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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2330 — Press ~~Mis.~~

89-90

Dated 7—12— 18 60.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 7th December 1860.

No. 89. Read the following letter from G. N. TAYLOR, Esq., Inám Commissioner, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Palamanér, 12th November 1860, No. 429:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit for approval a copy of Proceedings which I propose to issue for the guidance of the Deputy Collectors conducting the Inám investigation in Kurnool, and which involve questions requiring the decision of Government.

2. This District having been assumed in 1839, or only 21 years ago, some special provisions are required for the application of the principles of the present rules to the Inám Settlement. This will involve the abolition of the Inámati Patti, an arbitrary cess levied on certain classes of Ináms under the former Government, and which was provisionally continued after the assumption pending an inquiry into Inám titles. The subject is discussed in paragraphs 6 to 11 of the Proceedings.

3. Another point requiring notice is the arbitrary measure of resumption carried out by the Officiating Agent Captain Russell in 1856, apparently without authority, and which is referred to in paragraph 15 of the Proceedings. Should the information before the Government be insufficient to enable them to pass orders on the subject, I shall institute further inquiries when I visit the District after the close of the year, and will then submit a fuller report. I beg in the meanwhile that I may be favored with instructions on the other parts of the Proceedings, in order that the Deputy Collectors may be enabled to proceed with the Settlement without loss of time.

4. I trust that the mode proposed in paragraph 26 of treating the few existing Jáhgírs will also meet with the approval of Government.

Proceedings of the Inám Commissioner, dated Palamanér, 12th November 1860.

Read Memorandum from Deputy Collector V. RAJAGOPALACHARLU, dated 26th October 1860.

1. The above Report, which has been prepared by V. Rájagópálácháriu with much intelligence, pains and research, enters fully into the Inám history of the Kurnool District.

2. The Kurnool Collectorate as now constituted consists of four Táluqs belonging to Kurnool proper, the Jáhgír of Banagánapalli, the Táluqs of Kambam, Dúpád and Koilguntla recently added to it from Cuddapah, and the Táluq of Panchapálem transferred from Bellary. In the Inám Settlement of the last four Táluqs the Deputy Collectors will be guided by the instructions issued to the investigating Officers in Cuddapah and Bellary.

3. Kurnool proper anciently formed part of the Ánagondi Ráz. On the decay of that Hindu power in A. D. 1600 it was constituted a Subhá, subject to the Mahomedan kingdom of Bijapúr; fell together with that kingdom under the dominion of the Emperor Aurangazebe in 1687, and on the dismemberment of the Delhi empire, it became a feudal dependency of the Nizám; by whom it was transferred to the British Government, together with the rest of his possessions south of the Tumbaddra and Kistna, by the treaty of 1800. Kurnool continued to be an independent State, subject to the feudal superiority of the British Government till 1839; when, owing to the treasonable conduct of the ruling Nawáb, it was sequestered and incorporated with the Government territories.

4. The Jáhgír of Banagánapalli was another feudal dependency of the Nizám, ceded to the British by the treaty of 1800. In 1832 the Jáhgír was assumed under Government management, partly in consequence of the embarrassed circumstances of the Jáhgírdár, and partly owing to certain misconceptions regarding its tenure. But it was ultimately restored to him in 1848. In the Sanad issued to him on this last occasion, a stipulation was entered limiting the duration of grants of Ináms, made by the Jáhgírdárs, to the period of their enjoyment of the Jáhgír; but as this does not vest the Government with any present interest in these Ináms, they will not come under the inquiry of the Commission.

Minutes of Consultation of Government, 22nd May 1848, *No.* 513.

5. There are no other private estates of any size or importance, either Jáhgírs, Zamí dáris or Páliapats; there are a few entire Inám villages, Srotriyams and Jáhgírs, and these will be hereafter noticed.

Letter of Mr. Scott to the Board of Revenue, dated 26th August 1846, *No.* 33.

