

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 772

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Dated

7 - 4 - 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department;
7th April 1962.*

No. 116. Read the following letter from W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 13th March 1862, No. 1,669:—

SIR,

1. I am directed by the Board of Revenue to request the re-consideration by Government of the subject of their Proceedings, dated 15th January 1862, No. 51, Revenue Department, in which while sanctioning a charge on the Revenue Department, proposed by the Board in accordance with the application of the Collector of the Godavery District, for the preparation of the Asamiwar, or individual-holdings-account, from the Settlement registers of Mr. Newill's Department, the Government recorded their opinion in opposition to that of the Board, that the responsibility for the correct preparation of this account should rest on the local Revenue Department.

2. The Board have since given the point careful consideration as one of much importance, and seeing reason not only to maintain their previous opinion as to where the responsibility for the preparation of this account should rest, but also to alter their opinion that the cost of its preparation should be borne by the Revenue Department, they beg leave to bring the matter again under the consideration of Government with the following remarks.

3. The formation of the register or account of individual holdings from the field Settlement registers of the Director's Department, is in point of fact, the only test of the correctness of the classification of the fields as entered in that register. The areas having been placed beyond doubt by the scientific survey, the only opening left for illicit gains on the part of the subordinates of the Settlement Department is in the classification of the different fields, and until the individual register is formed, the individual Ryot will not have a proper and sufficient opportunity of deliberately considering the entries regarding his own land, from which his *Patta* is drawn *verbatim*. Then first will be discovered errors of classification or of names of occupants in the Settlement register, and the correction of these *must* be made by the Officers of the Settlement Department.

4. It cannot be allowed that the District Revenue Officers should alter entries in the Settlement registers, which are signed by the Director's Deputy, and the entries *must* be altered when errors are detected, of which no doubt there will be many, both intentional and fraudulent, and also accidental and innocent of ill intention.

5. To allow of this matter being satisfactorily arranged, it appears to the Board indispensably necessary that after the formal assessment on the fields is made and registered, the first year's settlement with the Ryot shall be made by the Deputy Director who has conducted the revision of the District land assessment.

6. The Asamiwar, or individual-holdings-register should be prepared by his Department, and as the Board consider, at its cost. The Pattas prepared from the register should be also drawn out by his Department, with the aid of the Curnums and Settlement Gumáshtas on the Collector's Establishment. The settlement with each Ryot should be made by the Deputy Director himself. The objections raised by the Ryot to the entries regarding his land should be disposed of by the Deputy Director, and the corrections when necessary, in both the Settlement and the Asamiwar registers and in the Patta, should be made on his responsibility and under his superintendence, and attested by his signature.

7. Then and then only are the materials properly available for the Collector on which to frame his settlement for subsequent years, and not till then can the Settlement registers of the Director's Department be said to have undergone any test, or to be at all reliable in respect to class, and consequently in respect to assessment also, and in respect to occupancy.

8. The Board are therefore decidedly of opinion that the duty and responsibility of the first settlement with the Ryots, after the re-assessment of the tax on the land has been made by the Director's Department, must devolve on the same department, and that the preparation of the

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Asamiwar register must be left to that department also, as the final test of the field assessment registers, and that as such the cost of the work is also fairly debitable to it. The question of cost is however of little moment, that of the preparation of the individual accounts, and of the determination of the first individual settlement is, in the Board's opinion, of primary importance and as such they desire to bring it to the attention of Government.

No. 117. ORDER THEREON, 7th April 1862, No. 773.

The Acting Director of Revenue Settlement is requested to submit any remarks he may wish to make on the question without delay.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 1,669.

From W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

SIR,

1. I am directed by the Board of Revenue to request the re-consideration by Government of the subject of their Proceedings, dated 15th January 1862, No. 51, R. D., in which while sanctioning a charge on the *Revenue* Department, proposed by the Board in accordance with the application of the Collector of the Godavery District, for the preparation of the Asamiwar, or individual-holdings-account, from the Settlement registers of Mr. Newill's Department, the Government recorded their opinion in opposition to that of the Board, that the responsibility for the correct preparation of this account should rest on the local Revenue Department.

2. The Board have since given the point careful consideration as one of much importance, and seeing reason not only to maintain their previous opinion as to where the responsibility for the preparation of this account should rest, but also to alter their opinion that the cost of its preparation should be borne by the Revenue Department, they beg leave to bring the matter again under the consideration of Government with the following remarks.

3. The formation of the register or account of individual holdings from the field Settlement registers of the Director's Department, is in point of fact, the only test of the correctness of the classification of the fields as entered in that register. The areas having been placed beyond doubt by the scientific survey, the only opening left for illicit gains on the part of the subordinates of the Settlement Department is in the classification of the different fields, and until the individual register is formed, the individual Ryot will not have a proper and sufficient opportunity of deliberately considering the entries regarding his own land, from which his *Puttah* is drawn *verbatim*. Then first will be discovered errors of classification or of names of occupants in the Settlement register, and the correction of these *must* be made by the Officers of the Settlement Department.

4. It cannot be allowed that the District Revenue Officers should alter entries in the Settlement registers, which are signed by the Director's Deputy, and the entries *must* be altered when errors are detected, of which no doubt there will be many, both intentional and fraudulent, and also accidental and innocent of ill intention.

5. To allow of this matter being satisfactorily arranged, it appears to the Board indispensably necessary that after the formal assessment on the fields is made and registered, the first year's settlement with the Ryot shall be made by the Deputy Director who has conducted the revision of the District land assessment.

6. The Asamiwar, or individual-holdings-register should be prepared by his Department, and as the Board consider, at its cost. The *Puttahs* prepared from the register should be also drawn out by his department, with the aid of the Curnums and Settlement Gumastahs on the Collector's Establishment. The settlement with each Ryot should be made by the Deputy Director himself. The objections raised by the Ryot to the entries regarding his land should be disposed of by the Deputy Director, and the corrections when necessary, in both the Settlement and the Asamiwar registers and in the *Puttah*, should be made on his responsibility and under his superintendence, and attested by his signature.

7. Then and then only are the materials properly available for the Collector on which to frame his settlement for subsequent years, and not till then can the Settlement registers of the Director's Department be said to have undergone any test, or to be at all reliable in respect to class, and consequently in respect to assessment also, and in respect to occupancy.

8. The Board are therefore decidedly of opinion that the duty and responsibility of the first settlement with the Ryots, after the re-assessment of the tax on the land has been made by the Director's Department, must devolve on the same department, and that the preparation of the Asamiwar register must be left to that department also, as the final test of the field assessment registers, and that as such the cost of the work is also fairly debitable to it. The question of cost is however of little moment, that of the preparation of the individual accounts, and of the determination of the first individual settlement is, in the Board's opinion, of primary importance, and as such they desire to bring it to the attention of Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

[Signature]
Secretary.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Madras,
13th March 1862.

Copy to H. Newill, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. J. Wright.

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
J. A. J.
14. Refers to the
13. Asamiwar Register
12. Asamiwar Register
11. Asamiwar Register
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2. Asamiwar Register
1. Asamiwar Register

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
No. 1,663.
Submitting for re-consideration their remarks on the subject of the preparation of the Asamiwar or individual holding account from the Settlement registers of Mr Newill's Department.

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
The copy of the Revenue Settlement Department.
No. 1,663.
From The Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To The Secretary to Government R. D.
Dated 13th March 1862.
Despatched 20th March 1862.
Received 29th March 1862.
No. 1,663.
Submitting for re-consideration their remarks on the subject of the preparation of the Asamiwar or individual holding account from the Settlement registers of Mr Newill's Department.