M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1804 Press
Mis.

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Dated 25-8-1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 25th August 1862.

No. 333. Read the following letter from the Honorable C. PELLY, Member of the Board of Revenue, to the Honorable T. PYCROFT, Chief Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 14th August 1862, No. 1,357 :—

SIR,

From Collector, dated 19th July 1862, No. 122.
From Collector, dated 29th July 1862, No. 131.

1. I have the honor to submit my Report on the Village Establishments of the Godavery District, accompanied by the letter of the Collector noted in the margin.

2. There are at present in most villages a Moonsiff, and one or more Pettanadárs, who constitute the head men of the village. They were not generally remunerated by the State until 1846, since when they have been paid ; and the sum allowed has formed a charge against the amount of the joint rent of the village. Their emoluments from rent free lands are but few. Mr. Purvis does not consider the Pettanadárs, who assist the Moonsiff, at all necessary, and he much prefers the plan of a single man to conduct the affairs of the village.

3. The emoluments of the Curnums are large, principally inland. But the largest portion of these land emoluments are held by men who do no duty, and the Ináms are further much sub-divided. Mr. Purvis expresses an opinion which coincides with that of Government that the divided responsibility is a decided bar to efficiency.

Curnums' lands.	Assessed at Rs.
Working Curnums.....	59,961
Non-working do.	70,025

4. The office of Shroff is found in some villages only, and Mr. Purvis thinks it may be dispensed with. I shall not therefore provide for it.

5. The lower offices of the village, whether Revenue or Police, are indiscriminately discharged by classes of persons called Vettivasas, Barbers and Naickwadies, the emoluments of the two former are chiefly in land, and of the Naickwadies in land and cash payments from the village rent. They are all for the most part inadequately remunerated.

6. The Nirgunties as a distinct body are found at present only in a very few villages where they are not required ; provision has been made for twenty-five men in twenty-two villages, where they are required for the charge of large or numerous tanks, but as they will perform the general duties of the village also, they will receive the same salary as the Vettyans ; and I have called them " Vettyans, extra for villages where required for tanks."

7. I have had the advantage of personally conferring with the Collector on the subject of the future Village Establishment. It is not practicable, we find, to make a reduction to any considerable extent in the number of villages by grouping villages of the Delta Táluqs, for they already are generally large enough. But in the Upper Táluqs where there are many very paltry villages, a large reduction has been made, and on the whole the present number of villages 973,

has been reduced to 715 villages, for which the following Revenue Establishment is now recommended. The villages are classified according to their revenue:—

Class. Villages under Rupees	Number of villages.	Maniakarens. Number.	Rate.	Amount.	Curnums. Number.	Rate.	Amount.	Vettyans. Number for each village.	Rate.	Total number of men.	Amount.
600	37	37	18	666	.....	.....	.....	1	36	37	1,332
1,000	76	76	24	1,824	.....	.....	.....	1	36	76	2,736
1,500	103	103	36	3,708	216	60	12,960	2	36	206	7,416
2,000	93	230	48	11,040	93	84	7,812	2	36	186	6,696
3,000	137				137	96	13,152	3	36	274	9,864
4,000	96	148	60	8,880	96	108	10,368	3	36	288	10,368
5,000	52				52	120	6,240	3	36	156	5,616
6,000	38	62	72	4,464	38	132	5,016	4	36	144	5,184
7,000	24				24	144	3,456	4	36	96	3,456
8,000	18	30	96	2,880	18	156	2,808	4	36	72	2,592
9,000	12				12	168	2,016	4	36	48	1,728
above 9,000	28	28	120	3,360	28	216	6,048	5	36	140	5,040
22,000	1	1	144	144	1	240	240	5	36	5	180
Total.....	715	715	.....	36,966	715	.....	70,116	.....	.....	1,698	61,128

Total Maniakarens.....	715	36,966.
Do. Curnums...	715	70,116.
Do. Vettyans...	1,698	61,128.
Total...	3,128	1,68,210
25 Extra Vettyans for tank villages... ...	25	900
Total...	3,153	1,69,110

