# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

| G.O. No. 919 | Press / Mis. |
|---|---|
| Dated 15th July | 185 9. |

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

*Course of procedure to be observed by the Deputy Collectors in recording claims and in investigating titles to Ináms in the several districts of the Madras Presidency.*

1. The investigation into the validity of all Ináms will be made by responsible officers of the rank of Deputy Collectors, who will be carefully selected for the purpose. It will be conducted from táluk to táluk in the presence of the assembled Inámdárs, and the village authorities, in the same manner as the annual settlements of Land Revenue are carried on by the Collector and his Assistants.

2. The officers deputed will enter the results of their enquiry in English, in a tabular form of Register. Printed forms will be furnished to them for this purpose, one for each village. A separate Register in the same form will be prepared of the Shrotriáms, Agraháráms, and whole Inám villages in each táluk.

3. To facilitate the preparation of these Registers, printed Vernacular forms will be previously furnished to the village Karnams through the Tahsildars. The Karnams will prepare the statements under the immediate superintendence of a responsible tálúk officer, either the Sarishtadár or the head Gomastah who will be appointed for the purpose by the Collector, and will enter therein all the Inàms at present existing in the village, whether in the possession of the parties, or temporarily under attachment; exclusively of the village service Inàms, for which a separate form of Register will be prepared.

4. The Karnams will fill in all the columns of the Vernacular statement as far as the information at their disposal will enable them to do, and it is believed that very few columns will have to be left blank by the Karnams for want of information.

5. The superintending táluk officer will carefully scrutinise the extent and assessment of the several Ináms as entered by the Karnams, and will further satisfy himself that they correspond with the Jamabandi or other accounts of his táluk which show the extent of the existing Ináms in the several villages. Where the Inám land is unassessed, the assessment of similar Government land in the village shall be entered, and where the Government land also bears no fixed assessment, the assessment shall be entered with reference to the rent paid by the cultivators to the Inámdár, or in such other manner as the Commissioner in communication with the Collector of the District, may consider the best or most practicable mode of exhibiting the annual value of the land.

6. The conversion of the extent of the Ináms from the ordinary local measure, into acres, will be made in accordance with the rates of conversion adopted in the preparation of the revenue accounts of the village. Tables of conversion will, however, be prepared beforehand for each táluk, or division of a District, in communication with the Collector, and furnished to the officer who superintends the preparation of the Vernacular Register.

7. The táluk superintending officer will enter in the column of remarks in the Vernacular Register, the purport of any orders relative to the Inám which may have been passed upon reports of lapse; and these orders will be taken out and kept in readiness by him, for reference by the Deputy Collector. He will also afford the necesssary explanations to the Kranams for filling in the several columns of the Register. Its preparation ought to occupy but a very short time, and on the arrival of the Deputy Collector at the táluk Cusbah, it will be delivered to him, attested by the Karnams and the táluk superintending officer.

8. Previously to the arrival of the Deputy Collector at the taluk Cusbah, a general invitation will have been issued, through the Collector of the district, calling upon all the Inámdars to be in attendance at the expected time, with their Sanads and title deeds, and with a written statement giving their name, age, place of residence, relationship to original holder, the particulars of their family or heirs, and the manner and date of their acquiring the Inám; and the Tahsildar will be instructed by the Collector to secure their attendance in the same manner as that of the ryots for the Jamabandi settlement.

9. After ascertaining that these necessary preparations are made, the Deputy Collector will proceed to the tâluk Cusbah with his establishment, carrying with him all Registers and other standard accounts relating to the Inàms of the táluk, which may have been furnished to him, from the Collector's Huzúr records. The táluk officer who superintended the preparation of the Curnums' statements will be in attendance upon him with all necessary tálûk records, and the Tahsildar, who will have been previously instructed to give his prompt assistance, will attend to all requisitions for records, &c., will procure the attendance of such persons and witnesses as may be requisite, and will generally act in subordination to the Deputy Collector as regards the Inàm inquiry in the same manner as he would obey the orders of an officer deputed for the settlement of his talook.

