M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1963 Press ~~Mis.~~

279-82 Dated 14-7- 19 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th July 1868.

279

Read the following papers :—

No. ~~287~~. From the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 6th May 1868, No. 3,323.

1. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Government Order, under date 17th February 1868, No. 447, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to report that they have given the Demarcation question their careful consideration.

2. Although primarily instituted for State purposes, the Survey incidentally confers a material advantage on the land-holder, by giving greater security to his tenure by the concurrent record of his title.

3. It is on this ground that the land-holder is expected, and by law required, to bear a portion of the expense of that part of the Survey which relates to the definition and demarcation of boundaries. Towards the expense of the other parts of the operation he contributes nothing.

4. So far as the interests of the State are concerned, probably a "block" Survey would generally suffice ; and it is only reasonable that the land-holder should pay for the minuter Survey which chiefly benefits him.

5. The Demarcation Rules shew that, when the Department was first organized, the land-holders had to supply carriage for the village boundary pillars, and "otherwise render every assistance that may reduce the cost" of setting up the pillars, the expense of which Government bore, and that the land-holders had to set up the Khandam and field-marks entirely at their own expense. The burden laid on the land-holders of Madras is, therefore, no novelty, though circumstances render it peculiarly heavy in that district.

6. Experience has shewn that unless the boundary marks are of masonry or stone, they soon disappear and the survey exists only on paper. In many instances, the marks, when of other materials, had vanished in the interval between Demarcation and Survey ; and the Board doubt whether in the districts, where stone has not been used, fifty per cent. of the marks are now in existence. This has led to the exclusive use of stone, which, in some localities, is necessarily an expensive article. This is the case in several talooks of the Madras District, and hence the complaints of the people. The expense is enhanced in this district also by the small size of the fields.

7. The Board understand that in Ganjam, where stone was used, the charge against the ryots averaged 4 Annas per acre. In the Dharapoorum Talook of Coimbatore, where also stone was used, the charge, owing to the large size of the fields, was 2½ Annas per acre. In the Sydapet Talook of Madras, on the other hand, the charge was Annas 9 and Pies 7·8, and in Trivellore, 8 Annas and 7 Pies per acre. The total charge in the Sydapet Talook was Rupees 62,417, or twenty-nine per cent. on the revenue of last Fusly.

8. This method of calculation does not, however, exhibit the real incidence of the charge on individuals ; in the case of the poorer lands, and where the fields are small and of irregular form, the expense must often be equal to several years assessment, and it has to be paid *at once*. In Sydapet, the figures above given are actuals ; in Ponnery Talook, the *estimated* charge is about twenty per cent. on the revenue.

9. The *modus operandi* of the Department is as follows :—

When the Demarcation of the talook is about to be commenced, a notification is issued to the land-holders, requiring them to collect field-stones (24'×6'×6') at the rate of 2* per acre, and informing them, that if they fail to do this, stones will be supplied at the expense of Government, and the cost recovered from them under the Act.

* This was the rate in Ponnery.

10. The Department procures stones by contract, and has them placed in convenient depôts, whence they are conveyed by the ryots, who have not otherwise provided stones, to the fields.

11. Ultimately bills are made out by the Department and handed to the Tahsildar for recovery by coercive process.

12. The *estimate* for the southern part of the Ponnery runs as follows :—

		Charged to Government.	Charged to Land-holders.
		RS	RS.
116	Trijunction pillars	261	...
1,829	Boundary do.	1,829	...
3,170	Khandam do.	2,774	...
4,389	Boundary offsets	...	2,194
9,511	Khandam do.	...	3,121
63,408	Field-stones...	...	15,852
	Cartage of all the above to the depôts	...	5,523
	Imbedding pillars	...	4,466
	Erecting marks and clearing lines	...	2,173
		4,864	33,329

13. This is only an estimate ; and Colonel Priestley has informed the Board that it is an *outside* one. It is also framed on the supposition that the ryots will take all their stones from the Department.

