M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-21

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1616	Press ~~Mis.~~
75-76	
Dated 2-9 — 11 — 1859.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 75. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th November 1859, No. 4719.

Read again Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 12th September 1859, Revenue Department, No. 1227.

(In Con. 13th September 1859, No. 4564.)

In the paper recorded above, the Government wish the Board to consider whether the monthly reports now submitted by the Collectors on the state of the crops, on the prospects of the harvest, and on the rise or fall in prices may not be dispensed with, and if they are to be continued, to consider the practical utility of each port in view to the future exclusion of all unnecessary details.

2. In December 1853, when great severity was apprehended in consequence of the calamitous nature of the season, a Circular* was addressed by the Board to all the Collectors, calling for information as to the extent of failure in the harvest, the estimated deficiency of food for the population, the quantity of food stored from former years, and on several other points. As the season continued unfavorable, the Government addressed a Circular directly to the Collectors on the 4th July 1854, requesting the submission of a report on the state of the country generally. It was with reference to this that the Board issued a Circular on 13th idem, desiring the Collectors to submit once every ten days, until all grounds for apprehension should have been removed, a brief report on the prospects of the season and the state of cultivation.

* *12th December* 1853.

3. On 17th August 1855, the report was ordered to be submitted twice in every month; and a form was prescribed on 19th December of the same year, which is the one now observed.

C. O. 1855, *p.* 80.

C. O. 1855, *p.* 124.

4. After the season began to improve, the reports were to have been discontinued; but in Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 15th July 1856, No. 175, Government directed that the reports should continue to be furnished once a month regularly under all circumstances of the season; and it is in conformity with this order that the season report of each district is now submitted to Government every month. A copy of the report is furnished to the Chamber of Commerce direct from each district. The form of report contains five columns to convey information on certain particular points. The length of the remarks entered in these columns varies greatly. These reports are submitted to Government as they are received from the Collectors.

C. O. 1856, *p.* 7.

5. The Board are of opinion, that the submission of these monthly reports by Collectors, which no doubt entail some labor on their establishments, is unnecessary and superfluous, and that the great delay with which some of the returns are received renders them quite useless. It must also be observed that in point of fact most of the information which these reports contain is already furnished in the other returns received by the Board. The enclosure which accompanies the monthly statement of Demand Collection and Balance, shows the prices of different grains and particulars of cultivation compared with those of the previous Fuslies. The monthly rain reports which are furnished to the Chief Engineer, and a copy of which is also sent to the Board by each Collector contain the information respecting the fall of rain. A general return of prices is compiled in the Board's office and submitted to Government every month, and published in the Gazette. A quarterly report of rain fall in each district which was hitherto furnished by the Chief Engineer, is now forwarded by the Board to Government under their orders in the Public Works Department, dated 7th July 1859, No. 1651.

Board's Circular, dated 15th August 1855, *C. O.* 1855, *p.* 80.

In Con. 8th July 1859, *No. 3322.*

6. It will thus be seen that the present season reports contain for the most part a repetition of what is given in the other returns. The only information which is given in the season report, but which is wanting in the two returns above alluded to, is the state of crops and the sanatory condition, &c. of the district. The Board propose to instruct the Collectors to give the

information referred to in as few words as possible in the blank space of the return of prices and cultivation which is now forwarded to the Board, with the statement of Demand Collection and Balance as already stated. The return would then be complete, and the season report may be altogether discontinued, without sacrificing any of the information which was hitherto furnished in the report now proposed to be discontinued. If the Government desire to have this information furnished to them also, it can be supplied in the return of prices submitted to them monthly, the remarks being condensed by taking groups of districts and giving the information generally for the whole group.

7. In Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 27th February 1857, No. 213, Government directed that the current prices of grain given in the season report should be compared with those of preceding month, and not with those of the corresponding month of the past year. This requisition can be met easily by substituting in the return of prices furnished by Collectors, and in the general return submitted to Government, the prices of the preceding month of the current Fusly for those of the second preceding Fusly now given, but which are of no great use.

Circular Order 1859, *page* 15.

8. Should the arrangements proposed in this proceeding be approved of by Government, necessary instructions will be issued to the Collectors by a Circular on the subject.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Acting Secretary.*

No. 76. ORDER THEREON, 29th November 1859, No. 1616.

The suggestions contained in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Proceedings above recorded are fully approved.

2. In place of the present season reports the Board will submit monthly statements of the prices of grain, giving the same particulars as the lists now published in the Gazette, with remarks to shew concisely but clearly the state of the season and of the crops. These statements will be for groups of districts, the groups being arranged according to the natural distribution. The statement for each group will be sent up as soon as all the returns for those districts shall have been received, and in every case with as little delay after the close of the month as possible. The present monthly price list will be discontinued.

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

No. 4719.

PROCEEDINGS of the BOARD of REVENUE, dated 18th November 1859.

Read again Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 12th September 1859, Revenue Department, No. 1227.

(In Con. 13th September 1859, No. 4564.)

In the paper recorded above, the Government wish the Board to consider whether the monthly reports now submitted by the Collectors on the state of the crops, on the prospects of the harvest, and on the rise or fall in prices may not be dispensed with, and if they are to be continued, to consider the practical utility of each port in view to the future exclusion of all unnecessary details.