10. Being thus provided with every information in the táluk or Huzúr records, with a statement containing all required particulars ready prepared by the Karnam, and checked by a responsible táluk officer, having the village officers and Inámdárs in attendance, and the Tahsildár at hand to clear all doubts, an intelligent and responsible officer in the position of a Deputy Collector, whose undivided attention will be devoted to the work on the spot, may be expected to prepare these cases with a rapidity, a clearness, and exactness, quite unknown under the present system of reporting lapses.

11. He will prepare them from the Karnams' statements and the Huzúr records, checking and verifying the one by the other, and ascertaining by a verbal inquiry all points which are not to be found in the records—such as the relationship to predecessors, existing family, and actual title of the present incumbent. He will also examine and satisfy himself of the authenticity of the Sanad, and other title deeds which may be produced, and which in cases of doubt will be forwarded to the Commissioner with the reports of the cases. In the column of the Register set apart for remarks, he will enter succinctly the nature of, and circumstances relating to, the Inám and its present claimant, with the purport of any orders which may have been passed regarding it on the occurrence of any former lapse; and he will give his own recommendation clearly and briefly.

12. The Register when forwarded to the Commissioner's Office, should be complete in itself. The headings have been so prepared as to include all information of importance. None of the other columns need be here referred to; but if there be any other circumstances which the Deputy Collector may consider proper to be recorded, in order further to elucidate or explain his own recommendation,—he will of course enter such additional information, in the appropriate column, to enable the Commissioner to dispose of each case without further reference.

13. Should any of the Inámdárs neglect to appear either in person or by an authorised agent in compliance with the invitation issued under Rule 8, a list of such absentees shall be furnished by the Karnams to the Deputy Collector immediately upon his arrival in the táluk, who will thereupon issue individual notices through the Tahsildár to the absentees, calling upon them to appear in person or by an authorized agent with the required information within a period of 15 days, under the penalty provided by existing Regulations, *viz.*, the attachment by the Collector of their Inám lands for default, and the full assessment of the Inám after the expiration of one year if the default continue. The notice shall be served upon the Inámdár or, if his place of residence be not known, upon his representative or the person in possession of the Inám, or it shall be posted in the village choultry or in any other public building or place in the village in which the Inám is situated.

14. If the Inámdár or his agent fail to appear in obedience to this notice, the Deputy Collector will note the same in the Register, entering in it all the information that can be obtained regarding the Inám to enable the Commissioner to dispose of the case. If the information is found to be insufficient for this purpose, the Commissioner will forward a list of such cases to the Collector calling upon him to attach the Inám lands in question pending the appearance of the Inámdár. The proceeds of the lands during the period of attachment will, as a general rule, be carried to the credit of Government, and will not be repayable to the Inámdár.

15. After the Commissioner's departure from the District, should the Inámdár or the party claiming the Inám, appear before the Collector or his Assistant within the period of one year from the date of the notice, it will be the duty of the Collector to investigate the case and forward



it with all the required information for the disposal of the Commissioner—and failing the appearance of any claimant within that period before the Government Officers, the fact should be reported by the Collector to the Commissioner in view to the full assessment of the Inám.

16. As the Deputy Collector during the progress of his inquiries will have both leisure and opportunity for unreserved communication with all classes of Inámdárs, he will carefully explain to them the liberal intentions of the Government on the subject of Ináms, and the principles upon which it is proposed to convert their tenure into an absolute Freehold; and he will note in the column of remarks those cases in which they may express a desire to avail themselves of the option allowed them for the purpose. This course, however, is only preliminary to the formal consent which will be ultimately accepted in each case by the Commissioner, on the occasion of conferring the title deed.

17. In the event of the production of false accounts, or fabricated documents of any kind, the Deputy Collectors will try the cases on the spot and punish the offenders under the provisions of Regulation IX of 1822.

