táluqs were in attendance, watching the proceedings with interest, and taking part in the arguments on either side. The treatment of the different classes of Ináms, and the propriety of the various rates of quit-rent, were fully discussed; doubts were removed, prejudices met, and incredulity satisfied and assured; and before the termination of the meeting a general acquiescence was expressed in the justice of the principles of the settlement, and an evident desire evinced to accept the terms of enfranchisement.

5. Slowly and cautiously, however, were the first advances made on the part of the Inámdárs. As the inquiring officers proceeded to their work, doubts and fears had again to be combated and allayed, and it was not until the actual issue of Title Deeds in each Táluq that the confidence of the people can be said to have been gained. Without, however, dwelling upon this subject, I beg to refer the Government to the descriptions given by individual Deputy Collectors of the state of feeling with which the Commission was received in the several Táluqs. These will be found appended. *Enclosure B.*

6. The subjoined table specifies the Táluqs where the enquiry has been set on foot, the officers deputed for the settlement of each, and the number of cases decided in each week. It will be seen that the enquiry has already been extended to two Táluqs of the Rajahmundry District; and on the completion of those in the vicinity of Masulipatam, others in the Delta of the Godavery will be taken up.

	Táluqs.	Settling Officers.	Supposed No. of Ináms.	No. of decisions in each week. September. To 3rd.	10th	17th	24th	Oct. 1st.	Total.	Remarks.
		Masulipatam.								
1	Dívi	Sadásiva Pillay	372	17	46	101	113	77	354	
2	Bandar	Mr. Marcar	280	39	53	58	58	54	262	
3	Pedana	C. Rungachárlú	63	...	38	...	10	...	48	
4	Collapalli	T. Dharmaróyan	934	45	66	68	204	260	643	
5	Gudiváda	A. Shéshaya	1,347	...	118	155	152	101	526	
6	Kaikalúr	V. Rajagopál	1,451	...	68	60	78	151	357	
7	Rélangi	P. Muttusámi	2,921	...	...	35	60	122	217	
8	Pentapád	P. Ayalu Naidu	2,055	...	...	1	30	97	128	
		Rajahmundry.								
9	Undi	A. Ramachendra Ráo.	2,000	16	28	87	144	190	465	
10	Taunkee	P Chentsal Ráo	3,000	143	195	60	180	127	765	
		Total.	...	260	612	625	1,029	1,179	3,705	

7 Up to the 1st October, the Deputy Collectors aided by my special Assistants, had recorded upwards of 3,500 decisions the majority of which have already been confirmed or reviewed by me. Title Deeds to the number of about 1,748 have been issued from my office. These have been distributed only in the six Táluqs first on the List; the Inámdárs of the more remote Táluqs will attend my camp at the next station to which I shall shortly proceed. The proportion of persons who have declined the commutation, preferring to retain their Ináms on the present restricted tenure, is only 4 per cent., the amount of annual quit-rent newly imposed in the six Táluqs above specified is about 3,000 Rupees, of which about 2,600 Rs. was optional and 400 Rs. imperative. Nine persons have redeemed the quit-rent outright, by the payment once for all of Rupees 1,283 which have been deposited in the Collector's Treasury. A desire to redeem the quit-rent is very general. I am assured by several Deputy Collectors that the absolute freehold will be purchased outright by about one-fourth of the petty Inámdárs in their Táluqs after the next harvest has been gathered in, or before six months have elapsed.

8. The success which has so far attended our labours is owing, in no small degree, to the clear exposition of the spirit and principles of the settlement by the officers engaged in the inquiry, and to their wise application of the rules and instructions which have been framed for their guidance. The assistance of my Special Assistant C. Ranga Chárlu has been invaluable in this respect. Being deputed to visit each Táluq in turn, he has given practical effect to my written instructions, has removed the various doubts and misapprehensions of the Deputy Collectors, has smoothed their difficulties and aided them by his counsel.

9. In order that the Government may have a clear view of the practical application of the plan I have laid down for the Inám settlement in these districts, as well as of the various points of importance which have called for decision in the course of the enquiry, I append to this report, copies of all the more important instructions circulated to the Deputy Collectors from the commencement of our proceedings. I trust that these will be approved by the Government. In regard to the recorded extent and assessment of the Ináms in these districts, the difficulty of determining which was very strongly put in the Minute of the Honorable Mr. Elliot dated 27th July 1859, I have adopted the course which the Government will find detailed in my Proceedings dated 29th August 1859, No. 7. The Survey and settlement, so far as they have yet extended, are of little practical use to this Department. I am not yet supplied with the areas of Ináms in any one Táluq, and the principles upon which the new assessment is to be based, are not, I believe, yet determined. Under these circumstances I have acted according to the discretion allowed me by the rules. The arrangement adopted in each Táluq has been that which seemed to be fairest to the Inámdárs, consistently with a due regard to the interests of the Government. The object being to complete a settlement, once for all, with each holder of Inám land, it was desirable to take, as the basis of the calculation of the quit-rent, an assessment which, having regard to the actual rental of the Inámdár, should not be so high as to put it out of his power to accept the terms of enfranchisement. The rates vary considerably in the several Táluqs, and the

Enclosure A.

Enclosure B.

Government will remark, in the papers appended, that the peculiar circumstances of each Táluq have undergone careful discussion. The views of several of the Deputy Collectors on this point are deserving of perusal and are appended.

10. There is little doubt that the Ináms will be found on the survey to contain a considerable excess over the area recorded in the accounts. This excess, however, will be in proportion only to that discovered in the Government lands and in the entire area of the village. It is, therefore, no encroachment, unless it can be shown by the officers of Govern ment, that the original limits of the Inám have been extended. The rental paid to the Inámdárs and the assessment upon which the new quit-rent is now calculated, are the rental and the assessment of the entire Inám which is actually in enjoyment, whatever the exact extent of it may be: and if it should hereafter be found that the local measure really contains half as many acres again as was supposed, that is no reason for making an additional charge on the Inám. Considerable apprehension has been expressed by the Inámdárs upon this point, and assurance has been given them that it will receive due consideration. I beg therefore that I may be authorized to assure them that no extra charge will be made for such excess on the occasion of the survey.

11. As a check against fraudulent encroachments, it is expedient, however, that some limit should be fixed, beyond which this indulgence will not be allowed. I propose, that when the surveyed area of the Inám shall be found to exceed the recorded area by more than 10 per cent. above the proportion of excess discovered in the Government lands, the burden of proving such additional excess to be no encroachment, shall rest with the Inámdár. If he succeeds in establishing his claim, which will rarely be the case, he will be charged for this additional excess, the same rate of quit-rent which is paid for the rest of his Inám: if he fails, it will be confirmed to him subject to the payment, not of the full assessment, but, in consideration of his length of enjoyment, of one half of the ordinary assessment of the land. A reference to the Inám Register, and to the survey areas, will enable the Collector's Department at once to decide upon the claim of the Inámdár and to make the necessary alterations in the former document. According to this rule, supposing the average excess found in the area of the Government lands of the village to be 30 per cent, the Inámdárs will hereafter be charged, as above specified, for that portion of their holding which is over and above an excess amounting to 40 per cent. This arrangement will remove all apprehension, and will, at any rate, prevent further encroachments before the survey.

12. The Government will remark from the enclosures now submitted, that the objections put forward by the Inámdárs at the commencement of the inquiry, have been met upon all points, and the alacrity with which the terms of enfranchisement are now embraced, is the best proof that apprehension is for the most part allayed, and that the settlement is generally approved.

13. This result, so contrary to the expectation of many experienced public officers, is the more gratifying, because I believe it to be attributable to the clear, and at the same time comprehensive, plan of settlement, which we have adopted. So far from involving complication and details distasteful to the people, in reference to which some apprehension was at first expressed, the principle of varying rates of quit-rent, when carefully explained, is perfectly understood by the people, and commends itself at once by the fairness and simplicity of its application. They recognize its adaptation to the circumstances of each case; and finding that their rights, as well as their social habits and feelings, are fully respected, they willingly accept the proffered terms of enfranchisement. The proportion of cases in which the rate of one half, or even one-fourth, of the ordinary assessment is demanded, is exceedingly small, perhaps one or two per cent. This arises from the practical operation of the rule which provides that the settlement shall be made with the head of the family. All sharers under one grant, provided they are descendants of the original grantee, are dealt with as one family; and the childless widow is admitted, in common with the rest of the sharers, to the lowest rate of enfranchisement.

14. The difficulties which have so far been happily overcome, have arisen chiefly from a disbelief in the sincerity of the Government. The previous treatment of Ináms either in this, or in other parts of India, has not been such as to inspire a feeling of confidence in our justice or moderation. The question which has to be repeatedly answered is, "what guarantee have we that the present settlement is final; that the necessities of the Government may not at a future time, call for the imposition of a further tax?" Upon this point my reply invariably is; that "Government pledges itself in the title deeds which I now grant to you on its behalf, and its faith will not be broken." Any uncertainty as to the permanence of the settlement would

be fatal to the progress of the commission. The rules have gone forth under the authority of the Government throughout every district of the Presidency; they were repeatedly published both in English and the two Vernacular languages in several issues of the Fort Saint George Gazette, as well as in each district Gazette, along with the course of procedure, and translations of the various forms of title deeds; and the Inámdárs throughout the length and breadth of the presidency are now prepared for the new settlement. In these Districts where inquiry has actually begun, the people have been invited to attend by proclamation in every Táluq.

15. I am induced to urge this matter before concluding my report, because I observe that the Government of India in a recent despatch dated 5th August last, have generally approved the plan of a summary settlement of Ináms proposed for Bombay. The Government are aware that this scheme was under discussion when I went to Bombay in the beginning of the present year, and that in a memorandum written while there, I pointed out how the plan might be extended to this Presidency. Subsequent reflection however has convinced me, that the circumstances of the two Presidencies are not so similar as to render a plan which may be well adapted for the one, suitable to the other. The rates of assessment are generally so low in Bombay, and the probable treatment of the Inámdárs under the existing Inám Act so precarious, that a scheme, having for its object a summary settlement by the imposition of a uniform charge, equal to one-fourth of the ordinary assessment, would be hailed as a boon in that Presidency, while in Madras, where the rights of the Inámdárs have been less summarily dealt with, it would be regarded as illiberal and unjust.

16. Instead of the uniform imposition, without inquiry and without distinction, of a tax equal to one-fourth of the ordinary Government assessment, we have substituted an equitable adjustment of the claims of the Inámdárs, and of the reversionary interest of the Government. The scheme has been accepted by the people as the fairest solution of a difficulty for which no adequate remedy has heretofore been provided; and when their tenures are universally enfranchised, we shall have raised up a body of independant landholders, who from self-interest, if from no higher motive, will be attached to our rule, and be the strong supporters of our Government.

17. If difficulties have to be met and overcome under present circumstances, how would these difficulties be increased if the terms offered were less liberal and less in accordance with justice and good faith. The only advantages which can be put forth in support of the Bombay plan are its simplicity and the rapidity with which the settlement will probably be made. There can be no doubt that a fiat from the seat of Government subjecting every variety of tenure to a uniform charge of one-fourth of the ordinary assessment, could be executed with rapidity, but it would be in point of fact a real decree of confiscation, and, as regards Madras at least, would be received with general dissatisfaction and discontent.

18. I apprehend, however, that under any circumstances, a Register must be made, and the form which I have adopted will scarcely yield in rapidity and simplicity of preparation to any that might be devised. Judging from what has been accomplished in the past five weeks, at the commencement of the undertaking, our rate of progress with my present staff of Deputy Collectors (eight) will not, I hope, be less than 5,000 cases a month. At this rate the adjudication of the Ináms of the entire Presidency will occupy about 5 years; but I could easily superintend the operations of double the number of Deputy Collectors, or sixteen in all, and with this increased agency the work might be completed in 2½ or 3 years without a commensurate increase of expenditure.

19. I am now able to close this report by transcribing the following classified Statement, which shows the actual results of the operations of the Commission up to the 8th Instant.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,

Inám Commissioner.

Classified Statement showing the No. of Title Deeds granted and the amount of Quit-rent imposed from the 21th August up to 8th October 1859.

Name of the Táluq.	Dévadáyam or religious grants in which no quit-rent is charged.		Personal grants in which option of commuting the quit-rent has been given and accepted.		Personal grants in which the option has been availed of by the Inámdárs.		Cases in which the quit-rent has been redeemed.		Cases in which the payment of quit-rent has been obligatory.		
	No. of title deeds.	Amount of former quit-rent.	No. of title Deeds.	Amount of quit-rent stipulated to be paid.	No. of Title Deeds.	Amount of quit-rent.	No. of Title Deeds.	Amount received in redemption of quit-rent.	No. of Title Deeds.	Amount of quit-rent.	
		Rupees.		Rupees.		Rupees.		Rupees.		Rupees.	
Baridar	63	256 A	189	326	23	153¾ G	.....	.....	29	289¼ I	3 shares of Agraharam Rs. 109, inclusive of the former Jodi Rs. 104¾.
Callapalli	69	...	459	628	.....	.....	4	165¾	46	71	
Divi	20	6¼ B	181	345 D	10	25 H	.....	.....	18	37¾	
Gudiváda	51	7 C	413	1,899 E	7	27.	5	1,117¾	84	434 J	
Pedana	7	...	32	87	3	13	.....	.....	6	21¾	
Káikalúr	4	...	67	352 F	.....	....	.....	.....	3	4	
Total...	219	269	1,291	3,637	43	218	9	1,283	186	466	

No. of Title Deeds.
1696.—Amount of quit-rent to be paid Rupees 4,491 of which Rupees 1,457 is former Jodi.
43.—Amount of quit-rent not agreed to be paid Rupees 218.
9.—Amount paid in redemption of the quit-rent Rupees 1,283.

Total.—1748

"Jodi" means quit-rent.

A Paid on six Ináms.
B do. on one Inám.
C do. on two Ináms.
D Including former Jodi Rs. 84.
E do. do. 2.
F do. do. 1753.
G Existing Jodi Rs. 5.
H do. 660.
I do. 126.
J Including the former Jodi Rs. 1753.
do. 118.

ENCLOSURE A.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner, containing Circular Instructions to the Deputy Collectors employed in the Commission.

No.	Date.		Address.	Subject.
2	August.	20th	To all Deputy Collectors.	Preliminary instructions in regard to the preparation and dispatch of Registers, entry of Assessment and extent of Ináms.
4	„	29th	Ditto.	Directing that the voluntary nature of the Quit-rent may be carefully explained to the Inámdárs.
7	„	„	Ditto.	Issuing instructions on the mode of determining the value or actual assessment of Inám lands.
8	„	„	Ditto.	Directing Deputy Collectors to enter two or more villages in one sheet should space admit of it.
15	Septr.	5th	Ditto.	Circulating for adoption a form of Statement to be prepared and presented by Inámdárs as prescribed by paragraph 8 of the course of procedure.
21	„	8th	Ditto.	Regarding the correct spelling of names of persons and places, in the Roman character.
22	„	„	Ditto.	Issuing instructions on the mode of filling in the Register of village service Ináms.
36	„	14th	Ditto.	Circulating for general information a Statement of the results of the Inám enquiry up to 10th September and urging the necessity of increased exertion.
37	„	„	Ditto.	Communicating certain observations on the defective mode of preparing Inám Registers, and directing stricter attention to the Rules and further study of the course of procedure.
39	„	„	Ditto.	Issuing instructions as to when Title Deeds will be given to the Inámdárs of certain district Táluqs while to those in the neighbouring Taluqs they will be distributed in Bundar—as also on the mode of determining the amount of Quit-rent to be levied.
40	„	15th	Ditto.	Impressing upon the Deputy Collectors the necessity of explaining to Inámdárs the benefits that will accrue to them when allowed the power of disposing of their Estates to the best advantage.
52	„	21st	Ditto.	Instructing the Deputy Collectors as to the best mode of settling with the head members of the family in cases where there are several sharers in one Inám.
54	„	22nd	Ditto.	Noticing the continued error of adducing 30 years' enjoyment as a valid proof of good title and reiterating further instructions on the matter.
69	„	30th	Ditto.	Calling for certain information as to the data on which the Assessment was based and whether in determining the amount of Quit-rent, the consent of the Inámdárs was invariably obtained.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE INÁM COMMISSIONER.

DATED MASULIPATAM, *20th August* 1859.