8. The proposed cost of the Revenue Village Establishments is thus shown to be Rupees 1,69,110.

9. To meet this charge there may be some difficulty in arriving at the real assets available. The value of the assets, as represented by the old accounts, is admitted to be far too low an estimate, and the Collector would add one-third to their present assessment to show their proper value. But he believes that the estimate of the Director General of the Revenue Settlement will be found too high, as some of the land for which that gentleman calculates that a wet crop will be grown will not receive water, and consequently will not be assessable with the water rate, which circumstance will *pro tanto* affect the rates of enfranchisement and the fee cess both on Government and Inám lands. But a sufficiently approximate estimate of the assets of the village emoluments may perhaps be made, from which a fund available for the remuneration of the servants can be derived.

10. The village service Ináms have, as before remarked, got into possession to a great extent, of persons who do no work, and who are not needed. The enfranchisement of these Ináms on the principle applied to similar Ináms in the Ceded Districts would, I agree with Mr. Purvis, be a far less objectionable measure, than an attempt to restore them to the actual office holders. Mr. Purvis thinks that the enfranchisement of them at the rate of 12 Annas in the Rupee would be a sufficiently liberal measure. The rate originally contemplated by Government for the enfranchisement of such Ináms was two-thirds the assessed value, or 10 Annas 8 Pice in the Rupee. But they eventually decided that the rate should be 10 Annas in the Rupee, because the Inám would also be liable to the contemplated fee cess of 1 Anna in the Rupee making in all 11 Annas. Mr. Purvis has, however, adopted the Government rate of 10 Annas in his calculations of enfranchisement, and I have retained the same. When the question of the

fee cess comes to be finally decided by Government it may be necessary to revise this rate, and perhaps to fix some combined rate to represent the whole demand on the Service Ináms, for it may be here remarked that the various demands for old quit-rent, enfranchised quit-rent and fee cess on the same Inám will be rather perplexing, in addition perhaps to other demands for Road, School fund, Water rates, &c.

11. For present calculation, however, 10 Annas will be taken as representing the sum to be paid by the Inám holders simply for enfranchising his land, and the smallest sum that it is probable will be thus realized may be put down at 84,591 Rupees calculated on the present assessment fees as follows:—

Present Assessment of Ináms in occupation of	Cist.	Deduct Kattubady or quit-rent.	Net.
Curnums working.....	59,961	9,221	50,740
Do. non-working...	70,025	18,000	52,025
Total Curnums.....	1,29,986	27,221	1,02,765
Pettanadárs and Moonsiffs...	2,557	384	2,173
Shroffs...	3,112	219	2,893
Vettivasas...	11,699	261	11,438
Nirgunties....	70	11	59
Total Revenue.....	1,47,424	28,096	1,19,328
	4,735	867	3,868
Naickwadies...	12,805	655	12,150
Barbers...	17,540	1,522	16,018
Proposed for Police...	1,64,964	29,618	1,35,346
Total Village Service Ináms.....			

calculation at 10 Annas in the Rupee would be Rupees 84,591½.

12. But this valuation will, it is believed, be further enhanced when the new Settlement is introduced.

13. Another important item from which it is contemplated to raise funds for payment of the village servants, is the cess in lieu of fees. In Mr. Newill's new Revenue Settlement he embodied all cesses of this kind in his assessments; but Government in sanctioning that assessment for the Western Delta reserved to itself the power should it see fit of levying a service fee cess in addition to that assessment. So that it will be for the Government now to decide whether any separate fee cess is to be levied or not, or whether any sum is to be set aside from the new assessment and appropriated for the village service.

See Order of Government, dated 24th June 1861, No. 1,231.