14. The Board are not prepared to recommend that the Department should now revert to the use of the less expensive, but also less durable, (if indeed they deserve the description " durable" at all,) materials formerly employed. They are confident that if this was done, the Survey would soon be a paper one, and much of its utility would be lost alike to the State and the people. If the size of the Khandams were materially reduced, there would be less need for stone *field* marks ; but this would increase the cost of the Survey, and the relief to the land-holders would be partial and unequal. A man whose holding was large enough to constitute a Khandam by itself, or whose land might be bounded on several sides by the Khandam boundary, would escape the expense of marks wholly or partially, while his neighbour, from the mere accident of his land being in the middle of a Khandam, would receive little or no relief. On the other hand, the more the Survey approaches the system of moderate blocks, permanently demarcated and mapped and registered, the more easily will the difficulty of subsequent sub-division of holdings and fields be got over.

15. On the whole it seems to the Board that the fairest way will be to divide the expense of boundary marks equally between the State and the Land-holder. The total estimate for the southern part of the Ponnery Talook is Rupees 38,193, a moiety of which is Rupees 19,097. The Board think it may be reasonably held

that the Government are equally interested in the permanence of the Survey, and should, therefore, share the expense. The land-holders should still furnish labor for clearing lines and setting up the marks, save where masonry is requisite.

16. The money should, the Board think, be advanced by Government, and recovered by the Collector in such instalments as he deems expedient. These instalments should be regulated by the proportion borne by the total charge to the assessment, no ryot being required to pay in any one year an instalment exceeding half his Puttah assessment, three years being the maximum limit.

17. The Board would recommend that Colonel Priestley be asked to give an estimate of the additional expense which this arrangement is likely to entail in each district, and also of the cost of surveying of every field, (which is advocated by Major Hessey and is very desirable).

18. The Board are satisfied that Colonel Priestley has done all in his power to lessen the expense of demarcation to the ryots; but the circumstances of the Madras District are peculiar.

No. 280. From the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Chepauk, 1st June 1868, No. 793/26.

I have the honor to enclose for your information extract of a letter to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st June 1868, No. 792/24, on the subject of charges for demarcation stones.

No. 281. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th June 1868, No. 4,399.

Read the following letter from the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chepauk, 1st June 1868, No. 792/24 :—

1. On the 29th April 1867, I submitted a scheme for the settlement of the disputed boundary of the Trivellore Talook, bordering on the Calastry Zemindary ; this was considered in the Board's Proceedings, dated 15th May and 18th July 1867, and finally forwarded to Government in the latter Proceedings with certain recommendations.

No. 751-26.

Nos. 2,991 and 4,542.

2. At the end of October, the demarcation of the Trivellore Talook began to close in on the villages affected by the dispute, and the Officer in charge asked to be informed whether he was debarred by the Proceedings above quoted, from himself settling the disputed boundaries of any of these villages. Government on being referred to informed me in Proceedings, under date 29th November 1867, that arrangements were in progress for settling the matter by arbitration. I was, therefore, in hopes that the dispute might be adjusted before the demarcation had completed all other villages in the talook, and that work might be carried on uninterruptedly to the end, and the Demarcation Establishment be gradually transferred to the Ponnery Talook.

90, Government.

No. 2,843.

3. I was loath to remove the establishment when the work in the Trivellore Talook was so far from complete, and when, on the presumption that it would provide occupation for a certain period, the arrangements for the supply of stones was not in a very advanced state in the Ponnery Talook. However, when at the re-commencement of work after the Christmas holidays, no intimation was received of the final adjustment of the boundary dispute, it became difficult to find employment for the demarcators in Trivellore. I sanctioned their removal to Ponnery, and Captain Baynes made special arrangements with the Collector for carrying on demarcation in Ponnery during Jummahbundy. In consequence of the alleged impending famine, it unfortunately turned out that the Collector was unable to carry these arrangements out, and work was brought to a standstill.

4. I regret to say, much inconvenience has been felt in this (Ponnery) talook from the difficulty, not so much in procuring stones as in depositing them where required. This has arisen from the peculiar nature of the Ponnery Talook, in which there is only one road, namely, that leading from Madras to Nellore. The canal which was expected to aid us greatly has been a source of annoyance. There is only one landing place for a distance of ten miles, the banks on both sides being occupied by swamps, mud, and salt-pans over which it is impossible to land stones. The ryots, I may add, from recent events, are far from being so willing to buy stones, or afford assistance as at first.