No. 2.

To all the Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

As the Deputy Collectors are about to proceed to the several táluqs to commence the Inám enquiry, the Commissioner desires to remind them that their closest attention must be given to the printed Instructions dated 5th July 1859, which were framed for their guidance: any departure from the course of procedure therein laid down will cause confusion and a want of uniformity which will have the effect of retarding the operations of the Commission.

2. The necessary preliminary arrangements are understood to be completed in every táluq, where the investigation of Inám claims will be first taken up. The several Tahsildars have been warned by the Collectors to afford the most complete assistance, the people are prepared for the enquiry by proclamation and general invitation published in every village, the Deputies are provided with all required forms, papers, and necessary records for reference, and nothing is now wanting but the presence of the settling officer to set the enquiry in motion.

3. A few points only have to be briefly noticed, adverting to Clause 5 of the Instructions, the Inám Settlement officers will enter in the Register, as therein prescribed, the recorded or ascertained assessment, or annual value of each Inám, should the Commissioner after communicating with the Collector, determine upon adopting for the calculation of the quit-rent, any general rates of assessment for the different classes of land, timely information of this resolve will be given to the Deputy Collectors.

4. As prescribed in Clause 6, tables for the conversion of the local measures of obtaining in the several parts of the two districts, with their equivalents in acres and decimals, have been prepared and are herewith forwarded to each Deputy Collector. With these tables before him, the entry of the extent of each Inám by the Táluq Superintending officer, will be simply a mechanical process.

5. The directions laid down in Clause 10, must be rigidly attended to; the statements of the village officers are not to be blindly accepted; they must be carefully compared with other sources of information, and the reputed extent and value of the Ináms, must be checked by the entries in the Jamábandi and other accounts. The extent of the Inám will be entered in the Registers according to its present acknowledged enjoyment, as shewn by the most recent accounts taken by the officers of Government: when these entries are in excess of the extent recorded in older accounts or Registers, the same should be noticed in the Register now prepared, and the excess will be dealt with as prescribed in Rule XXVII. But even when the excess is of less than 50 years' standing, no quit-rent will be charged at the rate provided by this rule, if it should appear on reference to the Chaknáma or boundary lists, or from other evidence, that the excess formed a part of the original Inám. It is well known that the entries in the old accounts, which are recorded in the ancient measures of the country the extent of which is not definitely ascertained, are not to be implicitly relied on, as representing the true area: in cases of doubt, therefore, actual enjoyment, even for so short a period as 10 or 12 years, should be respected.

6. The Commissioner expects that the Deputy Collectors will, as directed in Clause 61, exert their best efforts to make the Inámdárs thoroughly understand the benefits which are held out to them by the proposed compromise, and that they will not allow any, the slightest, misapprehension of the intentions of the Government to exist in the minds of the people. It is especially important that the record of those cases should be speedily completed, in which the Inámdárs desire to enfranchise.

7. Fifty forms of the weekly progress Report, to be forwarded to the Commissioner by district Tappal every Saturday evening, are herewith furnished to each Deputy Collector.

8. The papers forming the fair copy of the complete village Register in English will be put together in the manner verbally explained by the Commissioner. On the completion of each Register, it will be carefully rolled up, put into the tin case now provided for the purpose and forwarded to the Commissioner's office by a táluq Peon deputed by the Tahsildar. The settlement of the 5 táluqs specified in the margin* will be made at Masulipatam, and the Inámdárs of the villages in those táluqs should accompany this Peon to the Commissioner's camp for the immediate confirmation of the decisions regarding their claims and for the purpose of receiving their Title Deeds. The Inámdárs of the more remote táluqs† now taken up will attend the Commissioner's Kuchéri at the next station where his camp will be held.

* *Divi.*
Bandar.
Pédana.
Callapalli.
Gudiváda.
† *Kaikalúr.*
Relangi.
Undi.
Tanuku.
Pentapád.

9. Lastly, the Commissioner confidently trusts that each Deputy Collector will put forth his utmost vigour, ability, and industry in endeavouring to bring to a speedy and successful termination, the investigations in each táluq allotted to him.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

In the Inám Registers fractional parts of acres are to be entered in Decimals. But as the Karnams from their ignorance of this notation may have to enter them in Guntas and Visams the following table for the conversion of these measures into decimal parts of an acre will be useful for the Deputy Collectors and their Establishment. The decimals need not be entered beyond two places; 40 Guntas being equal to an acre and 16 Visams being equal to a Gunta:—

Fraction of an acre.		Equivalent in Decimals of an acre.	Fraction of an acre.		Equivalent in Decimals of an acre.	Fraction of an acre.		Equivalent in Decimals of an acre.	Fraction of an acre.		Equivalent in Decimals of an acre.
Guntas.	Visams.		Guntas.	Visams.		Guntas.	Visams.		Guntas.	Visams.	
...	1 to 3	·00				21	7 to 12	·54	30	4 to 9	·76
...	4 to 9	·01	11	1 to 6	·28	21	13 to ...	·55	30	10 to ...	·77
			11	7 to 12	·29	22	3		31	.....	
...	10 to ...	·02	11	13 to ...	·30	22	4 to 9	·56	31	1 to 6	·78
1	.....		12	3		22	10 to ...	·57	31	7 to 12	·79
1	1 to 6	·03	12	4 to 9	·31	23	.....		31	13 to ...	·80
1	7 to 12	·04	12	10 to ...	·32	23	1 to 6	·58	32	3	
1	13 to ...	·05	13	.....		23	7 to 12	·59	32	4 to 9	·81
2	3		13	1 to 6	·33	23	13 to ...	·60	32	10 to ...	·82
2	4 to 9	·06	13	7 to 12	·34	24	3		33	.....	
2	10 to ...	·07	13	13 to ...	·35	24	4 to 9	·61	33	1 to 6	·83
3	.....		14	3		24	10 to ...	·62	33	7 to 12	·84
3	1 to 6	·08	14	4 to 9	·36	25	.....		33	13 to ...	·85
3	7 to 12	·09	14	10 to ...	·37	25	1 to 6	·63	34	3	
3	13 to ...	·10	15	.....		25	7 to 12	·64	34	4 to 9	·86
4	3		15	1 to 6	·38	25	13 to ...	·65	34	10 to ...	·87
4	4 to 9	·11	15	7 to 12	·39	26	3		35	.....	
4	10 to ...	·12	15	13 to ...	·40	26	4 to 9	·66	35	1 to 6	·88
5	.....		16	3		26	10 to ...	·67	35	7 to 12	·89
5	1 to 6	·13	16	4 to 9	·41	27	.....		35	13 to ...	·90
5	7 to 12	·14	16	10 to ...	·42	27	1 to 6	·68	36	3	
5	13 to ...	·15	17	.....		27	7 to 12	·69	36	4 to 9	·91
6	3		17	1 to 6	·43	27	13 to ...	·70	36	10 to ...	·92
6	4 to 9	·16	17	7 to 12	·44	28	3		37	.....	
6	10 to ...	·17	17	13 to ...	·45	28	4 to 9	·71	37	1 to 6	·93
7	.....		18	3		28	10 to ...	·72	37	7 to 12	·94
7	1 to 6	·18	18	4 to 9	·46	29	.....		37	13 to ...	·95
7	7 to 12	·19	18	10 to ...	·47	29	1 to 6	·73	38	3	
7	13 to ...	·20	19	.....		29	7 to 12	·74	38	4 to 9	·96
8	3		19	1 to 6	·48	29	13 to ...	·75	38	10 to ...	·97
8	4 to 9	·21	19	7 to 12	·49	30	3		39	.....	
8	10 to ...	·22	19	13 to ...	·50				39	1 to 6	·98
9	.....		20	3					39	7 to 12	·99
9	1 to 6	·23	20	4 to 9	·51				39	13 to ...	·100
9	7 to 12	·24	20	10 to ...	·52				40	.....	
9	13 to ...	·25	21	.....							
10	3		21	1 to 6	·53						
10	4 to 9	·26									
10	10 to ...	·27									
11	.....										

Table of the various Kattis and Puttis in use in the Masulipatam District and their equivalent extent in acres and decimals.

Number.	Number of cubits to the paggam or rope.	Length of the cubit.	Length of the paggam in feet.	Number of Guntas or square paggams to the Katti.	Equivalent of the Katti in acres and decimals.	Equivalent of 1 Gunta in acres and decimals.	Equivalent of $\frac{1}{16}$ of a Gunta in acres and decimals	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
		Feet.	Feet.	Guntas.	Acres.			
1	88	1·7,273	152	32	16·972	·5,304	.....	The ordinary kattis used in all the Táluqs except the 4 below.
2	80	1·7,273	138·2	32	14·024	·43,825	.....	
3	72	1·6,203	122·7	32	11·051	·3,454	.....	Garden land katti used in do. do.
4	76	1·7,184	130·6	32	12·539	·39,184	.....	This is also used in do. do.
5	88	1·7,273	152	35	18·564	·5,304	.....	Kattis used in the Táluqs of Elur and Gollapalli.
6	80	1·7,273	138·2	35	15·339	·43,825	.....	
7	72	1·6,203	122·7	35	12·089	·3,454	.....	
8	88	1·7,273	152	20	10·608	·5,304	.....	Puttis used in Relangi and Pentapad.
9	80	1·7,273	138·2	20	8·765	·43,825	.....	

Table of the Puttis and Kattis of the various Extent used in the Rajahmundri District and their equivalents in acres and decimals.

Number.	Number of cubits to the paggam or rope.	Length of the paggam in feet at 19-8 inches to the cubit.	Number of Guntas or square paggams to the putti or katti.	Equivalent in acres and decimals.	Equivalent of 1 Gunta in acre and decimals.	Equivalent of $\frac{1}{16}$th Gunta.	Equivalent of 1 kuncham $\frac{1}{80}$th or putti.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
		Feet.	Gunta.	Acres.				
1	80	132	20	8				The ordinary putti.
2	80	132	32	12· 80				The katti in the Undi Táluq.
3	32	52- 8	100	6· 40				Putti used in parts of the Tàluqs of kota Ramachendrapuram, Naggaram, Bikkavol.
4	40	66	100	10				
5	84	138-6	32	14·1,159				Katti.
6	96	158-4	32	18· 4				Katti.
7	98	161-7	20	12· 00				Putti.
8	88	145-2	20	9·6,786				Putti in Undi and Tanuku Táluqs.
9	84	138-6	20	8· 82				Putti in Tanuku Táluq.
10	88	145-2	35	16· 94				Putti in Tadimalla Táluq.
11	96	158-4	20	11· 52				The putti for Lanka or alluvial soil in the Mogaltur and Tanuku Táluqs.
12	80	132	25	10				Putti in parts of Bikkavol, Peddapur and Rapavaram.

No. 4.

No. 4. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner dated Masulipatam 29th August 1859.

To all Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

The Inám Commissioner hears with regret that an impression prevails among the hereditary Inámdárs in some táluqs where the inquiry has commenced, that the payment of a quit-rent is compulsory in all cases. The Deputy Collectors cannot be too careful in explaining to the Inámdárs that such is not the intention of the Government. The terms offered to this class are so liberal, that if properly understood, the Commissioner does not doubt they will be largely accepted; but it will be the duty of each Deputy Collector patiently to explain to the body of Inámdárs, and to each individual holder, what the benefits really are, which will accrue to them by the compromise that is proposed for their acceptance. A Telugu translation of the rules, which will be shortly provided, is not essentially necessary for this purpose, a careful discussion with the most intelligent, and a satisfactory explanation of all doubts by the Deputy Collector himself, will be far more effective than any written rules.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 7.

No. 7. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner dated Masulipatam 29th August 1859.

To all Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

The mode of determining the value or actual assessment of Inám lands, is a point of great importance. The Commissioner is disappointed to find, that the Revenue Settlement Department has not yet advanced sufficiently to furnish him with materials for the assessment of the individual Inám fields, or for the adoption of general rates for particular tracts of country, or kinds of soil; and as the lands in this district bear no other fixed assessment, the question is involved in difficulty.

2. Under the system of joint rents, the annual rent is apportioned by the ryots on their cultivated fields: the assessment of the latter fluctuates in consequence, from year to year, with the amount of the village rent, and the extent of land actually brought under cultivation. In the accounts of Ináms below and above two cawnies, prepared in Fusly 1263, the Inám lands were for the first time valued with reference to the assessment borne in that year by the adjoining Government lands of similar quality. The Amarakam settlement of Fusly 1263 having been based upon the favorable out-turn of Fusly 1262, this Inám valuation must be sufficiently high as regards the interests of Government; but is not believed to be equally fair to the Inámdárs. It appears to be a well established fact, and one which is also advanced in a communication just received from the Collector, that, from various causes, the Inámdárs derive from their lands a rent which is far short of that derived by Government from lands of similar quality. A valuation based entirely upon the latter data must, at least under the present circumstances of these districts, bear very heavily upon the Inámdárs. The valuation of Fusly 1263 was, as the Collector states, made by the karnams without any supervision or check, under the influence of personal feelings towards the Inámdárs, and frequently in their absence or without their knowledge, and must therefore be received with caution.

3. Were there any authentic and recorded returns of the real income or rent derived by the Inámdárs, the Commissioner would be warrented by the rules in receiving them as the correct valuation of the Inám lands: but such accounts do not appear to exist, except perhaps in a few parts of the district; and the statements which the Inámdárs, themselves the interested parties, may now make on the subject cannot be implicitly relied on.

4. Under all the circumstances the Commissioner sees no other alternative than to direct that the accounts of Fusly 1263 should be followed in entering the assessment of the Inám lands; but he feels that, in justice to the Inámdárs a discretionary power should be vested in the Deputy Collectors to mitigate any hardship which might result from the too rigid adoption of the assessment or valuation of that Fusly. He desires that in all cases in which the Inámdárs may demur to the assessment, inquiry be made by the Deputy Collector as to the nature of the land, its means of irrigation, irrespective of what may have been created by the Inámdárs or ryots own outlay, and the rent derived from it by the Inámdárs in comparison with other lands in the village; and on a careful consideration of all these circumstances, make such reduction in the assessment, not exceeding 4 annas in the Rupee, as may be considered fair and necessary; when a higher amount of reduction seems called for, it will be recommended to the Commissioner in the column of remarks. The original, as well as the reduced assessments, are to be shewn in column 7, and the grounds for making or recommending the reduction, should be briefly set forth in the column of remarks.

5. This measure of relief which cannot materially affect the interests of Government, and certainly not to the same extent as the adoption of any moderate average assessment, (being only ¼ part of the full assessment in ordinary cases) will, the Commissioner hopes, when applied with discretion by the Deputy Collectors, remove all hardships resulting from the absence of correct accounts of assessment, and give general satisfaction to the Inámdárs.

6. To assist the Deputy Collectors in estimating the correct value of Inám lands, a table of the estimated produce of different descriptions of soils (dry and wet under River channel irrigation) and the assessment which is chargeable on them though not yet fixed by authority, is herewith forwarded. When the means of irrigation are of an inferior and uncertain character, the assessment should be proportionately reduced. The various kinds of soil of the different Inám lands coming under inquiry, can be ascertained from the village authorities, or from the accounts of the classifying officers, if they are on the spot.

7. The Deputy Collectors are, in conclusion, requested to forward with the Inám Registers, a memo. of the different rates of assessment per acre on dry and wet lands, which were paid in Fusly 1263, and in the present or past Fusly; also the general character of the soils of each class of land referred to. This information will be necessary to enable the Commissioner to decide the cases with facility.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

Table of rate of Assessment for the Táluq of Gudivada.