6. Very few Ináms in Kurnool are supported by Sanads. A registration of these titles was made by Mr. Scott in 1844 which, it is believed, comprises almost all that are in existence. The number of Sanads produced and examined were 1,106, the dates extending over a period of 224 years from Hijri 1022 to 1246, and they appear to have been granted by eighteen different Nawábs. Three-fourths of them were issued in Hijri 1217 by Nawáb Allífkhán, who having recalled the older Sanads, issued these in renewal for a much smaller extent, though the original Ináms still continue to be enjoyed. The Sanads are generally hereditary in their terms, and all Ináms supported by these, however old, will be now treated as valid hereditary grants, unless otherwise limited by their express terms; there being no stipulations in the treaty of 1800 which prohibited the Nawábs of Kurnool from alienating lands in Inám.

7. As regards Ináms held without Sanads, their validity must depend upon their uninterrupted enjoyment for the period of 50 years. But as the District was assumed only 21 years ago, there are no accounts to prove such lengthened possession. A Register was prepared in Fasli 1242 under the administration of the Nawáb, distinguishing Ináms held on grants from those not so supported; the object of which was to levy a cess on the latter description of lands. This Register can be accepted as evidence in favor of the validity of the Ináms recorded in it; for, although it is not 50 years old, it was prepared under the express orders of the Nawáb, and it may reasonably be presumed that the entries received his sanction, and that all defect of title was held by him to be cured by the tax imposed on that occasion. It is also a fact that many Ináms were omitted from that Register in order to evade the tax; those entered therein are known as Dákhalá Ináms and those not so recorded as Ghaír Dákhalá. Both descriptions of Ináms were measured and registered in the survey made in Fasli 1251 or immediately after the assumption of the District.

8. Mr. Blane's Report of the 12th October 1841, paragraphs 25 to 35, describes the principles of the tax imposed on Ináms without Sanads, which is now known as the Inámatti Patti. This tax appears to have originated in Fasli 1211 under the Government of the Nawáb Allífkhan. It gave rise to much complaint and was afterwards remitted under the advice of Mr. Chaplain, then Collector of Bellary. But it was again revived in Fasli 1242. Its professed principle was to tax Ináms unsupported by Sanads and those not already charged with Jodi; but this principle was greatly violated in practice. After the assumption of the District, Mr. Blane, in Fasli 1250, considerably reduced, and reimposed the tax on its original basis. According to the principles adopted by him, all service Ináms belonging to the religious Establishments both Mussalman and Hindu, and to the minor village servants; as well as all personal Ináms supported by Sanads or already bearing a Jodi, were to be free from the tax; which was to be imposed only on the Sarva (rent free) Ináms of Reddies, Curnams, Désái and Désapándi, and on personal Sarva Ináms unsupported by Sanads of the latter class; moreover, those Ináms which were expressly exempted by the late Nawáb's orders were not to be interfered with. The tax had been levied under the Nawáb at the rate of 1 Rupee per Kudu of dry land and 3 Rupees on wet and garden. But Mr. Blane, in order, as he intended, to equalize the demand, altered the dry rate to 1½ Rupees on Régada, Rupees ¾ on Massab and half a Rupee on red soils. The real effect of the alteration was to render the tax much more unequal than it had been before. The Kudu is an extent sowable with the measure of seed called a Kudu, but it varies from 2 to 10 acres (average 3 acres) and is generally largest in area on red land upon which the tax is consequently greatly reduced, whilst it is proportionately higher on the black soils. The tax was at the same time extended to the Gaír Dákhalá Ináms brought to account by the survey upon which it was fixed more equably on the acre at the rates marginally noted. The Inámatti Patti is

6 *Annas per acre on black soils.*
3 *do. do. on Massab.*
2 *do. do. on Lal or red.*

further leviable on the actual cultivation. The late Court of Directors in their Despatch, dated 22nd February 1843, No. 1, paragraph 4, disapproved of the tax, and allowed its continuance only pending an inquiry into Inám tenures.