5. I have entered into this explanation to shew the necessity for demarcation materials being collected, a very considerable time before the demarcators themselves come on the field, as the only way in which it will be possible to insure them uninterrupted work. It would appear that in the Madras District no amount of foresight can determine, even approximately, the time within which work in a fresh talook may be wanted. To enable me to effect the abovementioned object, considerable advances must be made. I have the honor, therefore, to request that application may be made to Government to have the sum of Rupees 30,000 placed at my disposal for the collection of materials, (by contract,) and their deposit, in certain to-be-named depôts, either in the Chingleput or Conjeveram Talook. I have consulted the Collector as to the next talook to be taken up for demarcation, and expect his reply very shortly.

6. I take this opportunity to point out the great advantages that would result to the Department generally, were some rules laid down for my guidance in this and each similarly recurring case.

7. I would suggest that a certain advance, the limit to which might be fixed in the same manner as the maximum* demand to be levied for demarcation from ryots, in letter from Secretary, Revenue Board, dated 6th May 1868, No. 3,323, paragraph 17, might be made for demarcation purposes in each talook, the recovery of such portion of it as may be expended, to be undertaken by the Collector under the rules that Government may lay down.

* A certain fixed proportion of the beriz.

8. With reference to paragraph 15 of the same letter, I beg respectfully to submit, for consideration, whether it would not be fairer to all parties that Government should defray the cost of carriage, when excessive, of all stones to the various depôts, leaving the ryots to pay for the stones themselves as at present. The price of material does not vary much in any locality, and this rule, whilst affording the necessary relief to ryots, would avoid the necessity of any change in most districts, and carry out, what I venture to think, the fair principle of each land-owner being bound to provide the actual marks necessary to define his property, as laid down in Sections 2, 5, 6, and 7 of Act No. XXVIII. of 1860.

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1. Submitted to Government, with a recommendation that the advance of 30,000 Rupees, applied for by Colonel Priestley, be granted.

2. It is particularly desirable to secure the Government from the heavy pecuniary losses which are entailed by any delay caused to the Surveyors by their overtaking the demarcation, and the Board are of opinion that it would be well to lay down a scale of advances to be available in all cases, as recommended by Colonel Priestley.

3. It might be provided that the Officer in charge of Demarcation should draw, without any special sanction, a sum of not more than half the amount of estimated cost in each talook.

4. With reference to the last paragraph of Colonel Priestley's letter, the Board are of opinion that the division of cost proposed in their letter, dated 6th May 1868, No. 3,323, would, if admitted as of general application, sufficiently assist the ryot in cases where stone has to be carried for long distances.

No. 282. ORDER THEREON, 14th July 1868, No. 1,963.

Land Revenue.

1. The Board recommend that, in order more fairly to distribute the cost of demarcation for survey purposes, the expense incurred for boundary marks be shared equally by the State and the ryot, the land-holders still furnishing the labor for clearing the lines and setting up the stones, save where masonry is needed, and that the necessary funds should be advanced in the first instance by Government, and the ryot's share recovered from him by instalments not exceeding, in any case, half his Puttah assessment for the year.

2. Colonel Priestley submits for consideration whether the fairer plan would not be that Government should defray the cost of carriage, when excessive, of all stones to the various depôts, leaving the ryots to pay for the stones themselves as at present, the cost of this material being tolerably constant; but the Board adhere to their original opinion.

3. The Act XXVIII. of 1860 requires land-holders to clear the boundary lines and to set up, form, and maintain boundary marks, as required by the Demarcation Officer.

4. This rule has hitherto been maintained, but the cost of the stones required being much heavier in Madras District than elsewhere, more difficulty is found in enforcing it.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th July 1868.

5. As Colonel Priestley states the actual price of the stones to be much the same every where, it appears to Government that they would more fairly equalize the charge on the ryots by bearing the whole cost of carriage than by relieving the ryots of half their legal obligation. The Government accordingly resolve to authorize the Superintendent of Revenue Survey to charge Government with the whole cost of carriage of the stones from the quarries to the various depôts, the actual cost of the stones being also advanced by Government, but recovered from the ryots, for the demarcation of whose fields they are employed, by instalments not exceeding in any year *one-quarter* of the assessment on the individual holding.

