M.R.O. 1—80,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 236	Press Mis.
1936-192	
Dated 11 Feb 1936	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th September 1869.

No. 190. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st August 1869, No. 6,268 :—

Read the following letter from W. T. BLAIR, Esq., Officiating Inam Commissioner to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 23rd June 1869, No. 2.

I HAVE the honour to make the following report with reference to the Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, dated 28th April 1869, No. 148, and the memorandum from the Board of Revenue, dated 14th May 1869.

2. The number of Inams remaining unsettled in each district up to date is shown in the margin.

Districts.	Number of cases.
Godavery	1,765
Kistna	777
Madras	1,991
Ganjam	29
Vizagapatam	80
Nellore	26
North Arcot	107
South Arcot	9
Trichinopoly	60
Tanjore	12
Madura	2
Tinnevelly	43
Kurnool	26
Bellary	60
Salem	31
Coimbatore	10
Total	4,968

3. For the first three districts two Deputy Collectors are employed in the investigation of Inams; one for the district of Madras, and another for the districts of Godavery and Kistna. Considering that the cases remaining to be settled in these districts are scattered in small numbers over a large extent of country, and that the Deputy Collectors have besides much miscellaneous work to perform in the way of answering references, &c. further information regarding cases forwarded to this office for confirmation, completing the registers of the Village Service Inams, and winding up their work, I am of opinion that the settlement of the Inams cannot be closed earlier than June 1870 in the districts of Godavery and Kistna, and March 1870 in the district of Madras. More work has been discovered in the Kistna District than was reported to exist at the date of my last Budget Report, and the Deputy Collector employed in the Godavery has lately been obliged to take three months' leave in consequence of serious illness, and owing to these two causes my expectation of completing the work in these districts by the end of the current official year, has been disappointed.

4. In the other districts noted in the margin of the preceding paragraph, the cases have, for the most part, been already registered, and their final settlement is delayed pending the receipt of further information which has been called for from the Collectors and Tahsildars. The number of these cases is, however, fully occupying the time of one Deputy Collector employed in the Nellore District, and I anticipate that the work in all these districts will be completed by the end of the current official year.

5. Besides the cases above referred to I have found, on reviewing the Service Registers, that there are about 300 cases of Inams, as shown in the margin, held for the alleged obligation of rendering certain nominary or nominal services, such as teaching and studying the Vedas, churning pickles, delivering medicinal drugs, tuning musical flutes, carrying sarpillo to talook officials, etc., and I have placed myself in communication with the Collectors of the several districts in view to determining whether these services can be suppressed as has been done elsewhere. In spite of these pains the registers contain no information whatever as to the nature of the services for which the Inams are held; but I have no doubt that at least one-half of the Inams so held will be found to be entirely sinecure.

Districts.	Number of cases.
North Arcot	200
South Arcot	100
Tanjore	230
Madura	7
Tinnevelly	3
Coimbatore	20
Salem	11
Combaconum	4
Total	775

6. The settlement of these cases can be effected within the current official year, if the Deputy Collectors can be induced to work for it with the same energy as they have done for the Service Inams. The Collector of South Arcot, however, has already intimated his intention of deputing the entire vernacular establishment of his office to the work, and I have no doubt that other Collectors will follow his example. Under the circumstances mentioned in paragraph 4 of my letter of the 6th instant, I think there will be no necessity for the appointment of a Deputy Collector to that district to inquire into those cases in Inams; but I shall be unable to know more before April next, when the services of the Deputy Collector at present employed in the Inam work in the district of Madura will be available. I hope that the work of settling these cases in South Arcot will not occupy more than four months in all.

7. From the foregoing statement it will be seen that the out-door work remaining to be completed within the district at the middle of the next official year will be as follows:—

Service Inams ... 1,000
Miscellaneous Inams ... 1,000
Total ... 2,000

Of these 2,000 cases, 1,000 are to be disposed of by the Deputy Collectors employed in the Inam work, and the remaining 1,000 by the Board of Revenue. There will besides be about 500 appeal records and some appeal petitions to be gone through, and some establishment will require to be retained for copying and examining the registers that may be received during next year.

8. With the exception of the review of a few cases and appeal records that may reach me towards the close of the year, I hope to be able to get through all, or very nearly all, the work alluded to in the preceding paragraph during the current official year; but there will still remain some work to be performed during the succeeding official year. There are now about 900 replies due from the talooks to references made from this office, and of these, I do not calculate on receiving more than 300 within this year. Possibly I may receive a hundred more, but that would still leave 500 to be disposed of next year. Moreover, petitions will continue to come in for some time after the out-door work is completed.

9. The fair copying and examination work will be finished this year for cases received before October next; but cases received after that date will have to lie over for the following year.