Class and Description.	Sort.	Assessment at ¼ of the gross produce per acre of wet land.	Assessment at ¼ of the gross produce per acre of dry land.	Description of produce of wet and dry lands. In wet.	Dry.	Remarks.
1. *Alluvial and exceptional Series.*						
1. Lanka or Island soils....	1st sort 2d Do. 3d do.	No calculation have been made.				The grain values in the Table have been commuted to money at the following rates per putti of 960 Seers.
2. Permanently improved Totaculor Jareeland otherlands	1st do. 2d do.					
3. Clay régar containing upwards of ⅔ clay.....	1st do.	5 2 10	2 14 1			
	2d do.	4	2 ... 11			
4. Mixed or loamy régar, containing from ⅓ to ⅔ clay.....	3d do.	3 ... 11	1 10 4	White paddy.	Black paddy.	White paddy Rs. 16. Black do. Rs. 14.
	1st do.	6 1 9	2 ... 11			
	2d do.	4 15 2	1 10 4			
	3d do.	3 12 3	1 3 9			
5. Sandy régar containing not more than ⅓ clay...	1st do.	4	1 10 4			
	2d do.	3 ... 11	1 3 9			
	3d do.	2 8 5	... 13 2			
3. *Red ferrugenous Series.*						
6. Clay containing upwards of ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					No Soils of these classes have yet been wet in the táluq.
7. Mixed or loamy containing from ⅓ to ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
8. Sandy or gravelly containing not more than ⅓ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
4. *White and Grey Calcareous Series.*						
9. caly, upwards, ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
10. Mixed or loamy ⅓ to ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
11. Sandy or gravelly under ⅓ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
5. *Arenaceous Series.*						
12. Loamy or mixed ⅓ to ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
13. Sandy from ⅓ to ¹⁄₁₀ clay.	1st do. 2d do.					
14. Sandy, under ¹⁄₁₀ clay....	1st do. 2d do.					

N. B.—The proper principle of calculating the Assessment is at ⅔ of the net produce. But as the estimates of net produce received from the Settlement Department have not yet been approved by authority, and lead to rates which are obviously too high, the assessment appear to be open to that objection.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

Table of rates of Assessment for the Táluq of Divi.

Class and Description.	Sort.	Assessment of ¼ of the Gross produce per acre of wet land	Assessment of ¼ of the Gross produce per acre of dry land	Description of produce of wet and dry lands. In wet.	Dry.	Remarks.
1. *Alluvial and exceptional Series.*						
1. Lanka or Island Soils....	1st sort 2d Do. 3d do.	No calculations have been made.				The grain values in the table have been commuted to money at the following rate per putti of 960 Seers.
2. Permanently improved totacul or Jareel and other lands	1st do. 2d do.					
2. *Régar Series.*						
3. Clay régar containing ⅔ of clay.....	1st do.	5 12 2	3 3 10			
	2d do.	4 8 ...	2 5 ...			
	3d do.	3 7 ...	1 13 7	White paddy.	Black paddy.	White paddy Rs. 18. Black do. Rs. 16.
4. Mixed or loamy régar containing from ⅓ to ⅔ of clay.	1st do.	6 14 ...	2 5 ...			
	2d do.	5 9 1	1 13 7			
	3d do.	4 3 9	1 6 9			
5. Sandy régar containing not more than ⅓ clay.....	1st do.	4 8 ...	1 13 7			
	2d do.	3 7 ...	1 6 9			
	3d do.	2 10 4	... 14 10			
3. *Red ferruginous Series.*						
6. Clay containing upwards of ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					No Soils of these classes have yet been met with in the táluq.
7. Mixed or loamy containing from ⅓ to ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
8. Sandy or gravelly containing not more than ⅓ clay...	1st do. 2d do.					
4. *White and grey calcarcous Series.*						
9. Clay, upwards of ⅔ clay.	1st do. 2d do.					
10. Mixed or loamy ⅓ to ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
11. Sandy or gravelly, under ⅓ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
5. *Arenaceous Series.*						
12. Loamy or mixed ⅓ to ⅔ clay.....	1st do. 2d do.					
13. Sandy from ⅓ to ¹⁄₁₀ clay.	1st do. 2d do.					
14. Sand under ¹⁄₁₀ clay....	1st do. 2d do.					

N. B.—The proper principle of calculating the Assessment of the net produce is at two-thirds of the net produce. But as the estimates of net produce received from the Settlement Department have not yet been approved by authority, and lead to rates which are obviously too high, the Assessment has for present purposes been assumed at ¼ of the gross produce may be materially open to that objection.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 8.

No. 8. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner dated Masulipatam 29th August 1859.

To all Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

In modification of Clause 19 of the course of procedure to be observed by Deputy Collectors, the Commissioner directs that whenever the cases for registry in any one village are too few in number to fill one ruled sheet two or more villages be entered together on the same paper, under one and the same printed form of heading. The object is that no paper shall be uselessly wasted; but to ensure this it will not be necessary to cut or reduce the size of the ruled sheet; the better plan is to continue the register of another village and fill the sheet completely.

2. The Revenue number of the village should be entered in the heading of the register and the top line of the heading repeated in manuscript before commencing the register of the cases in a fresh village.

3. The number of each register should be entered distinctly in red ink at the left hand corner of the paper as shewn below.

Register No. 1. *Register of the village of*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	and so on.
No. 1.									
No. 2.									

No. 2. *Register of the village of*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
No. 1.									
No. 2.									

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 9.

No. 9. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner dated Masulipatam 1st September 1859.

To all Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

A Notification has been sent by the Commissioner to the several Collectors of the Presidency for publication in their local gazettes, informing all Inámdárs resident elsewhere, that the Inám Settlement is now in progress in the Rajamandri and Masulipatam districts.

2. Whenever the place of residence of an absent Inámdár is known the notice prescribed by para. 13 of the course of procedure should be sent there, the order being also posted in a public place in the village where the Inám is situated. If the Inámdàr resides in a different district the notice should be sent to him through the Collector to whom it may be forwarded by the Deputy Collector with an official Memo. requesting him to cause it to be served.

3. The Commissioner authorizes the Deputy Collectors employed in the Commission to fine Karnams and others for non-attendance and neglect to the extent of one Rupee under the general provisions of the Regulations and the powers extended to them by order of Government dated 18th July 1859, No. 959.* The Deputy Collectors are instructed however to be very cautious in inflicting fines on the village officers, as the Collector states they have so many other calls to attend to from the Revenue Settlement and Survey Departments, besides having their own duties to perform, "that it is all but impossible for them to answer all the calls on them."

* *Added in subsequent Proceedings.*

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 15.

No. 15. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner, dated Masulipatam 5th September 1859.

To the Special Assistants and Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

The Commissioner circulates for general adoption by the Deputy Collectors a form of statement to be presented by the Inámdárs prepared and already brought into use at Gudivada by A. Sheshaya. This is the statement prescribed in para. 8 of the course of procedure, and if drawn up in this form will be of great value both for present use and for future reference. The Karnam's Register should be filled up from these statements as they are filed and the English Register should keep pace with them. On the back of each statement should be entered a genealogical tree of the family, and before it is filed on the Deputy Collector's records, the statement should be attested by the village officers and two respectable Inámdárs of the village.

2. Each Deputy Collector has probably adopted some form of his own and it will not be necessary to alter those which have already been given in by the Inámdárs; but as uniformity of proceeding is desirable, the form now furnished will be adopted for the future.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

The headings are given below.

No. 1. *village* *Statement presented by* *Inámdár.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Names of Inámdár mentioned in documents and of person actually in present employment.	Age.	Place of residence.	Relationship to Sanadar and name of latter.	Particulars of family now living.	How and when Inám was acquired and condition of tenure.	Particulars of extent per gudicat dry and per mashat wet.

8	9	10	11	12
Limits or boundaries of Inám.	Particulars of shares as now enjoyed.	Outturn and Kattibadi if any.	Title deeds and other documents.	Remarks whether zufled or not, &c.

No. 21.

No. 21. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner, dated Masulipatam 8th September 1859.

To the Special Assistants and Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

The Commissioner must again call the attention of all officers of the Inám Department to the very great importance of the correct, and systematical spelling in the Roman character of all proper names of persons and places.

2. Furnished with a printed Telugu alphabet with the Roman equivalent of each letter, the system is easy of application by any man of ordinary intelligence who will take the trouble

to acquire it, and unless it is uniformly adopted by every officer attached to the Commission, the labor of this office is very materially increased.

3. The Deputy Collectors cannot be too careful in scrutinizing the orthography of the names entered in their Registers, and the Commissioner trusts to their enforcing the strictest attention to the subject on the part of their English writers.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 22. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner, dated Masulipatam 8th September 1859.

To the Special Assistants and Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

The form of Register for village service Ináms was circulated to the Deputy Collectors during last week. One book is deemed sufficient for each táluq. It should be understood that these Registers can only be filled up, as far as the 9th column, the entries in the remaining columns will depend upon information to be supplied by the local authorities, the Commissioner of Mofussil Police and the Member of the Board of Revenue who has been deputed by Government to fix the standard of emoluments for Revenue village servants.

2. The ultimate decisions of this Department will be reserved until the whole praticulars are before it; meanwhile the Deputy Collectors will be good enough to record all the information to be obtained by enquiry respecting each service Inám in every village, as they proceed with the general Inám investigation; noting in a rough register or on a separate paper for future reference such remarks as appear necessary together with their opinion regarding the validity of the Inám and its value to the holder.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner dated Masulipatam

To the Deputy Collector Inám Commission.

1. The attention of the Deputy Collector at is requested to the following remarks suggested by the perusal of his registers just submitted.

2. The Ináms belonging to villages in the several Zamindari estates forming the Táluq must be recorded in distinct and seperate registers, which should be numbered separately both for and Parganas.

3. A memo. explaining that the jodi paid to the Zamindar has been taken for the same year as the recorded assessment should accompany the register submitted.

4. Each and every decision of the Deputy Collector should be dated and signed.

5. Greater neatness and care are desirable in the preparation of the registers, the writing is not good and much space is unnecessarily wasted.

6. The quit-rent is frequently calculated inaccurately and it is not always stated that the Inámdár agrees to enfranchise, in cases where it may be presumed that he does desire to do so.

7. The Deputy Collector will also remark some notes in pencil in the register now returned in correction of mistakes which should be avoided for the future. In one instance it is recommended by the Deputy Collector that a childless widow be allowed to enfranchise on ¼th of the assessment and in another ½th, the rule in this case being that one half the assessment sh all be demanded.

8. Lastly, the attention of the Deputy Collector is called to the great inconvenience entailed upon this office by his disregard of the provisions of Rule XXV. It is more particularly desirable in Zamindaries that the entire Inám held under one grant should be treated as a whole, and one title deed given to the head member of the family. There will be no objection to the entry of all the names of the sharers in the Title Deed should they desire it, and it will be open to each sharer to obtain an Extract from the register in which the subordinate shares should be all recorded. Even when each share is entered as a separate Inám in the dowle accounts it will be for the mutual advantage of the Government and of the holders to treat the whole as one Inám charged with an aggregated quit-rent, and to grant a Title Deed accordingly.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 36. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner, dated Masulipatam 14th September 1859.

To the Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

The Commissioner circulates a Statement of the general results of the Inám inquiry up to last week for the information of the several Deputy Collectors and with the view of affording to each officer an opportunity of comparing his own progress with that of others.

2. It will be observed that there is great cause for increased exertion in the disposal of cases, the average number of cases which the Commissioner estimated might be disposed of in one day by each officer, is twenty. This number has only been approached in one instance during the past week; but, from experience already gained, and from the information now before him the Commissioner does not doubt, that with proper method and arrangement, that number can be easily accomplished and often exceeded. He makes every allowance, however, for the delays and difficulties which necessarily interfere with rapid progress at the commencement of an undertaking like the present one; but the Deputy Collectors will bear in mind that in almost every instance, a week or 10 days elapsed after their arrival in the several táluqs before any cases at all were reported.

3. In their future weekly progress reports, the Deputy Collectors will be good enough to enter the number of cases actually despatched to the Commissioner's office underneath the figures in the two columns shewing the number of cases *decided*.

(Signed) G N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

INAMS.

General Progress report for the week ending 3d September 1859.

No of Vernacular Registers completed.		No of cases in English.				Remarks.
		Recorded		Decided.		
Up to last week.	During this week.	Up to last week.	During this week.	Up to last week.	During this week.	
„	4	„	20	„	17	Divi.
13	15	24	48	15	30	Callapalli.
20	20	8	4	„	16	Undi.
„	11	„	73	„	143	Tanuku.
	None received from.....					Gudivada. Pentapad. Kaikalur. Relangi.
	By Special Assistant.					
5	8	11	41	10	29	Bandar.
	None received from.....					Pedana.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 37.

Circular, dated Masulipatam, 14th September 1859.

To all Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

1. Some of the Registers of Inám cases received at this office having been found defective in several respects, I am directed by the Commissioner to communicate for your information the following observations. They have been for the most part already recorded by the Commissioner on the individual cases and are now communicated in this shape for the convenience and information of all the Deputy Collectors and their Establishments.

2. In the Registers under notice the distinction between the validity of an Inám and that of the title of its present holder has not been kept in view, and this has led to confusion in the remarks. The enjoyment of an Inám by the present family for 30 years has been considered to give a valid title though such limitation is no where to be found in the rules, and the absence of heirs to the present incumbent has been adduced as a reason for imposing a quit-rent on the Inám without his option.

3. Under the Inám rules, the validity of an Inám is a question quite distinct from the relationship of the present holder to the original grantee—generally, the enjoyment of land as Inám for a period of 50 years, whether proved or presumed, establishes the validity of its tenure as Inám without reference to the relationship of the parties by whom such enjoyment was had at different periods. The position of the present incumbent as an alience or non-descendant of the grantee does not affect this question, nor does it alter the rate of commutation. It simply constitutes a ground of disability on the part of the Inámdár to decline the commutation, as he cannot legally hold the Inám on any other terms. Again, the presence or absence of heirs to the Inámdárs affects only the rates of commutation but neither gives, nor takes away, his option to consent to such commutations.

4. Under these circumstances the several points for the consideration of the Commissioner which require to be briefly and distinctly noticed in the decision of the Deputy Collectors are 1st, the validity of the Inám as dependant on its period of enjoyment; 2ndly, the position of the present incumbent as a descendant of the original grantee or an alience; 3rdly, in the former case his desire to commute; 4thly, the rate of commutation applicable to each case; 5thly, the amount of quit-rent proposed, and when it is not calculated on the recorded assessment of the Inám the reasons for deviating from that assessment; 6thly, the circumstances of any excess or deficiency in the Inám as found between former and more recent accounts; and 7thly, any past orders of Government bearing on the Inám; but if their are no such orders the circumstance need not be stated. The reasons for the Deputy Collectors decision on each of these points need not be given at length if they are to be gathered from the entries in the other columns, neither is it necessary to give the particulars of any oral evidence which may have been taken into consideration. The manner in which an alience obtained possession of the Inám is to be stated in column 20 and not in the column of decision of the Deputy Collectors, which should not be unnecessarily swelled.

5. The decision and the entries in the other principal columns should be clear and concise and should for this purpose be drafted in the rough by the Deputy Collectors themselves. They should also check in every case the entries of extent, assessment, &c., made in all the other columns by their writers and Goomastas; as these important particulars should not be left to the responsibility of the subordinates.

6. The Deputy Collectors should satisfy themselves of the *past* and *present* enjoyment of every Inám by reference to one or more past standard accounts and the Inám accounts of any recent year received from the Collectors' office. When these results are satisfactory it is unnecessary to refer to or quote entries from less important accounts. In a Register received at this office the entries of an Inám in the annual accounts of a number of past years were extracted, thereby unnecessarily filling a whole page with a single case. So again, when a sanad is produced, Dumbalas which may also be in existence need only be referred to, but not detailed.

7. In the Zamindari villages, the Deputy Collectors should satisfy themselves by reference to the Huzur accounts that no Ináms which were not entered in the permanent settlement accounts are now taken on their Registers. The existence of a sanad, however old, will not be sufficient for this purpose, as the Inám might have escheated prior to the permanent settlement. The Ináms at the date of the permanent settlement are found entered in the District of Masulipatam in the accounts of Fusly 1208, 1209, and 1210 in measures of produce, and they are also distinguished in the accounts of Fusly 1232 as Ináms before the permanent settlement, wherein their extent is also given. The entires in both these accounts should be noticed in the Registers.

8. Their may be Ináms entered in these accounts which are not now in enjoyment. These are not to be entered on the Registers, which are strictly confind to existing Ináms. But a note of them should be made on separate paper and forwarded to this office for eventual disposal, as the reversionary right to the Ináms in question belongs to Government and not to the Zamindar.

9. The Ináms situated in Zamindari and Shrotriam villages should be recorded in distinct and separate registers which should be num bered separately: attention is also requested to paragraph 2 of the printed course of procedure which requires that a separate register should be prepared for entire Inám villages as distinguished, from small Ináms consisting of individual fields in a village.