18. A brief progress report in the printed form provided, showing the class, number and value of cases inquired into and recorded, will be furnished by the Deputy Collector to the Commissioner at the close of every week.

19. Immediately on the completion of the Inám Register for each village, and after the recommendation of the Deputy Collector has been recorded in each case, it will be forwarded to the office of the Commissioner. The final decisions of the Commissioner or of his special Assistants, will be entered in the last column; and in accordance with these decisions title deeds under the signature of the Commissioner, acknowledging the validity of their present tenure and specifying in each case the terms upon which it may be converted into a Freehold, will be presented to the Inámdars assembled according to previous notice at the Commissioner's camp, which will be conveniently held at a central station in respect of two or more táluks.

20. After the title deeds have been given as above described, the consent of those Inámdars who are desirous of availing themselves at once of the option of converting their tenure into a Freehold will be taken by the Commissioner and the alteration of the tenure will be entered, in the form printed on the Deed, under the seal of the Government and the signature of the Commissioner.

21. The results of the decisions of the Commission, so far as their enforcement may be necessary by the Revenue authorities, will be communicated from time to time by the Commissioner or his Assistants to the Collector who will carry them into effect accordingly.

Madras
5th July 1859.

Inám Commissioner

(True Copy)

No 17 – Read the following Letter

No 63

From

G. N Taylor Esqre

Inam Commissioner

To

I D Bourdillon Esqre

Secretary to Govt Rev Departt

Sir, dated Bellary 6th July 1859 No 53

As I am anxious to furnish my Assistant Mr Glascar, and the two Deputy Collectors who are now in the Districts of Masulipatam and Rajahmundry respectively, with copies of the instructions I have framed for their guidance, in order that they may with the assistance of Collectors set to work immediately to cause Vernacular Registers to be prepared by the Karnams, and to make other arrangements for the prosecution of the Inam Inquiries to be speedily commenced, I have the honor to request the early consideration of the Government to these Instructions, a printed copy of which is now forwarded; and that if approved an order may be passed authorizing Collectors to carry into effect, in communication with the Officers of my Department, the course of procedure therein prescribed

× A Shashiah
P Chentsal Rao

Printed in Rec Dept Proc
1859 – 11 July – 919
17-18

Sect. I
to No 63.

From G Taylor Esqre
Inam Commissioner

P 1233/59
Rec-T-59 6 July

prescribed.

2. I propose that this paper shall form part of my general Report forwarding the Rules for the adjudication and Settlement of Claims: but the order now solicited is necessary to enable me to have the Registers printed at once, and forwarded to the two Districts in anticipation of the arrival of the remaining Deputies and my own Establish=ment.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
W. Casey Jr.
Claim Commissioner

Madras
Claim Commrs Office
July 1839

3/1/59

C.J.7. in a Letter to E
dy 9th August 1859 No 39

950-70
444-72
1354/72
21/4/60
25-4-78
2-2-93
8-9-98
22/5/00
9/8/00
24/10/01
15-3-06
20-4-92
17-10

Register of Inams returned to the Court - 13 July 59

No 17418

5 July 59

Revenue 1859 Depart
Pub: of Govt 15th July
No 1233

From The Inam Commissioner,

To The Secretary to Govt
Rev Depart

Dated 5th July 1859
Rec'd 5th Do 4
2 Encls

W/3

No 919. 11th July 1859

Sir

I have the honor to submit herewith for the early consideration of Government & the Instructions framed for the guidance of the Deputy Collectors placed at the disposal of the Inam Depart

With an order when called for

No 919.

The draft instructions and the form of village register submitted with this letter are approved; and Collectors and other officers concerned are hereby directed to do from time to time such acts as may be necessary for giving effect to the former.

Fort St Geo:
11th July 1859

1 Copies

To
The Inam Commissioner. Dup 12th
W/ Board of Revenue for information and for communication to all Collectors for information and guidance. 5/16