

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 290

Press

~~MIS~~

48-69

Dated 3 - 2 - 18 66.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd February 1866.*

No. 48. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th January 1866, No. 601.

Read the following letter from the Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Mangalore, 17th January 1866, No. 14 :—

1. In their Orders of the 22nd December 1860, No. 2,480, Revenue Department, and when the District of Canara was divided into the two Districts of North and South Canara, Government were pleased to direct that the head quarters of the Head Assistant Collector of this District should be at Puttur, and this arrangement has been continued ever since, the charge of the Head Assistant being the Talooks of Upinangadi and Cassergode.

2. It appears to me, however, that the time has now come when this arrangement is no longer desirable, and that for their more effectual supervision, as well as for the comfort and protection of the people in that part of the District, it is necessary that the northern Talooks of Udipi and Cundapur should be placed under direct European superintendence, and that they should have a resident European Officer.

3. As the Board are aware, since existing arrangements were made, the District of North Canara has been transferred to the Presidency of Bombay, while again the Talook of Cundapur has been re-transferred from that Presidency to this District; at present, however, the only two permanent European Officers in the District, the Collector and the Head Assistant Collector, are stationed, the former at Mangalore, and the latter at Puttur, which is nearly south-east, and within thirty-one miles of Mangalore, and the northern part of the District, and which extends nearly ninety miles north of Mangalore, is without any resident European Revenue or Magisterial Officer. In fact, the nearest European Magistrate to the north of Mangalore, is an Officer of the Bombay Presidency stationed at Honore, and which place is nearly one hundred and twenty miles north from Mangalore. This is a state of things which, I venture to hope, the Board will concur with me in thinking should not be permitted to remain. The want of a European Magistrate with full powers in this part of the District, has been very much felt, as at present all cases of any importance (such, for instance, as a simple theft in a building) have to be sent all the way to be tried at Mangalore. I can assure the Board, that this is looked upon by the people as an especial hardship, and hence it is found that in many cases, both prosecutors and witnesses will not come forward to prosecute, simply because they know that by so doing, they will have to travel all the way to Mangalore and back. This has been especially brought to my notice by the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Captain Drever, and also by Captain Jenkins, and all the Officers in this District, with whom I have consulted, viz., the Head Assistant Collector, the two Deputy Collectors, and the Sherishtadar of my office are unanimous in their opinion, that the Head Assistant Collector should, for the future, be stationed at Cundapur.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd February 1866.*

4. I beg to annex a comparative statement of the present and proposed charges of the Head Assistant, shewing their relative importance :—

		Square miles.	Population.	Ratio of population to square mile.
Present charge...	{ Cassergode ...	1,025	1,91,950	141
	{ Upinangadi...	1,048	99,555	
		2,073	2,91,505	
Proposed do.	{ Udipt ...	890	1,93,050	200
	{ Cundapur ...	526	96,642	
		1,416	2,89,692	

5. It will be thus seen that although the present charge of the Head Assistant is geographically more extensive, the population of the two northern Talooks is proportionately much larger ; and as the Board are aware, a very large part of the Upinangadi Talook consists of forests and jungle, with here and there a few scattered villages ! Indeed, although the present head quarters of the Head Assistant are, as regards mere distance, the centre of his present charge, by far the greater bulk of the population lies to the south and westward, and eastward of Puttur the population is very sparse, and the number of villages few and far between.

6. Puttur itself, and which is, as already observed, only thirty-one miles south-east from Mangalore, is a small village containing less than four hundred houses, and since the removal of the Talook Cutcherry, and the withdrawal of the Detachment of troops formerly stationed there, has altogether lost much of its former importance.

7. On the other hand, Cundapur is upwards of sixty miles from Mangalore, and upwards of twenty-five from our northern frontier ; it is further situated on the largest river in the District, and with its suburbs contains a population of upwards of 3,500 people ; it is moreover still the seat of a very considerable trade. It lies on the high road from Mangalore to Bombay and seventeen miles south thereof there is the large and flourishing town of Udipt containing a population of upwards of seven thousand souls, and next to Mangalore the largest and most important town in the District, and one to which the new Municipal Act must of course be very shortly extended.

8. For the above reasons, I am, therefore, of opinion that it is very desirable that a European Officer of experience should be stationed at Cundapur, and should the Board agree with me in this opinion, I would beg to recommend that the head quarters of the Head Assistant Collector be from the 1st February next established at Cundapur, and that he should have for his Revenue and Magisterial charge the Udipt and Cundapur Talooks. As the Board are aware, there is a public Bungalow at that station, but which, owing to the fact that travellers almost invariably avail themselves of steamer communication, is rarely, if ever, made use of, except by the District Officers. I would, therefore, propose to make this building over to the Head Assistant Collector for his office, and there would be thus no expense to Government on account of new buildings.

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9. With regard to the arrangements for the future distribution of the work of Revenue Officers, I would propose that, for the present, the three remaining Talooks should remain under the charge of the Collector and his Assistants ; I presume that in future there will never be less than two European Assistants, and the senior of these, as soon as he has passed his examination, and has qualified himself to exercise the full powers of a Magistrate, I would propose to place in charge of the Cassergode Talook, with his head quarters at Cassergode, or on the coast at one of the Bungalows lately abolished. The Talooks of Mangalore and Upinangadi, would, therefore alone remain under the Collector and his Junior Assistant, and the head-quarters of the latter would, as lately directed by Government, require also to be at Mangalore.

10. I trust the Board will concur with me in thinking that these changes will be beneficial, and that they will go some way at least in securing a more effective supervision than has hitherto been exercised. I have not proposed them without much care and consideration, and I have purposely waited for some months before bringing them forward.

Submitted to Government, with the Board's request that the proposed change in the existing distribution (which was directed by Government) may be at once carried out as desired by the Collector. There can be no question as to the superior advantages of the proposed arrangement, and it is to be regretted that it did not sooner come under consideration ; for the grounds on which Puttur was selected for the Head Assistant's station were entirely changed when the important Cundapur Talook was re-transferred to South Canara, and this portion of the District cannot but have suffered in the interval in many ways, while there is none that more needs or will repay attention to its development.

No. 49.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd February 1866, No. 290.

Miscellaneous.

Sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

Recd. 1866. Department.
No. 320
Re. of 1st of February

No. 320
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 25th January 1866.

Re. of 29th Jan
No. 320

No. 601.

Requesting sanction for the change proposed
by the Collector of South Canara in the exist-
ing distribution of the Revenue and Magis-
terial charges in the district.

W. J. J.

Sanctioned

W. J. J.

30th Jan

11. To the Board of Revenue Dec 5 Feb

4-18-66