2. In December 1853, when great severity was apprehended in consequence of the calamitous nature of the season, a Circular* was addressed by the Board to all the Collectors, calling for information as to the extent of failure in the harvest, the estimated deficiency of food for the population, the quantity of food stored from former years, and on several other points. As the season continued unfavorable, the Government addressed a Circular directly to the Collectors on the 4th July 1854, requesting the submission of a report on the state of the country generally. It was with reference to this that the Board issued a Circular on 13th idem, desiring the Collectors to submit once every ten days, until all grounds for apprehension should have been removed, a brief report on the prospects of the season and the state of cultivation.

* 12th December 1853.

3. On 17th August 1855, the report was ordered to be submitted twice in every month; and a form was prescribed on 19th December of the same year, which is the one now observed.

C. O. 1855, p. 80.

C. O. 1855, p. 124.

4. After the season began to improve, the reports were to have been discontinued; but in Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 15th July 1856, No. 175, Government directed that the reports should continue to be furnished once a month regularly under all circumstances of the season; and it is in conformity with this order that the season report of each district is now submitted to Government every month. A copy of the report is furnished to the Chamber of Commerce direct from each district. The form of report contains five columns to convey information on certain particular points. The length of the remarks entered in these columns varies greatly. These reports are submitted to Government as they are received from the Collectors.

C. O. 1856, p. 7.

5. [illegible] Board are of opinion, that the submission of these monthly reports by Collectors, [illegible]ubt entail some labor on their establishments, is unnecessary and superfluous, and [illegible]t delay with which some of the returns are received renders them quite useless. It [illegible] observed that in point of fact most of the information which these reports contain [illegible]urnished in the other returns received by the Board. The enclosure which [illegible] the monthly statement of Demand Collection and Balance, shows the prices [illegible] grains and particulars of cultivation compared with those of the previous Fuslies. The monthly rain reports which are furnished to the Chief Engineer, and a copy of which is also sent to the Board by each Collector contain the information respecting [illegible]in. A general return of prices is compiled in the Board's office and submitted to [illegible] every month, and published in the Gazette. A quarterly report of rain fall in each [illegible]h was hitherto furnished by the Chief Engineer, is now forwarded by the Board to Government under their orders in the Public Works Department, dated 7th July 1859, No. 1651.

[illegible]dated 15th August 1855, [illegible]. 80.

[illegible]. 1859, No. 3322.

[illegible]vill thus be seen that the present season reports contain for the most part a repeti[illegible] is given in the other returns. The only information which is given in the season [illegible]which is wanting in the two returns above alluded to, is the state of crops and the [illegible]dition, &c. of the district. The Board propose to instruct the Collectors to give the [illegible]referred to in as few words as possible in the blank space of the return of prices and [illegible]which is now forwarded to the Board, with the statement of Demand Collection and

Balance as already stated. The return would then be complete, and the season report may be altogether discontinued, without sacrificing any of the information which was hitherto furnished in the report now proposed to be discontinued. If the Government desire to have this information furnished to them also, it can be supplied in the return of prices submitted to them monthly, the remarks being condensed by taking groups of districts and giving the information generally for the whole group.

Circular Order 1859, page 15.

7. In Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 27th February 1857, No. 213, Government directed that the current prices of grain given in the season report should be compared with those of preceding month, and not with those of the corresponding month of the past year. This requisition can be met easily by substituting in the return of prices furnished by Collectors, and in the general return submitted to Government, the prices of the preceding month of the current Fusly for those of the second preceding Fusly now given, but which are of no great use.

8. Should the arrangements proposed in this Proceeding be approved of by Government, necessary instructions will be issued to the Collectors by a Circular on the subject.

(A true Extract.)

L. Stuart

Acting Secretary.

To

J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Exd. J. Wright,

If the months as possible. The present monthly price list will be discontinued.

Fort St. George
29 Nov. 1859.

A Collector to the Bistrict
Cuttack

16th Sept. 59 No. 22
6th Feby. 55 " 15
" July 59 " 6457
" March 54 " 74
" July 54 " 74

70

17

From the Bd. of Revs
28 Feby. 60 Ct.
441
6-8-17
or

No. 575 & 76.

Revenue 1859 Depart.
Govt. No. 2150 30th Nov.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 18th
Desp. 22d } November 1859.
Rec'd 23d Do.
No. 4719.

From Bd. of Rev. & Agy. Ins. Ct. No. 2330

No. 1616. 29th November

Expressing it as their opinion with reference to the Proceedings of Govt. dated 12th Sept. 1859. that the submission of the Monthly Season Reports by Colrs. is unnecessary & superfluous, & proposing certain arrangements by which their future submission may be dispensed with.

With an order

No. 1616.

The suggestions contained in paras 2 & 3 of the above recorded are fully approved. The Board will therefore take steps to carry them into effect without delay, and to discontinue the submission of "Season Reports" by Collectors.

2. In place of the present season reports the Board will submit monthly statements of the prices of grain, giving the same particulars as the lists now published in the Gazette, with remarks to shew concisely but clearly the state of the season & of the crops. These statements will be for groups of Districts, the groups being arranged according to the natural distribution. The statement for each group will be sent up as soon as all the returns for those Districts shall have been received, & in every case with as little delay after the c