10. Paragraph XXV. of the new Inám rules requires notice, an Inám held under one Sanad in a village is to be entered as but one case. The names of the several divided sharers of the Inám whether members of the family or alienees, with the particulars of their shares are to be given in column 16. Commutation will be made with the head member of the family alone and at the rate applicable to him (without reference to the unfavorable circumstances as regards heirs in which any of the subordinate sharers may stand) and a single Title Deed will be given in which however the names of all the sharers will be entered if they desire it; and it will also be open to them to obtain on stampt paper an Extract from the register in which the subordinate shares should be all recorded. If any subordinate sharer of an Inám desires the commutation whilst the head member declines it, the same should be stated in the column of remarks. The names of the undivided brothers or other relatives of an Inámdár whom they may wish to be entered in the Title Deed should also be given in column 16, from which all the names can be at once transcribed into the Title Deed in this office. Care should be taken that the names in this column, 16, are spelt correctly and are given in full with the family names to be readily transcribed into the Title Deeds. In column 19 only such heirs of the Inamdárs need be entered as are likely to affect the rates of commutation, unless the Inámdárs otherwise desire.

11. The Inámdárs should be informed of the exact amount of quit-rent which will be chargeable on their Ináms in the event of their assenting to the commutation, that they may have an opportunity of discussing that matter with the Deputy Collectors. The Inámdárs will then come prepared to the Commissioner's office where the necessity of further discussions will be avoided.

12. The village authorities are too apt to enter Ináms as abandoned for the purpose of saving themselves the trouble of further attendance if not from worse motives. Every possible exertion will be made to ascertain the place of usual residence of the Inámdárs, that due warning may be given them to attend.

13. In Táluqs in which the demarcation department have finished their operations it will be desirable to enter the demarcation, as well as the old numbers of the fields in column 3, when the extent and Assessment in columns 4 and 7 are given according to different accounts the particulars of these accounts should be specified, and when the jodi of Ináms in Zamindaries was fixed at the permanent settlement in terms of grain, as at 4 Rupees per kandi of gross produce, these original terms as well as their commuted amount should be given in column 9.

14. To prevent the necessity of the Inámdárs re-appearing at the Deputy Collector's office after they receive their Title Deeds from the Commissioner, it is desirable that the Sanads, boundary lists, and other documents, which they may produce, should be initiated and returned to them immediately after the close of the enquiry into each case.

15. The Register of the Ináms of Village Artizans and others rendering services to the Village communities should be prepared in the same form as that furnished for the Government village servants, but should be distinct from the latter and seperately numbered. Ináms of this nature will be disposed of at once by the Commissioner.

16. In conclusion, I am directed to add that great neatness and care are desirable in the preparation of these Registers, and if the instructions above recorded and those verbally given by the Commissioner are duly attended to, it is believed that it will be quite possible to enter six if not more cases on each side of a sheet. Each and every decision of the Deputy Collectors on the Registers should be dated and signed, a model Register carefully prepared will be hereafter circulated for guidance.

(Signed) C. RUNGACHARLU,
Special Assistant to the Inám Commissioner.

In reply to references made by some of the Deputy Collectors, I am desired by the Inám Commissioner to inform you that in the Táluqs marginally noted,* the settlement of which is now being made by the Commissioner at Masulipatam, the Inám cases are to be sent up as soon as a sufficient number of them have been decided without waiting to complete the whole village or all the cases entered on a sheet; when this cannot be done owing to the absence of the Inámdárs. This course is prescribed because it is desirable that there should be as little detention as practicable to the Inámdárs. The fair copies of the registers received at the Commissioner's office will be returned as soon as the cases are disposed of, and the Title Deeds are issued, and in the meanwhile the Deputy Collectors will be able to fill in the rough copy, the cases of the remaining Inámdárs who may appear.

No. 39.
Proceedings dated Masulipatam 15th September 1859.

To all Deputy Collectors of the Inam Commission.

Bandar. *Gudivada.*
Divi. *Callapalli.*

2. The instructions laid down in clause 3 of Rule VIII. for simplifying the quit-rent of fractional parts not appearing to have been clearly understood, I am directed to communicate the following explanation on the subject. The clause in question directs that the quit-rent is not to be calculated in terms lower that 2 annas when its amount is less than 1 Rupee, in terms of 4 annas when it is between 1 and 5 Rupees, of 8 annas when it is between 5 and 10 Rupees; and of 1 Rupee for amounts exceeding 10 Rupees. All fractional parts of these terms of 2, 4, 8 and 16 annas or differences remaining over and above their multiples are to be struck out when they are equal to or less than half the amount of the term in the several cases, and when the fraction is more than half the amount of the term it is to be taken as equal to it. Thus, when the quit-rent is Rupees 3-1-0, 3-2-0, 3-5-0, 3-6-0, 3-9-0, 3-10-0, or 3-14-0, it is to be entered as 3 Rupees in the first two cases, as 3-4-0, in the next two, as 3-8-0, in the two after, and as 3-12-0 in the last two cases; the fractional parts of 1 and 2 annas remaining over and above Rupees 3-0-0, 3-4-0, 3-8-0, 3-12-0, (which are all multiples of the term 4 annas) being less than, or equal to, half the amount of that term, are struck-out. But if the quit-rent is Rupees 3-3-0, 3-7-0, 3-11-0, or 3-15-0, the fractional part over and above 3-0-0, 3-4-0, 3-8-0, and 3-12-0, being in each case 3 annas it will be taken as equal to 4 annas and added, and the resulting quit-rent will be severally 3-4-0, 3-8-0, 3-12-0 and 4 Rupees; vide margin.

Rs.	*As.*	*Rs.*	*As.*
3	1.	3	0.
3	2.		
3	3.	3	4.
3	5.		
3	6.		
3	7.	3	8.
3	9.		
3	10.		
3	11.	3	12.
3	13.		
3	14.		
3	15.	4	0.

3. I am further directed to acquaint you that Clause 2 of the above Rule VIII. should be read as follows. "The minimum *charge* of quit-rent to be made on dry land, &c. &c," the object being that the charge of quit-rent upon each entire or subdivided Inám should not fall below the standards therein given, but not to limit the rate per acre.

(Signed) C. RUNGACHARLU,
Special Assistant to the Inám Commissioner.

No. 40. *Proceedings of the Inám Commissoner, dated Masulipatam, 15th September* 1859.

To all Deputy Collectors and Special Assistants of Inám Commission.

Although the fears and misapprehensions which prevailed in the minds of the Inámdárs at the first commencement of the proceedings of the Commission in this District, seem to have been, for the most part, allayed, and the aim and object of the settlement to be now pretty generally understood, there is still one circumstance which the Commissioner has reason to believe continues to create hesitation on the part of a class of Inámdárs to enfranchise their present restricted tenures.

2. The class alluded to, are those among the Inámdárs who are involved in debt, and who naturally cannot, without considerable uneasiness, entertain the idea of their Ináms being liable to the ordinary operation of the law.

3. Whenever similar apprehensions are expressed, and are adduced before the Deputy Collectors as an argument against the acceptance of the terms now offered, it will be for them to remind the indebted Inámdárs that the existing restriction upon the alienation of Ináms was not imposed, neither was the past exemption from the jurisdiction of the ordinary Courts provided, for *their benefit*, but solely in order to protect the interests of Government, and that no obstacle, that could possibly be avoided, should be opposed to the enforcement of its rights. In relieving them of all existing disabilities and of all prospective interference on the part of Government it was not possible, nor would it be justifiable, to continue to exempt their Ináms by law from

sale on account of debt, as remarked in a letter recently received by the Commissioner from the Honorable the Governor "to make an entail in their favor now, would in a great degree defeat "the object of the settlement, in as much as it would stereotype encumbered estates in all parts "of the country; which, in the hands of solvent and improving proprietors, would be an impor-"tant element of wealth and prosperity."

4. Fully understanding themselves the value of the boon which is now offered to the people, the Deputy Collectors are in a position to prove to all with whom they hold communication that it is greatly for the advantage of the Inámdárs, as a body, that their estates should be a marketable commodity. It can be shewn to them in how many ways it may be for their interest and that of their families, to dispose of their Ináms instead of leaving them to descend to their heirs at law; and that in every case the value of the Inám is increased ten-fold by the enfranchisement of the tenure, as well as by the general knowledge on the part of the community that the owner is at liberty to dispose of it as he chooses.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 52.

No. 52. Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner, dated Masulipatam, 21st September 1859.

To all Deputy Collectors of the Inám Commission.

Notwithstanding the instructions communicated to the Deputy Collectors in para. 10 of the Special Assistant's Circular letter of the 13th instant, doubt appears to be still entertained on the subject of dealing with the head members of the family in cases where there are several shares in one Inám.

2. The object of Rule XXV. is two-fold. First to simplify the proceedings of the officers of the Commission by enabling them to deal with the most influential member of the family instead of with a number of divided sharers who may hold the Inám in common; and secondly, that the commutation being, as a general rule, made with one person on behalf of the whole family; the quit-rent will in this case be charged at the lowest rate provided by Rule V.

3. The advantage of this mode of settlement is mutual; but it preponderates greatly in favor of the Inámdárs. Time and labor will be saved in the preparation of accounts and the Title Deeds, and the Government officers will collect the quit-rent in one sum, and not in several portions of a few Annas or Rupees as the case may be; but on the other hand, the rate of commutation instead of varying from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ according to each sharer's position in respect of heirs, will be calculated as if they all formed one undivided family, and the Inám will be confirmed in the joint names of all the sharers.

4. The Commissioner cannot doubt that if this liberal mode of treatment is put before the Inámdárs, their consent to the arrangement will be at once obtained, and there will be no difficulty in nominating in every case a member of the family, as the representative of all the sharers in the Inám.

5. Where the head member has no lineal or undivided heirs it will still be found that all or some of the other divided sharers of the Inám are his collaterals within that degree which will constitute them his heirs according to Hindu Law, and to whose succession no bar will exist in the event of the enfranchisement of the Inám. The same principle is enunciated in Clause 2 of Rule X. by which Ináms are in cases of existing lapses, allowed to be continued to divided heirs subject to a compulsory enfranchisement which cures their defect of Title. The enfranchisement of the entire Inám should therefore in such cases, be allowed to be made at the lowest rate in the same manner as if undivided heirs were in existence.

6. Where the other sharers are alienees who have acquired the Inám by gift or purchase, or are collaterals of such remote degree as not to be legal heirs, they will not be made to suffer by the disadvantageous position in which the Head Inámdár may be placed in respect of heirs. They will be admitted to a separate enfranchisement with reference to their individual circumstances.

7. The wish and intention of the Commissioner is to relieve the Inámdárs from the uncertainty and annoyance described in paragraph 4 of his report to Government forwarding the rules of practice and to extend to them the advantages which are detailed in paragraph 16. When the two positions are presented to them in clear contrast, there can be little doubt, which they will choose.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

No. 54.

Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner, dated Masulipatam, 22nd September 1859.

To the Deputy Collector at ———.

In returning the accompanying Registers to the Deputy Collector at ——— the Commissioner again desires to point out the error of adducing 30 years' enjoyment as a valid proof of good title. In Zamindari villages neither 30 nor even 50 years enjoyment is the point at issue. All that is necessary to know is whether the Inám was in enjoyment prior to the permanent Settlement and is entered in the accounts of the years preceding it; and this point should be distinctly stated in the remarks to each case. The four cases marginally noted cannot be disposed of for want of the above information which is now requested to be supplied, generally the decision of the Deputy Collector can be simplified to the following effect. "The Inám is of a date prior to the permanent. The present incumbent a descendant of the grantee desires commutation at a quit-rent of ½ or Rupees 1-4-0 which is recommended." The reasons for this decision should be clearly exhibited in the proper columns. Thus in column 12 it should be stated in what accounts the Inám is entered, and if only in those of fusly 1232, or other years subsequent to the permanent Settlement, it should be specified whether it is therein entered as an Inám prior or subsequent to the permanent settlement; and in column 19 the particulars of heirs who are likely to effect the rates of commutation should be given.

2. In recording the extent of the Ináms in several villages some excess is entered. But the original extent according to the Sanad or the old accounts and the present extent of measurement should be given when the excess can be easily made out, as now prepared it is difficult to understand whether the extent given is the original or the present area, and whether it is inclusive of the excess or not. The original terms of the Jodi are also omitted in many cases.

3. In other respects the Commissioner observes a decided improvement in the Register though it is still wanting in neatness and conciseness.

By order.
(Signed) C. RUNGACHARLU,
Special Assistant to the Inám Commissioner.

No. 69.

Proceedings dated Masulipatam, 30th September 1859.

To the Deputy Collector at

With reference to the Registers of Inám cases recently received from you, I am directed by the Commissioner to request that you will supply information on the following points.

2. In some of the villages the Assessment assumed, calculated the Commissioner is desirous of learning whether the Inámdárs were informed, or appears to be too high, and as the quit-rent has not been whether you have reason to suppose that they are aware of the assessment at which their Inám lands were rated, and the actual amount of quit-rent which will be charged for enfranchisement so that there may be no possibility of their retracting their consent when they learn the amount of quit-rent on the issue of the Title Deeds in this office. Should you have reason to apprehend such a result, and consider a reduction of the assessment just and desirable in these villages or in others where the Inámdárs may have withheld their consent to the commutation, solely ewing of the heaviness of the assessment, you are requested to recommend the necessary reductions in the several cases with reference to your rough Registers.

3. Several of the Ináms are recommended to be charged with half assessment as being recent Ináms apparently for no other reason than that they are found entered only in the Government accounts of less than 50 years old. No explanation is given as to their origin, when, by whom, and under what circumstances they are said to have been granted, or as to the period when the estates in which they are situated reverted to Government, and whether the Ináms appear in the accounts ever since. Ináms generally are to be declared of recent only when they are known to have been granted within 50 years, in which case the date and circumstance of the grant can be easily given; or when they are not to be traced in any Government accounts of more than 50 years old, in which they ought to appear if they were then in existence. The permanent settlement accounts are the standard record for reference. But there may be Ináms granted between the period of the permanent settlement and 1809-10, which could not have appeared in the former accounts and would nevertheless be 50 years old. Under these circumstances the existence of an Inám, ever since the reversion of the Zamindari or estate, being shewn by the accounts, it will be necessary to ascertain, first by an examination of the Inámdár, his Sanads and Dumbalas if he has any; and secondly of the village authorities and the accounts before the reversion in the possession of the karnams, for what prior period the Inám was in enjoyment; and it is only when all these sources of evidence fail to give grounds of strong presumption of the prior enjoyment of the Inám that it can be declared recent. You are requested to review all the cases of recent Ináms in your Registers with reference to the above observations, and to state which of them are to be considered recent, and which of old, date; giving your reasons at length as bearing on the several points of consideration above adverted to; and when an Inám is finally decided to be recent, it should be further explained whether it was supposed to have been acquired through fraud of the present holder.

(Signed) C. RUNGACHARLU,
Special Assistant to the Inam Commissioner.

ENCLOSURE B.

EXTRACT FROM REPORTS OF THE DEPUTY COLLECTORS DESCRIPTIVE OF THE STATE OF PUBLIC FEELING IN REGARD TO THE INÁM COMMISSION.

M. Sadasivam, Deputy Collector.—Divi.

The first difficulty that presented itself on my entering the Táluq to which I have been deputed was the ignorance of the Inámdárs in regard to the object, and serious misgivings as to the probable result of the Inám investigation. They were evidently under the idea that our object was professedly to resume all rent free tenures by subjecting them to a rigid scrutiny for which we knew they were by no means prepared, and I can hardly find language to express the state of feverish excitement, anxiety and suspense in which the Inámdárs were till they had practical proof of the real intentions of Government through the cases that were afterwards disposed of.

The alleged advantages of commutation were considered purely imaginary or a bait with which to inveigle people into assenting to a quit-rent. The idea of "comforting the tenures" by giving a consideration for it, was quite foreign to all they before knew or heard of, and the quit-rent was and is still I fear considered rather as a tax imposed by Government for its own necessities than as a price paid for extension of existing rights or acquisition of new ones.

All this, I must remark, is not surprising, when it is considered, that a free-hold tenure is a thing hitherto unknown in India, and that a self imposed obligation in the shape of a commutation quit-rent and the consequent complete surrender of the rights of Government in the Inám is equally novel, and that the only thing their previous habits and knowledge enabled them to recognize was a Government tax. Time and actual experience of the benefits of this all important change will, I have no doubt, soon dispel the ignorance and prejudice which still prevails, and render our way smoother as we proceed.