14. The fees now collected by the village servants according to the accounts (which do not probably represent the truth), amount only to 20,706 Rupees (of which 14,276 Rupees are paid to the Curnums). If a cess of 6¼ per cent. is levied on the value of all land, Government and Inám, occupied, the sum to be realized will be something between 1,81,284 Rupees (which would be the cess on the present assessment of Government and Inám lands) and 2,21,938 Rupees the cess, at the same rate, on the valuation of the new Revenue Settlement. The latter is too high because the Collector believes that some lands will not pay the water rate and others will

* Fees.	Rs.
Curnums	14,276
Pettanadárs	109
Shroffs.....	501
Vettivasas	2,692
Nirgunties.....	39
Total Revenue..	17,617
Naickwadies	2,415
Barbers.....	674
Police.....	3,089
Total Fees ..	20,706

temporarily be thrown up on the introduction of the new Ryotwarry Settlement. The cess is calculated as below :—

	Fasli 1270.	As per estimate of the new Revenue Settlement.
Government Land Revenue	17,58,340	14,97,626
Water Tax...	2,55,862	8,34,320
Total Government Land.....	20,14,202	23,31,946
Inám Assessment	6,78,648	8,44,784
Water Tax	2,07,702	3,74,284
Total Inám.....	8,86,350	12,19,068
Total Government and Inám...	29,00,552	35,51,014
Cess at 6¼ per cent...	1,81,284	2,21,938

	Cash Allowance. RS.
* Curnums	1·581
Pettanadárs	23,075
Shroffs.....	1,188
Vettivasas.....	283
Revenue..	26,127
Naickwadies.....	4,249
Barbers.....	82
Police...	4,331
Total...	30,458

15. There is one more asset which may be taken, viz., 30,458* Rupees now paid in cash to the village servants, of which 4,331 Rupees are paid to those servants whom it is proposed to give over to the Police.

16. The following estimate formed on the foregoing calculations briefly shows the assets of the village fund :—

Estimate based on the accounts of Fasli 1270.

	RS.
Amount from enfranchisement of service Ináms (paragraph 12)	84,592
6¼ per cent. cess (paragraph 15)...	1,81,284
Cash payments (paragraph 16)...	30,458
Total.....	2,96,334
Cost of new Establishment...	1,69,110

17. I am unable to say what may be the requirements of the village Police for this District. The sum, which it is proposed to set aside as representing the emoluments of the present village watch is, as shown below, the amount of the Ináms, Fees, and Cash payments made to the two classes of persons called Naickwadies and Barbers, and which at present amoun to 23,439 Rupees ; or if the Ináms are enfranchised and the fees abolished, will be 14,342 Rupees, and out of the new fee cess and general fund it will be necessary to provide what further sums may be required for the village watch.

	RS.
Enfranchised Ináms.. ...	10,011
Cash payments	4,331
	14,342

	Land.	Deduct quit-rent.	Net.	Enfranchised rate.	Fees.	Cash.	Total.
Naickwadies...	4,735	867	3,868	2,417	2,415	4,249	9,081
Barbers...	12,805	655	12,151	7,594	674	82	8,350
Total.....	17,540	1,522	16,019	10,011	3,089	4,331	17,431

18. Though I have alluded to a fee cess of 6¼ per cent. it will not be necessary to levy so high a rate I think. The cost of the Revenue Establishment will be Rupees 1,69,110. The enfranchised Ináms will, it is seen, realize 84,592 Rupees at least, and there remains only 84,518 Rupees to be provided. For this a fee cess at the rate of 2 Rupees 6 Annas per cent. would suffice and the village watch will not probably cost more than 30,000 Rupees, for which a further rate of 13 Annas 6 Pice per cent. would yield the necessary funds. In this calculation the cash payments made now by Government from the Revenue (30,458 Rupees) have not been taken into account, a sum sufficient probably to pay for the whole village watch without a further cess.

No. 334. ORDER THEREON, 25th August 1862, No. 1,804.

Ordered to lie over.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Rec. 14th April 1846 No. 39
24 June /61 - 11 - 210-211-

Rev= 1862 Dist.

Pro: of Govt for Extt.

No. 2302.

From

The Honorable C Pelly
Member of the Board of
Revenue

To

The Hon^ble J. Pycroft
Chief Secretary to
Government
Revue Departt.

Dated 14th August 1862
Desp^d 15th

No. 1357

E-8.

Submitting for the Con-
sideration of Government a
report on the Village Estabt
of the Godavery District.

1804

No. 1804.

To lie over

From Ft St George
25th August 1862

1

From Hon.^ble C Pelly &c
1 June /63 C No. 1282

From Hon. C. Pelly &c &c &c
1864 C. No 879

No. 333 & 334.