M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 873 Press ~~Mis.~~

690-691

Dated 30th June ~~19~~ 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th June 1869.

No. 690. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st August 1868, No. 6,232 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Coonoor, 7th August 1868, No. 220.

I HAVE the honour to reply to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th March 1868, No. 2,204, regarding the exchange of certain Village Service Inam lands for others.

2. The reason why the ryots, who are real Puttahdars in cases four, five, and seven, refuse to pay their present assessment to the Inamdars, and demand fresh puttahs in their own names, is, because such lands being improperly classed (as the assessment only was payable) as Inam, did not participate in the reduction of assessment made on garden-lands. I cannot gather the reason for such exclusion. The ryots naturally wish to share in the general reduction, to which, inasmuch as the assessment only and not the land was allotted as Inam, I think they are entitled. It is obvious that if a ryot's assessment is apportioned as remuneration to a village Officer, such arrangement ought not to prejudice the Puttahdar in any way.

3. No question was raised as to the right of Government to apportion the assessment of puttah-land to any particular purpose.

4. As the reduction of assessment on these Puttahdars' lands would lessen the emoluments payable to the Village Service, it will be simpler to make the proposed exchange, than to supplement the present allotment, for the reduction of which I have before shown grounds.

5. The proposed allotment of assessment in exchange has been agreed to by the Puttahdars concerned.

6. I shall prepare a statement of Puttahdars whose assessment has been apportioned as Inam, who have, as appears to me, been unjustly debarred from the benefits of a general reduction of assessment, and submit the same for the Board's orders.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to Government Order, dated 18th February 1868, No. 455, and with the request that they will accord the sanction to exchanges of land withheld in that Order.

2. The Board will await the submission of the report promised in paragraph 6, before disposing of the question raised in that paragraph.

No. 691. ORDER THEREON, 30th June 1869, No. 1,873.

Miscellaneous.

UNDER the explanation which has been submitted by the Collector, the Government will no longer withhold their sanction to the proposed exchanges of land.

2. A reduction of assessment on lands assigned for State Village Service, and the consequent grant of additional land to the office-holder, can only be sanctioned when it is perfectly clear that the assessment or Government share of the produce,

and not the land itself, formed the original endowment of the office. It has been pointed out in the Order noted in the margin, that in numerous cases the land, and not the assessment only, was granted as remuneration to the holder of a village-office. Thus, when it is asserted that land did not form part of the original assignment, the *onus probandi* will invariably rest on the office-holders, and the ryots occupying the lands.

15th December 1863, No. 2,296, paragraph 6.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of [illegible] Gujarat.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Land.

G. G., [illegible] June 1960, No. 1,873.

J. N. J.

Nos. 630-631.

Inam land taken up for public purposes in Coimbatore District—Exchange of other land in lieu of it, sanctioned

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and their ryots occupying the lands.

15 Dec 1813 No 2296.
para: 6

* Real land did not form part of the original assignment,

W. Roberts Esq Collr Chingleput

Revenue Dept.

Memo for Orders
on 11th 1869.

In their Proceedings dated 1st February 1868 the Board sent up a Statement of lands proposed to be assigned to Inamdars in lieu of Inam lands become unprofitable &c. The Govt observed that in this list there were entered certain cases on which it was proposed to grant new lands because the Ryots holding the existing lands desired to have Pattahs direct from Govt and the Govt considered that their rights to sell this was very questionable. The Govt also observed that in certain other cases it was not stated whether the Ryots who possessed the new lands which were proposed to be assigned as Inam had consented to the arrangement.

The

P.C.

Letter dated 12th Augt 1868 from Secretary to Govt Revenue Dept.

16 June/69 · 18-18 R.C. 23rd June/69

The Board now read up a letter from the Coll.r of Coimbatore in which a very awkward question is raised, though Mr. Wedderburn & the Board treat it as though already settled. It appears that the ryots who desire to have their lands relieved of the Swam assignment do so because they will then be able to participate in the re-duction of garden assessment which is enjoyed by the Coast ryots of the District. Mr. Wedderburn seems to think they should participate in these advantages as well as all other ryots holding under Inamdars and the Board support him so far as the particular cases under consideration are concerned.

Now it is clear that a ryot holding under a village Inamdar who has had the revenue of occupied lands assigned to him instead of the land itself as the remuneration of his village service, is in no different position from a ryot holding under any ordinary Inamdar or even Zemindar who has had an assignment of revenue made to him on condition of the payment of a certain annual quitrent or peishcush, or in some cases without any such payment at all in consideration of his services, and if Mr. Wedderburn's proposal is to be carried to its legitimate conclusion the Govt. must be prepared to make such reductions

of

of Peshcush & Quit-rent as will enable all Zemindars and Inamdars to give their ryots the same benefits as the Govt ryots of their Districts now obtain by reduced assessments.

Such a proceeding would result in a very heavy charge on Govt for certainly one fifth and perhaps nearly one fourth of the Presidency is held by Zemindars and Inamdars. The same remarks will also apply to large assignments of revenue which have been made to the Religious Institutions of the Country. The ryots occupying these lands would have the same right to

Consideration

consideration as the other Inam Ryots.

I would state the matter differently from the form given to it in this memo. It has been for public convenience, that wages due to village servants, have been paid to them through assignments of portions of public revenue, which, in the absence of such assignments, would have reached the local Treasury. The recipients, have what, in these papers are termed, Inamdars. When a general reduction of assessment took place, it was only proper, I think, that such assessments should have included those affecting the lands on which assignments of the kind above noticed, had been made, as well as those held by ryots in the ordinary course. If, as would frequently have been the case, the reduction of assessment left for payment by the cultivating ryot, less than the amount required by the Inamdar as remuneration for his official services, it would most obviously be the duty of the Collector to impose an additional assessment, either on the assignment payable by some other ryot, or a part of the land to be occupied by the Inamdar himself: - and, and seem to me, the course might be adopted at once under orders which I moved now issue. If on the other hand, the lands of the assignment has been assigned, had not had their assessment lowered in common with the lands of the village, as I think should be the measure I should touch any other Inam land or free tenure concerning it: - I doubt even that - this measure is a liberal one, but simple one in its character, & most unjustly open to misrepresentation & misconstruction. But, on a perusal of

C. R. Holdings

Mr Medderburn's letter, I observe he proposes leaving before the 15th for their orders, Para 6 a statement of the lands we have been debarred from the benefits of the general adjustment, I think we need not do more than say we shall be glad to receive instructions from the 15th of the manner in which they should be settled what seems to have been an oversight;

I would further accord sanction to the exchanges of land proposed by the Govr.

Finally, I would direct that in a Statement such as that we accompanied the 2d/ letter of 10 Dec: 67 No 346, each case should bear a number.

Without a No to refer to of this: some reference we should be necessary to will at much length to discuss the case noticed

18 Sept: 68.

I agree in the Chiefs view.

16 Sept

16 Sept 68

Received 16 Sept 1868

Read 16 Sept 1868

Ans 18 Sept 1868

This is a very important question and should go to H.E. the Governor for his remarks. Even supposing the village Munsif with an assignment of revenue in lieu of a salary to be in a different position from the ordinary Munsif with an assignment of revenue in lieu, perhaps, of an assumed ready money allowance, still the village service Inams in many talaks form a very large item, and if additional land is to be now granted in many cases it will involve a very serious expenditure

Ans