T. Dharmaroyan, Deputy Collector.—Callapalli.

In the commencement, as in every other undertaking involving the welfare of a large body of the community, the Inámdárs appeared to have entertained a dread at the very name of the Commission; but when the object was *correctly* understood and Title Deeds in one or two villages most *readily* and *promptly* distributed, all that apprehension subsided. They had been under the erroneous impression in 1851, this district that similar to the one which recently swept away all the old Kachéri servants, this Commission would clear the land of all the Inámdárs.

I made a brief sketch of the views and arguments contained in the Honorable the Governor's Minute of the 13th May 1859, and the Commissioner's letter of the 6th July 1859, and explained it to the people with suitable illustrations and examples which carried the subject home to them. No such false notions now exist in this Táluq, in corroboration of which I would beg to refer the Commissioner to the fact that all the Inámdárs holding personal Ináms, in number upwards of 500, who have already gone to his Camp for Title Deeds, have all converted their Ináms into free-hold Estates, and I believe the people in this Táluq were the first that purchased the free-hold outright by the payment of 20 years' quit-rent. The result would certainly have been otherwise if it was not for the new principle introduced for rendering the Ináms permanent and free from all interference and restrictions and the future transfer of their adjudications to the Judicial branch from the present ambiguous and uncertain, though summary but dilatory decisions of the Revenue Authorities.

A. Ramachendra Rao, Deputy Collector.—Undi.

Great were the apprehensions of the Inámdárs regarding the Commission before the investigation was opened. They were labouring under the false idea that the Commission was appointed for the purpose of imposing a small tax on all rent-free lands and of attaching whole sale, Ináms without sanads or with defective Titles. A careful explanation of the object and advantages of the present settlement soon removed the fears and anxiety of the Inámdárs. They at once saw that in cases where the Inám was ancestral property it was optional with them to accept or refuse the terms according as they desired or not to establish their rights in permanency to their tenures, and to avoid all future interference on the part of Government. Those who had acquired their Ináms through alienation, did not feel the compulsory acceptance that was demanded of them, when they saw that the terms of commutation were as liberal as those offered to descendants of the original grantees, and that the quit-rent once charged gave them as good and as valid a title in the same as their brethern. On the other hand, the descendants of the original holders came forward

and accepted with readiness the terms of enfranchisement, the more so, since the introduction of the very liberal mode of settlement laid down by the Commissioner in his proceedings of the 22nd instant, No. 52.

P. Chentsal Rao, Deputy Collector.—Tanuku.

It was with difficulty that I was at first able to get the attendance of the Inámdárs. They all seemed to be under an apprehension that the organization of the Inám Commission was decidedly to their disadvantage and that they were about to lose all their Ináms.

In one of my conversations with a respectable Inámdár at Narsapur just a day before I left it for Tanuku he mentioned to me that he and all the Inámdárs would gladly give up a quarter of their Inám if that would satisfy the Government and put an end to the Inám Commission which he said, he was afraid, will do him greater injury, that the Inám Rules of 1848 subjecting the Ináms to a report on the occurrence of a lapse, were purposely framed to their disadvantage. They have scarcely any confidence in the statements of the officers of the Inám Commission, and they believe that the Government would take away their Ináms gradually, that they have begun with a small Kuttabaddi and that they will end it with full assessment in the course of a few years. But I hope that this idea will cease to exist ere long when the Pattas confirming their Titles will be distributed. Most of the Inámdárs have agreed to convert the tenure of their Ináms into free-hold to avoid any further interference.

V. Rajagopal Charlu, Deputy Collector.—Kaikalur.

It is very gratifying to me to be able to state that the feeling of dislike with which every past attempt to inquire into Inám tenures and titles has been viewed, has not in the slightest degree been evinced in the case of the present investigation. Our operations were no doubt in the beginning, before the work was fairly commenced, regarded with a certain amount of suspicion, but as the benevolent intentions of Government came to be more and more widely spread and explained and better understood by the Inámdárs such feeling has been dispelled from their minds. They also had, and even expressed, in the commencement some fears that the quit-rent now charged might be affected by the rate of assessment that the "Revenue settlement Department" might hereafter introduce. I then read out and explained to them Rule VIII. which says that the quit-rent shall be permanent and not subject to any alteration at any future revision of the assessment, and they are satisfied on that point also.

P. Ayalu Naidu, Deputy Collector. Pentapad.

The Inámdárs as a body do not appear to have been fully convinced of the objects of the Inám Commission; but their feelings with regard to it are rather favorable. The intelligent portion among them seem to be glad of the present settlement, and appreciate the benefits conferred by it. Some, however, labour under a wrong impression that the quit-rents now imposed on them will be liable to increase at some future period according to the exigencies of the State, and with great difficulty, I have succeeded in expelling such false notions from the minds of many.

A. Séshaya, Deputy Collector.—Gudivada.

The first movements of the Inám Commission were watched with the deepest anxiety. The conference of the Commissioner with the Masulipatam Inámdárs dispelled to a great extent the fears that had been up to that time entertained by the great mass of Inámdárs. But very incorrect reports of that conference reached this Táluq, and I found the Inámdárs in a state of alarm. The alarm vanished when they heard the first rule of the settlement, which is really the hinge on which the Inám Commission turns. They were agreeably surprised to find that that rule in fact threw a veil over all defects of title arising from suspicious or fabricated documents or from the absence of any sort of any title deed as well as from the notorious incompetency of the granters. They were equally surprised and gratified to find that excess and encroachments of 50 years' standing were to be considered as part of the Inám.

The character of the quit-rent under rule V. was also much misunderstood, naturally enough they associated it with the idea of taxation, and could not for a long while be brought to perceive the justice of subjecting to quit-rent Ináms that had been tax free for a century. But when it was explained to them that the so called quit-rent was in reality a quit-rent of emancipation, intended to secure the Inám from ever lapsing to the Government and to vest in the holder a free-hold right such as he never yet legally enjoyed. They all acquiesced alike in the justice and moderation of the quit-rent. One great objection which even the most sensible of them did not fail to urge was that the free-hold might end in the permanent alienation of the Inám from the family by its being sold for arrears of quit-rent or private debt; in fact the free-hold so purchased might prove injurious to the holder of the Inám property. In answer to this I had only to ask them how many have yet sold their patrimonial estates for debt or what percentage of the Ináms had been sold out of the family when Ináms had to be sold before 1848. The rule that renders the Ináms liable to be sold, declares them competent to be purchased, and there were in the general course of human affairs, as many chances of people adding to their patrimonial estates by purchase, as of people by their folly losing them altogether by sale, or if in other words, if a profligate father lost his Inám, there was nothing to prevent his industrious children from getting it back, or purchasing other more profitable Ináms.

Besides the additional value in the market which is acquired by the Ináms being enfranchised, there is great advantage which is secured by the franchise to those Inámdárs, who are absent from the villages wherein their Ináms are. To these, their Ináms are now worth little or nothing, and when they are of inconsiderable extent, they yield them scarcely enough to pay the expense and trouble of travelling, which they are periodically obliged to undergo to collect the rental. The best course for these would hereafter be to sell such Ináms to those on the spot to whom they would be invaluable for such a sum as would enable them to purchase similar landed property nearer home.

T. Muttusámi Ayar, Deputy Collector.—Ichángi.

I beg to state that on my arrival here, I met with no agreeable reception from the Inámdárs of this Táluq. They seemed to look upon me with feelings of dread and to wish that the Commission had not been instituted. They spoke to me as if something unexpected had befallen to their property, and as if they were in need of assistance at the hands of the Government. This unfounded apprehension was occasioned by want of an accurate knowledge of the spirit of the Inám rules and the object of the Commission, and by the erroneous impressions they had received from the floating rumours and the misstatements of uninformed persons.

When the Inám rules were explained to them para. by para. and copies of the Gazette containing their translations were distributed for perusal, these apprehensions were in a great measure removed. The difficulty that I had to contend with was a prevailing disbelief that the rules would be given effect to in practice. The Inámdárs suspected that the rules about the excess and the grant of permanent Pattas would not be enforced; some even wishing to know whether I could *solemnly* assure them respecting the sincerity of Government. To remove such doubts I caused the two rules alluded to to be immediately copied, and to be published under my seal and signature, adding for their assurance that they would be strictly given effect to in practice. The next difficulty I had to meet with, was the way in which the Assessment was to be fixed. I explained to them the instructions furnished to me on the subject, and stated that the low rental they receive from the ryots would also be taken into consideration. The next difficulty I had to surmount was their proneness to act more from example than from conviction and to follow the conduct of 5 Inámdárs who hold more than 10 pattis of Ináms each and have to pay a large amount of quit-rent if they should agree to commute. I argued with them separately respecting the liberal spirit of the rules and was able to convince four of them. Since then many of the Inámdárs gladly commute.

C. Runga Charlu, Special Assistant.

The Táluq of Pedana which was assigned to me as an experiment was as you are aware disposed of in two days leaving a few cases of absent Inámdárs and of Ináms granted before the permanent settlement but since discontinued by a Zamindar which I believe will also come under our present enquiry as the reversionary right to the Ináms rests in Government and not in the Zamindar. The terms offered for the enfranchisement of the Inám tenures into a free-hold have been all willingly accepted in three cases. The holders of two of these Ináms withheld their consent, they conceived that their right derived from a Sanad of Tanésha a Mohomedan king of the Golecondá Dynasty was perfect; and the third was involved in debt, but all of them evinced considerable anxiety on the subject.

Pedana being comparatively an important Táluq, I beg to offer my observations on the several points adverted to in your proceedings as bearing upon all the Táluqs in which the settlement is now in progress, and which I have just returned from visiting in accordance with your instructions. The state of feeling in regard to the Commission is, I am gratified to observe, everywhere very satisfactory. The Inámdárs look upon it as a real boon, constituted as it is upon principles so entirely different from the ideas which they are accustomed to associate with an Inám Commision. They readily perceive that resumption is not its object, though they are

slow to understand the principle and nature of the new rights which are proposed to be conferred on them. The practical inoperativeness of the Inám lapse rules and the sale of Inám property till a recent period by the Civil Courts in these districts have produced some idea of security in Inám property. So that it is with some difficulty that they can be made to understand that the so called security rests on the sufferance of Government and the sympathy or indolence of the local officers than on any distinct recognition of their title. They have however had practical proof of the uncertainty of their existing tenures in the large resumption of Inám lands granted subsequent to the permanent settlement which has been made in Masulipatam within the last few years. They are glad to purchase exemption from their uncertainties and the right of a free-hold on the liberal terms offered to them by the rules. The difficulty does not consist so much in convincing them of the advantages of the Inám settlement as a whole, but rather in making them understand the principle of the Government surrendering its rights for ever for a tax. They are slow to believe that a small tax now imposed will not lead to a heavier one hereafter. But in those Táluqs where Title Deeds have been issued, the confidence of the Inámdárs is rising. The possession of a Title Deed under the seal of Government seems to satisfy them that their title now rests on a much stronger basis than heretofore, and they will be gradually satisfied that the pledge which the Title Deed conveys will be duly fulfilled.

There is also much difficulty in making the Inámdárs understand the principle of a voluntary settlement which is quite unknown in the Revenue administration of the country. They have been accustomed to make the largest demands and to consider what terms may be finally offered as conveyed by an authority which cannot be resisted. But even this principle of option is now more extensively understood than it was at the commencement. It affords the strongest security against discontent. It ensures conciliation on the part of our officers, and content, and satisfaction to the Inámdárs. The best proof of the satisfaction given by our settlement is to be found in the earnestness with which the Title Deeds of Government are sought by all Inámdárs.

To the often raised question that the rights of free-hold which are now proposed to be conferred on Inámdárs will only facilitate the alienation of the Ináms from their families in satisfaction of debts and other claims from which they are now free; I have found the explanation contained in your proceedings to be a conclusive answer, viz. that the restriction against alienation hitherto in force was intended not for the protection of Inámdárs from the legal consequences of their debts, but for the protection of the interests of Government, which I have amplified by stating that Government may feel disposed to waive the restriction in favor of any creditors who may offer to enfranchise the Inám by furnishing him with authority to obtain the sale of the Inám by a legal action in satisfaction of the debts. This point being as above disposed of, the advantages of a free-hold are now readily perceived. Considerable numbers of the Inámdárs already begin to understand them, and I have held a long conference with some of them at Akíd. They were able to maintain a long discussion with me on the advantages of a free-hold, in which discussion I assumed the position of a dissatisfied Inámdár. They were able to point out to how many accidents and sources of interference an Inám even upon heriditary terms is subject, how it may become necessary for them to divide the Inám amongst several sharers, how each share may revert to Government sooner or later from failure of lineal heirs, how sometimes it may be found desirable to provide for near relatives other than lineal heirs, how often it may be found beneficial to sell away scattered Ináms situated in different and distant villages and yielding no profit and to purchase with the proceeds other Ináms nearer their resident village which they can turn to better account, and in short how in every way the value of the Inám will considerably rise in comparison with what it bears on its present restricted tenure. But some time must elapse between their understanding these notions which are taught to them and making them their own by application to their practical concerns of life. Generalities are with difficulty understood, a great deal of patience is necessary in applying the rules to the varying circumstances of each Inámdár in order to produce conviction on his mind.

The Inámdárs as a body are too poor to redeem at once the quit-rent which may be imposed upon their lands. But as this part of the settlement is left open to them without any limitation of time, I have no doubt of their redeeming the quit-rent as they acquire means for that purpose.

Mr. S. Marcur Special Assistant.

Previous to the commencement of the enquiry, the object for which the Inám Commission was appointed, and the advantages that the Inámdárs may expect to derive by converting their hitherto uncertain tenure into a perpetual free-hold with power to alienate, were, as directed, explained and set forth to all those that were present. They appeared on the whole, to be deeply impressed with the just and liberal intentions of Government, in thus giving stability and an appreciable value to their landed property, and expressed their entire satisfaction at the rules framed for carrying out these measures; a feeling of discontent, however, was shortly afterwards exhibited by some of the Inámdárs; but the endorsement of the Inám Commissioner on their petition tended at once to dispel from their minds

all grounds of doubt and misgivings. Confidence having thus been secured, the settlement of te Táluq subsequently proceeded with in a manner that shewed unmistakeably how desirous the Inámdárs were to avail themselves of the terms so liberally held out to them. For the first few days the work in the office went on somewhat tardily in consequence of the Karnams and Táluq officers being unacquainted with the proper method of preparing the vernacular registers; but this temporary difficulty was soon overcome, and the enquiry proceeded without any obstruction.

Extracts from letters of the several Deputy Collectors explanatory of the course adopted by them in fixing the Assessment of Ináms with reference to the Commissioner's Proceedings, dated 20th August 1859.

M. Sadasivam, Deputy Collector.—Divi.

The impossibility of obtaining any thing like a trustworthy statemen of yearly rent paid to the Inámdárs, coupled with the generally known circumstance, that these rents are much below what would be paid for similar Government land presented themselves to my mind, and I farther learnt that the assessment placed on the Inám in the above account was that of some one neighbouring field and not an average of the rates on all the surrounding ones. Under these circumstances it appeared to me that the assessment now to be assigned to the Inám should be the mean of those of all the Cirkar fields around in the last Fasli 1268. If the outturn of that Fasli is less than that of Fasli 1262, so is that of each of the years succeeding, to the present period, and I thought that such a continued decline below the revenue of the year 1262 Fasli may be taken as indicative of the mean state of cultivation and assessment for a number of years past and to come, and I resolved to take the Bériz of Fasli 1268 as my basis, especially as it made so near an approach to the average result of the seven years from Fasli 1262 to 1268; *vide* margin.

Fasli 1262	79,933
,, 1263	71,344
,, 1264	58,975
,, 1265	44,529
,, 1266	76,352
,, 1267	64,590
,, 1268	64,816
	4,55,539
Average ...	65,077

It appears to me that if in the present unsatisfactory state of circumstances as regards data for fixing a correct assessment, some data must be taken; that which I have adopted is as good as any other that can be suggested at least as regards the Táluq of Divi. In the present case it has the advantage of simplicity and has apparently the consent of the Inámdárs, while the entries above given shew that the Cist of Fasli 1268 so tolerably approximates the average Cist for a number of years past, that it may be considered a pretty correct basis of assessment, especially when the rate not of one field but those of all the surrounding ones are taken into account in assessing the Inám.