6. The immediate advance of Rupees 30,000, required in the Madras District, is sanctioned, but before authorizing the Officers in charge of demarcation work to take up advances from the Collectors as required, without special sanction in each case, the Government desire to receive from the Superintendent of Survey some estimate of the amount that is likely to be required in each talook, and what limit he would propose to fix in each case of advance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
,, the Accountant General.
" the Director of Ordnett

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

of each land owner being bound to provide the actual Marks necessary to define his property as laid down in Sections 2, 5, 6, & 7 of Act XXVIII of 1860

I have &c
Signd J. Priestley Lt. Col.
Supt. Revenue Survey

/True copy/

A Thompson
Ag Secretary

Sgt Cadyn
Comp. F.S.

Extract of a letter from the Superintendent Revenue Survey to the Secretary Board of Revenue dated 1st June 1868. No 792/24

× × ×

Para 7 I would suggest that a certain — advance, the limit to which might be fixed in the same manner as the × maximum demand to be levied for demarcation from Ryots in letter from Secretary Revenue Board dated 6th May 1868 No 3323 Para 17, might be made for Demarcation purposes in each talook, the recovery of such portion of it as may be expended to be undertaken by the Collector under the rules that Government may lay down.

× a certain fixed proportion of the brij

8 With reference to Para 15 of the same letter, I beg respectfully to submit for consideration whether it would not be fairer to all parties that Government should defray the cost of carriage when excepting, of all stones to the various Depôts leaving the ryots to pay for the stones themselves as at present. The price of materials does not vary much in any locality and this rule whilst affording the necessary relief to ryots would avoid the necessity of any change in most districts and carry out what I venture to think the fair — principle

how defined?

"Enclosure in Board's of the Board of Revenue to the Secretary to Govt. R. D. dated 13th June 1868 No 2

Rec'd 20/6/68

Read 24 July 1868 No 291

Copy of letter from the Supt. Revenue Survey to the Board of Revenue dated 1st June 1868 No 792/24 asking for grant Rs 30000 for demarcation materials.

principal of each land owner being bound to provide the actual marks necessary to define his property as laid down in sections 2, 5, 6 & 7 of act XXVIII of 1860.

(True Extract)

P. Smithley Lieutt Col
Superintendent Rev Survey

Rev. 1888/85

Rec'd 14th Jan 1886
Enclosure to letter
No. 723 to the Secy to
Govt. 2nd Rev. Depts.

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5/12/84 1

Enter Returns for
Secretary

Rev - 1868 Departt.
Bo of Govt for July
No. 2070.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 13th
Desp. 13
Rec'd 15th

Since 1868.

Encl 1 & 2 G.

No 1377

Enter

Secretary 1963. 14 July

Submitting to Government
letter from Colonel Priestley with
recommendation that the advance
of Rupees 30,000 asked for be
granted.

Put Returns
Copy filed.

RC. 281

4 July/68 R of Rec's Bll

Board Proc's 7/6 May/68.

Supt. Rev. Survey dated
1st June.

Bd's Proc's of 13. Idem.

2070

Memo: for order -

The Board
recommend that, in
order more fairly
to distribute the cost
of demarcation for
Survey purposes, the
expence incurred for
boundary marks, be
shared equally by the
State and the Ryot: the
landholders still fur-
=nishing the labor
for clearing the lines
and setting up the
stones, save where
Masonry is needed,
and that the necessary
funds should be ad-
=vanced in the first
instance by Govt.

and

and the Ryots have
received from him
by instalments not
exceeding in any case
half his Puttah
assessment for the
year.-

Coll. Priestly
submits for consid-
=eration whether the
former plan would
not be that Govt.
should defray the
cost of carriage when
exceeding of all stones
to the various depots,
leaving the Ryot to
pay for the stones
themselves as at
present; the cost of
this Material being
tolerably constant,
but-

I would say one quarter? N

but the Board adhere
to their original
opinion-

The Act 28 of 60
requires landholders
to clear the boundary
lines and to set up,
form, & maintain
Boundary marks
as required by the
Demarcation Officer.