9. Had the Inámatti Patti been continued by this Government on the footing on which it had been placed by the Nawáb, it might be now recognized as a final compromise made by him to cure the defective title to the Ináms. But as it has been since altered and modified so as to render its pressure most unequal, besides fluctuating with the cultivation, and as its abolition was from the first contemplated by the Home Government, the Commissioner concurs in opinion with the Deputy Collector and with the Officiating Collector of the District, that the preferable course is to abolish the Patti altogether, and to confirm and enfranchise the Dákhalá and Gaír Dákhalá Ináms, hitherto liable to it, on a quit-rent of one-fourth of their assessment, in consideration of their defective title and the absence of proof of enjoyment for 50 years: following in this respect the principles adopted for the settlement of Ináms similarly circumstanced in the old Rajahmundry District (Commissioner's Proceedings dated 24th October 1859, No. 81). The Ináms will be liable to the higher rate of one-half quit-rent, in the absence of heirs to the holders, or if they are held either for service no longer required, or in excess of what may be required for the service as in the case of the Reddies and Curnams.

10. The Bhatta-vritti and Khairáti Ináms liable to this tax, measure 81,000 acres, their estimated value may be taken at one lac of Rupees, and the amount of Patti now paid is about Rupees 15,000. One-fourth quit-rent on the full estimated value is 25,000 Rupees; being equal to the Patti together with the additional quit-rent of one-eighth which would be leviable if the Patti were recognized, leaving out of consideration cases in which one-half quit-rent will be chargeable in the absence of heirs. The results of the proposed commutation on the Reddy and Curnam Ináms, will depend upon what remains after a fair emolument has been assigned to those Officers.

11. As regards Jodi Ináms and the Ináms of religious institutions and minor village servants, which were exempted from the Patti as described in paragraph 8 of these Proceedings, the Commissioner is of opinion that whereas such of these Ináms as are entered in the Register of Fasli 1242 have been recognized by the Nawáb and exempted from any demand on account of defective title, they should be treated as valid Ináms under the various rules applicable to them. But in regard to Gaír Dákhalá Ináms of these several descriptions, that is to say, those which are not entered in the Register and are otherwise unsupported by Sanads, they will be subject to a quit-rent of one-fourth.

12. The foregoing instructions will be subject to the approval of Government.

13. Mr. Bayley in his Report of the 19th June 1843, adverts to a prevailing practice amongst the Curnams and Reddies of entering, as Ináms in the names of Bramins and other unknown persons, lands which they appropriated or intended to appropriate to themselves and for their dependants. Such frauds are stated to occur in the Jamín Jáda or Register of Fasli 1242 and more extensively in the survey accounts. These cases can be now easily detected by the Deputy Collectors insisting upon proof of the title of the present holders where they are not descendants of the Inámdárs registered in the Jamín Jáda and survey accounts, and can show no fair title to the Ináms, such Ináms notwithstanding their entry in the above accounts will be treated as recent or fraudulent and charged with one-half, two-thirds, or full assessment according to the circumstances of each case.

14. Large resumptions of Ináms to the extent of 106,000 acres have been made since the assumption of the District. The inquiry in these cases was held on the occurrence of lapses and under the Circular Orders of 1848; and the resumptions, which were founded upon various principles, appear to have had the sanction of Government. Probably a large number of these cases were fraudulent Ináms of the nature referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Proceedings of Board of Revenue 2nd March and Minutes of Consultation 14th November 1848.

15. In 1856, however, the Officiating Agent Captain Russell appears to have adopted a different course, and apparently without authority. In his Report on the Revenue administration of 1855-56 he reported having published a list of the Gaír Dákhalá Ináms, and having given the Inámdárs three months' time to prove their right. The results of this measure, as afterwards reported by him to the Board of Revenue, were, that 17,840 acres of personal Ináms were resumed, 6,549 were continued for life, 8,105 were allowed to stand till a general inquiry, and 1,405 were referred to the Táluqs for investigation. It would seem that there is nothing on record to show upon what principles his inquiry proceeded; the words "stand," "jaft," or "life," being simply marked opposite to each Inám in a Telugu Register. The present Acting Collector remarks that the whole proceeding was arbitrary and the Officiating Agent had no authority for it; and in a case of resumption on account of non-appearance after notice, the Board have recommended that the Inám should be restored and settled by the Commission; but the final orders of Government upon this case have not been received. It is difficult to conceive that so important a step could have been taken without due authority, and allowed to pass unnoticed. If the proceeding is unauthorized and arbitrary, the simplest plan will be to cancel it entirely in view to a re-investigation of the Ináms by the Commission. The orders of Government will be awaited on this subject also.

