

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1462	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	14 - 9 - 1870.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th September 1870.*

No. 196. Read the following Endorsement of the Acting Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 12th September 1870 :—

Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Madras, dated Dowlaishweram, 2nd September 1870, No. 1,870.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for submission to Government for orders, the accompanying statements marked A., extracted from the Administration Report of the Board of Revenue for this Presidency for the year 1869-70. From this document it appears the extent of "wet cultivation" in the whole Godavery District was 224,986 acres, assessed at Rupees 6,32,958. From returns furnished to me by the Collector in connection with the delta completion-project, I have prepared another statement, herewith transmitted, marked B., and from this it appears the total extent of irrigated in the delta alone was 464,428 acres, assessed at Rupees 12,30,142. I am quite at a loss to reconcile these statements, and it is perfectly impossible from such documents to prepare any project with accuracy as to the quantity of water to be supplied.

2. If the area given by the Board is correct, it will be observed it is less than that supplied by the Collector for the western delta alone, and the schemes prepared for irrigating the other deltas are useless. So much information is now culled for from Engineer-officers in regard to the details of irrigated areas, both existing and prospective, as well as the probable revenue to be derived by carrying out hydraulic works, I beg respectfully to submit these documents for the consideration and orders of Government, with a view to reliable data being supplied to us by proper authorities, or that in future those officers alone should be held responsible for affording this information.

3. For general purposes of comparison of rates levied on irrigated lands in this Presidency, I have added a column showing the average rate per acre in each district. From this it appears the Godavery, with the best water-supply and with navigable canals, pays the least rate of assessment, viz., Rupees 2-13-0 per acre, whilst such districts as Bollary, Coimbatore, and Kurnool, in which the rain-fall is perhaps the least in Southern India, the rates are respectively Rupees 4-9-0, Rupees 7-9-0, and Rupees 7-5-0 per acre, and in Tanjore the average rate is as high as Rupees 5 per acre. Omitting the Neilgherries, and taking the highest and lowest rates for the whole Presidency, the average appears to be Rupees 5-3-0 per acre; so that the Godavery District, with the best means of irrigation and good, though very imperfect, means of communications, is paying for its land a rate of assessment a little more than half the average for the Presidency. As the scheme for the delta-completion is about to be revised, it would perhaps be as well to revise the assessment too.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department.

2. The difference between the areas and assessment of wet lands in the Godavery District as given by the Board of Revenue and the Local Revenue-officers, is no doubt due in part to the exclusion, by the former, of Zemindary

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lands. It is very desirable, however, particularly in connection with the projects now under preparation for the improvement of the irrigation system of the delta, that reliable returns of acreage and assessment should be made available. The average assessment per acre in the Godavery District and delta, as deduced from the areas and assessments shown in the statements A. and B., forwarded by the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, is in each case apparently incorrect.

Ootacamund,
12th September 1870.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Major, R.E.,
Acting Joint Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

No. 197. ORDER THEREON, 14th September 1870, No. 1,462.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue who will be good enough to obtain the returns required from the Godavery District. The statement should show for each talook the land under wet cultivation during 1869-70, and in the five previous years, in acres, the land assessment payable thereon in each year and the water-rate. Also the water-rate payable by Zemindars and Inamdars for the same series of years, with an estimate of the acreage to which water was supplied for this charge. In addition to these particulars, the area of land classified and assessed by the Settlement Department, but not under cultivation during the years in question, should be given, with the assessment and water-rate payable thereon.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
the Public Works Department.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Col. of 1870: 31/10/70.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Mr. Secy. to Govt.

Printed September, 1870.

Recd.

O. O. 14th September 1870 No. 1,462.

SEPTEMBER
Nos 100-107.

For circulation to Godavery District
to obtain returns of land under wet cultivation
and assessment, etc., required by the Public Works
Department.

MEMORANDUM

Requested for reference the under-mentioned papers

*in answer to Lyndes' (1870)
letter 10 1870-87 and
in the Bureau of Land
Matter*

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
ENGR. FOR IRRIGATION,

U. S. Department,

200 July 1871.

To

The Registrar of the

L. M. & Co.

Head Clerk.

M. Leonard

No 1462

C. of the Board of
Revenue who will be
good enough to obtain
the returns required from
the Pordaney District. The

Statement showed above
for each taluk the land

land in the five previous years,
in acres,

under ^{net} cultivation during
1864-70 ^{the land assessment}
payable thereon ^{in each year} and the

for the same series of years

water-rate. Also the water
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and Inamdars, with
an estimate of the acreage
to which water was supplied
for this charge. In addition
to these particulars, the area

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during the years in question,
should be given, with the
assessment and water
rent payable thereon.

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List

14. Sept 79

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14. To the Dept of Revenue with 2 Encls Despt 28
28. Mr Dept W