This rule has
hitherto been main=
=tained, but-(Savey
the cost of the stones
required being much
heavier in Madras
Dt. than elsewhere,
more difficulty is
found in enforcing
it.-

As Coll. Priestly
states the actual
price

price of the stones to be much the same every where, it seems to me that this Govt: would more fairly equalise the charge on the Ryots by bearing the whole cost of Carriage (which I presume has been insignificant in the other Districts) than by relieving the Ryots hereafter of half their legal obligation which might lead to a demand for similar retrospective relief, where the work has been done & the people have not felt

Inserted above the line for bearers' hire
Yes N.
Cy M.

X Copies for Draft G.O. Contns. re Copies to paper X

felt the burden -

The system of advances and recoveries would still be necessary, and the Board's plan seems to me well devised, and may I think be sanctioned, as well as the immediate advance of Rs. 30,000 for the Madras District -

Before giving the general authority for taking up advances without special sanction, to the extent of not more than one half the amount of

Yes. but I think the Ryot might be left to his safeguard = one year for = the boulay scheme. N. Cy M

yes WOY

Cy M

of estimated cost for each taluq, it seems advisable to have some idea of what the amounts to be taken up are likely to be —

I suggest the [illegible] of Govt. as the system for adoption in regard to the expenses of demarcations.

E. B.

4 July 68.

as suggested by the Bd. of Rev. that advances made be recoverable in the manner which they suggest WK 5 July

Ex. Jr.

Colonel Pears if supplied with estimates to perform and duration — and estimate cost

G. A.

The demarcation & survey are assumed to be for the benefit of the ryots — in order clearly to establish their titles &c. I very much doubt whether we shall find a deity to defray the expenses, where, if we consulted the ryots would solicit the advantage of survey. There is little or no acquaintance amongst Ryots of the limits, area & productive merits of every field in their village. & with such knowledge as they, in any opinion, possess, I think they should be made responsible for the heavy & worrying demands on account of the inter-minable disputes & litigations which the demarcation & survey establishes — while such as established tends — as much for the benefit of the Govt as for that of the Ryot — I think the Govt. should be prepared to bear the cost of carrying the Stones by the State #

I would adopt Col. Priestly's proposal that the Govt. should bear the cost of carrying the Stones, in pursuance of the proposal made by the Board of Revenue

10/

I would adopt Col. Priestley's proposal that the Govt. should bear the cost of the carriage of the Stones, but I would also adopt the proposal that the Govt. should bear half the cost of the Stones also. — The Ryot may have the obligation to maintain boundary marks but surely boundary marks as usual, at public, not the elaborate stone marks demanded by the survey. The foreign stones are brought to the Taluq stations & the selection in conformity with the views of Govt. I think the Govt. might pay half the prime cost and all the whole carriage & N. as sure by instalments

recover the ryots

(6)

System on which Demarcation should be carried out.

1609/68

14 July 1868 No 1963

~~Special~~ Council

Revenue Department.

No. 1963.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.
Under date the 14th July 1868.

Read the following Papers

From Ag. Secy. Board of Revenue. Submitting remarks relative to system on which Demarcation should be carried out.	(R.E. 6th May 1868 No. 3323.)
From Supdt. of Revenue Survey. Enclosing for information Extract of a letter to the Secretary Bd. of Revenue on the subject of charges for Demarcation Stones.	(R.E. 1st June 1868 No. 793/26.)
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue. Submitting letter from Col. Priestley, with recommendation that the advance of Rs. 30000 asked for, be granted.	(R.E. 13th June 1868 No. 4399)

The Board recommend that, in order more fairly to distribute the Cost of demarcation for Survey purposes, the expense incurred for boundary marks, be shared equally by the State and the Ryot, the landholders still furnishing the labor for clearing

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13 " Dry Pastett Des & Aug

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Revenue 1868 Dep.tt
Pro of Govt. for July

No. 1963

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
D/ 14 July 1868.

From Supt. of Stamps
D/ 28th July 68 @ Rs 2477

From the Supt. of Revenue Survey
D/ 7 November 68 @ Rs 3532.

Vol. 279 @ 282