Letter to Board 13*th May* 1857, *No.* 28.

16. The former land measures of Kurnool are Kandies and Kudús, being represented by the measures of seed sown and considerably fluctuating with the quality of the soil; and the entries in the Sanads, and even those in the Jamín Jádi, are found to be generally understated. The only reliable record of the true area of the Ináms in acres is contained in the survey accounts, which will be adopted in the present settlement. The survey measurements are supposed to be as accurate as the results of any of the unprofessional surveys in the other Districts of the Presidency.

17. Neither the Ináms nor the Government lands have ever been classified in this District. The assessment on the Government lands was fixed by the distribution of the former village rents on the holdings of the individual ryots, and the characteristic features of this assessment are, its generally heavy pressure, its inequality, and the wide range of classes which it embraces. The propositions of the Collector for a revision of these rates have not yet received the sanction of Government. The Commissioner is of opinion that it will be sufficient for the purposes of the Inám settlement to adopt the few simple divisions of the soil suggested by the Collector, and five rates of assessment varying from 3 Rupees to 4 Annas as follows:—

Régar.	Rupees.	Per acre.
1st sort.....	,,	3 0 0
2nd do.....	,,	2 0 0
3rd do.....	,,	1 0 0
Massab.		
1st sort.....	,,	2 0 0
2nd do.....	,,	1 0 0
3rd do.....	,,	0 8 0
Lál.		
1st sort.....	,,	0 8 0
2nd do.....	,,	0 4 0

The survey accounts specify the general classes of the soil; the particular grades in which the Ináms should be placed can be ascertained by inquiry of the villagers; and in the adoption of the several rates, the Deputy Collectors will be guided by the existing assessment on the Government lands, making due allowances for its heaviness.

18. The assessment of wet Ináms is more difficult, but these lands are inconsiderable in extent. Not only is the quality of the various soils much altered, and more equalized by irrigation, but allowance must also be made for different degrees of irrigation. The Commissioner will confine himself to laying down eight rates for single crop wet lands ranging from 8 to 1 Rupee, with a difference of a Rupee between every two rates, and will leave it to the Deputy Collectors to use their discretion in applying the proper rates to the Ináms of each village, on

a combined consideration of the quality of the soil, the means of irrigation, and the prevailing assessment on the Government lands under the same sources. All these circumstances should be explained at the head of each Register, where the several rates of dry and wet assessment on the Jíraiti lands of the village, and the average assessment on each description of land, should also be given. The Commissioner sees no necessity to allow further discretionary reductions by the Deputy Collectors on the wet rates fixed as above. By taking at once a general view of the assessment on a large number of the villages of the Táluq, more equal results will be arrived at than by proceeding village by village. Two crop wet lands will be assessed at one-half more than single crop lands.

19. The existing Jodi on the Ináms in Kurnool proper is a fixed charge, not fluctuating with the cultivation. Its average amount is one-fourth of the full assessment, and is for the most part borne by the service Ináms.

20. There are few special tenures requiring notice.

21. The Déshái and Désapándi, Désamuk and Natgaud services have long ceased to be performed, but the emoluments attached to them were never commuted as in the Ceded Districts, where the Ináms having been resumed, small portions of them were continued to the family as personal grants. A similar course was occasionally followed in Kurnool on the occurrence of lapses. These descriptions of Ináms will be now enfranchised on a quit-rent of one-fourth of their assessment, in consideration of the abolition of the Rusums hitherto enjoyed by the holders; and any Inám Patti hitherto leviable on them will be remitted.

22. The Jangi Kattubadi is an important class of service tenures held for general Police duties no longer required under the new Police arrangements. Like the similar tenures in the Ceded Districts, the Ináms will be enfranchised on a quit-rent of one-half of their net value in addition to any Jodi already charged on them. The Collector believes that the measure will be far from unpopular with the Kattubadis. Former attempts to economise their services failed from the resumption of their Ináms which threatened to follow the discontinuance of the service. Under the present rules the Ináms will be confirmed to them in freehold, subject only to a quit-rent and free from all interference or obligation of service; and they will have the benefit of a well remunerated employment in the new Police, if they are disposed to enlist in the force. These advantages should be clearly pointed out to them by the Deputy Collectors conducting the Inám investigation.