You are aware that the Amarakam Cist of Fasli 1268 for the adjoining fields furnished the basis on which the assessment of the Inám was fixed; but in several instances I noticed the inapplicability of this standard to Inám lands; for, independent of the somewhat coercive ways resorted to by Tehsildars, in procuring consent to the Amarakam, called Dittam elsewhere, no distinctive classes were fixed for the several kinds of soil in some villages, because the villagers could not agree amongst themselves on the matter; and one general class was therefore adopted for all lands of each of the two descriptions of dry and wet, and this was high absolutely or as compared with the quality of the Inám land on which the assessment had to be laid. Though possibly no particular hardship might be felt by the surrounding Cirkar ryots themselves, who having in their holding, lands of different qualities, the poorness of one might be looked on as compensated for by the fertility of another. It has therefore been manifestly hard, if an Inám land close by a Cirkar property admitted of poor soil, which however bore a high nominal Cist, *conjointly* with *other* parts of the ryots holding of *better* quality was assessed with the same rate. There were other cases in which the class of an adjoining field seemed obviously inapplicable, and I had to make reductions accordingly. A general rate on Inám lands is, I confess, an idea that I cannot easily realize, even supposing that it is to be confined to each Táluq or portions of a Táluq. To attain to any thing like equality and fairness, so multifarious appear to me to be the elements that ought to enter into the calculation or be eliminated from it that the

scheme is one that I cannot exactly comprehend or consider feasible. If there could be a general rate on Ináms, it would follow that there could be general rates for Government lands as well, and this latter I fancy is not held possible. The best plan, under present circumstances, ap pears to me to be the one we now follow, *viz.* generally to take the average of neighbouring fields and to make suitable reductions when called for. Comparing one district with another this system would operate with less chance of error in districts where field assessments have been fixed and lately revised than in the Northern Cirkars where they have not been introduced; but wherever acted upon it is the least objectionable (though certainly not the most perfect), regard being had to the fact that we have to adopt some system, all systems existing as they do.

T. Dharmaroyan, Deputy Collector.— Callapalli. The system of Revenue administration is not uniform in either of these Zemindaries. In some years the settlement was Ásará, or division of produce; in others Vissabadi, or fixed amount but of a temporary nature. Consequently the assessment is of a varying nature; but however in calculating the quit-rent for enfranchisement the assessment of some year which appeared within a fair average, or so light as not to bear heavily upon the Inámdárs, was selected, such that found favor with all the Inámdárs of the village without affecting the interest of the State.

A. Ramachendra Row, Deputy Collector.— Undi. The great body of Inámdárs in this Táluq are, generally speaking, placed in moderately good circumstances; the nature of the lands allotted to them as Ináms does not materially differ from that of the adjoining Government fields. The productive powers of the soil are the same, although the Inámdárs could not profit themselves in an equal degree for want of the same means and opportunities of cultivating the land so well as the surrounding Government lands. Hence an application of the average rates of assessment on the adjacent Government lands, unmodified, would certainly press heavily on the Inámdárs. The bulk of them who are Bramins and Rajas, are from their caste prevented from undertaking the cultivation themselves; they are, therefore, obliged to look to day labourers for tillage. The great demand for field labour since the country has been intersected with the fertilizing channels of the Godavery has placed the Inámdárs somewhat in a worse position.

P. Chentsal Rao, Deputy Collector.— Tanúku. The Inámdárs as a general Rule are all that class of Brahmins who take pride in their profession of beggary, perhaps there are two out of each 100 Inámdárs, that are in good circumstances, able to redeem the quit-rent. All the rest are regular beggars. The lands in this Táluq are certainly of a superior soil and productive, and the annicut has not added little value to it; but compared with the Government lands they are inferior. The ryot that cultivates the Inám has no confidence whatsoever in his landlord and never improves the land, because the landlord will not give him the advantage of the capital laid on the land and grows such crops in the land as would soon exhaust its productive powers. No sooner the land gains a little value, the Inámdár will try to offer it to others to gain a few Annas or Rupees more. The ryot knows fully well that if he lays the same capital on Government land, which is largely available for cultivation in this District, he would have its possession so long as he pays the Cist and that it will not be the case with an Inám in spite of Section VIII. Regulation V. of 1822, which is for the most part in this District a dead letter: consequently the Inámdár can never induce a ryot to cultivate his Inám except by agreeing to receive but a small portion of Cist. On a full enquiry of the circumstances in this Táluq, I can assert that as a general rule, the assessment the Inámdár receives is in no instance more than three-fourths of the Government assessment on lands of similar quality and often less than it.

V. Rajagopal, Deputy Collector.— Kaikalur. The assessment in this Táluq not being fixed in consequence of the joint rent system under which the land tax fluctuates with the amount of the rents for each year and the extent of cultivation, some difficulty hat therefore been experienced in adopting rates which would afford satisfaction to the Inámdárs without at the same time injuriously affecting the interests of Government. The adoption however of the assessment entered for Ináms entered in the 2 Kánies account of Fasli 1263, according to your orders, has, I may say, given satisfaction to the Inámdárs in many cases; and where it has not, as in the case of certain villages where the assessment on the Ináms was not fixed with reference to the Tirva of adjoining lands, but was imposed as the whim and convenience of the Karnam dictated, and where the Government lands have been paying more favorable and fair assessment in all the succeeding Faslis, I recommended reductions which have been approved. In the Kornkollu Parganá where the soil is generally gravelly, with uncertain sources of irrigation, I have been obliged to recommend these reductions largely and more than in any other Parganá. In the Parganá of Báharzaler where the 2 Kánies rates are considered favorable, except in the case of a few villages, I propose recommending a general rate for each of such villages. In the Bitharzalli Parganá where the Tarám Settlement was introduced some time ago and lands have been carefully assessed, it will scarcely be necessary to propose any reduction except perhaps when the circumstances of any particular Inám might be such as to render a reduction necessary.

P. Ayalu Naidu, Deputy Collector. Pentapad. 4. No rich lands seem to have been granted as Ináms. Whenever a Prince or Zemindar wished to serve Bramins or others with Bhatavrittis, he passed a grant accordingly and then desired the villagers to shew them a plot of the extent mentioned therein, and they selected in many cases only what was of no great use to themselves. The Inámdárs generally are in a poor condition and live upon charity. Their Ináms and estates which afford them means of subsistence merely for a small part of the year are not properly cultivated, being dependant for tillage upon others, who have lands of their own and are consequently disposed to pay first attention to them and neglect the Inám lands. These with very few exceptions yield to the Bramins one-half and in many cases one-third of what a Government land of the same extent and quality pays the landlord.

5. I think that the principles applicable to Government lands should not be extended to Ináms in the determination of assessment. A general rate of 6 Classes described in the margin, may be profitably adopted with regard to Ináms in this Táluq; and this course, I do not think will interfere with the provisions of the new Inám rules, Section VIII. Clauses 2 and 3, as the quit-rent on the Inám, will not be, under any circumstances, allowed below 4 Annas in Nunji and 2 Annas in Punji cases however small the extent may be.

Full Assessment.

Classes.	Nunji rate per acre.		Punji rate per acre.	
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
1st Class.....	3	0 0	1	8 0
2nd do.	2	8 0	1	4 0
3rd do.	2	0 0	1	0 0
4th do.	1	8 0	0	12 0
5th do.	1	0 0	0	8 0
6th do.	0	8 0	0	4 0

A. Seshaya, Deputy Collector. Gudivada. From the beginning, the rental of the Inámdár was never as much as the Government assessment, but always considerably below it. Under the sharing system, when the Government share was half the gross produce, the Inámdár's share was only nearly one-third. I believe the same relative proportion has been kept up during all the subsequent changes of the settlement of the Government lands; since the introduction of the joint rent system, the ryots have unlimited Government lands for cultivation, at a very low average assessment; consequently the rental of the Inámdár has fallen except in those villages where the demand for land being greater than the supply, the rental has remained unaltered or even increased owing to competition among the cultivating ryots. One great reason for the comparative lowness of the Inám rental is, that no water was supplied to Inám lands till after the Government lands were irrigated, and no Inám lands were allowed to be cultivated till after the Government lands had been, by which time of course the proper season often passed away. These causes are in operation even now to a greater or less extent. Keeping in view also the liberal basis upon which the Government revenue is about to be settled, I have adopted moderate average rates of assessment for each

village approximating as nearly as possible to the actual rental of the Inámdárs, and in the fairness of these all the Inámdárs have implicitly acquiesced, while I am confident those rates are equally fair for the interests of the Government, not forgetting that the quit-rents calculated therefrom are to be permanent and paid under all vicissitudes of season and irrigation.

S. Muttasami Ayar, Deputy Collector. Rélangi.

The rental or amarakam received by Inámdárs is is almost always smaller than the assessment of the Jerayati lands. In several villages the Amarakam received by the Inámdárs varies from 16 to 28 Rs. when the Jerayati assessment is 50 Rupees per patti and upwards, and from 12 to 24 Rupees where the adjoining Jerayati rates range between 32 and 40. The Inámdárs are for the greater part Vydika Bramins, who look upon agriculture as a profession beneath them to follow and do not generally cultivate their own lands. The ryots have no permanent interest in the Ináms they cultivate, and there is often a combination among them to take undue advantage of the unwillingness of the Inámdárs to till their own lands, and to offer them no higher rent than a certain amount which will leave them an extensive profit. Owing to these causes the Amarakam received by the Inámdárs is almost always less than the adjoining Jerayati rates.

In valuing the Ináms I do not think it feasible to adopt village rates because of the great inequalities in the productive powers of different holdings in the same village and often of the different parts of the holding of the same individual. I believe that the proper course would be to inspect the kowles and khats produced by the Inámdár and adjust the valuation with reference to the Amarakam received.

C. Rungacharloo, Special Assistant.

The next queston is the assessment at which Inám lands are to be rated for the purpose of calculating the quit-rent. The difficulties which exist in the way of arriving at the true assessment of Inám lands are fully shewn in your proceedings dated 29th August, and the course which is therein laid down for our guidance I have found to be the most feasible under existing circumstances. My enquiries have not yet shewn that Inám lands are to any extent of the best quality. The village communities who had to point out the lands granted in Inám were naturally indisposed to part with their good lands, and the Inámdárs were at different subsequent periods compelled by the Zemindars or the Villagers to exchange their Ináms for other lands situated in less favorable localities. This is however a matter of comparatively less importance as under your instructions the Ináms will be rated at the assessment borne by adjoining Government lands of similar quality.

One great difficulty however which presents itself in these Districts is the unusally low rental yielded by Ináms which appears to be from ¼ to ⅓ less than the rental of Government lands of similar quality, and even at this low rental a considerable portion of the Ináms have for years remained waste. That Ryots should be disposed to pay a somewhat higher rent upon Government lands, the right to which is ensured to them in permanency, than on Ináms which they hold only on temporary leases, is common in every District. But this inequality is greatly aggravated in the Districts of Masulipatam and Rajamandri under the pecularities of the joint rent under which the Ryots possess the strongest inducement to cultivate all available Government lands in preference to Ináms and hold a considerable extent of waste at on almost pepper-corn rent. It also arises from the scantiness of the population in comparison with the extent of land which is available; while on the one hand therefore the Ináms cannot be rated at the rental derived by the Inámdárs even if it could be ascertained without taking into consideration prospective improvements in their condition, the adoption of any rates of assessment based on the maximum productive powers of the lands which cannot represent their true value for years to come will be fatal to the objects of the Commisson. I consider the existing rates of assessment fixed by the villagers themselves under the operation of the joint rents, which afford no temptations for fraudulent classification affords the best data for the valustion of Ináms when suitable reduction is made on it to meet in some measure the known small receipts of the Inámdárs.

(7)

I am of opinion that an average rate for all Ináms in any one particular Táluq or number of villages is open to many objections. Lands in the same village vary considerably in quality and the inequality is augmented in proportion to the area to which the average rate is proposed to be applied. As regards the Inámdárs an average rate cannot afford satisfaction, unless it is so considerably reduced that the holders of lands of the lowest quality can have no reason to complain, which is tantamount to assuming the minimum and not the average rate, and even then I apprehend they will complain of the unequal and unfair manner in which the benefits of the reduction have been distributed amongst them. Moreover, an average rate is of little use in Districts where the true area of land is not known even to approximation. These objections are so palpable that some of our Deputy Collectors who were at first disposed to advocate it, have since declared against its expediency.

Mr. Marcar, Special Assistant.

At the outset of the investigation the chief obstacle that had to be surmounted was the rate of assessment that was to be imposed upon Inám lands. This was the vexed question between the Inámdárs and the Karnams. In the vernacular Registers previously prepared in the Táluq Kacheri, the Karnams had inserted the assessment upon Ináms calculated with reference to the Cist fixed upon the adjoining Government lands. At first sight, this course appears obviously a fair and justifiable one, but when it is taken into consideration, that Inám lands are not much in demand or sought after, that they remain waste for years for want of ryots who would come forward to take them up for cultivation; and further that they are not generally the best description of lands in the village, a slight modification in the scale of assessment was considered absolutely requisite. In carrying out this plan, such rates alone were adopted as were thought would not, to any serious extent, affect the interests of Government, whilst at the same time they were calculated to afford general satisfaction to the Inámdárs by their being not very heavy or burdensome. The lowest assessment for Dry land was taken at 16 Rupees per Katti of 17 acres, and that for wet 24 Rupees; and it was only in well authenticated cases of the poverty of the land that a reduction in this assessment was ever recommended. In the village of Attanur, in the Jungudum Pargana, considerable reduction was thought necessary, as it was found from the accounts that the Ináms were not cultivated for periods varying from 30 to 40 years owing principally to the unproductive nature of the soil.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORTS OF DEPUTY COLLECTORS EXPRESSIVE OF THEIR OPINION IN REGARD TO THE EXCESS FOUND IN INÁM LANDS.

M. Sadasivam, Deputy Collector.—Divi.

The next point on which opinion is invited is the actual probable extent of Ináms in enjoyment as compared with the entries in the accounts. As compared with the early accounts present enjoyment shows apparent, but not necessarily real, excess in several cases, and deficiency in a few. I say not necessarily real, because it is uncertain what exact lineal measurements were used at the time of the grants. If encroachments have been made, I believe they took place in very early times or almost simultaneously with the bestowal of the original grants; and I think there is one guarantee against considerable encroachment in more recent periods in the fact that the neighbouring Government land-holders would not tolerate it from self interest alone, and that complaints are not wanting by such ryots when Séry lands are thus appropriated.

T. Dharmarayan, Deputy Collector.—Callapalli.

In general in both these Parganas no entry in early accounts is made of the Ináms' extent, but only deductions of grain in favor of the Inámdárs. A Chakabandi measurement of all the lands appears, however, to have been made in Fusly 1231, A. D. 1822, when the estates were under Government management of the Court of Wards though there had been a rough statement of the extent of lands taken in Fusly 1212, A. D. 1803. The excess recorded in the Registers is the result of the comparison of those two measurements: it is no encroachment, but a difference of standards of measurement used or supposed to be used in those days; a measure of 88 Cubits being used on the first occasion and 80 on the second.

P. Cheutsal Rao, Deputy Collector.—Tanuku.

The Inámdárs are still under an apprehension of the results of the survey. They fear that all the excess above the recorded extent will be zafted, and although I assured them that you are of opinion that the excess should not be charged with any assessment after they once convert the tenure of the Inám into free-hold, unless the Government officers can prove it to be of a recent encroachment, and that an authoritative declaration on the subject is intended to be obtained ere long, still they would not fully believe me, because no "Ishtahah," say they, has been published on the subject. From some of my recent conversations, I find that if the results of the Survey would not involve them to an

additional assessment, all the Inámdárs would most cheerfully convert all their Ináms into freeholds purposely to avoid all further interference. It is under the hope that they will avoid interference that they are now freely commuting.