10. The correspondence work will remain heavy so long as the Commission lasts. The fair registers cannot be forwarded to the Collectors until all the appeal work is closed and the remarks then made are transcribed on the fair registers; and until the fair registers are forwarded to the Collectors, correspondence with Collectors and Tahsildars must continue. The marginal statement exhibits the amount of correspondence carried on during the last six months.

	Number
English letters sent ...	391
Do. received ...	331
Vernacular orders sent ...	864
Do. Arzies received ...	272

11. Having now given the Board a full account of the work that remains to be done, both in the Central Office and in the districts, I have only to add that after the completion of the out-door work, (and that, I have shown, cannot be brought to a close earlier than August 1870,) I shall require four or five months to enable me to wind up the work and prepare my final report.

12. Should the Board, after considering what I have written, come to the conclusion that the remaining work of the Inam Commission can be undertaken by them and the Collectors from the commencement of the next official year, I request that their decision to that effect may be communicated to me at an early date. It is impossible for me to wind up the work of the Commission while out-door work is going on, and in the event of its being decided to discontinue the Commission as a separate department at the end of the present official year, it will be necessary for me to direct the Deputy Collectors employed in the districts to close their work at the end of October next, leaving all such Inams as are unsettled at that date to be disposed of by the Collectors. In that case, there will be about 1,000 cases left in the districts, which will have to be finally disposed of by the Board of Revenue. There will besides be about 500 appeal records and some appeal petitions to be gone through, and some establishment will require to be retained for copying and examining the registers that may be received during next year.

Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to paragraph 4, Government order, 28th April 1869, No. 1,48.

2. Mr. Blair reports that he cannot wind up the work of the Inam Commission before December 1870 or January 1871, and if it is taken out of his hands and transferred to the Board, there can be no doubt that it will remain unfinished for a much longer time.

3. The Board have carefully considered Mr. Blair's statement showing the work still to be disposed of in the provinces and in his office, and do not hesitate to recommend that Government will retain the Commission on its present footing till the work is complete.

4. There are still 4,000 cases to be disposed of in the three districts in which Inam Deputy Collectors are employed, and 400 in other districts. About 800 more new cases have lately come to light, which will require special investigation. Hence, there is still much work which will require an out-door establishment for some time to come.

5. In the office there are large arrears still undisposed of, and the out-door establishment would have to be maintained even if the out-door establishment were dismissed, as heavy arrears are handed over to Collectors, and the general supervision undertaken by the Board.

6. Accordingly the Board are obliged reluctantly to retract the opinion expressed in paragraph 5 of their Proceedings of the 22nd December 1868, As much quick progress has been made by the Inam Commission since that date, the Board are now of opinion that it is still most desirable that the Commissioner, a specially qualified and experienced officer, should complete his work, carrying out to the last the principles and precedents of which he alone has a practical knowledge. And it is well impossible for the Board, to undertake the duties without incurring immediately the need of the work being, under existing conditions, spread to the ensuing year.

7. The Board do not believe that the retaining of the services of the Inam Commissioner will materially entail a greater expenditure than would be necessary if his services were dispensed with at the end of the official year, because of the proper staff required for establishment would have to be maintained if the Commissioner's work was transferred. Moreover if the expense would be greater, the Board do not think that consideration should outweigh the delay and vexation which would be thus caused to parties whose claims have not yet been decided.

8. The Board, in forwarding the Memorandum of Mr. Blair, dated 5th September 1869, No. 2,062, [illegible] Inam Commission as a separate department

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during the official year 1870-71. The Inam Commissioner and the Board will, however, distinctly understand that it is the earnest desire of Government that the Commission should be brought to a close on the 31st March 1871 at latest.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Officiating Inam Commissioner.
,, the Accountant General.
,, the Financial Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No 2562 Rec'd.

Prov: & The Meadow Govt.

Inclosed date the 11 Sept 69.

Read the following Prov.

& the Rts of Rev.

H.C. 21st Sept 69 No 6268

Under the circumstances

represented by the Board

of Revenue in the foregoing

Prov: it will be absolutely

necessary to retain the

Income Commissions as a

separate Head during

the official year 1870-71.

The Income Com: and the

Board with, however, this

limitation understood that

the Commission should be

brought to a close on the 31st

March 1871 at latest.

Work

I think the order matter for

Secretary of State

I cannot

It is the earnest desire of

Govt that the

The R. Bd. Thos Mr. W. Robertson,

been directed to enquire speedily

into Mr. Blair's work & see

what he has really been doing.

Has any thing been done in

that order? Should it have

been entered before this.

4 Sept 69 WDJ

16 Feb 70 Rec'd Rep. 13

Com. Comm.

Subsequent

Dalhousie