23. The village Kattubadis are a most extensive class of village servants in the Ceded Districts and Kurnool. The Commissioner does not see the necessity of retaining these servants in addition to village Talaiyars and Vetties, and it will be hereafter decided in communication with the Collectors and Commissioner of Police, to what extent they can be enfranchised without prejudice to the Village, Revenue and Police duties.

1. *Reddies.*
2. *Curnums.*
3. *Shroff.*
4. *Talaiyars.*
5. *Mála, Mádiga Vetties and Toties.*
6. *Tom-tom man and Kummaráválla.*
7. *Nircutta.*

24. Of the other village service Ináms those noted in the margin being required for services in the Revenue or Police Departments will be continued.

1. *Puróhits.*
2. *The Carpenter.*
3. *Black Smith.*
4. *Washerman.*
5. *Barber.*
6. *Potmaker.*

25. The Ináms of the village artizans marginally noted will also be confirmed on their present tenure. The two descriptions of Ináms known as Tambalauándlu and Anukalanádu, held by persons who supply leaves and render other services to public servants visiting the villages, services evidently not required, will be enfranchised on a quit-rent of one-half.

26. The only other description of tenures requiring notice are the Jáhgírs. There were 51 of these estates on the assumption of the District, 16 assigned towards certain Húzur expenses, 17 held by the Nawáb's relations, and 18 by other dependants and religious institutions. The first two descriptions of Jáhgírs were finally resumed. The third was also assumed under Government management, and Mr. Bayley, in his Report of the 16th September

1842, submitted his proposals for their future treatment. The Supreme Government were,* however, of opinion that no change should take place in the tenure of these villages till the death of the present holders. The villages have nevertheless been retained in the hands of Government, the net proceeds, after certain deductions on account of Tahirír and Rusums being paid to Jáhgírdárs. Several of them have already fallen in to Government by lapse, leaving only eight Jáhgírs for present disposal. No final measures having been adopted in regard to these Jáhgírs the Commissioner is of opinion that they ought to have the benefit of the present rules, that they should be restored to the Jáhgírdárs, and treated according to their tenure under the rules already proposed for the settlement of the Kurnool Ináms in general.

* *Letter to Madras, dated* 14*th December* 1842, *No.* 1,058.

No. 90. ORDER THEREON, 7th December 1860, No. 2,330.

Ordered to lie over.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Acting Secretary to Government.

may be in proceeding
upon their instructions
upon such points of
instructions as
do not begin the
practice of Govt. - the
order will probably
not be issued, this
proceeding pending,
until the paper is
printed - till any
upon proposals on

modified as the Sup-
posed, the Sup. Govt.
will be afterwards
instructed accordingly.

Yours truly

Lewis

Copy to a Letter to Engt
6th July 1860 Vi-87

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Secret 25 Feb 1842 No 20-24
Secret 10 Jan 1843
Sol. Genl's Despatch No 1 of 1846
Ch. 11 July 48 L. 20-
DC 20 Dec 48 L. 33-34-35-36
Ch. 11 Dec 48 L. 214-25-
11 D. L. 1842 No 5-9
12 Jany 1843 No 2
19 Sept. 1843 No 7-11

28/3/44

No 89 & 90

Rec. 1860 Department
Dis: of Govt for December
No 2595

From J. R. Taylor Esq
Asst Commissr Genl
To J. D. Bourchier Esq
Secretary to Govt
Revenue Department

Dated 12th December 60
Received 14th

1 Enclo. N

No 2330 - 7th December
Further Rec'd 16th February 61 No 375

Submitting for the
approval of Government
the of the Proceedings
which he proposes to
give for the guidance
of the Deputy Collectors
conducting the Beam-
boo Khedda in
Hurriaul -

With an Order &

No 2330

Ordered to lie over -

Fort St. Geo.
7th December 1860

Note by Mr Taylor which
should be kept
be kept