V. Rajagopala, Deputy Collector.—Kaikalur.

I have been compelled under these circumstances to adopt the results of the late mashat, and whenever I met with material differences between them and the extent as recorded in former accounts, I ascertained by verbal enquiry and a comparison of the Chaknama limits, with the boundaries of the Inám, as actually enjoyed at present, whether the increase was really an excess or encroachment, or formed only part of the Inám. In Bahargalli to which the Mashat was not extended, each of the 6 or 7 accounts from the Collector's Kacheri of the earlier Fuslis contains a different extent for one and the same Inám and cases of agreement are rare. I have found it, in consequence, necessary to adopt the extent of Ináms given in the Inám account of Fusli 1232, the only document of any importance worth being referred to in the case of Bahargalli Ináms.

P. Ayalu Naidu, Deputy Collector.—Pentapad.

The probable extent of land in possession of the Inámdárs, is I suppose on the whole, more than what is entered in the accounts by one-third if not half.

A. Seshaya, Deputy Collector.—Gudiwada.

Having met with as many cases of excess in Inám as of deficiencies, I am inclined to the opinion that the one will balance the other in the end. I have however no data from which to give an opinion, how much the present extent taken according to the rough native survey of Fusly 1258, may be found to amount to, when the professional survey of the Táluk is completed. I do not believe the probable increase in the Inám lands will be out of proportion to that in the Government lands taken according to the measurement of the same field. The extents specified in the grants, are in most cases double and treble and even four times that now in enjoyment. The explanation of this is that the rest were either never enjoyed at all, or resumed summarily at various times. But for such summary resumptions there would have been at this time very little left for Government in this Táluq.

T. Muttusámi Ayar, Deputy Collector.—Rélangi.

There has been no Mashát in this Táluq and the extent entered in the recent accounts generally corresponds with the entries in the accounts of old Fuslis. Whenever the Inámdár is questioned about the excess in the course of the investigation, he states that there would be rather a deficiency. But the anxiety they manifest respecting our real intentions to enforce the rule regarding the excess shews that the survey extent would exceed greatly the recorded extent. I have no accurate means of ascertaining the exact extent of the excess; but believe that it would be almost one-fourth of the Ináms, the greater part being of more than 50 years enjoyment.

Mr. Marcar, Special Assistant.

The Táluq of Bandar has not been, till very recently, regulary surveyed. In Faslis 1262 and 1264 (A. D. 1852-54) a partial measurement of the land was conducted under orders of the then Collector. This undertaking, it is stated, had been entrusted entirely to the Karnams and other village officers. Consequently the correctness of the measurement, it is feared, is liable to be questioned. In the absence however of more reliable sources of reference the results of the "Mashat" (as the survey is termed) were generally adopted as the guides in determining the extent of lands in the actual enjoyment of the Inámdárs. As regards the early Registers and accounts received from the Collector's office, the entries in them very often varied, and whenever differences of this kind were observed, recourse was had to other subsidiary accounts and occasionally to verbal inquiry, to settle the exact extent of the holdings. The excess observable between the Gudikat and Mashat entries, is given below:

	Acres.
Total extent of Inám lands according to "Mashat"	9,605
Do. do. according to Gudikat	9,401
Excess, as per Mashat.	204

An excess too small in comparison with the extent of the Gudikat.

(True Extracts.)

MASULIPATAM, 12th *October* 1859.

(Signed) G. N. TAYLOR,
Inám Commissioner.

(2)

MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT,

dated 25th Oct. 1859.

I have carefully considered the despatch from the Secretary of State for India, dated the 9th of September 1859, No. 11, which, after acknowledging the receipt of our earlier communications on the subject of the Inám Commission, and observing that the Government of Bombay had matured a scheme for the summary settlement of claims to Ináms under that Presidency, which differs widely from the plan laid down in my Minute, concludes as follows. "While I fully approve the instruc-" tions which have apparently been issued to the Inám Commissioner and his Assistants to collect " all the required information as to the nature and extent of the claims to hold lands in Inám under " your Presidency, I must at the same time, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, desire that " no action be taken in regard to the settlement of those claims, by which the faith of the British " Government can be in any manner pledged, until you shall have received instructions from me."

On the 8th of July we reported to the Secretary of State that we had resolved that my Minute dated the 13th of May last, "be adopted as containing the principles by which the settlement of " the Ináms of this Presidency shall be guided;" and on the 9th August we transmitted the detailed Proceedings of this Government, commencing from the 17th June, shewing that, after the practical application of those principles had been carefully considered by us, they were embodied in a set of Rules which were prescribed for the guidance of the Inám Commissioner; and that the Commissioner was directed to commence work in the Masulipatam and Rajahmundry Districts, with a staff of assistants selected by him from among the ablest Officers of the Uncovenanted Service.

It will be seen from the first Report of the Commissioner, dated the 12th instant, that the Settlement offered to the Inamdars, has, after a short interval of doubt and difficulty, been cordially accepted by them as a just solution of this great question, by which India has so long been kept in a state of disturbance and excitement; that, up to the 1st October, Mr. Taylor's Assistants had recorded upwards of 3,500 decisions, the majority of which had been confirmed or reviewed by him; that, up to the 8th of October, 1696 Title Deeds had been issued by him, upon which quit rents amounting to 4181 rupees a year had been agreed to be paid, including 1457 rupees former quit rent; that 1,283 rupees had been paid in redemption of quit rents; that a desire to redeem the quit rent was very general, and that it was expected that the absolute freehold would be purchased outright by about one-fourth of the petty Inámdárs after the next harvest has been gathered in, or before six months have elapsed; and that the proportion of persons who have declined the commutation, prefering to retain their Ináms on the present restricted tenure, was only 4 per cent.

It will also be seen that, judging from what had been accomplished in five weeks at the commencement of the undertaking, Mr. Taylor's progress, with his present Staff of Assistants, will not be less than 5,000 cases a month, at which rate the adjudication of the Ináms of the entire Presidency would occupy about five years; but that he could easily superintend double the number of Assistants, and with this increased Agency the work might be completed in two and half, or three years, without a commensurate increase of expenditure.

Allusion is made in the letter from the Secretary of State to a scheme which has been matured by the Government of Bombay for the summary settlement of Ináms under that Presidency, which differs widely from the plan laid down in my Minute.

The investigation into the Ináms of the Bombay Presidency commenced in 1843; but its progress up to April last had been so unsatisfactory, that Lord Elphinstone declared "that any proposal for carrying on the present more "detailed and searching investigation by increased establishments, is politically and financially impossible," and he therefore agreed with the Alienation Commissioner "in thinking that a speedy "settlement must necessarily be, at all events to some extent, a summary one." The plan actually proposed is, at once to subject all the uninvestigated Ináms to assessment of one quarter of the

Minute dated 4th April 1859.

ordinary rate, and to declare them, as well as the Ináms which have been admitted to be held under valid titles, liable to a succession duty, in consideration of which a complete right of ownership is to be recognised in the Inámdárs.

The Government of India to the Government of Bombay, 5th August 1859.

Upon this the Governor General in Council remarks as follows: "In one respect only does it occur to His Excellency in Council that a "modification of the general plan proposed by the Bombay Government "may be advisable. The rent-free holdings which have not yet been subject to investigation have "been held rent-free, it must be recollected, for many years, and it may well be supposed that by "these holders, of whom there are probably several who are thoroughly confident of the sound-"ness of their titles, the proposed measure will not be received with the same satisfaction which "it is believed that it will give generally. The Governor General in Council is disposed, there-"fore, to think, that it may be expedient to provide for those cases by declaring that any holder "of rent-free land shall be at liberty to claim a regular investigation into his title if he desires "to do so, on the understanding that the burden of proving his title to hold the land rent-"free will rest with him; and that while, in the event of his establishing his right, the hold-"ing will be declared liable to the succession duty only, on the other hand, if he fails in "establishing his claim, the land will be declared liable to full assesment. It is not, however, con-"templated that, pending the enquiry, the holder should be exempted from assessment, or that the "arrangement should in any way interfere with the operation of the general measure. Not only "should the quarter value assessment be at once imposed, *pendente lite*, but a time should be fixed, "certainly not exceeding three years, within which the demand for judicial investigation must "be made. If this modification of the plan submitted in your letter should be adopted, it will be "necessary to consider to what tribunal the investigations shall be referred."

What has taken place, therefore, at Bombay, is, that a system of adjudication was adopted which produced such discontent and excitement, that, after a trial of sixteen years, it was found necessary to abandon it; and it has now been proposed, no longer to attempt to determine each case according to its merits, but to impose the same rate of assessment on every Inám, whatever the nature of its tenure or the right of the holder may be. Upon this the Governor General remarks, that "several" of the holders, having been in possession for many years, and being confident of the soundness of their titles, would not be satisfied with this arrangement; and he, therefore, proposes to mitigate its harshness by providing that any holder shall be at liberty, within three years, to claim a regular investigation into his title, subject to the penalty, that if he fails in establishing his claim, the land will be declared liable to full assessment, the quarter assessment being exacted *pendente lite*.

This scheme could nowhere end at no time be *just*, because it applies the same measure to those holders who have a perfect right, and to those who have no right at all. In the Bombay Presidency it may be *practicable*, because the treatment the Inámdárs have hitherto received there is so much worse, that they would accept this as the smaller evil. In this presidency the case is different. There has been no Inám commission. Inquiries were made by the collectors on the occurrence of successions; but the great mass of the Inám holdings remained undisturbed, and those that were investigated were dealt with according to their supposed merits. The people of this Presidency have, therefore, not undergone any such preliminary process as would be necessary to induce them to accept the measure proposed for Bombay. It has been called a "compromise;" but, although it would be a compromise to those whose titles were imperfect, to those who had good titles, it would be a measure of confiscation.

In this Presidency necessity does not justify wholesale summary measures. We are not in the painful predicament of having to choose between one of the three alternatives described in the extract of the despatch of the Governor General quoted in the margin.

"In this state of the case, it is obvious that the Government is driven upon one of "three courses. First, to pursue the investigations into rent-free holdings throughout "the whole of the Bombay Presidency, with a pressure and rapidity not heretofore "attempted, and which, if now attempted, would inevitably produce great discontent "and excitement; or, secondly, to resign all hope of recovering any but an insigni-"ficant portion of the remaining alienated revenues; or, thirdly, to effect a summary "settlement which must necessarily partake in a greater or a less degree of the nature "of a compromise." *Dispatch of 5th August 1859, as above.*

A "speedy settlement" is not here "necessarily a summary one." The settlement of the Ináms of the entire Presidency may, as stated by Mr Taylor, be easily completed in two or three years, with a due regard to the respective claims of the different holders.

But, in truth, the settlement proposed for Bombay is a summary one only in appearance. It was impossible that so manifest an injustice as subjecting holders, with different degrees of right, to the same procrustean rule, could be maintained; and the Governor General has, therefore, proposed that there should be an appeal to a tribunal the nature of which has not yet even been considered. This entirely unsettles the so called settlement. Instead of the limited number implied by the term "several," who "have held their lands rent-free for many years, and are confident of the soundness of their titles," the great majority would probably belong to this class, and we should, therefore, be as far from a settlement as ever.

In Northern India Jágírs and Ináms (the latter are known there by the Arabic term "milk," implying the highest degree of proprietory right) were at first resumed on a large scale, pending an inquiry into the validity of the titles, on the plea that all land in India is *primâ facie* liable to the Government Assessment. After that, special Tribunals, both primary and appellate, were appointed in the Regulation Provinces for the adjudication of such cases; but their proceedings caused so much discontent that the Tribunals were discontinued before they had done their work; and, while the rent-free holdings which had been resumed were subjected to half assessment, those which had not been brought upon the file of the special Courts were exempted from all interference. Since that, the Government has become liable to heavy re-funds in consequence of decisions of the Privy Council setting aside those of the special Commission.

"Now I come to the case of Madras. There has been "much controversy in the country, and complaints have been "made against the late Court of Directors with respect to the "despatch sent out by them, to institute an enquiry into the "tenures of land in the Presidency of Madras; but I submit "that for that despatch I am as responsible as the late "Court of Directors. It was sent out on the 1st of Septem-"ber last, but, as I stated to the House the other night, "on the appointment of Sir Charles Trevelyan as Governor "of Madras, I thought it right on behalf of Government, to "inform him that the inquiry would be suspended, in order "that he might have an opportunity of dealing with the "whole question as he thought best. I may now mention "that I have his authority for saying that, when his appoint-"ment took place, I offered to him, if he thought the inquiry "was inexpedient at the present time, or embarrassing to his "administration, either to suspend it or to put an end to it "altogether. No man in India, I believe, understands "better than Sir Charles Trevelyan this complex subject of "land tenures. He was one of the earliest of those who "were engaged in its investigation. I believe the inquiry "can be placed in no better hands. Sir Charles Trevelyan, "without hesitation and without delay, gave his opinion that "the inquiry ought to go on, but he said that care must be "taken to guard it from the abuses which had occurred in "former cases. He believed that to put an end to it would be "a mistake, and that, if properly conducted, it would be the "means of producing great benefit to the people, and would "give additional security and permanence to private pro-"perty. There has been a good deal of misrepresentation of "the motives which have led to setting on foot an inquiry of "this kind. The popular notion is, that the only object of the "Government is to increase the revenue by seizing the landed "estate of any man who happens to have a flaw in his title. "Now, the real fact is that the main object of this inquiry is, "not to improve the revenue, not to disturb titles, but, on "the contrary, to confirm them, whereby the value of the "land will be greatly enhanced. Every landowner, as matters "now are, is liable to have his title questioned upon succes-"sion, and the value of his holding is depreciated by the "consequent uncertainty. Our object is to give him what in "this country would be called a Parliamentary title, to give "him a title as to which no question or controversy can "hereafter arise." *Hansard's Debates, February 14th 1859.*

I accepted this Government at a heavy sacrifice of private, to public considerations; the most prominent of the public motives pressed upon me being that I possessed advantages, which no one else had, for settling this Inám question. Public attention in England rapidly passes from one subject to another, and my position should be viewed, not as it is now, but as it was then regarded. Lord Stanley first offered to put an end to the Madras Inám Commission if I considered it inexpedient or embarrassing to my Government. This was declined by me, as not being for the public advantage. Instructions were then sent to my Predecessor to suspend the inquiry, in order that I might deal with the subject as I thought best. All this was stated by Lord Stanley in his place in Parliament, as will be seen from the Extract from his speech quoted in the margin. My impression was, therefore, complete, that I had a special charge for the settlement of the question; and I accordingly proceeded to settle it as soon as I could obtain some release from the many urgent matters which demanded my attention after my arrival.

The Madras Inám Commissioner, after visiting Bombay, despaired of a satisfactory settlement; and he had sent in a Report proposing that his appointment should be revoked, and that the investigation should be replaced in the hands of the Board of Revenue and the Collectors. I did not, however, feel any such difficulty. In their Revenue Despatch dated the 1st of September 1858, the Court of Directors had freely admitted that the principle involved in the Statute of Limitations, was applicable to Ináms; that is, that long possession is a good ground of title. This gave me a firm foundation. Every thing else followed as a matter course. I knew that the great majority of Ináms had been held for periods which constitute a good prescription. Their recognition, according to the actual condition of their respective tenures, was therefore inevitable. The only question was, as to the terms upon which these limited and precarious tenures might be commuted into secure tenures, with mutual advantage to the Holders and the State. This was a matter of computation founded upon considerations of a local character; and I am sure that no one who reads our Minutes will doubt that we endeavoured to do justice to the point.

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Another circumstance rendered immediate action necessary. A new Police system was in course of formation, the agency and funds of which were in a great degree dependent upon Service Tenures. The two subjects were so mixed up, that it was impossible that one could be settled without the other. A revision of the Native Revenue Establishments, which also in great part depend on Service Tenures, had also long been felt to be urgently required; and the reasons for taking this opportunity of making it, were obvious. Both these important measures are in active progress, under the superintendence of Mr. Pelly, a Member of the Board of Revenue, and Mr. W. Robinson, the Inspector General of Police, both acting in the closest concert with the Inám Commissioner.

It is unnecessary to enter upon the consideration of a succession duty; for, as a full equivalent is taken, in the shape of quit rent, or the purchase money of quit rent, for any advantages conceded, there is no ground for a special impost. Whatever taxation the enfranchized Inámdars may have to bear, must be borne by them in common with the rest of their fellow subjects.

