

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1712

Press
Mis.

264-265

Dated 19-9-1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th September 1864.*

No. 264. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th August 1864,
No. 5,492.

Read the following letter from W. T. BLAIR, Esq., Acting Inám Commissioner, dated
Coimbatore, 20th May 1864, No. 14 :—

1. With reference to paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Orders of Government, dated 8th April 1864, No. 597, and the Board's Proceedings thereon of the 23rd idem, I have the honor to explain briefly the present condition of the question of excess in Ináms in the several Districts of the Presidency.

2. I may, in the first place, observe generally, that excesses appearing from the existing accounts in all the Districts have been already finally settled by this Department, and that what remain for future disposal are simply excesses found by the measurements of the new survey now in progress. Even these latter are being settled by the Deputy Collectors of the Commission in the Trichinopoly District, where the new survey had been completed before the commencement of their inquiry. But in the other Districts, the survey results not being available at the time of the Inám settlement, the areas of the Ináms had to be recorded according to the previously existing accounts, leaving any excess afterwards brought out by the survey in progress for future disposal of the District authorities.

3. In now dealing with the excess in question, it is necessary to call the attention of the Collectors of the respective Districts to the fact that there is no occasion for their instituting any further inquiry into title in the individual cases. All that requires to be done is to compare the areas of the Ináms, as confirmed by this Department, with the new survey areas, and if there is any excess over the former, to allow the usual 10 per cent. *in all cases*, and, in addition, a proportion equal to the average excess discovered in the Government lands of the same village, in those cases in which such special allowance is necessary, and to charge the remaining excess with its full survey assessment.

4. In the order now under notice, the Government desire that the Board should decide, in communication with me, in what Districts the above special allowance will require to be made. After going into the circumstances of the Inám settlement in the several Districts, I find that the above special provision is required only for the Godavery District, in which the previously recorded areas of the Ináms were dependent upon seed measures without any definite equivalent extent, and a few villages of Guntoor. But in all the other Districts, the areas of the Ináms recorded in the settlement being based upon actual measurement made of the lands on former occasions, it appears to me that the ordinary allowance of 10 per cent. is all that would require to be made in the event of any excess being found in their area by further survey.

5. In the Masulipatam Division of the Kistna District, the Inám as well as Cirkar lands were generally measured some years ago under the orders of the Collector, and this measurement formed the basis of the present settlement.

6. The same was also the case in the Guntoor Division, though, in the latter, there are several villages, which were not brought under measurement, and in which the old reputed areas of the Ináms had to be adopted, and to these villages alone the special rule of the Godavery District will be applicable. Bellary, Cuddapah, Salem, Coimbatore, North and South Arcot, Madura, Nellore, and Tinnevely were all early surveyed, whilst Madras, Tanjore, and the Government Talooks of Ganjam and Vizagapatam were likewise brought under measurement at more or less recent periods. It is true that the surveys in some of these Districts, as in Nellore, and Tinnevely, and in Vizagapatam, were of an imperfect character. Their chief defects, however, consists in the under-estimate of waste lands, which affects whole villages and Kandr'gas rather than minor Ináms. Moreover, so long as there is no known difference in the standard of measurement adopted, the special rule of the Godavery District does not seem applicable, and the ordinary allowance of 10 per cent. is all that Government can be called upon to make in order to meet imperfections in the earlier measurements, and any excess over and above must be considered liable to full assessment.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th September 1864.*

7. Besides Trichinopoly, already referred to as under settlement by the Commission, the Godavery and Kistna are the only Districts in which the new Survey has as yet been completed, and in regard to which it will be necessary for the Board to take immediate action. From Petitions received in my office, I understand that the Collectors of the above Districts have already commenced to charge the Survey excess in Ináms with full assessment after allowing 10 per cent. This proceeding would require modification in the Godavery District and portion of Gunttoor, where, as already explained, it will be necessary to make a special allowance for excess beyond the ordinary 10 per cent. In the other Districts in which the new Survey has been undertaken, it would appear to have made but partial progress. When it is completed, the ordinary rule of allowing 10 per cent. for excess will apply to them all.

