M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1995 Press ~~Mis.~~

369. 370

Dated 28-10-1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 28th October 1864.

No. 369. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th June 1864, No. 3,463.

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Kistna District, dated Masulipatam, 20th April 1864, No. 51.

1. With reference to paragraph 1 of the Proceedings of Government, dated 17th October last, communicated with the Board's endorsement dated 20th idem, I have the honor to forward a Statement showing the area* under occupation and cultivation, with its assessment in each year from Fusly 1264 to Fusly 1268.

* Of the sandy tracts in Guntoor.

2. During the past month I settled the Jammabandi of the Bapatla Talook, in which the greater part of the sandy tracts under review are situated, and inquiries were made as to the condition of the Ryots and the country.

3. There is no doubt that although the condition of the inhabitants of these parts has advanced with the general improvements of the whole District, they are still, as compared with the Ryots of the neighbouring parts of the District, very poor. Their villages are mere groups of huts, and their cultivation is carried on in mere patches immediately around their villages.

4. I do not doubt that the practical effect of the rules restricting the abandonment of land to entire fields (often of the extent of 30 and 40 acres) has been to cause many cultivators who would willingly have retained small fields to give up their lands altogether.

5. The Ryots do not hesitate to affirm that they were better off under the old system, prior to Fusly 1266 when the rates were enormously high, but when they were at liberty to take as much or as little land as they pleased.

6. Chay-root, Nacheny, and Indigo, are the chief products of these lands. The returns are large, but they are obtained by the expenditure of much time and labor on the part of the cultivator. There is but little soil mixed with the pure sand, and it must be heavily manured and constantly watered to bring the crop to maturity; water is supplied either by pacottas or by hand.

7. With respect to the future treatment of these lands, I would suggest that they should be placed on the same footing in every respect as the other dry lands in the District; the general rule in regard to which is that not less than five acres can be taken up or relinquished except where the entire field is in itself less than five acres. This would prevent any very minute sub-division of the lands.

8. With regard to the assessment, it would, I think, be advisable if practicable to introduce the rates of the new settlement at once; but if there be any obstacle to that course, the present rate of one Rupee an acre might be temporarily retained.

9. It appears low no doubt for land capable of rearing valuable crops; but, as above stated, the value of the crop is mostly dependent on the amount of labor, manure, and water applied to it.

10. The areas given in Mr. Foord's Statement were derived from actual measurement; it appears from a foot-note attached to Mr. Newill's Statement that no great reliance could be placed on the area of waste land given by him.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

STATEMENT showing the area under occupation and cultivation with its yearly assessment in the sandy tracts in the Kistna District from Fuslies 1264 to 1268.

FUSLIES.	REPALLY TALOOK.		BAPATLA TALOOK.		TOTAL.	
	Acres.	Sist.	Acres.	Sist.	Acres.	Sist.
As per Jammabandi Settlement.						
1264	4,176	11,973	3,562	25,514	7,738	37,487
1265	5,094	14,606	6,791	33,404	11,885	48,010
1266	8,500	16,891	17,023	38,470	25,523	55,361
1267	8,518	16,982	18,038	41,152	26,556	58,134
1268	9,240	18,341	18,328	41,868	27,568	60,209
As per Cultivation accounts.						
1264	4,176	11,973	3,562	25,514	7,738	37,487
1265	5,094	14,606	6,791	33,404	11,885	48,010
1266	6,483	13,036	11,122	25,723	17,605	38,759
1267	6,395	12,861	11,506	27,262	17,901	40,123
1268	7,181	14,222	12,035	28,298	19,216	42,520

MASULIPATAM, 20*th April* 1864. (Signed) G. THORNHILL, *Collector.*

1. Ordered to be submitted to Government, with reference to their Order, dated 17th October 1863, No. 1,894, Revenue Department.

2. From the return now submitted it appears that the occupied area has risen from Acres 7,738, assessed at Rupees 37,487 in Fusly 1264, to Acres 29,088, assessed at Rupees 29,088 in Fusly 1272, a deduction of one-eighth being allowed for fallows and unprofitable areas, and a road cess being levied with the assessment at the rate of 4 Pice per acre, under Government Order, dated 27th October 1860, No. 1,975, Revenue Department. It is perfectly evident that the increase in the occupation was originally artificially produced in a very objectionable manner, but seeing that the assessment on the occupation is now less by some Rupees 8,000 than it was in Fusly 1264, while the area in occupation is nearly four times what it then was, the Board can scarcely suppose that the Ryots are compulsorily burdened with much land which they would not retain were perfect freedom allowed them in the matter.

3. At the same time the Board on principle object to the exceptional treatment of these Ryots in this respect, and to their deprivation of a privilege which is every where else enjoyed, and they entirely concur in Mr. Thornhill's recommendation that these Ryots shall be put on the same footing as all others elsewhere. The Board see no necessity for making any further change at present. When the new assessment now before Government is introduced, these lands will of course be treated accordingly.

No. 370. ORDER THEREON, 28th October 1864, No. 1,995.

Land Revenue.

1. The Government sanction the proposition made by the Collector of Kistna in paragraph 7 of his letter dated 20th April 1864, No. 51, and supported by the Board of Revenue in paragraph 3 of their Proceedings above recorded, viz., that the sandy tracts on the coast of Guntoor, the assessment on which was reduced agreeably to the Order of Government dated 27th October

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1860, No. 1,975, be placed on the same footing as the other dry lands in the District, so that the general rule of the District that not less than five acres can be taken up or relinquished except where the entire field is itself less than five acres may be applicable to them. As the Board remark, no further change is necessary at present.

2. The Government observe that the assessment of the Guntoor portion of the Kistna is not yet before them.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

the Gov. Daniel read the petn:
Revisiana's of their Pro: above
recorded viz: Chat the sandy tracts
the assessor
ble to the order of Court 27. Oct.
Vestry at the

that not less than five acres can
be conveyed or relinquished except
where the land field is already
less than five acres may be sold
& conveyed to them. As the Boundary
no further charge is necessary
at present. The Govt observe that
the assessment of the Gardens
portion of the Kistna is not yet
before the Board of Rev. [illegible]

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Rev — 1864. Department
Bds of Govt for Acts

No. 1513-

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 7th June 1864.

Read 29 June
Rec'd 10th.

No. 3,463.

Submitting with remarks letter from the Collector of the Kistna District forwarding a Statement showing the area of the sandy tracts in Guntoor under occupation and cultivation with its assessment in each year from Faslis 1264 to 1868.

V. 369 & 370.

V. 1995-28 Oct 64
W. Chandler

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