Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultation

1st to 10th June 1859

Book No 43 & 44

Order No 759 & 7th June 1859

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, from 1st to 10th June 1859.

No. 43. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th May 1859, No. 1778.

Read letter from the Director of Revenue Settlement dated 28th April 1859, No. 366.

(In Con. 14th May 1859, No. 2175.)

In the above letter, Mr. Newill brings to notice the insufficiency of the village Establishments of Rajahmundry and Masulipatam, for the joint requirements of the Survey and Revenue Departments.

2. In South Arcot and Trichinopoly, various petty duties connected with Survey, such as cutting and fixing pegs, carrying the flags, and measuring chains, &c., were performed by the lower classes of village servants and in the expectation that these duties, would be similarly performed free of charge in other Districts also, no allowance for expenditure on this account was made in the Survey Estimates.

3. In Rajahmundry however since the construction of the Annicut, and the demand for labor caused by it as well as by its effects on the Agriculture, many of the lower orders who were connected with village service have become cultivators on their own account, and the average number of village servants being often not more than 4 or 5 while the Survey Department alone requires 6 and in South Arcot had the services generally of 8.

Considerable delay and difficulty, has in consequence been experienced in Rajahmundry, and the expedients adopted have not been successful. The people though often at some inconvenience to themselves afforded the assistance of their own labourers, and frequently provided hired coolies at their own expense. These charges were however defrayed by collections partaking very much of the objectionable character of the contributions, which formerly prevailed under the names of Baza and Gramakhurch. In some cases too, the more respectable ryots who advanced money for the purpose could not recover the sums payable by others, equally liable with themselves.

To remedy all this Mr. Newill proposes that the Superintendent of the Survey should be authorized to entertain a few measurers, for each Survey Ameen on monthly pay, the total expense not exceeding 18 Rupees per mensem. The servants thus employed with the village labor available will, he states, be sufficient, and the expense he calculates, will be about 12 Rupees per square mile of Survey at present and less hereafter as the work advances. Taking 2 square miles as the average area of the villages the charge on each would be only Rupees 24, and double and treble that sum would be a light tax on the larger villages. On the other hand the burden on the Estimates of this unexpected charge be thrown on them, will be very large, and Mr. Newill states may (even at 6 or 7 Rupees per square mile, instead of 12 as above estimated) amount to Rupees 7,000 annually for each Survey party.

Mr. Newill states that the people will gladly consent to the proposed arrangement which seems to the Board the best for adoption under existing circumstances, unless Government think it right that this charge should be defrayed by the State. The Board apprehend moreover that in the event of the people refusing to pay the extra cess, the Collector possesses no power of realising it by compulsory means. In this case it will be necessary to make other arrangements.

But the Ryots of Rajahmundry and Masulipatam have in varying degrees profited largely from the Annicut and its navigable Canals, without having yet been required to pay in proportion to the advantages they have received. It may therefore be deemed not unreasonable to require them to contribute in the manner proposed by Mr. Newill towards these petty expenses connected with the Survey by which also they will considerably benefit and which is closely connected with the new Irrigation Works.

Under the above circumstances and on the supposition that Government will not wish the Survey Estimates to be exceeded the Board resolve to support Mr. Newill's proposition and to

recommend that the Collectors of Rajahmundry and Masulipatam may be authorized to carry out his suggestion and hold a sum of Rupees 5,000 each at his disposal as a floating advance.

(A true Extract.)

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

No. 44. ORDER THEREON, 7th June 1859, No. 759.

Para. 1. The Board of Revenue submit a letter from the Director of Revenue Settlement bringing to notice the insufficiency of the Village servants in the Rajahmundry and Masulipatam Districts to meet the requirements of the Revenue Survey, and proposing certain measures for overcoming the inconvenience occasioned thereby. The arrangements suggested by Mr. Newill and supported by the Board are, that in addition to the available village servants, a few measurers should be entertained for each Survey Ameen, in the first instance at the expense of Government, at a charge not exceeding 18 Rupees per mensem; and that the cost should be recovered by the Revenue authorities from the ryots rateably on their holdings. It is estimated that the cost will be 12 Rupees a square mile, and assuming two square miles as the average area of the villages, that 24 Rupees will be the sum to be levied from the ryots of each village.