8. The Board would seem to apprehend some difficulty in re-opening the settlement already made. But I would beg to observe that the settlement is final only as regards the title to the extent confirmed in the Title Deed, and does not affect the liability of the Inám to further charge on account of excess afterwards discovered, which contingency was expressly provided for by a Notification issued to the Inámdars of the Godavery and Kistna Districts at the time of the settlement. There may be delay and difficulty in re-calling the Title Deeds to make the additional charge in them; but if this is found to be an impediment, a separate document might be issued to the Inámdars under the signature of the Collector, specifying the larger actual extent of the Inám according to the survey, and the additional quit-rent charged upon it. The charge for the excess should not be in the shape of a Puttah for the additional extent which cannot be separated from the Inám, but rather as an addition to the quit-rent upon the whole Inám. The proportion of cases in which additional quit-rent will require to be charged will be but small, but if it is considered important to notify to the Inámdars the altered extent of their Ináms according to the survey, even in those cases where the excess is within the allowed per-centage, the number of documents which will have to be issued will be large.

9. The Board appear to be under the impression that this Commission has acted under a misinterpretation of the rules, in charging quit-rent on excess land. I desire to point out that this is not the case, and that the interpretation of the rules upon which the Commission has proceeded in this respect is the same as that which has now been finally approved by Government. There is, therefore, no occasion for any interference with the settlement of excesses so far as it has already been made by this Department, and the only cases in which the District authorities are now called upon to act, are those in which the new survey excesses not known at the time of the Inám settlement, had to be left for future disposal, as already explained.

1. The Board request the Acting Inám Commissioner to inform them what information the Collectors have as to the areas of the Ináms as confirmed by his Department.

2. They confess to being somewhat at a loss to understand what instructions can be required from them to Collectors beyond the general rule that all excess land above 10 per cent. beyond the extent confirmed by the Commissioner, which may be found in the possession of Inámdars, is to be charged with full assessment, and that when areas have hitherto been recorded in native terms of land measure, whether of superficial area or of seed measurement, then the Inámdars are to be allowed without charge, and in addition to the 10 per cent. any further excess on acres, which on a scientific survey may be found on the average of the whole District, to be fairly included in the area to which they are entitled, according to the recorded extent of their Inám holding in terms of the former native measurement.

3. Thus, if the area is recorded in *Putis*, which were supposed to represent eight acres each, but on the average of the District are found to be nine Acres each, then an Inámdar, who is recorded as holding 100 Putis, may claim 900 Acres as the equivalent on the average of the District, *plus* 10 per cent. or 990 acres as the ordinary allowance for errors in former measurement, or 990 Acres in all as Inám if so much should be found in his possession, any excess beyond this being charged with full assessment.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th September 1864.*

4. The Board wish to know whether the Inám Commissioner admits the correctness of this illustration.

5. Copy of these Proceedings will be submitted to Government with reference to their Proceedings quoted by Mr. Blair.

No. 265.

ORDER THEREON, 19th September 1864, No. 1,712.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

611 me
181 @ 161

Department.
November 1864.
Wm. J. Fox for Agrib.

No. 2291-

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 24th August 1864.

Box 292
202307-1

No. 5,492.

NO. 3324
P. M. Grant & Son: sent 1/4
October 184 C No 2737.

Submitting with remarks letter from Acting Inam Commissioner, explaining the present condition of the question of excess in Inams in the several Districts of the Madras Presidency.

82-7712

DISC 534

14 Copies to the B^y of Rev. Chaspt. 20 Sept.

22-172

2-7-02
1574/17

Ms. A. 9.2.64.4265

Wm. S. Foster, D.D.

Edith
100-Edith