I have shown that I had good grounds for believing that it was expected of me that I should proceed at once to the settlement of this question; that the principle of settlement adopted was that which had been approved by the Home Government, namely long possession; and that, in the conversion of the various imperfect Inám Tenures into Freehold, the rate of commutation has been adjusted to the benefit conferred. This settlement is not only just in itself, but has been accepted with a feeling which promises to be as conducive to the permanance of our Indian Empire, as it certainly will be to the contentment and prosperity of Her Majesty's subjects in this Southern portion of it. The doubts at first encountered by the Inám Commissioner, arising out of experience of our previous practice on this subject, have been got over; and, now, to undo what has been done, or even to stop short in the elaborately worked out arrangements in progress, would not only place insuperable difficulties in the way of any future settlement of the question, but would give a rude shock to confidence in our justice and good faith. The actual circumstances are so different from those which were before Her Majesty's Government, or in their contemplation, when the Despatch of the 9th September was written, that we should be unfaithful to the trust reposed in us, if we interrupted the progress of this settlement. I feel persuaded that Her Majesty's Government will approve of this decision.

There are one or two particular points of no difficulty adverted to in Mr. Taylor's Report on which I shall record a separate Minute

MADRAS, *25th October* 1859. (Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.

No 57 MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF. 25-10-1859

It is quite clear that the President had full powers confided to him by the Secretary of State for India to deal with the Inám question in the Madras Presidency as he might think best. But were it otherwise, I should consider that His Excellency had rendered a great public service in adopting immediate action in this most important matter, the non-settlement of which has kept the country in a state of feverish excitement for the last fifty years, and I very cordially concur in the views set forth in this Minute.

MADRAS, *25th October* 1859. (Signed) PAT. GRANT.

No 58 MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE W. A. MOREHEAD, Esq. 25-10-1859

I quite concur in all that the President has stated in this Minute.

MADRAS, *25th October* 1859. (Signed) W. A. MOREHEAD.

No 59 Order thereon, 27th October 1859 No 1453

Ordered that the foregoing papers be Submitted to the Secretary of State

(Signd) J. D. Bourdillon
Secretary to Government

2-5-90
27-7-94

57/1055

Revenue 1859 Sept.r

No 1905

From the Inam Commissioner

Dated 12 October 1859
Rec.d 17 "

2 Encls

No 1453

Reporting the results of the operations of the Commission up to 8th Oct.r 1859.

Minute by the Honorable the President.

I have carefully considered the dispatch from the Secretary of State for India dated the 9th of September 1859 and the letters after acknowledging the receipt of our earlier communications on the subject of the Inam Commission, and observing that the Government of Bombay had matured a scheme for the summary settlement of claims to Inams under that Presidency which differs widely from the plan laid down in my Minute, concluded as follows.

"While I fully approve the instructions which have apparently been issued to the Inam Commissioner and his Assistants to collect all the required information as to the nature and extent of the claims to hold lands in Inam under your Presidency, I must at the same time

"time, on the part of Her Majesty's Govern-
"ment, desire that no action be taken in
"regard to the settlement of those claims by
"which the faith of the British Govern-
"ment can be in any manner pledged
"until you shall have received instructions
"from me."

On the 8th of July we reported to the Secretary of State that we had resolved that my minute dated the 13th of May last be adopted as containing the "principles by which the settlement of the "Inams of this Presidency shall be guided; and on the 9th August we transmitted the "detailed Proceedings of this Government com-mencing from the 17th June, showing that after the practical application of those principles had been carefully considered by us, they were embodied in

a set of Rules which were prescribed for the guidance of the Inam Commissioner; and that Commissioner was directed to commence work in the Masulipatam and Rajah-mundry Districts with a staff of Assistants selected by him from among the ablest officers of the uncovenanted service.

It will be seen from the first Report of the Commissioner dated the 12th Instant that the settlement offered to the Inamdars, has, after a short interval of doubt and difficulty, been cordially accepted by them as a just solution of this great question by which India has so long been kept in a state of disturbance and excitement; that up to the 1st October Mr Taylor's Assistants had recorded upwards of 3,500 decisions, the majority of which had been completed or reviewed by him; that up to the 8th of October, 1696 Title Deeds had been issued by him upon which Pattahs

amounting

amounting to 4,481 Rupees a Year had been agreed to be paid, including 1,857 Rupees on former Quit rent; that 7,287 Rupees had been paid in redemption of 10 Quit rents that a desire to redeem the Quit rent was very general and that it was expected that the absolute freehold would be purchased outright by about one fourth of the Petty Ináms after the next Harvest has been gathered in, or before Six Months have elapsed, and that the proportion of persons who have declined the Commutation, preferring to retain their Ináms on the present restricted tenure, was only 4 per Cent.

It will also be seen that, judging from what had been accomplished in 6 weeks at the commencement of the undertaking, Mr. Taylor's progress, with his present staff of Assistants, will not be less than 5,000 Cases a Month, at which rate

rate the adjudication of the Ináms of the entire Presidency would occupy about five years, but that he could easily superintend double the number of Assistants, and with this increased Agency the work might be completed in two and half or three years without a commensurate increase of expenditure.

Allusion is made in the letter from the Secretary of State to a Scheme which has been matured by the Government of Bombay for the Summary Settlement of Ináms under that Presidency which differs widely from the plan laid down in my Minute.

The investigation into the Ináms of the Bombay Presidency commenced in 1863, but its progress up to April last had been so unsatisfactory that Lord Elphinstone declared that any proposal for carrying on the present more detailed and searching investigation by increased Establishments is politically and financially impossible

Minute dated 1st April 1859.

"impossible" and he therefore agreed
with the Alienation Commissioner in thinking
"that a speedy settlement must necessarily
be, at all events to some extent, a summary
one. The plan actually proposed is at
once to subject all the unmolested
Inams to assessment of one quarter of the
ordinary rate and to declare them as well
as the Inams which have been admitted
to be held under valid titles liable
to a succession duty, in consideration of
which a complete right of ownership
is to be recognised in the Inamdars.

Upon this the Governor
General in Council remarks as follows:
"In one respect only does it occur to
"His Excellency in Council that a modifica-
"tion of the general plan proposed by the
"Bombay Government may be advisable.
"The rent-free holdings which have not
"yet been subjected to inquiry [illegible]

The Government of India
to the Government of
Bombay 5th August 1859

"held rent-free, it must be recollected for
"many years, and it may well be supposed
"that to those holders, of whom there are
"probably several, who are thoroughly con-
"fident of the soundness of their titles, the
"proposed measure will not be received with
"the same satisfaction which it is believed
"that it will give generally. The Govern-
"General in Council is disposed therefore to
"think that it may be expedient to
"provide for those cases by declaring that
"any holder of rent-free land shall be at
"liberty to claim a regular investigation into
"his title if he desires to do so, on the
"understanding that the burden of proving
"his title to hold the land rent-free will
"rest with him; and that while, in the con-
"event of his establishing his right, the hold-
"ing will be declared liable to the succession
"duty only, on the other hand, if he fails in
"establishing his claim, the land will be de-
"clared liable to full assessment. It is not,
"however, contemplated that, pending the ongoing
the

"the holder should be exempted from assess-
"ment, or that the arrangement should
"in any way interfere with the operation
"of the general measure; nor only should
"the greater value assessment be at once
"imposed, pendente lite, but a time should
"be fixed - certainly not exceeding three
"years - within which the demand for
"increased assessment must be made.
"If this modification of the plan submitted
"in your letter should be adopted, it will
"be necessary to consider to what tribunal
"the investigations shall be referred."

What has taken place, therefore, at Bombay is that a system of adjudication was adopted which produced such discontent and excitement, that, after a trial of seventeen years, it was found necessary to abandon it; and it has now been proposed no longer to attempt to determine each case according to its merits, but to impose a fixed rate of assessment on every

Inam, whatever the nature of its tenure or the rights of the holder may be. Upon this the Government General remarks that several of the holders, having been in possession for many years and being confident of the soundness of their titles, would not be satisfied with this arrangement, and he therefore proposes to mitigate its harshness by providing that any holder shall be at liberty, within three years, to claim a regular investigation into his title, subject to the penalty that if he fails in establishing his claim, the land will be declared liable to full assessment - the quarter assessment being exacted pendente lite -

This scheme could nowhere answer at any time be just, because it applies the same measure to those holders who have a perfect right, and to those who have no right at all. In the Bombay Presidency it may be practicable, because the treatment the Ináms have hitherto received there is so much worse, that they would accept this as the smaller evil. In this Presidency the

the case is different. There has been no Inam Commission. Enquiries were made by the Collectors on the occurrence of lapses, but the great mass of the Inam holdings remained undisturbed, and those that were investigated were dealt with according to their supposed merits. The people of this Presidency have, therefore, not undergone any such preliminary process as would be necessary to induce them to accept this measure proposed for Bombay. It has been called a "Compromise", but it must be remembered, that, although it would be a compromise to those whose titles were imperfect, to those who had good titles it would be a measure of confiscation.

In this Presidency necessity does not justify wholesale summary measures. We are not in the painful predicament of having to choose between one of the three alternatives described in the extract of the despatch of the Governor General quoted

By this state of the case, it is obvious that the Government is driven upon one of three courses. First, to pursue the investigations into rent-free holdings throughout the whole of the Bombay Presidency, with a pressure and rapidity not heretofore attempted, and which, if now attempted, would inevitably produce great discontent and excitement; or Secondly, to relinquish all hope of recovering any but an insignificant portion of the remaining alienated revenues; or thirdly, to effect

speedy settlement" is not here necessarily a summary one. The settlement of the Inams of the entire Presidency may, as stated by Mr. Taylor, be easily completed in from three years with a due regard to the respective claims of the different holders.

But, in truth, the settlement proposed for Kandeish is a summary one only in appearance. It is impossible that so manifest an injustice as that of taking from holders, with different degrees of right to the same privileges, rule, and to maintain, and the Governor General has, therefore, proposed that there should be an appeal to a tribunal the nature of which has not yet even been considered. This would, instead of the so called settlement, instead of the limited number implied by the term, include many who have held their lands rent free for many years, and are confident of the soundness of their titles; the great majority would probably belong to this class, and we should therefore be as far as settlement as ever.

In

In a few days Inams and Inam (known there as "Milk", implying the highest degree of proprietary right) were at first resumed on a large scale pending an inquiry into the validity of the titles, on the plea that all land in India is prima facie liable to the Government Assessment. After that Special Tribunals, both primary and appellate, were appointed in the Regulation Provinces for the adjudication of such cases; but these proceedings caused so much discontent that the Tribunals were discontinued before they had done their work; and, while the rent-free holdings which had been resumed as inams, were subjected only to such assessment, those which had not been brought upon the file of the special Courts previously to their abolition were exempted from all interference. Since that the Government has become liable to many refunds in consequence of decisions of the Privy Council setting aside those of the Special Commissioners.

Accepted this Government at great sacrifice of private, to public considerations,

and the most prominent of these considerations was that it was hoped upon mere equitable advantages which no one else had for settling these Inam questions. Public attention rapidly passed from one subject to another in England; and my position should be viewed, not as it is now, but as it was then regarded. Lord Stanley first offered to put an end to the Madras Inam Commission if Government regarded it as unprecedent or as embarrassing to my Government. This was declined by me as not being for the advantage of the public. Positive hints were then sent to my Predecessor to suspend the inquiry in order that I might deal with the subject [illegible] as I thought best. All this was stated by Lord Stanley in his place in Parliament, as will be seen from the extract from his speech quoted in the

Now I come to the case of Madras. Complaints were made against the late Court of Directors with respect to the dispatch sent out by them to institute an inquiry into the Presidency of Madras, but I submit that for that dispatch I am not responsible as the late Court of Directors. It states if the Home Authorities might that on the appointment of the Charles Trevelyan as Governor of Madras the Government thought it right to inform him that the inquiry ought to be suspended, in order that he might have an opportunity of debating the subjects of inquiry as he thought best. I now come to that I have his authority for saying, that when this appointment took place it appeared to him, if he thought the inquiry was unjust, either to suspend or put an

Margin.
[illegible] my predecessor was [illegible] therefore complete that

that I had a special charge for the settlement of the Ceded and Conquered Districts as soon as I could obtain some release from the many urgent matters which pressed upon me after my arrival &c.

The Madras Commissioners after visiting Bombay, despairing of a satisfactory settlement, had sent in an elaborate Report proposing that the Commission should be dissolved and that the investigation should be replaced in the hands of the Board of Revenue

and by it altogether. Mr Lowndes a Member in India, Mr Harris undersecretary Miller Main. Sir C. Trevelyan his Confidential Assistant. (Mr Lowndes) He was one of the earliest of those who were engaged in inquiring into the subject. He believe the inquiry can be placed in no better hands. Sir C. Trevelyan without hesitation or delay gave his opinion that the inquiry ought to go on, but he said that care must be taken to guard it from the abuses which have occurred in former cases. He believes that a pattah ought to be granted, and that if properly executed it would be the means of producing great benefit to the people, and would give additional security to private individuals. (Mr Lowndes) believe that there has been a good deal of misrepresentation of the motives which have led to setting on foot an inquiry of this kind. The popular notion is that the only object is to increase the revenue by seizing the property of any man who happens to have a flaw in his title. Now, the real fact is that the main object of this inquiry is, not to increase the revenue - not to disturb titles, but on the contrary, to confirm them, whereby the value of the land will be greatly enhanced. Every landowner, as matters now are, is liable to have his title questioned upon succession, and the value of his holding is thereby depreciated. Our object is to give him what in this Country would be called a Parliamentary title - that is to give him a title as to which no question or controversy can hereafter arise.

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and the Collectors. I did not, however, feel any such difficulty. On their Reference dispatch dated the 1st of December 1868. the Court of Directors had freely admitted that the principle involved in the Statute of Limitations was applicable to Inams, that is, that long possession is a good ground of title. This principle a sound foundation. Every thing else followed as a matter of course. It was known that the great Majority of Inams had been held for periods which constitute a good prescription. Their recognition, according to the actual conditions of their respective tenures, was therefore inevitable. The only question was, as to the terms upon which these limited and precarious tenures might be commuted into secure tenures with mutual advantage to the Holders and the State. This was a matter of Computation founded upon considerations of a local character, and I am sure that no one who reads our Minutes will doubt that we endeavoured to do justice on this point.

Another

Another circumstance rendered immediate action necessary. A new Police System was in course of formation, the Agency and funds of which were in a degree dependant upon Service Tenures. The two subjects were so mixed up, that it was impossible that one could be settled without the other. A revision of the Native Revenue Establishments, which also in great part depend on Service Tenures, had also long been felt to be urgently required, and the reasons for taking this opportunity of making it were obvious. Both these important measures are in active progress under the Superintendence of Mr Pelly, a Member of the Board of Revenue, and Mr W. Robinson, the Inspector General of Police, both acting in the closest concert with the Inam Commissioner.

It is unnecessary to enter upon the consideration of a Succession Duty, for as a full Equivalent is taken, in the shape of Quit Rent or the Purchase Money of Quit Rent, for any advantages conceded, there is no ground for a special mistake. Whatever towards the enfranchised Ryots may have to bear, must be borne by them in common with the rest of their fellow subjects.

I have shown that I had good grounds for believing that it was expected of me that I should proceed at once to the settlement of this question; that the principle of settlement adopted was that which had been approved by the Home Government, namely long possession, and that in the Conversion of the various imperfect Inam Tenures into Freehold, the rate of Commutation has been adjusted to the benefit conferred. This settlement is not only just in itself, but has been accepted with a confidence which promises to be as permanence of our Indian Empire as it certainly will be to the contentment and prosperity of Her Majesty's Subjects in this Southern portion of it. The doubts at first encountered by the Inam Commissioner, arising out of experience of our previous practice on this subject, have been got over; and, now, to undo what has been done, or even to stop short in the elaborately worked out arrangements in progress

progress, would not only place insuperable difficulties in the way of any future settlement of the question, but would give a rude shock to confidence in our justice and good faith. The actual circumstances are so different from those which were before Her Majesty's Government or in their contemplation, when the Despatch of the 9th September was written, that we should be unfaithful to the trust reposed in us, if we interrupted the progress of this settlement. I feel persuaded that Her Majesty's Government will approve of this decision.

There are one or two particular points of no difficulty adverted to in Mr Taylor's Report on which I shall record a separate Minute.

W. Morgan

Madras
25 October
1859

I quite concur in the Minute which the President has recorded on this subject.

Oct 25 1859 W. A. Maclean