2. The Government recognize the necessity of the additional help applied for, but they do not approve the proposed means of providing it. Independently of the fact that they are unwilling to pass an order which they have no legal power to enforce, they do not consider that it would be just. They think that if the Ryots ought to bear any part of the cost of the Survey, they might properly be called on to bear a much larger share than that assigned to them in Mr. Newill's proposals. The Government have resolved however that the cost of the Revenue Survey shall be defrayed by the State; and the Governor in Council determines to adhere to that principle in the present instance, and desires that this principle be adhered to. It is to be understood that so far as they may be available the village servants will be made use of; but where they are found insufficient, the extra servants required will be paid by Government. Mr. Newill will be instructed to employ the required number of servants on such pay as he finds to be necessary, reporting the same to Government for information. The expenditure so incurred will be charged to the general sanction for the Survey Department.

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

Revenue Dept

No. 758

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 7th June 1859.

Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Here enter 16th May 1859 No. 1776

Para. The Board of Revenue submit a letter from the Director of Revenue Settlement bringing to notice the insufficiency of the Village Servants in the Rajahmundry and Masulipatam Districts to meet the requirements of

of the Revenue Survey
and proposing certain
measures for overcom
the inconvenience occa
-sioned thereby. The
arrangements suggest
by Mr Nevill and
supported by the Board
are, that in addition
to the available Village
servants,
~~boobs~~, as few measures
should be entertained
for each Survey Ameen,
in the first instance:
the expense of Govern
-ment, at a charge
not exceeding 18 Rupees
per mensem; and that
the cost should be rec
-overed by the Revenue
authorities from the
Ryots rateably on their
holdings. It is estimated
that the cost will be
Rupees a square
, and assuming
square miles as
average area of
the Villages, that 24 Rupees
will be the sum to be
levied from the Ryots
of each Village.

The Governments
~~have approved of the~~
~~proposals; for~~ Independ-
-ently of the fact that
they are unwilling
to pass an order which
they have no legal
power to enforce, they
do not consider, that
would be
such. They think that
the Ryots ought to
bear any part of the
expence of the Survey, they
might
should have to be

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called on to bear a much
larger share than that
assigned to them in
Mr. Neville's ~~accounts~~ proposals.
~~-ncuts.~~ The Government
have
resolved however that
the ~~whole cost~~ cost of the Rev: Survey shall be
defrayed by the State;
and desires that this
principle be adhered
to. It is to be under=
-stood that so far
as they may be availa-
-ble the Village servants
will be made use of;
but where ~~such~~ they are
found insufficient, the
extra servants required
will
~~must~~ be paid by
Government. ~~They~~ Mr Neville will
~~desire therefore that~~
~~the Director of Revenue~~
~~of Revenue Settlem~~ b

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present instance

will
be instructed to employ
the required number
of servants on such
pay as he finds to
be necessary, reporting
the same to Govern-
ment for information
The expenditure so
incurred will be
charged to the general
Revenue for the sur-
vey Department.

Sd

Revenue 1859 Dept.
Cons 10th June.

№ 758.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
Dd 7th June 1859.

From Director of Rev. Settt.
Cons. 4th Oct 1859 - 42 - 43

~~From do do~~ dd 21 Sept 59 in Pro 4th Oct 59
(Extn Estabt of Melavarcy Pors) № 42-43
From the Director of Revenue Settlement
Dd 4th July 59 C № 1240 in C. 22d
54-55

Pro. of the Bd of Rev. Dd 8th augt 59.
C. Nos 1433 Cons. 12 do 35-36.
Erection of Boundary Pillars

Passing orders on the insufficiency of the additional Village Servants in Rajahmundry and Masulipatam to meet the requirements of Revenue Survey.

From Deputy Supt of Rev Settlement dd 26th October 59 C № 1976.

43-44